



Ashford Hill Primary School Newsletter

February 28th 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has just flown by; I hope that every one has had a fantastic half term. It is quite unbelievable that tomorrow is March and that there are only five weeks left of the spring term.

This afternoon, our wonderful children have been auditioning for the school show. They were tremendous and showed such determination and professionalism as they acted and sung their hearts out. It has definitely given me a lot to think about this weekend. On Monday some children will be called back to audition for certain characters. They may also have some further lines to learn which will then be auditioned on Tuesday with myself, JJ and Natalie. We are hoping to share the cast list on Wednesday! Most parts have at least 20 children auditioning for it – so there may be some disappointment. However, all children will be in the performance and there will be many more to come and the whole process helps our children to build resilience and have a good go at something that they want to do. Please reassure you children that all of them did a fantastic job on the day and that we are so proud of them for working to be the best they can be.

Currently Film Club is in full flow in the hall today. Thank you to the PTA for giving up their time to make sure events like this happen for our children: they really do have a great time and the fundraising attempts really do make a difference to our school life.

Next week is a busy one – the famous World Book Day is upon us and we can not wait to see the children come into school with their favourite books and dressed as their favourite characters - this is always a special day in our calendars when we get to talk about books all day long!

Red nose day follows on the 21st March and we have to buy noses in advance. We will need to know how many to order – so if you would like your child to have a Red Nose for the day and donate to the cause – **please complete the payment of £2 on the parent pay app before Thursday 6th March.** We can then buy the noses ready for the day itself and distribute them on the day.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and we will see you on the gate on Monday morning.

Kirsty Kingham
Principal

Attendance

Attendance % (whole school target 97%)							
Whole School	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
94.9	98.8	91.0	94.4	94.1	95.0	100	93.3
Well done to year 5 this week.							

INSET day's for 2025-2026

Although the INSET days have been published for the next academic year – there are training opportunities that have become available to us for early next year meaning that I will need to change the dates to enable our whole team training events to take place in line with our school improvement journey. The new proposed dates are as follows:

- Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd September 2025
- Monday 5th January 2026
- Monday 20th July 2026

If you already have things planned for the previously planned inset days for 2025-2026, please contact the school office **prior to Friday 7th March.** I will then be able to confirm if these dates will be changed in next week's newsletter.

World Book Day – Thursday 6th March

March brings us the famous World Book Day next week. This is always a great event in school where we celebrate authors and the characters they create. To mark the day, we ask that children and the team come dressed as one of their favourite book characters. If you would like some inspiration, please follow this link

[Dressing up - World Book Day.](#)

Red Nose Day – Friday 21st March



Comic Relief turns 40 this year and Ashford Hill will be helping celebrate. We will be selling Red Noses in the run up to the day, which can be paid for using parent pay. Children and staff are invited to wear something funny for money and we will be holding The Big 40th Birthday Bake Sale at break time. Please look out for further communication in the coming days.

Water Bottles and School Uniform/ hair

Please ensure that children are wearing full school uniform and that longer than shoulder length hair is tied back. Part of being the best we can be is to look presentable and be ready for our learning.

Please also ensure that your child has a water bottle each day as many children are forgetting them. We are also struggling to store 'Stanley cup' type water cups. Water bottles should be small enough to store in a class tray. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Science Human Reproduction lesson – Year 5 and 6

As part of the statutory science curriculum, our year 5 and 6 children will be learning about the human reproduction cycle. This will be taught at the end of next week. If you would like to see any of the content prior to the lesson, please talk to your class teacher on Monday or Tuesday next week.

Requests for Willow outdoors

We are currently in the process of revamping our outdoor space in EYFS and wondered if any parents/carers have any of the following they would like to donate, please:

- Trellis
- Small plant pots (pot or plastic)
- Larger plant pots (pot or plastic)
- Stainless steel pots/cutlery/utensils
- Small tiered greenhouse/greenhouse
- Baskets
- Buckets of differing sizes
- Weighing scales
- Cake tins
- Measuring tapes

If you have any of these, please bring them to the office for the attention of Miss Hudson. Thank you.

Moment to Share and Egg Hunt Event – 4th April from 2.45pm

There will be the termly curriculum showcase/moment to share at 2.45pm on the last day of term. This will be followed by the famous PTA Egg Hunt. There will be more information on how to buy tickets nearer the time.


Parents' Evenings - Virtual

There will be a virtual Parents' Evenings for the spring term. This will be held on the 18th and 20th March- details of bookable slots will be sent the week after half term. This will be followed by the curriculum showcase to view your children's work on 4th April at 2.45pm.

Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is our number one priority. Together we want to ensure that all children are safe, happy and secure at all times. If you have any concerns about another child or your own, please do not hesitate to contact one of our Safeguarding Leads.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are as follows:

		
Mrs Kirsty Kingham	Miss C Hudson	Mr B Dixon
Principal and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Vice Principal and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)	Class Teacher and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Dates for your diary

6th March – World Book Day

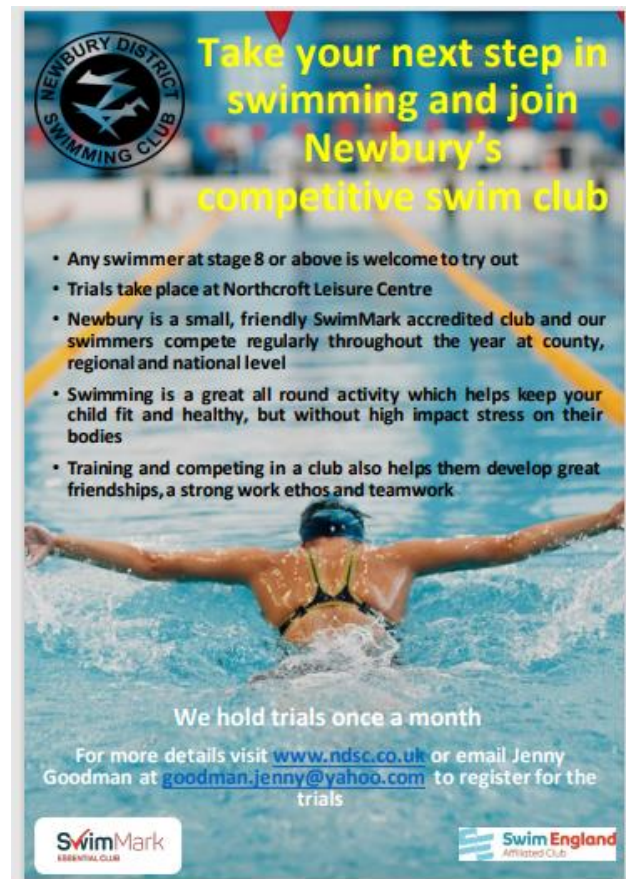
28th March – PTA Film Night

4th April – Moment to Share and PTA Egg Hunt

20th June- Sports' Day

Summer Fayre and Car Show - TBC

3rd July – Performance at the Haymarket Theatre (year 2-6)



Take your next step in swimming and join Newbury's competitive swim club

- Any swimmer at stage 8 or above is welcome to try out
- Trials take place at Northcroft Leisure Centre
- Newbury is a small, friendly SwimMark accredited club and our swimmers compete regularly throughout the year at county, regional and national level
- Swimming is a great all round activity which helps keep your child fit and healthy, but without high impact stress on their bodies
- Training and competing in a club also helps them develop great friendships, a strong work ethos and teamwork

We hold trials once a month

For more details visit www.ndsc.co.uk or email Jenny Goodman at goodman.jenny@yahoo.com to register for the trials

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Affiliated Club