

NEWBRIDGE_{s,sch.uk}

www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk

Issue 1.05 3.10.25

Term 1 2025/26

Sunday 5th October
NPSA Scarecrow Trail
Monday 6th October
Open Classrooms 3.20pm
Wednesday 8th October
Open Classrooms 3.20pm
Monday 13th October
School photographs
Wednesday 15th October
Online Parent/Teacher
Meetings from 2.30pm
Friday 17th October
Harvest Festival

Wednesday 21st October Online Parent Teacher Meetings from 2.30pm Thursday 23rd October End of Term 1

NPSA Cake Sale

Friday 24th October
Inset Day for staff
Term 2

Monday 3rd November Return to school Tuesday 4th November Forest School 4AB Thursday 6th November Forest School 2KO NPSA Fireworks Tuesday 11th November Forest School 4N

Virtual NPSA Meeting 7.30pm **Wednesday 12th November** Bath Blitz Walk 6B

Thursday 13th November Forest School 2OG Bath Blitz Walk 6KR

Tuesday 18th **November** 5HK Herschel Museum

Wednesday 19th November 5F Herschel Museum

Friday 21st November Books and Bagels 8.15am NPSA Cake Sale

Tuesday 9th December Lower School Nativity Class 20G

Wednesday 10th December Lower School Nativity Class 2KO

Thursday 1th December Y6 choir to Stratton House Monday 15th December Volunteers' Thank You Inset Days 2025/26

Friday 24th October 2025 Monday 5th January 2026 Friday 26th June 2026 Wednesday 22nd July.

All of the dates for the remainder of the year can be found on the calendar on the website, <u>here</u>.

2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've had a good week. School life is going well, and is starting to get very busy.

Year 6 out and about: Our first out of school visit of the year took place today. The Year 6 children travelled to Yeovilton to the Fleet Air Arm Museum to immerse themselves in the history of WWll as part of their enquiry, 'How can we learn from the past?' We look forward to hearing all about the visit in next week's newsletter.

Football season starts: Our girls' team kicked off the season, with a home game against St Johns on Tuesday. With much spirit, the girls were determined to play their best and put on a superb performance. Please read on for Mr Wallace's report – well done, all.

B&NES Cross Country Championship: You are also able to read more below about the performance of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils at the B&NES Cross Country Championship held on Wednesday. In glorious sunshine, it was a privilege to watch all of the children compete. There was high emotion and much excitement before, during and after their strong performances and team efforts. Well done - you were a credit to our school.

Black History Month: This October, we are celebrating Black History Month. This is an important opportunity for our children to learn more about the achievements, history and contributions of Black people. As an inclusive school, we value and celebrate difference, helping our pupils to grow in respect and understanding. If any parents, carers or family members would like to share their experiences, stories or knowledge with a class or year group, we would be delighted to hear from you—please get in touch with the school office.

'500 Words' Writing Competition: Mrs Edmunds, our Writing Lead, is very keen to promote the well-known '500 Words' Writing Competition. The UK's largest children's writing competition was launched last week. You may like to read more about the competition here. If children wish to enter, parents and carers will need to do this. However, we would love to see the entries in school and celebrate them in the newsletter.

Celebrating Harvest: We love to celebrate Harvest and will hold our annual Harvest Assembly on Friday 17th October. For this assembly, we kindly ask if possible, that families donate a non-perishable food item or a toiletry item. All items received will be donated to the Genesis Trust and The Nest Project. The Genesis Trust would welcome tinned items including tomatoes, soup, vegetables, meat and fruit, and jars of tomato pasta sauce and cartons of long-life fruit juice. The Nest Project provides support for families with children under 5 with essential items and would welcome nappies of all sizes, sensitive baby wipes, baby and children's body wash/shampoo/bubble bath, baby lotion and nappy cream. Please bring these items to the Upper School Hall on the morning of Friday 17th October, at school drop-off – thank you very much in advance.

Parent/Teacher Meetings: The booking system for the online Parent and Teacher Meetings is now open. The meetings are being held on Wednesday 15th and Tuesday 21st October and we ask every family to make one appointment per child. Appointments can be booked until 7pm on Wednesday 8th October.

Open Classrooms: The classrooms are open after school, today until 4pm, and on 6th and 8th October. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to view pupil books and the classroom environment. There is no need to book, we just ask that all visitors are respectful of the class environment and resources.

