



# Newsletter



10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

**Working to Learn Together**

**W/C 20.11.23 - Menu Week 2**

Happy Friday,

A huge thankyou to everyone for their contribution to the amazing day we have had at school today. The children have really made an effort, as well as the staff, and the danceathon at lunchtime was brilliant. Many thanks for your contributions and time to create some excellent outfits. A special thankyou to the Charity Committee for setting this all up and for your fundraising efforts.



On the notion of finances – I thought it would be useful to give you an update so that you can have some understanding of the incredibly difficult decisions that the school has faced at the end of last year and continues to face at present.

You will be well aware that there is incredible financial pressure everywhere at the moment, we have a national cost of living crisis and an incredibly underfunded public sector. Schools have been hit hard by the lack of funding they are receiving and without significant investment, education, for a generation affected by Covid, is going to suffer.

As a school, there are numerous pinch points for us from energy bills, pay and consumable costs, to basic costs for photocopying, books, and resources. All of these have seen significant increases in many cases and although there has been an increase in some funding streams, this has not been enough to keep pace and as such we find ourselves in an even more challenging position.

This means that across the school year some tough decisions are having to be made so that the school can operate as it needs to, and education can take place as it should. There are many things I would like to introduce, provide, retain and develop within school, at present I have no idea if these will be possible. It does mean that there may need to be cuts to some of the things we currently do or have done in the past and I think it is important to let you know that.

I am working hard, with my colleagues to see what we can do to try to ensure we have access to the funding we need and alongside the PTA or other associations looking at additional funding streams.

## **Display Volunteers**

We would really like to be able to showcase our children's work in the best possible light. As such we are looking for any volunteers, preferably on a regular basis, once a week, to come and help create and put up/take down displays in school. Anyone with any artistic skills would be most appreciated, or a particular interest in crafting. If you know anyone interested, please do let us know via the office.

## **New cloakroom arrangements KS2 – Years 3-6**

Following our building work over the Summer we have been without dedicated cloakroom spaces for KS2 children, and they have had to use their classrooms, which is never ideal. Today new cloakroom storage has finally arrived, and this will necessitate a couple of changes to things.

- A request that children shouldn't really need a bag, if they do, please can we ask that it is as small a bag as is necessary. We appreciate some days that they might need x or y, but on the whole drinks' bottles/packed lunches can be carried in.
- In the morning children will need to head into the cloakroom – which is adjacent to Fun Factory before heading through the school to their classroom.
- Obviously, this is the first time we have implemented this, so it may well need adjustment and tweaking which we will keep you up to speed with.

## **PTA**

Thankyou to all those who have engaged with the newly launched PTA page. There will be some new admins in charge eventually, who will hopefully have more time to dedicate to providing relevant updates etc.

Following some early investigative work, we now know what the structure of the PTA needs to be – this was something circulated on social media.

The PTA need people to fill the following roles:

Chair  
Treasurer  
Secretary

The roles can be split if that makes it easier with joint positions if needs be. Please don't let the formality of the titles put you off! I know we have a number of people keen to take on event organisation and running, as well as volunteering. In the past things have been quite informal and meetings run in all kinds of location at all sorts of times. So, if you feel you might have some skills to take minutes, keen with numbers, or able to chair meetings please do let us know.

Establishing these postholders will really enable the PTA to develop and thrive. If you are able to assist with these roles, please do let the office know.

## **Tea and Biscuits with the headteacher- CHANGE OF DATE WEDNESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> November 9am**

Tea and biscuits with the Headteacher will now be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November at 9am, rather than the previously advertised day of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November – apologies for any inconvenience. Please feel free to drop in to just chat all things school – no set agenda, but feel free to come in and share your thoughts/ ask questions or just chat etc.

## **Term Dates 2024-25**

Please note that the new term dates for this academic year are now on the school website – please use this to help plan your holiday bookings.

<https://www.newbyandscalby.coastandvale.academy/for-parents-and-carers/term-dates/>

## **Art Competition**

Just a reminder that you have until the 13<sup>th</sup> December – so quite a long time. The piece needs to be 2D and on the theme of Winter. We look forward to seeing what comes in! Thankyou for those that have come in so far!

## **Musicians in assembly**

I have been delighted with the standard of musical talent we have in school and have really enjoyed listening to the children playing and singing in assembly. We have recently held some additional auditions and have filled slots until Christmas. After Christmas we will open up to other year groups.

## **Generous donations**

Again, another huge thank you to the many of you who have donated a book via our Amazon Wishlist – it has been a huge success. If you would like to donate, please follow the link.

<https://www.newbyandscalby.coastandvale.academy/curriculum/reading1/donate-a-book/>

We have been fortunate enough to have received over £500 in book donations so far.

We would also like to say a huge thankyou to companies and individuals who have donated around £800 for new sports kit for the school teams. This will make a huge difference at the competitions we will be entering and enable the children to represent their school with pride.

**And finally...** this week our focus has been on standing up for others and standing up for yourself – following the slogan of Antibullying Week – 'Make a Noise!' Encouraging children to stand up to make a difference.



**Best wishes, Steve Owen - Executive Headteacher**

**Working to learn together**

## What's On...

Monday	20th			
Tuesday	21st			
Wednesday	22nd	9:00-9:30am	Parents	Tea and Biscuits with Headteacher
		2:30-3:15pm		Uniform Shop
Thursday	23rd	3:20-3:50pm	Parents	EYFS Phonics Workshop
Friday	24th	All Day	All pupils	Flu Vaccinations
Monday	27th			
Tuesday	28th			
Wednesday	29th	12:45-3:30pm	Year 6	Matilda Jr
		2:30-3:15pm		Uniform Shop
Thursday	30th			
Friday	1st			
Saturday	2nd	10:45-12:00pm	Choir	Choir at the Hospice
Monday	4th	6pm	EYFS	EYFS Production
Tuesday	5th	6pm	Year 5	Year 5 Production
Wednesday	6th	2:30-3:15pm		Uniform Shop
		9:00-12:00pm		Flu Catch-up for missed pupils
Thursday	7th	6pm	Year 1	Year 1 Production
Friday	8th			
Monday	11th			
Tuesday	12th	5:00-6:30pm		Christmas Fair
Wednesday	13th	2:30-3:15pm		Uniform Shop
Thursday	14th			
Friday	15th			

Monday	18th			
Tuesday	19th	10:00am	Year 3 & 4	Carol Service at St Laurence's (Parents Welcome)
		1:30pm	Year 5 & 6	Carol Service at St Laurence's (Parents Welcome)
		1:30pm	EYFS	EYFS Party
		1:30pm	Year 2	Year 2 Party
Wednesday	20th	1:30pm	Year 1	Year 1 Party
		2:30-3:15pm		Uniform Shop
		5:30-6:30pm	Year 3 & 4	Disco
		6:45-7:45pm	Year 5 & 6	Disco
Thursday	21st			Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
Friday	22nd			School closes for Christmas