



# NEWBRIDGE News

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## Dates next term

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**  
Inset Day

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January**  
Children return to school

## We need you to be part of our Team

We are looking for someone kind, supportive and hardworking, to join our lunchtime team. We have a vacancy for a School Meals Supervisory Assistant from 11.45am to 1.15pm either three or five days per week. Please contact the school office for further details.

**Everyone at Newbridge Primary School wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



Dear Parents and Carers

We have reached the end of a brilliant term. With no restrictions, unlike this time last year, we have been able to offer the children a full and wide curriculum, with so many rich learning opportunities. It has been a joy to see the children progress, to develop in confidence and to reap the benefits of school life. We are so proud of our children and I wish to thank each and every one for all they bring to our school and our community, each day.

Thank you, for your continued support throughout the term – we are grateful for the help you offer the children with learning at home, for the volunteer work you complete in school and for supporting the NPSA. It was lovely to welcome our volunteers to a 'thank you' on Monday – the whole school wanted to be a part of this and the parent volunteers were invited to a whole school assembly, to receive a huge round of well deserved applause.

Our staff are pretty amazing, too - each one has played their part in ensuring school life has been fun and exciting. They have worked tirelessly and very much deserve the upcoming break. Your acknowledgment of their work, with generous gifts and cards, is greatly appreciated and, on behalf of the staff, I wish to say thank you.

The week has been jammed packed with more festivities – a Volunteers' Thank You, a Church Nativity, two Upper School Music Concerts, 400 Christmas Lunches, Class Parties, a Christmas Assembly.....

### Emmanuel Church Nativity

The Lower School children and parents visited Emmanuel Church on Wednesday morning. We were warmly welcomed by the vicar, Michael Farrier. The Year 2 children performed a beautiful Nativity, and the other year groups joined in with songs from 'Hey Ewe!'. We enjoyed being back at Emmanuel Church for our Nativity, for the first time since December 2019.

### Christmas Lunch – what an extravaganza!

One of their biggest challenges for the catering team this year, took place on Wednesday. With seemingly little effort and stress, they prepared, cooked and served 400 Christmas lunches! This was 100kg of roast potatoes – can you imagine? Everything was under control, and with this, the children had a fun and memorable lunchtime – there were many comments from the children, such as, 'This is the best lunch, ever!'. Our lunchtime supervisors and cooks work incredibly hard for our children, every day, and we are incredibly grateful for this and the care they offer.

### Upper School Christmas Music Concerts

I hope you had the pleasure of attending the annual Upper School Christmas Music Concert on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning, this week. It was outstanding. I marvelled at the 120 children who participated in the choir, the orchestra, in the Year 5 ensembles and as soloists. All of the performances were exceptional and I am truly proud of everyone who took part. Our staff also took centre stage – bringing a bit of fun for everyone to enjoy. Mrs Best single-handedly put the performance together – her leadership of music, across the school, is exceptional and we are all so grateful for all that she does to encourage and inspire our children to love and learn music.

### Goodbye

Very sadly, Zachary, Amity and their family, leave our school, today. Having moved house, they will now attend their local school. The whole community is going to miss them greatly - we wish them every happiness and success for the future.

### Forest School – at Newbridge

You may have noticed the stunning images in the newsletter each week, representing just some

of what takes place in Forest School. We know we are very fortunate to have the Conservation Area to utilise, but would like to acknowledge that none of this would be possible without Sarah Webb, our passionate and inspiring Forest School teacher. The children enjoy and benefit from this experience, greatly – so, thank you, Sarah.

#### Kindness at Christmas

Thank you to Year 4, for considering others. They have worked together to produce a reverse advent calendar. With this, the children have brought a food item to school each day, for Julian House. Thank you for demonstrating our value of citizenship.

In addition, a discreet thank you to a very thoughtful Newbridge family, who have taken the time and effort to consider others this Christmas.

#### Extra-Curricular Activities

The extra-curricular clubs lists for Terms 3 and 4 are being drawn up, with the view that these will be commencing in the week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2023.

#### Group A Streptococcus (GAS)

Please know that a further case of a Strep A infection has been reported in Upper Key Stage 2. If your child has a diagnosed case of impetigo, scarlet fever, strep throat, chicken pox or flu, please continue to report this to [enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk). Please remain vigilant and seek medical advice whenever you are concerned about your child's health, or your own. Please refer to the information I sent to all parents on Tuesday 6th December and a letter from Public Health and the UKHSA, reiterating all messaging, at the end of the newsletter.