Treating Head Lice: Head lice are common among school age children, and can spread fast if not treated properly. We ask all parents and carers to take responsibility by checking their child's hair regularly and treating promptly if necessary. It is important to follow the full treatment instructions and repeat as required. The NHS guidance can be found here nhs.uk+1.. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lost Property: There is so much lost property in school, we do not know what to do with it. If you are missing any items, please look at the mound in the Upper School Cloakroom, and in the red box in the Lower School Hall. All unnamed items which are not claimed will be placed outside next week for parents to take.

Tours for prospective Reception children 2026: We have now added more dates for prospective parents for September 2026 to tour the school. Please book on via on the school website

Welcome: This week we welcome Jasper to Year 3. We hope that he and his family will be happy in our school community. We also welcome Ms Kocaman and Ms Paradise, who have joined the lunchtime team.

The teacher's blog on Google Classroom will have further updates of the week, with photographs.

Please remember that the NPSA Scarecrow Trail is being held on Sunday. You can scan the QR code below to purchase a map. Have a lovely weekend.

Gill Kennaugh



IDB – Henry B, Ina M

IH – Betty H, Jaxon H

20G - Emily K, Flora H

2KO – Walter A, Sophia S

3DE – Penny T, Jasper S

3M - Tallulah S, Phoebe H

4AB – Alex B. Etta H

4N – Ava B, Darcey S

5HK - Phoenix G, Saskia H

5F – The whole class

6KR - Chloe G, Khadeja K

6B – Stuart D, Alice S

PE Stars of the Week

Charlotte J - Class 3M, Juliette S-L - Class 3DE

Music Stars of the Week

Felix B – Class 6KR, Ernie B – Class 5F

500 Words Writing Competition

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There are two age categories: **5-7 and 8-11 year-olds**. All children need to do is write a story they would love to read in 500 Words or less. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are not marked - it's all about creativity!

There are also lots of prizes to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners also win 500 books for their school library.

50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded grand final at Windsor Castle in February 2026, which will once again be hosted by Her Majesty The Queen. If that's not enough, each winner will also see their story be read aloud by a superstar celebrity on TV, which will be shown as part of a special 500 Words programme with The One Show in early March.

The official panel of celebrity judges, Sir Lenny Henry, Malorie Blackman, Francesca Simon, Charlie Higson and Frank Cottrell-Boyce will return to crown the winners.

All winning stories will be illustrated by children's illustrators and published in a special 500 Words winners' book produced by Oxford University Press. Illustrators include Korky Paul, Harriet Muncaster, Paula Bowles, Rochelle Falconer, Leigh Hodgkinson and Ken Wilson-Max.

For all other rules and details, go to the following link: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words/articles/zctk7v4

All stories must be submitted online at the website above. The deadline for the competition is **Friday**9th **November**.

If anyone does submit a story, please also send a copy to school via the school email address enquiries@newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk as we'd love to see what fantastic stories have been created!



CLASS AMBASSADORS



Bee – Soloman 1DE – Ezra, Nancy

20G -Eartha, Max

Ladybird –Amelia 1H – Charlie, Betty 2KO –Sophia, Tashveen



NPSA Scarecrow Trail

These are our Lower School Class Ambassadors

This weekend, on Sunday from 10am to 4pm, a Scarecrow Trail has been organised for the community to enjoy.

Scan this QR code to purchase the map, showing you where to find the scarecrows on our neighbouring roads.

Sincere thanks to all of the families who have made scarecrows, and to Helen Slade and Stuart Matthews for organising this fun event.



Around School This Week

Black History Month

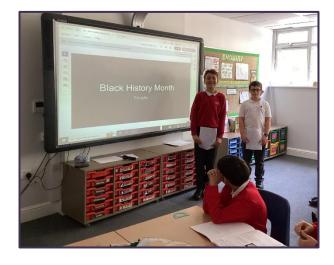
This October, Newbridge Primary School is proud to be celebrating Black History Month. Across the school, children will be taking part in assemblies and class learning, focused on the importance of Black history and culture.

Pupils will be finding out about significant historical figures, learning how their achievements and contributions have shaped the world we live in today. From inspirational leaders to trailblazing artists and scientists, the children will enjoy discovering new role models and exploring the impact of their work.

As part of the celebrations, the NET Team (Key Stage 2) shared thoughtful presentations in class to launch the month of focussed learning. They explained why Black History Month matters and encouraged everyone to reflect on the values of respect, equality and inclusion. Through these activities, Newbridge will be helping pupils to build a deeper understanding of the past, celebrate diversity in the present, and feel inspired to make a positive difference in the future.

