

**Tuesday 20th July, 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers

## INSET Days 2020/2021

- Wednesday 21st July 2021

## INSET Days 2021/2022

- Thursday 2nd September 2021
- Tuesday 4th January 2022
- Monday 28th February 2022
- Friday 24th June 2022
- Friday 22nd July 2022

## Start of Term 1 2021-2022

- Friday 3rd September

Whilst I remained determined to reach the end of this term with everyone in school – sadly it wasn't to be. We have had a few knocks towards the end of the school year, all of which were unavoidable. However, this can't take away from what we have achieved together this year. We cannot forget that we completed fifteen brilliant weeks in school in Term 1 and 2 when welcoming our new starters and all children back to school. Yes, the closure on January 5th came as a huge blow, without any warning, but we coped well to switch to remote learning and to restart the school again on 8th March. Through the final two terms, we have achieved a great deal and feel satisfied that we have been able to cover almost all of the curriculum and understand what we need to achieve next year.

We know that Year 2 has been out of school for some time recently, and that Year 5 and 6 remain at home now. This is just horrible for everyone and I so wish it was different. The teaching staff have kept the children's spirits up despite this and I thank all of the teachers over the course of the year for adapting to remote teaching and learning.

Our Year 6 pupils deserve the biggest mention. They have missed out the most. You may know that last year they could not attend their residential to Kilve Court because of the school closure in March, and most unfortunately, due to their year group closing last Wednesday, the same has happened this year. They all should have been at Kilve Court this week, and we are so desperately sad that again, this could not be achieved. It's a rite of passage, along with the other activities that could not be achieved and completed. For six and half years they have committed to their learning and wanted to demonstrate this in sitting SATS. Over recent weeks, they have rehearsed and sung their hearts out, practising for their Production, 'What a Year'. They knew there could not be a family audience, but were looking forward to this being captured on film at the end of last week – it couldn't happen. Nor have they been allowed to stand with pride on the stage on the last day of their time at Newbridge Primary School, with a packed hall of all year groups and parents, for their Leavers' Assembly. This is just so sad. However, they must not forget what truly amazing young people they are who have given so much to their school. We all wish them every success as they take their next steps, well prepared and more resilient perhaps, as responsible young people who will continue to thrive and achieve so much - good luck Year 6.

With this, I must acknowledge the Year 6 families who will leave Newbridge today - remarkably, there are thirty six families who will move to pastures new. Some of our parents have had very long associations with our school, having attended themselves as pupils, followed by multiple children of their own coming through, or with multiple children attending Newbridge Primary School spanning a long period. It is upsetting that their family experiences and memories of Newbridge have also been cut short.

All of our children, from the youngest in Reception to oldest in Year 6, are to be commended for their attitudes to learning this year, and for all they have given to the school. To celebrate them all, the teachers have posted end of year videos on their Google Classroom Stream, for you to enjoy.

Our community has continued to shine throughout this year. This was demonstrated when again, parent and community volunteers delivered necessary meals during the prolonged school closure, and it has continued up to this last weekend when the Scarecrow Trail took place.

Hopefully you have had the chance to see the magnificent displays on the trail or through the photographs taken – again showing off the special spirit that lies within Newbridge. Our NPSA continues to be a stalwart of support and opportunity, and with the AGM held last week, we are most fortunate to have all roles filled for September. Led by Katherine Wellings, the NPSA has had to find increasingly novel ways to deliver events this year and to cope with changes and cancellations. The time, skill and commitment given in this way is so greatly appreciated and continues to cement all that our school stands for. A special thanks must go to Sarah and Oly Squires who have supported the NPSA more than we will ever know for seven years, and I wish them and their family every happiness as they leave Bath. Also, to JP and Victoria Cavaco for their work with the NPSA – many dark evenings have been spent erecting stunning lighting to showcase events. I wish them and their family every happiness too, as they also leave Bath. I also wish to acknowledge Keziah Rutherford, who with her family is leaving Bath, too. As a parent, she has quietly set about her work in the school allotment, over many years, bringing other volunteers on board too. This has always been done so modestly, I am so grateful. We will miss her, and her family, and wish them so much luck with the next part of their journey.

I am very grateful to our governing body who have helped to steer us through the choppy waters. In particular, Sarah Evans, our Chair of Governors, who has been a fantastic sounding board. There have been on-going decisions and it has been reassuring to have her full support in these.

