



Newfield

Inspire | Support | Achieve | Together

ISSUE: 22

WELCOME TO OUR
NEW LOOK
NEWSLETTER!

Hello I'm Katie and I am the Editor for the Newsletter. We have had another very busy term with all of our usual learning and outreach links going on, as well as loads of special activities including Eid, Harvest, Remembrance day, Takeover day, Children in Need, Christmas Fair and lots of Christmas concerts. At the start of term, we were very happy to find out that we had got the Autism Accreditation award again for which the assessors had come to school back in the summer.

For me, the highlight was Takeover Day, when the whole of my class, TG3,

NEW SCHOOL YEAR,
NEW LOGO...

took over the roles of different staff throughout the school. These jobs included becoming the Head Teacher - which is what I did, working in the office and performing the car park duties. Waseem and Megan also went to visit the Town Hall and participated with other schools to set the Council budget. It was a day enjoyed by all, I liked sitting in Geoff's chair and being in charge!

Later in the term, the Christmas fair was another huge success with the stalls selling cakes and items that were made in class. We have also had

GO
NEWFIELD!

Christmas jumper day, dressing up and raising funds for "Save the Children" and our Christmas concerts which were Scrooge, Frozen and The Nativity.

Some of us even found time to go to the Pantomime to see Aladdin, we all had a Christmas lunch and squeezed in a visit from Father Christmas.

I hope you like our new logo and our new look newsletter - have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - hope to see you in school in 2015!



AUTUMN 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

HELLO!

” Hi Everyone!

The Autumn term is such a busy time for us.....what with all the celebrations including Eid and finishing with Christmas! Once again I would like to thank all the parents, carers and staff for all their support and hard work over the term making it so successful. If you would like more information, then all the term's events are captured more fully on the website.

I hope you have a good break and if you are celebrating Christmas? enjoy all the festivities and I'll see you in the New Year!

Geoff Fitzpatrick

WELCOME TO OUR NEWCOMERS

” We have had a few new children join us at the start of the Autumn term and they are settling in well, making new friends - here they all are



Ismail



Macey Ann



Mahbubur



Zaki



Wendy

JEANS FOR GENES DAY

Back in September, we celebrated Jeans for Genes day – everyone looked great in their jeans and paid £1 to wear them! We sold cakes on our stall to raise even more money. Pupils took part in a competition to dress Sponge-Bob up in denim, to try to win equipment for school.



Thanks, goodbye and good luck...
to our staff leaving for new jobs



Lisa



Nicola

HARVEST FESTIVAL

At the start of October we held our harvest assembly to give thanks for all the good things we have in our lives. Pupils and staff brought in lots of tins and packets of food to donate to our chosen charity – Nightsafe. Jan Larkin, the chief executive of Nightsafe was able to be with us and told us a bit about their work with homeless young people in Blackburn. Jan really enjoyed the assembly and thanked everyone for the kind food donations. We were also joined by Kat Witham from Blackburn cathedral, who talked to us about the importance of being thankful and of sharing all the good things we have. During the assembly, we enjoyed a harvest song from the primary choir and a lovely performance of 'Mr Scarecrow' by class 1. Finally, we all joined in singing and signing 'It's a wonderful world'. It was great to welcome some of our parents to the assembly – we had a lovely time together.



EID AL'ADHA

Also at the start of October, in preparation for Eid weekend, pupils took part in the Hajj Experience where they actively performed 3 rituals of the annual Muslim pilgrimage. We had a really big Kaaba in our hall which we circled 7 times and we even counted each trip using the Velcro counter so that there was no cheating! The second ritual was drinking the Zamzam water and listening to the story of how it began. Did you know that Zam Zam means stop stop? Our final ritual was to throw scrunched balls at the 'Jamarat' to remember the time the Prophet Ibrahim threw stones at the devil for trying to stop him from following God's commands. It was fun throwing our balls at the same time towards the same place. Everyone enjoyed learning about what happens during Hajj and they even had the chance to wear traditional hats and scarves. We had another delicious special lunch made by Helen and the ladies in the kitchen to celebrate and everyone had a lovely time.



GROW YOUR OWN WEEK - HEALTHY EATING

As part of Newfield's 'Grow your Own' week students looked at healthy, nutritious food and how the food we eat is grown from 'farm to fork'. Each day during the week in October, students from several classes had a tour of the School Kitchen and made a delicious, healthy chicken/halal chicken wrap to take home to eat. Helen, our Catering Manager was on hand to talk to the children about the food we eat and take a look at foods grown on an allotment such as: onions, sweetcorn, beetroot, carrots, parsnips and turnips. We are hoping to have our own raised beds, next to the sensory garden, before too long, so that we can plant and grow our own food to eat.



CHILDREN IN NEED

For Children In Need this year we had lots of fun activities. We had a superhero themed day with pupils and staff dressing up as a hero for the day. We think our pupils are heroes everyday, but on this day they got to dress up as them - Superman... Wonder woman... the list went on and on! We followed the 3 Children In Need themes for this year, be a 'Challenge Hero', a 'Baking Hero' and an 'Entertainment Hero'. Dressed as heroes, we stacked cups, ten pin bowled, decorated biscuits, sold wristbands and took part in a karaoke-disco where the students provided the entertainment. It was truly amazing having lots of super heroes dancing and singing and altogether we raised £285 for the charity.



