

Friday 17th September, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have enjoyed a good week. We certainly have. The children, as I have said many times before, are quite remarkable. Each day they demonstrate how quickly they can adapt to new routines and adjust to different environments. This, of course, is supported through the care and support of all of the staff, who wish to ensure that not only are the children learning through experiencing a range of activities, but most importantly, feel secure and settled throughout the day. Seeing the children using the dining hall, choosing their food and chatting happily over their meal, in mixed year groups, has been a real highlight this week, especially as the children in Bee and Ladybird classes have now joined for lunchtimes, too.

So, thank you to everyone in our large staff team for all of their efforts in getting our school back up and running again with so much more normality.

Doodle – Home Learning

For those parents from Year 1 upwards, you will know that Doodle, an online learning platform, was purchased with your support, for all children. We are continuing to use this, this year, and it will form the basis of the home learning expectation. Teachers will be promoting this in all classes from Year 1 upwards, with information for EYFS to follow at a later date. Please see information further in the newsletter, from Mrs Dinsdale, about the benefits of this app and our expectation around the pupils using it and completing assigned tasks. You will also read about a class competition which is being launched.

The children will also be expected to practise spellings, times tables, number bonds and reading, as detailed by their year group. Details of these can be found on the Back to School documents on the Class pages at <https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/classes>

Maths and Reading Meeting for parents

We are holding meetings for parents in school on Tuesday 28th September, to share how you can support your child(ren) with key skills. Prior to the pandemic, meetings of this nature were held and we are pleased to now be able to offer them again. There will be a meeting at 2pm, with the same meeting repeated at 6pm. If you would like to come, please sign up on this live form: <https://forms.office.com/r/b4NAj61ALz>. Further details will follow.

Back to School Information and Curriculum Overviews

Teachers have published information for you about the routines in each class and year group, called 'Back to School Information'. These are available on each class page at <https://www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk/classes>

Also on the class page, you will find the Curriculum Overview, which outlines the key themes being taught this term.

Google Classroom 'Blogs'

All class teachers have again posted a short 'blog' on their Google Classroom Stream today. The teachers have provided an overview of the week, with photographs and any necessary reminders. These will be published weekly, on a Friday, going forward. It will be lovely if parents and children together can leave a comment on the Stream. Visiting Google Classroom each week to read the blogs and leave a comment will remind families how to access this platform, should we ever need to revert to this for supporting learning.

Volunteering in and around school

Thank you to those parents who have kindly been in touch about holding volunteer roles in school. We value this support greatly and are pleased that it can recommence shortly. Please know, that if you held a Newbridge DBS previously, it will likely have expired due to the length of time parents have not been able to volunteer. Therefore, please contact Mrs Cherry Hill at newbridge_pri@bathnes.gov.uk if you would like to renew your certificate, or have a new one completed. We are currently looking at how best we can utilise the volunteer workforce and are identifying roles within year groups, such as hearing readers and supporting with maths. We are also drawing up a list of aspects across the school where we require support, for example, with cooking and gardening.

Tuesday 21/09/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2T**

Wednesday 22/09/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4KR**

Monday 27/09/21

- Clubs start

Tuesday 28/09/21

- Maths & Reading Meetings for Parents at 2pm and 6pm in school
- Y2 Forest School for **2A**

Wednesday 29/09/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4B**

Tuesday 05/10/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2T**

Wednesday 06/10/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4KR**
- Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud

Tuesday 12/10/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2A**
- Parents' Evening via SchoolCloud

Wednesday 13/10/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4B**

Monday 18/10/21

- Harvest Festival (Pupils only)

Tuesday 19/10/21

- Y2 Forest School for **2T**

Wednesday 20/10/21

- Y4 Forest School for **4KR**

Friday 22nd October

- End of Term 1

Entitlement to Free School Meals

If you are in receipt of, or are currently applying for any of the below listed benefits, your child(ren) may be entitled to free school meals. The qualifying benefits are: Income Support; Job Seekers Allowance; Employment Support Allowance; Child Tax Credit; Pension Credit; Working Tax Credit run-on; Asylum Seeker or Universal Credit. I have attached the application form which provides further information. If you are not able to access this form, have any queries, or would like to register by telephone, please contact: (01225) 394317 or email freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk. Please know, that this application also includes those pupils currently in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – whilst their school meals are funded by the government, as a school we can receive additional funding per child, to support their learning and wider opportunities.