On Monday, our Year 6 Librarians gathered some of the Year 2 children to share books about significant black figures. This was a wonderful opportunity for younger children to listen to inspiring stories and learn from their older peers, while celebrating a love of reading together. *Mrs O'Gara*







Around School This Week

Year 6 are really enjoying their enquiry 'How can we learn from the past?'. They have been exploring their family history and have shared all their findings. It has been fascinating to find out all about their past!





B&NES Year 5 & 6 Cross Country Championships



Year 6 GirlsMabel, Freja, Olivia, Amelie, Audrey



Year 6 Boys Rory, William, Otis, Harith, Tommy



Year 5 Girls Ella, Beatrix, Saskia, Lucy, Georgie



Year 6 Boys Flynn, Louis, Benjamin, Arthur, Oliver







Year 5 and Year 6 Cross Country Success

On Wednesday, 20 children took part in the B&NES Primary Schools' Cross-Country Championships at Odd Down.

Our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils were superb ambassadors and every runner gave 100% effort in their races, showing determination and resilience. It was a real pleasure to watch them compete and support one another.

We are incredibly proud of their excellent individual and team performances:

- Year 6 Girls 4th place out of 14 schools
- Year 6 Boys 2nd place out of 14 schools
- Year 5 Girls 1st place out of 13 schools
- Year 5 Boys 2nd place out of 14 schools

A special congratulations goes to Saskia, who won the Year 5 Girls' race – what an outstanding achievement!

Well done to all the children involved for their fantastic effort and for representing the school so brilliantly.

Mr Wallace and Ms Kennaugh

Newbridge Girls' v St Johns









The Team:

Ellie-Mae, Precious, Iben, Rosie Chloe, Khadeja, Audrey, Grace, Paula

Tuesday saw Newbridge girls' football team commence their season with a well-earned draw in a friendly match with a visiting St John's team.

The first two quarters were fiercely contested and some great attacking football and resolute defending from both teams.

In the third quarter a superb direct run by Precious ended with her finding the back of the net to give Newbridge a 1-0 lead.

St John's battled hard and were rewarded with their own goal in the last quarter, levelling the score to 1-1.

Newbridge had to soak up a lot of pressure in the last few minutes but some excellent goal keeping from Ellie-Mae kept out the St John's attack.

The game finished 1-1, a fair reflection of both team's efforts. For 6 of our 9 players it was the first time they had ever played in a competitive football game - what an achievement.

Well done to all involved!

Players of the day - Ellie Mae and Paula

Mr Wallace

Forest School This Week

Class 2OG had a wonderful time in the Forest on Thursday. We spent some time learning about the animals in the UK that hibernate. We then got arty as we searched for different colour leaves to create mandalas. They looked stunning! During free play we learnt how to use bungees to steady ropes that held the tarpaulin in place. The weather was kind and we created wonderful memories.





















Governors' Corner

This week our Governing Body kicked off the new school year with our first Full Governing Body (FGB) meeting. Our focus this year was established - supporting the school to achieve its School Development Plan priorities in the context of what will be a period of significant change in education policy and governance. Financial stability will be a critical consideration. Staff wellbeing will be front of mind alongside strengthening our community connection with staff, parents and NPSA to ensure the very best environment and support for all our children.

We said a fond farewell to our Governor Joe Cripps - thankyou Joe for all your support over the last few years. But we are delighted to announce that our call for new parent governors was successful and we are very happy to welcome Alice Little and Andrew Sargent.

The Governing Body is vital to the running of our school and the involvement of parents is crucial to its success. We are therefore very grateful to Alice and Andrew for stepping forward and giving up their valuable time for the school. Thank you both.

Please keep an eye out for Governors' Corner instalments throughout the year and for more information please see the Governors' page on the website here.

Many thanks, Clare Moon Chair of Governors

Recording of online safety webinar

In case parents were not able to attend the online safety webinar on Wednesday, please find the link to the recording and presentation. https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DDUX3CKWSa1H0LKffTzJgE-M5yHbRvZB?usp=sharing

You are also able to find a copy of the video on the Knowsley website for those who would prefer to watch it via a browser https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/online-safety-parent-session-oct-2025/ Their full newsletter is below.

Our Newbridge Curriculum

We believe the Newbridge Curriculum should provide our children with an **engaging**, **creative and purposeful** opportunity to make **connections** in their knowledge alongside developing each of them as future citizens of our community and beyond. The **progressive** and **sequenced** nature of our **broad** and **relevant** curriculum allows for children to be **challenged at all levels** and is inherently based on our values of **Learning and Communication**, **Creativity and Imagination**, **Personal Development**, **Collaboration** and **Citizenship**.

