



OFSTED

Hello and welcome

to the latest issue of our newsletter. We have had another really busy term with lots of events, activities, trips and visits... and some very special guests from OFSTED who came to see how children learn and are cared for here and what we are all about.

Obviously, as you can see below, we are delighted to be judged 'Outstanding' and you can read

SAY...

more about the Newfield family's thoughts on this inside this issue.

There was a particular surprise - and honour - in store at the start of the year for one (former) member of our family - read on inside to find out more...

This Spring term takes us from icy cold snow days, to warm sunshine so quickly, but we have packed in many fundraising, sports and performance events in school along with plenty of opportunities

OUTSTANDING!

for our young people to take part in community activities - including continued work as UNICEF ambassadors.

While we all celebrate being outstanding and think about what moving beyond that means, we are also looking forward to a break - thank you all for your continued support & have a lovely holiday.

See you in school very soon!





We have had just 2 new children join us at the start of the term, they are very lively and they are settling in well, making lots of new friends.



Sindora



Mihaela

WELCOME TO OUR
NEW PUPILS

MESSAGE
FROM THE
HEAD

Hi Everyone!

Well there can only be one key moment of the Spring Term and that's our 'outstanding' OFSTED judgement.

My thanks go to all the pupils, staff, Governors, friends and, of course, parents/carers for all your support in this achievement...without you it would simply not have been possible. By the time you read this we will have had our 'open' morning and celebrations but we will give further updates in the Summer Newsletter! We will be sending home commemorative drinks coasters and I have a further gift after the holidays!!!...you'll have to wait and see!

This achievement represents a great deal of hard work on the part of the staff and we are very fortunate to have such a hard-working and dedicated team.

The plans and artists conception sketches for the new Autism building are now up in school, so please do come and look at what we plan the building to look like...

The holiday pattern has been all over the place this year!... and has caused difficulty for staff and families alike, but I hope you all haven't been too inconvenienced and that you have a good holiday ...

Thank you as always for making the school successful and helping us to help the children...

I look forward to seeing you all again after the break



Geoff Fitzpatrick

MRS CATE TINDALL, MBE - CONGRATULATIONS

Many of you will know Cate, our Early Years leader who retired last Easter after tirelessly working for the children...but did you know that she was mentioned in the Queen's New Years Honours list this year and is now an 'Member of the British Empire' for her services to children? Cate was completely surprised and overwhelmed, but met the Queen, and Barbara Windsor, at the ceremony in March and continues to support children, including on a recent trip to Lourdes.

Much love and Congratulations go to Cate for the well deserved honour from her Newfield family.



PTFA NEWS

The PTFA is always looking for more members to support the group - if you have any spare time which you could use to plan and prepare events to support the school, please get in touch with Jenny Riley or Sharon Reid in school who can give you more information - and watch this space for exciting news about the Newfield PTFA 100 Club - coming soon!

OFSTED Say We Are OUTSTANDING!

"The collective desire of all adults associated with the school to settle for nothing but the best is the added impetus behind the excellent achievement of pupils who are fortunate enough to attend Newfield School" (OFSTED Report February 2016)

From: Pat Peaker,
RRSA(UNICEF) assessor and trainer
To: contact@newfield.org.uk
Subject: Ofsted and RRSA

Congratulations on your 'outstanding' success, It was great also to read of your ambassadorial role on the 17th March. Keep up the excellent work you are doing. I mentioned your school when I assessed a school of similar size and intake two weeks ago in Derbyshire to assess them for Level 1. I think they would like to have some contact. Best wishes to all the students, Pat.

From: Paul Boycott, Independent School Consultant
To: Geoffrey Fitzpatrick
Subject: OFSTED Inspection
Hi Geoff,
Just read your Ofsted Inspection Report. CONGRATULATIONS!! You deserve your 'outstanding' grade. I know how hard you've worked and what a great team you have. Well done! I hope everything else is good. Enjoy the Easter break. Relax..... Best wishes, Paul

14/3/16 Ali Jess dinner money enclosed £10
Congratulations on report from OFSTED. Never would've doubted that school would get out standing report well done to all staff, teachers, pupils
Thank you!

From: Clegg Linda,
Children's Services Director
To: Geoffrey Fitzpatrick
Subject: RE: OFSTED
Fantastic Geoff I am soooo happy for you/ us..You must be so proud...open the champagne!!

Mon 14th March
Tried this morning
Didn't want to get up,
only had apple juice
well done to newfield,
very proud!