Attendance and Punctuality

Our whole school attendance figure since the start of term is 96.1%. With children having had such a disrupted education over the past two years we are of course keen for children to be in school whenever they are well. Please know that holidays in term time are only ever authorised in exceptional circumstances, and each case is considered on an individual basis. Punctuality is equally important; being at school on time supports a smooth and settled start to the school day. A pupil will be marked Late (L) if they arrive after 8.55am. If your child is absent, please telephone the office by 9.30am, leaving a full reason for this.

Revised collection arrangements

Only parents with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 need to notify the school office of revised pick-up arrangements, as before the pandemic, this is not required for pupils in Years 3 to 6. When emailing the school inbox, please use the subject title Revised Collection Arrangements.

Extra-curricular activities

Extra-Curricular activities will commence in the week beginning Monday 27th September. We wish to offer a full and extensive range of activities, run both by outside providers and school staff. It is important to me that children have access to these wider opportunities and especially with such limited access during the past 18 months. Information about all of the clubs will be available on Monday.

Parent Consultation Meetings

These will be held online, via School Cloud, on Wednesday 6th October and Tuesday 12th October between 3.45pm and 6.45pm. Each appointment, one per pupil, will be scheduled for ten minutes. Information about booking an appointment will follow next week.

Bath Spa Teachers

We are pleased to welcome the following Bath Spa Teachers who will be working alongside our class teachers to support pupil learning: Katie Kitchener in 4KR, Kai Jones in 2T, Edward Gibbons in 1R, Naomi Osborne in Bee class and Jade Hunt in Ladybird Class.

Our NPSA

Newbridge Primary School Association is pivotal to all of our work. It is the glue that holds our special community together and we have been so fortunate, for so many years, to have reaped the benefits of the work of our charity. It has benefitted the school financially and has helped to form a strong community with a common purpose. A lot of fun has been had and great friendships have been formed along the way, too. Whilst all parents are members of the NPSA, events and activities take time to organise and provide. If you wish to be involved and play an active role, big or small, in the Association's work, then please come to our first meeting of the year. Your Class representative will send you details about the meeting.

Guidance for your reference

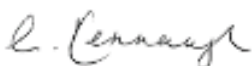
You may wish to refer to the full government guidance about the return to schools.

[Schools COVID-19 operational guidance](#) (updated 27th August 2021)

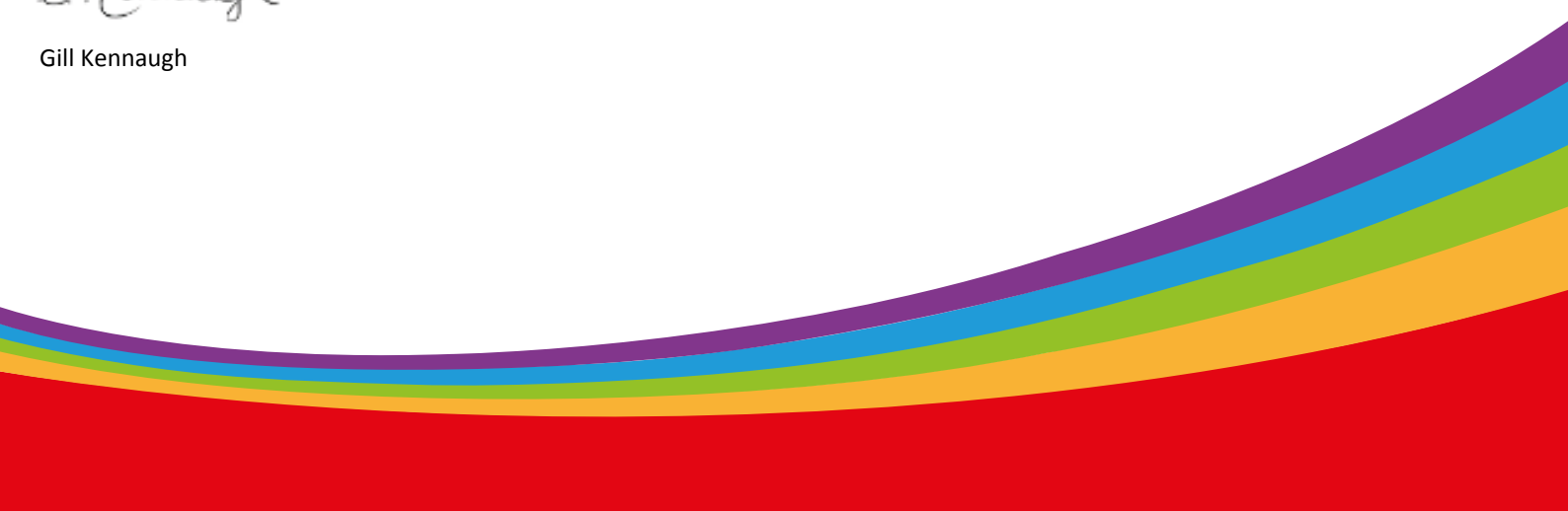
[What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19](#) (updated 17th August 2021).

Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes



Gill Kennaugh



STARS OF THE WEEK



Bee Whole Class

Ladybird Whole Class

1EO Ada H & Rue C

1R Louis L & Alice L

2T Abdelrahmen E & James L

2A Felix B & Rory W

3OG Edward S & Romi H

3C Elijah R & Isobel M

4B Elisabeth W & Albert C

4KR Ella S & Henry H

5G Kaia B & Evie D

5HT Segev H & Nancy M

6B Matthew D & Emelia W

6H Eve M & Otis G



CURRICULUM CORNER

Super Spellings

Can you find the **VOWELS** in your spellings and write them in **BLUE**?

Can you find the **CONSONANTS** and write them in **GREEN**?

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB REQUEST

If you have any unwanted old electronics (consoles, DVD players, computers, laptops), Mr Clark would be grateful to take them off your hands for projects for After School Club. Please bring them to the office.

Thank you!

SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK







Dear Parents and Carers

Doodle Home Learning

It's wonderful to see the children coming to school so happily and rising to the challenges of school life. Now that the term is in full swing we are setting home learning tasks in Maths and English. Doodle Maths and Doodle English will form the home learning provision for all children.

We subscribe to Doodle Learning for all of the children at Newbridge and most children used the Doodle Apps during lockdown and last term.

Children will need the same log in details and access to the Doodle Maths App and /or Doodle English App on a tablet, PC or phone. New pupils will be given log in details by their teacher. If your child is unable to access the App, please inform the class teacher who will be able to re-issue your child's user name and password. Children are expected to complete the daily challenges with a minimum target of staying in the green zone. Please encourage your child to work independently so that the level of learning is appropriate to their needs.

Why use the Doodle Apps?

- Individualised learning for your child
- Support in specific areas where your child needs to build their confidence
- Re-visits areas of learning for consolidation
- Pupils receive instant feedback

Doodle Maths

- Year 1 to Year 6 should complete the daily challenges
- Years 2 to 6 should also complete the 'Extras' that the teachers set.

In Years 2 to 6 the teachers will set an 'Extra' task for the children on Fridays. The 'Extra' will need to be completed within 7 days, this allows teachers to offer verbal feedback and support children who have not accessed the learning. Reception children will receive log in details in Term 2 and will be encouraged to complete the daily challenges in Doodle Maths only.

Doodle English

- Year 2 to Year 6 should complete the daily challenges

Doodle Spell and Doodle Tables

- These Apps are optional and they can be accessed using the same individual account details. They support learning the times tables and spelling rules.

Aiming to complete Doodle Maths and Doodle English daily is the most effective way to use the Apps. It helps children to get in to a good routine and supports good study habits. We will be using a 'Doodle Trophy' in classrooms to help motivate some healthy year group competition! We are starting the new school year with a 'Back to School Competition' too, more details can be found in the newsletter.

Further information, including parent webinars and an 'assistant bot', can be found on the Doodle website: www.doodlelearning.com

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Happy Doodling!

Mrs Dinsdale



DOODLE MATHS BACK TO SCHOOL COMPETITION

Doodle Maths is our maths home learning provision for Key Stages 1 and 2.

All children should be practising their maths skills daily to stay in the green zone.

Our Doodle Maths Back to School Competition will help you to rekindle those good study habits and enjoy maths success beyond the classroom.

WHO?

Year 1 to Year 6

HOW?

Complete Doodle Maths each day and stay in the green zone!

WHEN?

The class that has the most children in the green zone between today, Friday 17th September and Thursday the 30th September will be declared the Autumn Doodle Champions.

TELL ME MORE...

The winning class will earn an afternoon to celebrate their success and enjoy a fun session solving logic puzzles, practising their dice skills and playing board games!

BONUS

There is also a chance for one school to win a bundle of games from Doodle Learning.

GOOD LUCK, AND HAPPY DOODLING!