And this brings me to the staff. Every morning this year I have written an email to them – detailing changes, outlining government guidance, promoting what we need to achieve, setting deadlines, requiring action.... The list is endless. This is how I started my final email this morning.....

*I do not know how we have done it, but we have, and it's been quite a ride....white knuckle at times. There have been highs and lows, there have been twists and turns, and with a couple of loop the loops thrown in for good measure! There has been screaming, tears and laughter. But, in true Newbridge style, we fastened our seatbelts back in September and have clung on ever since. I don't know about you, but I'm not considering asking for my money back - it's taught me a lot; it's tested my nerve and more than ever, it has cemented in my mind what we can achieve as a whole, if we work together. We have done it all for the children - for their now and their future, because we care. Despite the knocks the teaching profession has taken, no one can take this away from us. Newbridge is a very special place and I feel fortunate to have had your support, can do approach and positivity. It will make us stronger and better prepared for what's to come next, but whatever it is, I know we can do it, together.*

I thank each and every one of them.

And with this, we need to say goodbye to some of our staff.

Mr Baigent leaves Newbridge this week, after 15 years of service. With this, his teaching career in London and Liverpool has spanned 37 years! Mr Baigent's two daughters also attended Newbridge, when the family moved from London. He will definitely leave his mark. He has been our specialist Art teacher, teaching Year 2 to Year 6 over twelve years. He has taught and inspired many hundreds of children, some of whom have and are now studying art at tertiary level. You may also know that he was instrumental in the Newbridge Arts Trail – showing his work and celebrating that of our children. Beyond this role he has inspired and brought together the staff team through promoting running, 'acting' and many social events with his DJ skills. We will all miss him and wish him every success, along with his family, for ventures new.

Miss Keane also leaves Newbridge for now. She has this year taught in Year 1 having started as an NQT three years ago. But now she leaves us, fully fledged and ready to fly the nest. We will miss her greatly. Miss Keane is heading off to Dubai, to continue her teaching career. I have absolutely no doubt that she will continue to make the most of every new challenge - her calm, collected, hard-working approach will serve her well, we know. We wish her every success.

We will miss Mrs Roberts, too. What a positive, upbeat, ray of colour and sunshine she is. In her role as a Teaching Assistant, she has admirably supported so many children and teachers. No job is ever a problem – and many have been asked of her this year. Her new school will be so fortunate to receive her. We will miss her and all of her family, we wish them every happiness.

We also need to say goodbye to a number of children who are moving to other areas and schools for September. We wish them, and their families, every future happiness – Rose, Betty, Reuben, Christopher, Robin, Mally, Bea, Jocelyn, Naioli, Alex and Lilliana.



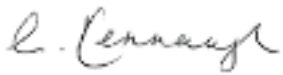
### Next steps

Although there have been significant changes to contact tracing, which you will know from the letter sent yesterday, we have been asked to be a part of this for the first ten days of the holiday. Therefore, please can I ask that you continue to report any positive PCR results to [newbridge\\_pri@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:newbridge_pri@bathnes.gov.uk) with the subject heading Positive Result.

Over the holiday, we will continue to work on plans for September. We understand that the aim is for much more normality and we will work with all guidance to achieve this wherever possible. I will write to you at the end of August detailing changes, and those which will impact you, for example coming to and leaving school. We need to examine all of our current systems and look at how we reverse these, or indeed keep some that have served us better than the model pre Covid-19. No matter what, I can assure you that we will remain committed to doing our best for the children.

Finally, thank you to you all. I have said it many times, but to have your continued support and to receive uplifting and appreciative messages throughout this year, has helped enormously. Our roles are impossible without you being behind us and beside us, and we really are very grateful. Thank you also, on behalf of staff members for the generous end of year gifts; these too are very much appreciated.