Subject Leaders have worked on 'Curriculum Progression Threads' for each of their subjects. 'Threads' are the golden, traceable pieces of learning and skills that develop over time. They are evident in each subject, each year. For example, in History, Chronology (ordering things by time) is one of the 'Threads' - using our new approach you can track how this skill is developed year on year. These documents are available on our school website. From now on, foundation subject lessons will link to these 'Threads' and will become a common language for the children.

You can see all of the Curriculum Thread documents here on the school website.

Mr Newman

Fixed Penalty Notice

If your child misses school because of an unauthorised absence of 10 sessions (or 5 days), the school may issue penalty notices.

Penalty notices will be issued separately to each parent, and for each child. The fine for each penalty notice is £120, with 28 days to pay. If you pay within 21 days, the fine is reduced to £60 for each penalty notice.

For example, a family with two parents (1&2) and two children (A&B) taking unauthorised absence would receive the following penalties:

- Parent 1 = 1 penalty for child A plus 1 penalty for child B = 2 penalties
- Parent 2 = 1 penalty for child A plus 1 penalty for child B = 2 penalties
 Total payable by the family = 4 penalties (or £480).

If the family in this example had paid their fine within 21 days of being issued the penalty notice, they would have had to pay £240.





Having a clear out? Your local school needs your help!

We have transformed our lunchtimes by giving the children lots of household items to play with.

Our current much needed items include:

Anything on wheels - suitcases, pushchairs, trolleys, skateboards, scooters, bikes, wheelchairs, wagons, toys, roller skates.

Fancy Dress clothing - fun items for dressing up, any shape or size.

Kitchen – utensils, pots and pans.

Small electricals - the more buttons the better, phones, keyboards, game controllers.

Lego – anything you do not need any more

In addition – drainpipes, guttering, buckets, spades, funnels, watering cans

Anything else, we'll give it a second life...
....surprise us!





Online Safety Newsletter

Oct 2025

Risks of using AI for mental health

Al chatbots and wellness apps are becoming increasingly popular, which may lead to your child accessing them to support their mental health.

What should I be concerned about?

- The information/advice given may not always be accurate.
- Privacy concerns of how data is collected and used.
- Children may use these apps rather than seeking help from an adult.

What can I do?

- Chat to your child regularly about what apps and websites they are using and why.
- Remind them AI is a tool and not a substitute for qualified professionals who provide tailored advice/support.
- Talk to them about how they should fact check information.
- Check age ratings.

Further information

https://stigmafreementalhealth.com/ blog/supporting-youth-mental-healthwith-ai-a-guide-for-parents-andcaregivers/

> Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: https://www.knowsleyc lcs.org.uk/october-2025

YouTube

YouTube is one of the most popular platforms, available across many different devices - phones, tablets and Smart TVS etc.

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/guardian. There are different



options available to access YouTube, depending on your child's age:

- YouTube Kids a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5—8) or Older (ages 9—12).
- 2. Supervised accounts a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:
- Explore Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- Explore more Generally for viewers aged 13+
- Most of YouTube This setting includes almost everything except for videos marked as 18+.

Find out more: https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420

What do I need to be aware of?

Whilst YouTube can be educational and fun, it is important to be aware of the potential risks, such as:

- Inappropriate content
- Excessive Screentime particularly due to the autoplay feature.
- Unwanted contact / cyberbullying particularly via comments if your child is sharing videos.
- Algorithms algorithms influence what we see to keep us engaged.
 This can lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.
- Adverts that may not be aimed at or suitable for your child's age.

What can I do?

- Set up appropriate parental controls.
- Show your child the reporting and blocking tools available.
- Watch YouTube together or supervise use.

Further information

https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-searchengines/youtube-app/

WhatsApp

WhatsApp is incredibly popular with young people and is used for group chats, voice messages and video calls. **Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp.**

We frequently receive reports of children using WhatsApp inappropriately, such as sharing images to embarrass others, sending hurtful messages, spreading rumours, or excluding people from group chats to make them feel left out. Since WhatsApp lacks parental controls, it is important to think about whether it is really the right platform for your child. For example, you should consider if your child has the critical thinking skills to recognise bullying. Furthermore, do they understand how to manage peer pressure and refrain from joining in on hurtful behaviour?

