



Newfield

ISSUE. 34

Inspire | Support | Achieve | Together

SCHOOL FOR
AUTISM @
NEWFIELD

CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATIONS

BRAND NEW
WEBSITE

Hello and welcome...

... to our new look e-newsletter! We were very excited to design and launch our new [website](#) at the start of October and here we've refreshed our termly newsletter to reflect the website. In this edition you will see that we have slimmed down - trying to save the environment - and we have also developed it so that you can click the many links which will take you directly to the blogs and photos on the website for each event and article. We hope you like it, and

would love to hear your comments and thoughts.

This term has been super busy as always, with lots of learning, and special events. We are very proud of our children and staff and continually challenge ourselves to improve, as well as reflecting on what has been achieved!

We were finally able to open the school for Autism @ Newfield after half term - and it's made a huge difference, with the children's needs being met

so well in the specially designed building. This has also freed up much needed space in the main school, so all children have benefitted enormously from the investment of time, energy and of course money - if you've not had chance yet, you must come and have a look round - be prepared to be impressed!

Much thanks as always for all of your Newfield Family support.

Have a wonderful festive season and our very best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2019!





Message from the headteacher

Hi Everyone!

Welcome to the new format of the newsletter with links to articles and further information!... So many activities are taking place each week it's hard to capture everything in one newsletter each term; better to keep a regular update on the school's website.

The highlight for me this year so far has got to be eventually opening the new School for Autism @ Newfield after October half term.

It's a great building with specialist facilities to meet children's needs! ...now onto refurbishing and refreshing the vacated classrooms in the Main School building.

Enjoy the newsletter and have a great Christmas break and I'll see you in the New Year!

Geoff Fitzpatrick



CHARITY EVENTS

This term we have taken part in number of charity events, raising awareness and money to help others...

In September, we wore denim to celebrate [Jeans for Genes](#) day and also bought gingerbread men, we raised £133.75

At our [Harvest Assembly](#) we collected food donations for the Blackburn Food Bank and had a brilliant time singing and completing our autumnal artwork! We donated enough food for 137 meals!

In November we held a very special [Remembrance](#) event to think about the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War One ,which was attended by the Deputy Mayor of Blackburn. The RRSA group had made some fantastic poppy artwork and cards which we sold along with the traditional poppies to raise a total of £58.16 for the Royal British Legion.

Just after half term, we were thrilled to be given a cheque from Nick who had walked the [Leeds-Liverpool](#) canal earlier in the year to raise money for school.

A firm favourite, [Children in Need](#) day, was enjoyed by all, when we went spotty and took part in lots of fun events and had a visit from the big man Pudsey himself - we raised over £190 and had a brilliant time!

At the end of November, some staff took part in a [Sleepout](#) at Ewood Park to raise money for Blackburn Nightsafe, and the following week some pupils had a 'sleepout' in school to think about homelessness - altogether the staff involved raised over £1,180 - well done!

We held another [bag2school](#) event at the start of December - where everyone had a chance to have a good clear out, and we were delighted to raise £92 for school funds - we will use this money to get some specialist equipment - so thank you all!



ALL WHO SERVED, SACRIFICED,
AND CHANGED OUR WORLD
1918-2018



TAKEOVER WEEK

Pupils had a great time taking over adult roles all over school during November. We had pupils taking over as headteacher, deputies, EHCA's, Site team, Kitchen and Office staff. They were organising us all and even doing lesson observations - in fact no-ones job was safe! They all did a fabulous job - so have a look at the many blog posts showing what we got up to in another very popular [Takeover week](#).



THE SCHOOL FOR AUTISM @ NEWFIELD IS OPEN!

Well, it felt like we had been waiting forever, but after October half term we were finally able to get our children with Autism and all of the staff into the [beautiful new building](#).

If you haven't been to visit on one of our [open days](#), please come and have a look around at the specialist facilities.

It has made a huge difference and we are very pleased to report that everyone has settled in very well!

There will be an 'official' opening ceremony in the Spring term - so check the website for details and book the date into your diary!



LOOKING AFTER OUR WELLBEING

We've been thinking lots about our mental health and wellbeing this term. We have learnt how important it is to be mentally healthy, as well as physically keeping as fit as we can be!

We joined in with [World Mental Health Day](#) in October, with events for pupils and staff to think about how they look after themselves and do things to make them [happy](#). Pupils did sessions in classes doing things they love, and staff tried out some relaxing activities before and after school, including breakfast and a choir sing-a-long session!

Then in November we celebrated Anti-bullying Week, kicking off with [Odd Socks Day](#) - where the RRSA group helped us all to think about how great it is to be different, and we enjoyed making odd socks artwork and encouraging everyone to 'Choose Respect'.



The end of term saw 3 weeks of exciting events in preparation and celebration of Christmas!

On the 3rd December, some of our oldest pupils ran a Newfield stall down on [Blackburn Market](#) - they raised money for school fund and enjoyed a real life work experience!

Then our annual [Christmas Fair](#) took place on Friday 7th and it was absolutely packed! Almost anyone linked to the Newfield family seemed to be there - including the Mayor of Blackburn - and it was a really fun-filled, joyful occasion where we raised over £1500 for school funds - our best ever Christmas fundraiser - thanks to everyone!



Pupils also enjoyed a sensory Christmas experience, [Christmas lunch](#), Christmas parties - including a visit from Father Christmas and a good sing-a-long [Christmas Carol & Song Concert](#), while staff enjoyed their own [lunch](#) and a [festive quiz](#) - what a busy term!



Christmas Celebrations

In the last week of term, pupils in 2-13 age phase held 2 concerns - a traditional [Nativity](#) from our youngest children was enjoyed by family and friends. Then the following day a Christmas Show starring our keystone 2 & 3 pupils - [Christmas Around the World](#) - went down a storm with the guests who attended. The choir visited [Queens Lodge](#) to entertain the residents and staff.

They were all a wonderful way to showcase the talents and hard work of our children and staff - and a perfect way to end the year!



Christmas Holiday

School closes:

Friday 21st December 2018

School re-opens to staff:

Monday 7th January 2019

School re-opens to pupils:

Tuesday 8th January 2019

Spring Half Term Holiday

School closes:

Friday 15th February 2019

School re-opens:

Monday 25th February 2019

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