Take care and best wishes to you and your family for a restful Summer,



Gill Kennaugh

# STARS OF THE WEEK



**Bee** Whole Class

**1K** Alice S & Thomas B

**2T** Whole Class

**3OG** Louie A & Lynne A

**4C** Finn G & Evie D

**5B** Isobel F & Jasmine H

**6B** Whole Class

**Ladybird** Whole Class

**1R** Billy F & Hayley M

**2G** Whole Class

**3KR** Spike F & Mally S

**4H** Bea A & Reuben R

**5H** Mabel O'G & Connie S

**6A** Whole Class





# SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK

**BEE** and **LADYBIRD** class photos





# 1R and 1K class photos





# 2G and 2T class photos





## YEAR 2 enjoying their Sports Morning





# 3OG and 3KR class photos





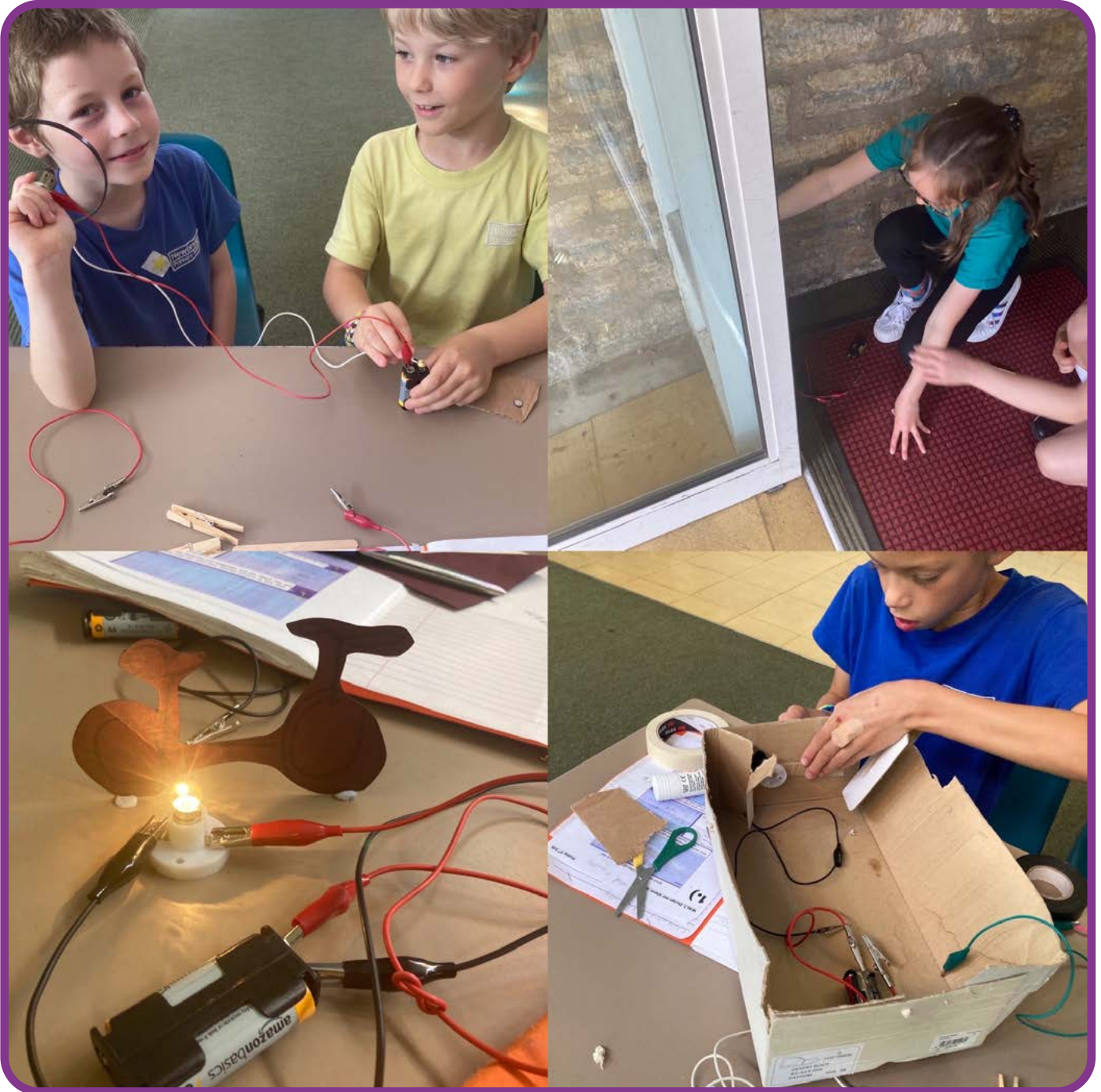
**YEAR 3** had a fabulous morning of athletics for Sports Day! They worked collaboratively in their Houses to earn points for their team.

There was lots of cheering, high energy and star performances! In the afternoon, they played a Year 3 Inter-House rounders match!