From: Hayward Susan,
Service Lead, SEND
To: Geoffrey Fitzpatrick
Subject: Congratulations
Hi Geoff
Linda passed on the news, outstanding across the Board. I am absolutely thrilled for you and your staff. This is testament to the hard work and care to your pupils from your staff under your leadership. I am sure you are elated. Best wishes, Sue

14-03-16
We are both extremely happy and congratulate the whole Newfield family on such great inspection report. It is an amazing achievement and we feel humble to be part of the success. I know it is evident the great work everyone does there but it much feel so special when actually the report come out.

From: Larkin Warren (LCFT)
To: Geoffrey Fitzpatrick
Subject: RE: OFSTED
Look forward to visiting your outstanding establishment again
Dr Warren Larkin
Clinical Director

From: Bobat Mebz
Head of Service, Education Partnership Services
To: Geoffrey Fitzpatrick
Subject: Newfield School
Congratulations to you, your staff and governors (and the pupils) on achieving Outstanding in your recent inspection.
regards, *Mebz Bobat*

From: Stewart Plowes,
Head of Avondale Primary School
To: Geoffrey Fitzpatrick
Subject: Congratulations
Hi Geoff,
I'd heard good things on the 'grapevine' but now see it has gone public. Really well done, you and your team deserve the recognition of the amazing job that you do. Enjoy!
Best wishes, Stewart

From: christine astley
To: contact@newfield.org.uk
Subject: Ofsted
To all the wonderful, hard working staff at Newfield School, many congratulations on achieving Outstanding in your recent Ofsted inspection.
We are very proud that our Granddaughter (Hannah) is a pupil here and would like to thank everyone who has made her welcome since she started with you last September.
Best wishes to you all and a very well done.
Kind regards, Bob & Christine Astley



RAINBOW DAY

To brighten up a gloomy January, we held our own Rainbow Day, where we had a lot of fun exploring everything about colour and raising money for Legacy Rainbow House. Pupils and staff came into school dressed in their favourite colours and we all had a wonderful time exploring all the different colours of the rainbow in a multi- sensory way – in the pods and the studio.

Some of us learned about how rainbows are created in class and we used the colours of the rainbow to create pictures and craft items.

Libby Lou the Legacy Rainbow House mascot came to visit us too which was a lovely surprise for our pupils and she even helped out on the cake stall and met the head teacher and one of our governors!

All the money raised went to Legacy Rainbow House, which is a national charity working with children with acquired brain injury, multiple disabilities and complex health needs.



BAMBOOZLE

At the start of February Bamboozle Theatre Company came to school and gave a truly wonderful performance of 'The Girl and the Goat'. They involved the pupils in the performance which had lots of lights and music.

Our PMLD pupils got so much out of a very simple story told in the most sensory of ways. It was lovely to see the reactions of our pupils which were totally independent and spontaneous.

bamboozle
creating possibilities for disabled children



SPORTS @ YOUTH ZONE

Lots of our older pupils take part in out of school activities at Youthzone in the evenings and weekends, so class S2 visited Youth Zone to see what it's all about and to take part in gym and dance activities. Pupils also got the opportunity to play football, pool and even sing on the karaoke. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are looking forward to visiting the venue again. A great energetic day out!

BLACKBURN
YOUTH ZONE



VALENTINE'S EVENTS

Love was in the air in February and students in 16-19 Department were busy making gifts and treats for loved ones – to sell of course!

Bookmarks, Framed pictures, decorated bags, heart shaped photo holders to name but a few of the items on sale. Altogether, they earned a total of £ 110, which will be used to fund the next enterprise sessions, with profits spent on a treat at the end of the year.

As we finished for the half term break, we had a Valentine's Disco, with lots of swaying and grooving to romantic songs - it was a big effort to persuade everyone to leave at the end!



CELEBRATION OF DANCE

In March, pupils took part in the annual BwD Celebration of Dance at King George's Hall with a 'Strictly Newfield', anything goes, Charleston style dance. The pupils and staff sparkled in their outfits and did us proud yet again, wowing the audience on the big stage in front of a huge audience. There were contributions from a large number of local schools during the evening's performance, but we were the best!

Huge thanks goes to the staff who helped children learn and practise the routine, as well as giving up their evening to support the performance – a special mention has to go to TA Mel Utley who was our choreographer and who, in spite of being on maternity leave a due to give birth any day, attended the performance and led the troops from the front! What commitment! It was a lovely evening with everyone, pupils, staff and the audience really enjoying it!



WORLD BOOK DAY

Newfield joined in the annual celebration of reading and books, and we had lots of interesting characters wandering around school!

