



High Peak Federation



Executive Head Teacher – Mr Ashley Parry

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NEWTOWN NEWSLETTER 020721

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are fast approaching the end of a very challenging school year and would like to take the opportunity to share some events that will be taking place before we break-up for the Summer. With the CV19 regulations under constant change, we have held on as long as we can to see if restrictions would be lifted before organising activities. We very much hope that what we do have planned can take place without further change. We also need to be realistic and given that the planned lifting of restrictions will not be in place before Monday 19th July, we cannot make significant changes to arrangements for the last two days of term for the children at such short notice.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

Reports will be coming home on Monday next week.

TRANSITION

We haven't been able to organise transition as we would normally. However, whether it is our Year Six children moving to their High Schools, children at Newtown moving to new classes, or the pre-school children joining us in September – we have already completed, or have planned, transition to ensure the children are as well prepared as they can be, whilst needing to adhere to not mixing bubbles.

SPORTS AFTERNOON / FUN MORNING

On Monday 19th July we plan to organise a fun day for the children. A very detailed risk assessment will need submitting to allow this to happen, but based on current guidance we should be able to organise a great day for all. There *could* be the opportunity for some parents to come along in the afternoon to watch, but there is a restriction on numbers for outdoor events of 30 and with the current escalation in positive cases / proximity to school holidays we will clarify this next week as we put final plans in place. This day will hopefully include:

- a range of fun activities organised by school, that children will complete in the morning
- sports activities organised by Peak Active Sports in the afternoon

WHITE HALL RESIDENTIAL

Thank you to all those who made sure the Y5/6 children had an excellent time at White Hall last week.

Y6 LEAVER'S ACTIVITY

There is also an afternoon of fun arranged for Year Six children at Chill Factore on Tuesday 20th July.



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Y6 LEAVER'S ASSEMBLY

A Year Six leaver's assembly is being organised for the end of term – there is much secrecy from the children and Miss Fitzpatrick about the content. We will share information about how the assembly can be accessed ASAP.

CLASS THREE PRODUCTION

Rehearsals have been going well! Filming will take place in the coming days and we will let you know how you will be able to view the production when it is ready.

PHSE and RELATIONSHIPS AND SEX EDUCATION (RSE) LESSONS

Year Six children will complete RSE lessons next week from our new PHSE scheme – PHSE Matters. New national PHSE curriculum requirements were introduced for implementation in 2021-22 and this Derbyshire approved scheme covers all aspects – it is being followed by the majority of DCC schools. We are delivering the RSE unit of work now before the children move to High School. Other year groups will cover RSE units of work during the new school year.

OTHER INFORMATION

CV19 UPDATE

We have not yet received any updates to information regarding CV19. However, yesterday the Education Minister said in the House of Commons that he did not want schools to be operating in bubbles in September and that requiring all children to isolate if there was a close contact with a positive case was not sustainable either. If we receive any updates before we break up for the Summer we will let you all know, but we are planning NOT to be operating in bubbles from September. We are aware that numbers of positive cases are on the rise at the moment, so please continue to exercise caution wherever possible – your support, as always, is really appreciated.

NEW CURRICULUM UPDATE

Teaching staff across both schools are completed further curriculum development training yesterday with a curriculum expert. We are really excited about our new curriculum design and will be ready to share it all with everyone before the children return to school. The new curriculum offer will:

- continue to reflect our key values
- be more progressive, so learning is even more clearly linked from year to year
- be detailed on the school website, so parents can more easily see what is being covered by children in each year group and know how they can better support learning
- develop and embed learning, so it becomes part of the children's longer term memory

NEW CLASSES FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 / STAFFING

We are delighted that we are able to organise the children across four classes for 2021-22:

- ACORN CLASS will include children in Reception and Year One and be led by Mrs Holt.
- SEEDLING CLASS will include children from Year Two and Year Three and be led by Mrs Jones and Miss Raza.
- SAPLING CLASS will include children from Year Four and be led by Miss Fitzpatrick.
- OAK CLASS will include children from Year Five and Year Six and be led by Mrs McGuckian and Miss Raza.

Our wonderful team of teaching assistants will continue to provide support for the children across the classes too.

As always, we greatly appreciate any offers of support from volunteers, so please let us know before we break-up if you would like to be included in supporting the children's learning during the school day.



Fingers crossed that the light at the end of the tunnel will soon come into focus and we can start to return to a less restrictive learning environment.

Many Thanks,

Mr Parry and the Newtown team



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