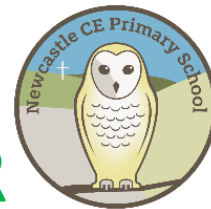




Blue Hills  
Federation

# NEWCASTLE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 12th April

## Whole School News

As ever we have had a busy school calendar. Spring term ended with a successful Car Bot Sale. Despite the weather, the event was well attended and many children took part in the Easter Egg hunt and had a chance to meet the Easter Bunny. The PTA raised nearly £400 and many families had a good spring de-clutter. Thank you to the PTA for organising this.

To complete our Viking Topic, children in Oak Class planned, built and evaluated their Viking longhouses. The children at Newcastle really enjoy making things, and rolling their sleeves up with measuring, cutting and gluing. The end results were fantastic, and represented houses from the time period.

After an early Easter holiday, we opened our doors on Friday to Toni Pettit's Branching Out Forest School, and welcomed many families from Elective Home Education. The theme was "Welcoming in Spring," and this heart-warming gathering harnessed the true essence of Forest School. Activities included cooking, nest making, worm-hunting, painting, whittling and sawing. The children mixed across ages and the event had a lovely family-feel to it.

The school wish to congratulate Rev'd Lois Beynon on her appointment as the next Vicar of the Clun Valley Benefice. We look forward to working with Lois over the coming months on some different projects and to welcome her into our school.

This term is another busy one at Newcastle. Our two new topics are Extreme Earth and Kenya, and we have some exciting activities lined up. Mrs. Kathryn Jones will also be coming over on many Thursday afternoons to offer her musical expertise, and Mr Gareth Jones will also be coming on Tuesday afternoons to teach PE. The children are very excited by this. Swimming will also resume next week and hopefully we will be planning an all-day walk exploring the local hills. A separate swimming letter has been sent out. Bikeability for Year 5 and 6 is also happening later this month.

Some children have residential trips to look forward to. At the end of April, Year 4 will visit the Pioneer Centre for two nights, and in June our Year 6s will have the opportunity to visit the Arthog Centre on the Welsh coast.

## Acorn Class News and Learning

We're off to a great start in Acorns class this term. We have been enjoying the story of Handa's Surprise as part of our topic which is a comparison between Kenya and the UK. We tasted many exotic fruits. The mango was the most popular and nobody much liked the passion fruit. We have also learned about the difference between a fruit and a vegetable. Ask your child to explain! In maths we have had a lot of fun with weighing and measuring. Lots of practical work. Finally, we had a singing geography lesson when we learned the names and location of the 7 continents and the 5 oceans.



## Oak Class News and Learning

This week we have started our new topic, Extreme Earth, and the children have already been learning some of the key vocabulary. Year 6 have started their 'Hot Chocolate Club' and have four more important weeks before SATs tests start. In English we have started to learn about Earnest Shackleton's expedition to Antarctica, and will be building up to some sustained diary entries and newspaper articles. In science, we have started to learn about light, what is light, and recognising light sources. Mrs Jones, in music, has started to practise the songs for the Bedstone College concert, and in PE, Mr Jones has been working on TAG rugby skills.



## Dates and Reminders

Tuesdays: PE Day

Wednesdays: Forest School

Thursdays after school: Goblin Car Club  
(Yr 5/6)

Fridays: Swimming (9 week programme)

Some clubs start next week (details of which clubs to follow).

25th April: Bikeability for Year 5 and 6

WC 13th May: Year 6 SATs week.

23rd May: Music Workshop followed by performance to parents  
(details to follow)



### Violin Concert

We finished the term by inviting local musician Rupert Marshall-Luck into school to give a talk about the violin, and also perform Fernando. It was great to see other schools from our Federation joining us, and all children had a go on the violin, which were kindly loaned by the Shropshire Music Service. This event was featured in the Shropshire Star.



# Introduction to the violin for youngsters

**DAVID BANNER**

newsroom@mnameia.co.uk

A day of music workshops attracted nearly 100 pupils to a Shropshire school.

Newcastle-on-Clun School hosted the event featuring British violinist and musicologist, Rupert Marshall-Luck.

The day of workshops was delivered by English Music Festival (EMF), which has a base in the Clun Valley, though its main venue is in Oxfordshire.

Pupils from the three schools that comprise the Blue Hills Federation were able to attend the event.

The youngsters were treated to an illustrated talk about the violin before being shown a variety of clips demonstrating the instruments.

The schools had secured the use of 18 violins from the County Music Services for use by the children.

Rupert and his wife Em, assisted by their 10-year-old son Tristan, demonstrated violin and bow holds and helped the pupils to create sounds from the instruments.

Chris Richards, lead teacher at Newcastle-on-Clun School, said: "It was great to have a musician of the



School pupils were able to try their hand at playing the violin

calibre of Rupert Marshall-Luck to come to our school and give a talk and performance.


"Many children haven't held a violin before so it was a great opportunity for all three schools across the Bluehills Federation."

The festival is searching for funding to facilitate further such projects with the federation and possibly other schools in the area.

**Birthdays and Celebrations**

There are no birthdays over the coming two weeks.



Blue Hills Federation **WELL DONE !!**

**Values Stars of the Week!**

<p>Acorn Class</p> <p>Celebration Assembly will start next week.</p>	<p>Oak Class</p> <p>Celebration Assembly will start next week.</p>
--	--

Blue Hills Federation **WELL DONE !!**

### Our School and Federation Vision

*'Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their lives.'*  
Proverbs 22:6 The Good News Bible

### Our Values

Trust & Truth, Love & Respect, Thankfulness, Friendship & Family, Perseverance and Resilience