What should I be aware of if my child is using WhatsApp?

- Group chats: Everyone within a group, even if they are not one of your child's contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat.
- Inappropriate content: users can be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age.
- Location sharing: talk to your child about the potential danger of sharing their location.
- Chat lock/secret code: users can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting so a chat does not appear in the main chat.
- Screentime due to addictive nature
- AI: WhatsApp includes Meta AI.

What can I do?

- Check privacy settings, for example check who can add them to groups.
- Ensure your child understands that they can leave a chat at any time,
 Find out more here: https://faq.whatsapp.com/424124173736394
- Show your child how to block and report other users. Find out how here: https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/
- Use parental controls such as screentime controls or do not disturb to reduce alerts.
- Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be received by others. Talk about positivity and not saying anything hurtful. Ask them to think about whether they would say what they are messaging, face to face.
- Chat to your child about the groups that they belong to.

Further information

Find out more here:

- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zc8vxg8
- https://faq.whatsapp.com/773166357950949?helpref=faq_content

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Italian Brainrot

Have you heard of Italian Brainrot? It is a viral trend consisting of AI generated characters featuring in memes and videos. It originally started on TikTok but can now be seen on other platforms such as YouTube and Instagram. There are also lots of spinoff content including a game on Roblox.

Whilst the content is generally nonsensical and children will find some of it funny, some content can include inappropriate/offensive language and content that might not be suitable for your child's age.

iOS 26

Apple have released their new operating system – iOS 26. Protect Young Eyes have published an article detailing the changes relating to your child's safety, including content filtering in Safari. Find out more here:

https://www.protectyoungeyes.com/bl og-articles/a-parents-guide-to-ios-26

Managing Digital Spending

Parent Zone have created a guide to help teach your child how to manage their online spending. You can read it here:

https://parentzone.org.uk/article/mana ging-digital-spending-guide-parents

ADHD, Screen Time, and Healthy Boundaries

Bark have created this guide for parents of children with ADHD to support you in helping your child create a healthy relationship with technology. You can access it here:

https://www.bark.us/blog/adhd-kidand-tech/



EVERYONE ACTIVE

It was so lovely to see so many children and parents at our session this morning – please all come again, next week.

Our free dance session is held every Friday morning in the Upper School Hall from 8.10am to 8.40am.

All ages are most welcome, pre-schoolers through to grandparents – there is no need to book, just turn up.

Upper School children can come unaccompanied, but must stay in the Hall for the duration of the session. Lower School children must be accompanied.

Upper School children should put their belongings in their cloakroom before the start of the session and Lower School children leave their belongings in the Upper School Foyer.

Children should wear school PE kit and everyone should bring a filled water bottle.

It is a fun and positive start to the day - supporting everyone's well-being and health.



Unfortunately, Forest School is unable to run this October half term at our school, however we have other options available here at school, and nearby. Please keep a look out for the return of Forest School later in the school year.







Unique Voice – Safer Together

You are warmly invited to an online event introducing *Safer Together*, a new film and conversation resource created by young people in Bristol, designed to help families and communities talk about the realities and risks of knife crime, and how to move from these concerns towards hope and change.

About Safer Together:

In the wake of devastating losses in our local community and across the country, young people have come together through creativity and film to share their feelings, fears and hopes. The *Safer Together* film is a powerful piece created by young people, for young people, and aims to open up honest, informed conversations at home and in the community.

Session details:

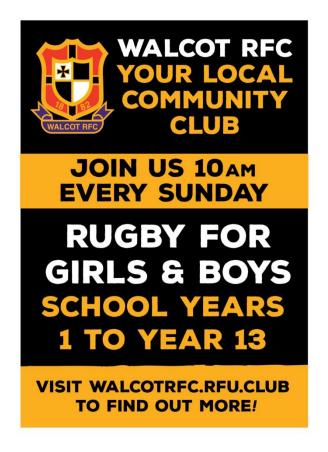
- Tuesday 14th October
- () Online 12.30-13.15
- P Open to parents, carers and guardians of young people

This supportive and informative session will:Introduce the film and accompanying conversation resource.Offer ideas for how to speak with your child about knife crime in a trauma-informed way.Signpost helpful organisations such as Crimestoppers and Fearless

If you would like to attend you can register for your space HERE

Any questions you may have about the event please feel free to contact me at jenni@uniquevoice.org.





Do you love reading?

Newbridge receive 25% of the cover price of any books bought through https://www.lovereading.co.uk/