Pupils and staff came in dressed as their favourite characters from stories – Batman, Spiderman, Superman, Harry Potter, Willy Wonka...

We had pods up in the hall with sensory stories for classes to enjoy and this afternoon we had a special assembly to look at costumes and artwork from our favourite stories.

Everyone had a lovely day and got to take home the special voucher from 'National Book Tokens' to get one of the ten special books, or spend the £1 towards a book of their choice.



M&M PRODUCTIONS AND WORKSHOP



On the 8th March, M & M Productions brought the theatre to school with a fabulous performance of 'The Hobbit' complete with smoking dragon.

Pupils taking part said that...

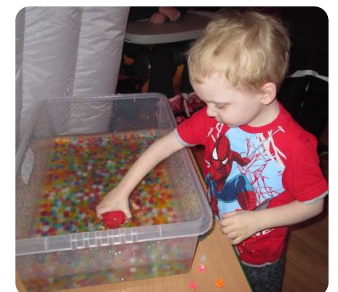
'They put on a great show'. 'All the students enjoyed it'.

After the show some students took part in a workshop, where they were given the chance to act and be behind the scenes. - seeing costumes and trying out 'being the dragon'.

We all thanked the company for coming to Newfield' and thanks to The Happy Days Children's Charity who once again funded the visit!



On Friday the 18th March, children and staff at Newfield School were asked to wear red sporty clothing to celebrate Sports Relief. The whole school participated in different sporting activities throughout the whole day- Boccia, Dancing, sensory search and explore, horse racing, curling and many more. They developed gross and fine motor skills, team work, independence, and sharing. Everyone tried really hard over the day and seemed to really enjoy the different activities played. We even held a red raffle! We managed to raise over £100 towards this sporting charity. Well Done everyone!





In March, members of the RRSA steering group went twice to St Peter's RC primary school, Mill Hill, to hold workshops for all of their year 6 pupils - all 60 of them - about the work of UNICEF, Children's Rights, and 'Wants & Needs'.

Part of our work as a Level 2 Rights Respecting School is to be advocates for UNICEF and talk about what our school is and what we are all about.

Once we had introduced ourselves we worked in small groups with the students at St Peter's, talking about wants and needs and the difference between the two. We also looked at our rights as children and young people.

All the students participated in the sessions and worked well together. We were proud of our pupils and impressed with the enthusiasm of the pupils from St. Peter's.

We were especially pleased to hear from our friend, RRSA UNICEF assessor, Pat Peaker, who emailed school afterwards saying that she had seen our blog on the website - she told us to 'keep up the good work' and congratulated the whole school on our 'outstanding' success.



During March, one of our post 16 classes had the opportunity to work with the Jude Theatre Company to work on their speaking and listening skills. Pupils worked on talking about themselves to familiar and unfamiliar people, as well as getting in a bit of acting! They used their imaginations in painting the classroom, miming and making wishes. We saw excellent expressions of feeling through body language, as well as seeing where these emotions are appropriate. The pupils all had an excellent time and there was plenty of laughter throughout - we definitely have some stars in the making and some fighting over who should be centre stage!



EASTER EVENTS



Easter came early this year, so we celebrated, then had a long weekend and then returned to school for the end of term!

Students in Post 16 made the most of the selling opportunity to boost their earnings by making and selling things for **Easter Enterprise**. They invited parents and guests to a coffee morning, giving them free hot cross buns - and then selling them their gifts including plants, Easter crafts of chicks and bunnies, eggs and lots of chocolate treats. There was a bumper chocolate raffle - 1 hamper, 1 ticket for £1 and 1 winner - the gorgeous raffle was won by lunchtime welfare Eileen - she was so shocked to win the huge hamper of Easter goodies - lucky lady!

We also held an **Easter Assembly** and were joined by parents and families, as well as guest speaker Andrew Raynes the vicar from Christchurch Blackburn. The choir sang beautifully and classes 4 & 5 came together to perform an action song about chicks hatching - all dressed as fluffy chicks! After the assembly, all of the children received a Cadburys Crème Egg which were kindly donated by National Integrated Systems Ltd - a local company who supply and maintain high quality security systems.



Easter Holiday

School closes:
Friday 8th April 2016
School re-opens:
Monday 25th April 2016

Bank Holiday Monday:

School closed:
Monday 2nd May 2016

Spring Half Term Holiday

School closes:
Friday 27th May 2016
School re-opens:
Monday 6th June 2016

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Newfield

Inspire | Support | Achieve | Together