#### Severe Weather

Please be advised, that if it is ever deemed necessary to close the school, for safety reasons, this information will be sent to you by email. Please know that this has only happened twice in recent years, and is highly unlikely. This decision will always be made as early as possible, but it will be determined by understanding the safety of the school site and which staff are able to travel to work.

#### Contacting the school

For all correspondence, please can parents use the email address [enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk)

I wish you all a restful holiday and a very happy and healthy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Gill Kennaugh

## ★ ★ STARS OF THE WEEK ★ ★



★ Bee – Billy C, Teddy L	Ladybird – Otis L-P, Louella P	★
★ IEO – Teddy O, Etta H	1G – Alex B, Rueben L-L	★
★ 2M – Angus P, Hetty R	2R – April B, Louis W	★
★ 3OG – Zachary C, Victor B	3BA – Ella R, Josh H	★
★ 4B – Flynn N, Florrie S	4H – Denis T, Olivia S	★
★ 5HB – Bea V, Zelda L, Greta H	5G – Henry B, Frankie R	★
★ 6KR – Amity C, William R	6N – Josh B, Hattie M	★





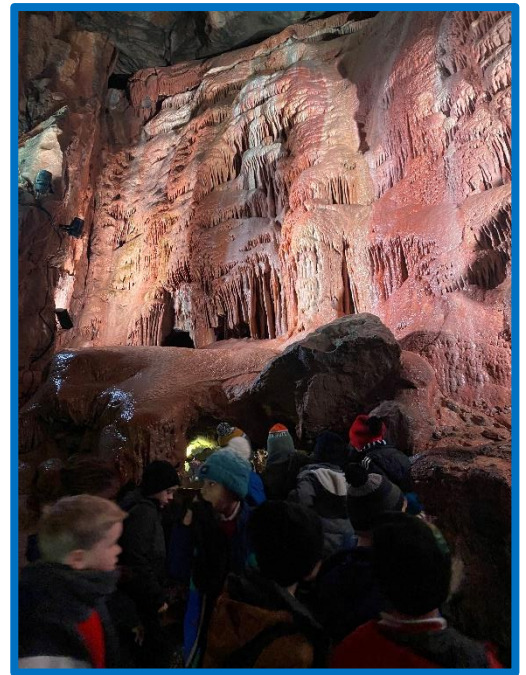
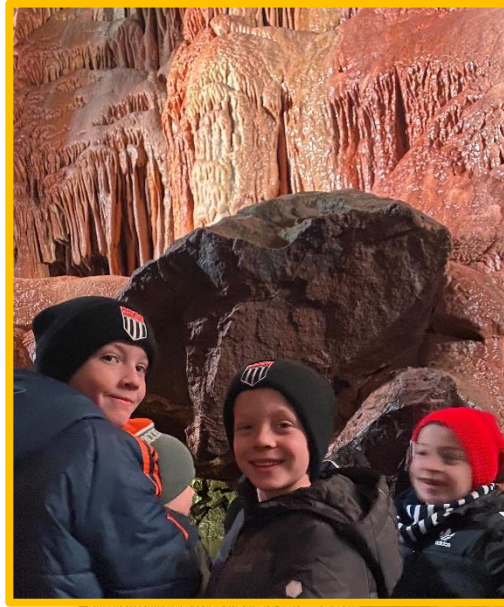
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## Year 3 visit Cheddar Gorge

Year 3 enjoyed a wonderful trip to Cheddar Gorge last Friday. They explored Gough Cave and saw the incredible sights of stalactites and stalagmites, each space even more impressive than the one before. Eventually, we came to the most incredible room, known as St Paul's. The children were totally entranced by the towering sculptures around them. We then climbed the 250 steps of Jacob's Ladder, to the top of the cliff! It was quite a challenge but everyone did it. All the children were a credit to the school and enjoyed their first school trip outside of Bath.







400  
Christmas  
lunches were  
prepared,  
cooked and  
eaten on  
Wednesday!

### Playground Improvement Update.....Playground Improvement Update.....Playground Improvement Update.....Playground Improvement Update.....Playground Improvement.....

