



NEWDIGATE CofE INFANT SCHOOL
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14th October 2021

Newsletter 3

Dear Parents,

I wanted to start this newsletter by highlighting a very important part of our school vision. As an infant school we know that we are tasked with nurturing our little children in their first precious years of education. We want our pupils to know that they can still achieve so much even though they are young and little. We have used the Parable of the Mustard Seed to help children understand this through a children's book about

Our value this half-term is love & compassion.

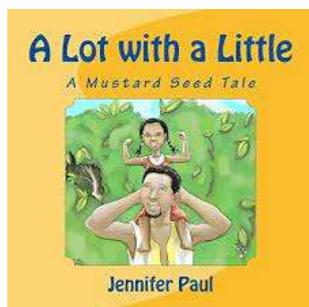


We show love and compassion for each other.

John 15:12

Love each other as I have loved you.

this parable called, 'A Lot with A Little.' The book reinforces our message and we will be reading it throughout the year so our children fully appreciate how much potential they have.



We are getting very close to our **Harvest celebration**, as you know this year we will be collecting for Crawley Open House and have been lucky enough to have a visit from their representative on Monday 18th October. Can we remind you that, if you are able to support this good cause, please can you bring an item of non-perishable food to school on **Monday 18th October** so we can collect it together and hand it to Ian Wilkins, who will be visiting us on that day from Crawley Open House.



Our service will be held at the school on Thursday 21st October 2021 at 2 p.m. and children can be collected

immediately after the service is finished from their classrooms.

Birthday Presents

Yay! We recently received our first '**Birthday Book**' and wanted to say thank you for supporting us with this new initiative.

Birthdays are of course times to celebrate and we are keen to make sure children get opportunities to do this here at Newdigate, but we have been thinking! As reading continues to be a major focus for improvement in all schools, we would like to adopt an initiative that other schools are using and make our school a little healthier at the same time. Rather than bring in sweets for a birthday treat, we will be asking parents to make a '**Birthday Book**' donation that we will place in our book collection for children to take home as part of our reading curriculum. The book might be from home (in good condition) or a newly purchased book from a charity or book shop. Our aim is to increase our collection of high-quality books that all children will have access to that will develop their language and comprehension. We will place a personalised donation sticker inside each book so that whoever reads it will be able to see who was generous enough to make the donation for years to come!

#Hello Yellow Day – Supporting Young Minds

Our Year 2 school leaders did a magnificent job of helping us think about how we might keep ourselves happy and healthy on World Mental Health Day. As well as raising our awareness of the importance of talking about mental health, we also felt a real sense of community and thoroughly enjoyed our activities and assembly. We raised **£47.10** that will be given to the Young Minds charity, thank you for your generosity and to Miss Haydon and the Year 2 team for organising the day.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/>

*"Saying #HelloYellow this **World Mental Health Day** is a little thing we can do to make a **BIG** difference to young people's mental health. Because a little yellow goes a long way."*

Anyone fancy making a Guy?



Once again this year we will be supporting the Newdigate fireworks event by making a guy and entering it into their competition. We are aiming to make 3 guys, one for each classroom. If you can offer us

your time, energy and some clothes and materials to make the guy we would be very grateful. Ideally a couple of parents would work as partners for each class as part of our Welly Wednesday session next week. Please contact the office if you can help.

Remember-our 'Out and About' is this weekend.



16th October 2021, 10-12

Our outdoor environment is in need of some TLC. This is a chance for families to come together and have fun at the same time. Come dressed for muddy work and if you are able to bring gardening tools (put your name on them!) and gloves with you that would be a great help. Children of all ages are always welcome. We will be stopping for a well-earned cuppa/hot chocolate and a slice of cake midway through the morning.

Our main aims for the day will be to clear the leaves, tidy up the sensory garden and Rainbow Bridge, cut back the hedges near the pond, organise the gardening area and polytunnel.

Open mornings

This year we will be holding our open afternoons on our INSET day and the following day so we can make sure our prospective parents are able to see the school building as well as the outside area. Please can you promote the school and tell anybody looking for places about us; you are our best marketing tool!

Remember to recommend us to your friends and families!

Friday 22nd October 2021 (10-11 and 11.-12 a.m.)

and

Saturday 23rd October 2021 (10-11 and 11.-12 a.m.)

Stay well and safe.

Paula Bliss

DATES – AUTUMN TERM 2021

Term dates – Wednesday 1st September – Friday, 17th December

Half term dates – Monday, 25 October – Friday, 29th October

INSET days – Wednesday 1st Sept, 22nd October, 4th January 2022, 21st February 2021,
Friday 22nd July.

Thursday 21st July is our additional holiday in lieu of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Diary Dates for Autumn Term

01.09.21	INSET Day
02.09.21	Back to school
24.09.21	Macmillan Coffee afternoon – cake sale (after school)
04.10.21 – 08.10.21	Feeling Good Week
05.10.21	#Hello Yellow Day – Supporting Young Minds
06.10.21	Meet the Teachers – information about learning and the curriculum – 6-7pm
11.10.21	FONS AGM 7.30pm – school hall
16.10.21	Out and About Morning – 10am – 12noon.
19.10.21	School Photos - Individuals
21.10.21	Harvest Festival @ 2pm – School
22.10.21	Open Mornings 10-12 (INSET DAY)
23.10.21	Open Mornings 10-12
10.11.21	Meet the Teacher – 3.30 -6pm
17.11.21	Meet the Teacher – 5.30 – 8pm
26.11.21	Hoops Up
<i>TBC</i>	<i>Christmas Fair</i>
07.12.21	Christmas Performance – 10am
08.12.21	Christmas Performance – 10am
10.12.21	Christmas Jumper Day – School date.
15.12.21	Pied Piper Theatre company
16.12.21	Christingle @ 6pm -St Peters Church
17.12.21	Last day of term – Break up at 2pm

DATES – SPRING TERM 2020

Term dates – Tuesday 4 January 2021 – Friday 1 April 2021

Half term dates – Monday 14 – Friday 18 February 2021

INSET Day – 21st February 2021

Diary Dates for Spring Term

04.01.22	INSET Day
05.01.22	Back to School
11.02.22	Break up for half term
21.02.22	Inset Day
22.02.22	Back to School
01.04.22	Last Day of Term – Break up at 2pm
19.04.22	Back to School – Summer Term

