

We are an ambitious school where everyone works well together and feels part of the Newmains Team



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Via seesaw app



Newsletter 3

2nd December 2022

School Priorities 2022-23 - SIP priority 1

I thought it would be useful to provide an update in relation to the School Improvement Plan priorities at this point in the year.

Our first priority is focused on the Health and Wellbeing (HWB) of all. Our school vision and values form the basis for our approach to wellbeing and inclusion of all. All pupils across the school participate in a wide range of planned HWB experiences and activities throughout the year including use of the Emotion works programme, RSHP work, Health Week, Anti bullying week, Online Safety and nurturing principles. This year the nurture principal focus is *The Environment offers a safe space*. Over the last few years we have made considerable physical changes to the school to support all pupils and create a safe and calm environment such as consistent use of calming wall coverings (pale blue), signage and reduced display. We have a core group of staff who are leading on this development area this year and trialling alternative and creative uses of space and areas within the school.

We have created safe and quiet spaces around the school for pupils who may require it including The Den, which allows pupils to work in a smaller group and with more intensive regulation support. This strategy is working well in supporting individuals on a daily basis.

In addition we have Friendship Using Nurture (FUN) groups running with Mrs Millar on a Wednesday and Thursday, Mrs McNeil's lunch club on a Wednesday and Seasons for Growth groups twice a week led by Mr McGauley and Miss Gillon which help pupils cope with different aspects of loss and change in their lives.

The Exchange Counsellors meet with a wide range and number of children throughout the week supporting them dependant on need and most recently we have had Visual Art, Music and Massage therapists working with groups and individuals providing alternative calming experiences.

All of these additional inputs greatly support those who need it and ensure they have the skills and abilities to respond well and continue to strive for success.

We use restorative approaches as set out in the Newmains Positive Relationship and Behaviour Policy to work with pupils to make better informed choices in the future. At times pupils may be asked to attend Reflection Time with the Senior Leadership Team and a text is sent home to inform you of this and we are looking for you to support the school and discuss the behaviours at home. If the incident is more serious - the member of SLT or Class Teacher will contact you. This is a team effort and everyone must work together with shared expectations around behaviour and actions.

We are caring

We are kind

We are fair

We strive for success

UNCRC Rights Respecting Schools

Another part of SIP priority 1 is working towards achieving out Gold Status having achieved Silver several years ago. At Newmains the Rights of the Child are extremely important linking to our school values of being Kind, Fair, Caring and Striving for Success.

At assembly we discuss the **ABCDE** if rights being for **A**ll children and young people throughout the world (universal), are there at **B**irth (inherent), **C**annot be taken away (inalienable), **D**o not come with any conditions attached to the, (unconditional) and are all **E**qually important (indivisible). During our recent RRS day, with the help of Paddington, we launched our Outright Campaign. The focus for this is Health, specifically access to Health care provision across the world. More information about this will be shared via our Social Media Platforms as the campaign progresses.

Sport Champions

As part of the Health and Wellbeing focus in Newmains, the Sports Champions are working hard with Mr Chapman and Mr McGauley towards the Gold Sports Scotland Award - as part of this pupils will be attending a wide range of sporting events and opportunities in addition to the planned PE activities throughout the year.

Winter weather

As the weather is colder and wetter, please ensure pupils are suitably dressed for this time of year with warm coats, gloves and hats and sturdy footwear. We encourage learning to take place outside as there are many health and learning benefits and teachers make great use of the school grounds even on the chillier days.

We open the doors at 8.50am to allow pupils into the building on very wet mornings therefore please avoid arriving too early and waiting in the rain. In the event of heavy snow in the next few months the janitor will clear one path to an entrance door - please use that path to avoid slipping and falling when arriving at school. Pupils will then move through the school to their own classroom.

Renfrewshire council - You Decide

Please use the link below if you would like to vote for local infrastructure projects planned for this area. We have shared this information on our Social Media outlets too.

www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/youdecide

Christmas Events 2022

Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone for all the hard work and support for the Christmas Fair. The Parent Council led by Sarah and her team did an amazing job and created a great evening for the school.

Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas jumpers were available at the Christmas Fair from those donated - thank you to everyone that donated them. We are encouraging them to be worn on 8th December and if you are able to send in a donation that would be great. We will send the donations to charity and share the total with you.

Christmas Show

The ticket allocation closed on 30th for the Christmas shows where Primary 1 and 2 perform a Nativity Play - this year they have selected to perform *Whoops a Daisy Angel* and all other stages perform two difference Christmas songs. Any remaining tickets will be issued once all families receive their allocated two. Please contact the school office directly if you have any concerns or questions about this.

Christmas Parties

All classes will issue their own information about Christmas parties at the end of term where pupils can wear party clothes to and will participate in different games. Primary 1 and 2 will also welcome a special visitor during their parties 😊

Important Dates: including holidays, school events and parental engagement opportunities

8 th December 2022	Christmas Jumper Day
14 th 15 th & 16 th December 2022	Christmas shows - ticket allocation information will come out from the school office
16 th - 21 st December 2022	Christmas parties - information will be posted on Seesaw from teacher
21 st December 2022	Christmas Sing along - all pupils to wear Christmas jumpers, hats etc
21 st December 2022	School closes for Winter holiday at 2.30pm
5 th January 2023	School reopens for pupils
23-27 th January 2023	Scottish Week
27 th January 2023	Scottish Celebration - all pupils wear something tartan
2 nd February 2023	Parent Interviews - more information will be sent out nearer the time
7 th February 2023	Internet Safety Day - parent workshop will be running
13 and 14 th February 2023	Holidays
15 th February 2023	Inservice fay for school staff - school closed to pupils
16 th February 2023	Pupils return
2 nd March 2023	World book day - pupils may dress up
13 th -17 th March 2023	Science week
17 th March 2023	Open afternoon for parents and carers
31 st March 2023	School closes for Spring Holiday
17 th April 2023	School Reopens at 9am
1 st May 2023	Public Holiday
2-5 th May 2023	Primary 7 residential trip to Ardentenny
22 nd -25 th May 2023	Health Week
25 th May 2023	Sports Day
26 th and 29 th May 2023	Holidays
30 th May 2023	Inservice Day - school closed to pupils
31 st May 2023	Pupils return
22 nd June 2023	Primary 7 Leavers' Dance - Normandy Hotel
26 th June 2023	Primary 7 Valedictory Service - Renfrew North church
27 th June 2023	School closes for Summer holiday

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Communication

Within the last newsletter I reported that 95% of parents were happier with the streamlined approach to communication which is great, however I would like to remind everyone that Seesaw is **not suitable** for messages that are very personal or time sensitive as they could be missed. The teachers all do an amazing job at posting information and responding however this can be at any point within their working day - please contact the school office with important information, changes to end of day arrangements and concerns which are dealt with at the time by the appropriate member of staff.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be part of the focus group for our new communication policy - still time to be involved if you wish, please email the school office newmainsenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

We are all looking forward to the different activities in the coming weeks. Please contact us at school if we can be of assistance where we are more than happy to help.

Louise Dunn

Head Teacher