Phase 1 of the vision for our playground at school is being realised! Planned completion of the work to resurface and install fixed play equipment in the EYFS and Upper School playgrounds, is now in progress with the appointed play provider, Sovereign. Watch this space for updates and pictures as we start the work and don't forget to keep donating ([Donate – NPSA Bath](#)) as we need to raise more funds to do even more in the future. SO exciting! Thank you to Gill Simpson for all her work in the lead up, and Neil Clews, who is leading this project. Of course, the biggest thank you to every single person who has donated – the NPSA.





The Nativity at  
Emmanuel Church,  
led by Year 2.





# The Upper School Christmas Music Concert







4T have been making willow stars and learning how to make ice decorations, in Forest School.





UK Health  
Security  
Agency

Bath & North East  
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Dear Parents/Carers

**Re: Scarlet fever and invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)**

As you will be aware, there are a number of infections currently circulating, including flu, Covid-19, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV, causes cold like symptoms), and chicken pox. We are writing to inform you of a recent increase in notifications of scarlet fever to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), above seasonal expected levels.

We also understand that parents and carers will be concerned about the recent rise in invasive Group A Streptococcus (iGAS) infection in children. Information about both scarlet fever and invasive Group A Strep infection and what to look out for are set out below.

**Scarlet fever**

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by Streptococcus pyogenes, or group A Streptococcus (GAS). It is not usually serious, but should be treated with antibiotics to reduce the risk of complications (such as pneumonia) and spread to others. The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours, the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and be pale around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a bright red 'strawberry' tongue.

**If you think you, or your child, might have scarlet fever:**

- contact your GP or NHS 111 as soon as possible
- make sure that you or your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered
- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues should be disposed of immediately.

**Invasive Group A Strep (iGAS)**

The same bacteria which cause scarlet fever can also cause a range of other types of infection such as skin infections (impetigo) and sore throat. In very rare cases, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive group A strep (iGAS). Whilst still very uncommon, there has been an increase in iGAS cases this year, particularly in children under 10 years old. It is very rare for children with scarlet fever to develop iGAS infection.



As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:


- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable Call 999 or go to A&E if:
- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

### Stop the spread

During periods of high incidence of scarlet fever, there may also be an increase in outbreaks in schools, nurseries and other childcare settings. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should stay off nursery / school / work until 24 hours after the start of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection.

Children should remain at home until they are well enough to return to an education setting. Useful guidance on when children can attend an education setting following a range of infections is available here.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Dominic Mellon MSc Dip HEP MEPS FRSPH FFPH  
Regional Deputy Director for South West  
UK Health Security Agency

Rebecca Reynolds



Director of Public Health & Prevention  
Bath & North East Somerset Council

### Resources

[NHS – Scarlet Fever](#)

[Scarlet fever: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment](#) [Health protection in education and childcare settings](#) [Hand hygiene resources for schools](#)

[Group A Strep Blog](#)

[How long should I keep my child off school checklist](#)





UK Health  
Security  
Agency



# Should I keep my child off school?

## Yes

### Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

## No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



### Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.



## Thank you to our NPSA

We would not be the school community we are, without the generous support of the NPSA. Thank you to every single member who has stepped up, driven an idea forward and led on an activity or project.

Thank you, to you all, and Happy Christmas from everyone  
at Newbridge Primary School

## Travel to Young Voices

For those who may wish to travel on the coach, to Young Voices, organised by Mrs Lawson, please know there are three spaces available.

Please contact Jo Lawson at [sijo1999@gmail.com](mailto:sijo1999@gmail.com) for further details.

## SMSA Vacancy

We are looking for someone kind, supportive and hardworking, to join our lunchtime team. We have a vacancy for a School Meals Supervisory Assistant from 11.45am to 1.15pm either three or five days per week. Please contact the school office for further details.

## Term Dates 2022/23

For the remaining term dates and Inset days of the year, please see  
<https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/school-life/termdates>

## Google Classroom

Please read your child's Google Classroom 'blog' to find out about all of the learning and activities the class has completed this week. These 'blogs' give you further insight into your child's week and enable conversations about learning at home. If you could leave a message, in response to the blog, or simply a 'thumbs-up', we would love to hear from you.