REMEMBRANCE

On the 11th of November we held a special assembly for Remembrance Day. Teacher Lois started it off by playing 'The Last Post' on her trumpet and then we had a minute of silence to remember all those who lost their lives in the wars throughout the years. We then had a question and answer session where pupils learnt about the meaning of Remembrance Day and what we do as a country to remember the soldiers...

Many of the pupils already had great understanding and came up with some excellent answers. Pupils Darren and Jordan read the poem 'In Flanders Fields', they did a superb job! We finished the assembly with a performance from the secondary choir who sang 'True Colours', again, all the pupils did a great job singing and signing. As the classes left the hall they admired all the beautiful poppy art work that we had created for the assembly.



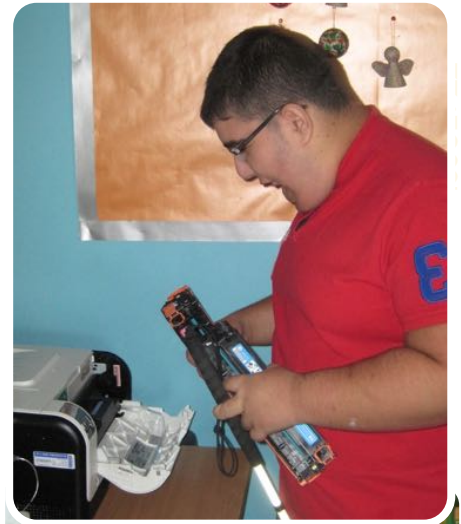
UNICEF - 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



On the 20th November, UNICEF celebrated the 25th anniversary of the signing of the convention which gives children everywhere rights. As a Rights Respecting School, we celebrated this special day. We wrote to the Children's Minister, Edward Simpson, telling him our favourite rights and what we do to help people learn about their rights - we also asked him what he does to protect children's rights. We had a party lunch and a disco in the afternoon, celebrating our right to have fun with our friends and also coming together to give 3 cheers for our achieving the Level 2 RRSa award last June. Everyone had a great time!



Our oldest students absolutely loved Takeover Day in November. Again they got to spend some time taking over the running of the school - being the Head teacher, working in the office, with the site supervisor, helping Lynx sort out our IT, supporting younger children in class and in the hydro pool. Waseem and Megan even went down to the Town Hall, working with 60 pupils from schools across Blackburn to sort the council out! They all did a great job - and want to do it more often!



GOVERNOR NEWS

Paul Lee, our chair of governors, sends this message : 'After a 5 year association with Newfield I took the decision to step down from the Governing Body in September 2014. I really enjoyed my time at the school - it has a real family atmosphere and I was always impressed by the dedication of the staff and the achievements made by the children and young people. I will continue to take a keen interest in Newfield in its journey from good to outstanding. I hope all staff, parents and pupils have a good break over the festive period and all the very best for 2015'.

We would like to thank Paul for his support and are pleased to announce that parent governor Stuart Davy has taken over as an interim measure, as Chair of governors.

We are also pleased to announce that Michael Rhodes is our newly elected staff governor, following on from teacher Linda Cowie.

We were very sad to lose one of our oldest pupils at the beginning of December. Ahmad was a pupil at Newfield for 14 years. He was a huge character, with a warm friendly smile. His passion was football - we fondly remember the many times his footballs had to be retrieved from the roof of school! He passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his loved ones. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family. He is missed by all and we will never forget him.

IN OUR THOUGHTS...



CHRISTMAS



2-11

11-16

16-19

Pupils across the school took part in performances for Christmas, ranging from a traditional nativity from the primary children, a version of 'Frozen' from the secondary phase and a production of 'A Christmas Carol' from the post 16 students. All of the performances were well attended by

parents, governors and friends of the school and the Mayor and Lady Mayoress also joined us for 'Frozen' and were very impressed by the school, children and staff.

Highlights included brilliant singing and signing, a runaway sheep, Waseem's 'Bah Humbug!' and the fantastic use of

our lighting and sound equipment, as well as bubbles, to create a magical frozen world.

The children were, as always funny, moving and amazingly talented!

Well done to all of them, and thanks to the staff who supported the fantastic performances.



PERFORMANCES



ALIEN
NATIVITY

FROZEN

A
CHRISTMAS
CAROL



CHRISTMAS FAIR



Christmas fair took place on the 5th December - it was very well attended and there were lots of stalls, games, competitions and lovely Christmassy food! Everyone had a great time, buying, selling and enjoying the brass band who played and the choir singing. We raised over £1000 which will go towards our funds for a new minibus - thanks to everyone who attended and to all who worked hard making it a success.



A WORD FROM THE PARENTS GROUP

ISSUE: 22

”

Hello fellow parents and carers. We are Fiona, Nasreen & Michelle and, we are mums of 4 Newfield children in total. We come to parents group when we can - other things permitting - and we are a small but very friendly bunch who would love to meet more of you! We meet on Wednesday mornings - Jenny, Sharon or Cate from Newfield are always there to make a cup of tea, have a chat or give advice; and we meet formally once every half term - that's the meeting we all really try to get to, to catch up and make plans - like we did for our stall at the Christmas Fair. Please consider coming to our next main meeting - make a New Year Resolution! - we will be in school from 9.30am onwards on Wednesday 21st January - or come to school any Wednesday morning and see what's going on. Have a lovely holiday and hopefully we will see you in the new year.

”

Christmas Holiday

School closes:

Friday 19th December 2014

School re-opens:

Monday 5th January 2015

Spring Half Term Holiday

School closes:

Friday 13th February 2015

School re-opens:

Monday 23rd February 2015

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