# YEAR 3 making alarms in Design Technology





# YEAR 4 class photos





# YEAR 5 at Great Wood

















# YEAR 6 The cast photos from 'Wow! What a Year!' What an incredible production and what phenomenal children









## WELL DONE CAOIMHE R & IZAAC D!

from 5H who were presented with their Chief Scouts Silver Award this week



## AND WELL DONE ELLA!



Ella, in Year 1, has held a plant sale to raise money for Julian House. She grew a lot of the plants from seeds, and others from small plugs. Her family said that she had a great time doing this and has had many customers. Ella has raised £84, so far! Well done, Ella – everyone is so proud of you.



## The Doodle Summer Challenge

Between the **1st of July and the 31st of August**, Doodle are running two exciting Summer Challenges — the DoodleMaths Challenge and the DoodleEnglish Challenge!

Both Challenges encourage children to use Doodle for a few minutes a day, helping to **rebuild their confidence** and **maintain their learning** without hours of indoor studying.

Most excitingly, those who complete the Challenge can earn an exclusive **pin badge and certificate!**

### How to take part

- 1 Create a parent account or link your parent account to your child's school account. To find out how, please scan the QR code below.



Or visit [help.doodlelearning.com](https://help.doodlelearning.com) and search 'how to link account'

- 2 From the 1st of July, visit [parents.doodlelearning.com](https://parents.doodlelearning.com) and press **Register for the Challenge** next to your child's name. Press on the blue plus icon to register for the DoodleMaths Challenge, or the purple speech icon to register for the DoodleEnglish Challenge.
- 3 Then, encourage your child to **earn 750 stars** (or **600 stars** if they were born on or after 01/09/13) and achieve a **14-day streak** in DoodleMaths and/or DoodleEnglish\* **before the 31st of August**
- 4 Once they've reached their target, you can claim their reward by visiting [parents.doodlelearning.com](https://parents.doodlelearning.com) and pressing **Claim reward** next to their name before **midnight on the 31st of August**.



#DoodleMathsChallenge



#DoodleEnglishChallenge



For more information, please visit [doodlelearning.com/summer-challenge](https://doodlelearning.com/summer-challenge)

Any questions? visit [help.doodlehq.com](https://help.doodlehq.com) and click on the green icon to chat to our team.

**Good luck, and happy Doodling!**



## SUMMER BREAKOUT

Monday 26th July – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August

Bath Area Play Project have partnered with Bath Rugby Foundation, Youth Connect South West, FareShare South West and B&NES Council to deliver summer activities to local children and families **who are entitled to receive free school meals across B&NES.**

### WHAT IS BREAKOUT?

Working across B&NES at multiple hubs, Bath Area Play Project, Bath Rugby Foundation, Youth Connect South West and partners will deliver a fun and powerful package of summer activities including sports, exercise and creative play, as well as nutritious food, for all attendees to enjoy.

### WHO IS BREAKOUT FOR?

BreakOut is specifically designed for children, teens and families and places prioritised for young people who receive free school meals with hub sessions split out into the following groups:

**Junior BreakOut** is open to children aged 5-12 years of age with hubs available in; *Keynsham, Twerton, Midsomer Norton, Radstock, Peasedown St John, Snowhill, Paulton and Odd Down*. Parents can book to drop their children to one of our morning hubs where the kids will be able to enjoy 4-hours of fun 9 - 1pm, supervised activities followed by a delicious and nutritious lunch

**Family BreakOut** sessions are available 2-4pm daily in local parks; Twerton, Whiteway, Keynsham, Southdown, Weston, Odd Down, Foxhill, Southdown, Weston, Midsomer Norton, Peasedown St John, Radstock, High Littleton and Combe Down. Family BreakOut is open to all families entitled to receive free school meals, with children aged 5-16 years of age and BAPP Playworkers will offer fun outdoor sessions including play and food, enabling families to enjoy fun and valuable time together.

**For more details and to book... go to <http://www.bapp.org.uk/our-play-services/haf2021-family-breakout/>**

**Youth Connect South West are also running Teen BreakOut:** open to young adults aged 12-16, with hubs available in; *Keynsham, Twerton, Paulton, Midsomer Norton, Radstock, Timsbury, Foxhill and Weston*. Teens can book to enjoy social time, music, art and sports activities, as well as health and wellbeing workshops that have been designed specifically for their age group.

**Outdoor Adventures for Teenagers** If you're a teen after a little adventure, our fully-funded day trips to explore the best of the South West are perfect for you! Sign up to enjoy kayaking, golf, theme park visits and much more.

