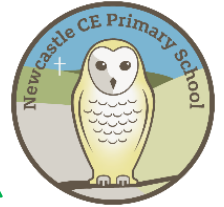




Blue Hills  
Federation

# NEWCASTLE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 9th February

## Whole School News

What a busy half-term we have had. It has been five and a half weeks, but the time has flown. This week we had a very worthwhile visit to the Mosque at Craven Arms and Iman Sohayb made us feel very welcome and told us a lot about the Islam faith. The children were very respectful and asked some very thoughtful questions. Hopefully we can welcome him back into our school after half-term as we have many more questions.

In Acorn Class, Mrs Langton will be returning to teach the class, which she will do up to Miss Newey's return later in the summer. Mrs Mclean will be covering Thursdays. Mrs Langton is looking forward to seeing the children again and the trip to Ludlow Castle at the end of the month.

To raise the school profile, we will be trying to get Newcastle School featured on a couple of Radio Stations. Today the children recorded 'mystery object' clues. When these are going to be broadcast on the radio, I'll let you know. We are also hoping to be featured on Sunshine Radio later this year.

The SIAMS report is in draft form, so should be published shortly after half term. It is looking positive.

We have had some glitches with the school email system, and the Teachers2Parents platform. Please bear with us as we work through these. In the meantime, we'll aim to send out all communication on paper form as well as electronically.

Forest School is likely to be moved to Thursdays, once Mrs Langton is back with us after half term.

Finally, I have attached a flyer about events that may be of interest.

Have a lovely half-term week.

Chris Richards

## Acorn Class News and Learning

The children have been reading more about castles. We have also been practising capital letters and full stops, and making posters about castles, writing down key facts.



In RE, the children have been learning more about Judaism, including the importance of Shabat and making Havdalah candles to represent their feelings and emotions.

In science we have been exploring the effects of different surfaces using a car going down a ramp.

In maths, the children have deepened their understanding of money, number bonds and have started with multiplication and division.

## Oak Class News and Learning

In English we have been continuing to read the story of Beowulf and have written a biography about Beowulf. What an action-packed life he had! After half term, we will be comparing book and film versions of the legend.



In maths we have been looking at perimeter, area, fractions and ratio. The children have also been deepening their understanding of times tables and related facts.

In topic, we have been looking at the importance of Lindisfarne and also studying Viking weapons and warfare in more detail.

In science, we have been studying lifecycles, which has included how the body changes, the growth of babies and gestation periods for different animals.

## Dates and Reminders

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



Fridays: PE

28th February: Proposed KS2 Science Event at Bucknell

29th February: Acorn Class trip to Ludlow Castle

Sunday March 10th: Mothering Sunday Service at Newcastle Community Centre, 10am.



### Promoting Our School

Over the last few weeks, Mel Sharp has set up a liaison group to explore ways we can increase our pupil roll. We are advertising on Facebook, inviting playgroups and pre-school groups into school, reaching out to volunteers to see if we can further add after-school activities, opening our school to an external Forest School provider and inviting Clunbury and Bucknell school to a violin concert. We are also in the early stages of exploring the possibility of a 'Stay and Play' session on Fridays for pre-schoolers.

Also, towards Easter, we will be holding a couple of events which will involve the wider community. Further details to follow.

Term Dates (from Shropshire website). We have a PD Day on Friday 22nd March so school is closed.

#### > Spring term:

Starts: 4 January 2024

Half term: 12 - 16 February 2024

Ends: 22 March 2024

#### PD days / bank holidays:

3 January 2024 (PD)

#### > Summer term:

Starts: 8 April 2024

Half term: 27 - 31 May 2024

Ends: 19 July 2024

#### PD days / bank holidays:

6 May 2024 (BH)

We return on September 3rd (subject to staff training day)



## Birthdays and Celebrations

Happy Birthday Ben for today!



Blue Hills Federation

WELL DONE !!



## Values Stars of the Week!

### Acorn Class

In assembly, we have celebrated Annie and Olivia's achievements over the last two weeks.

### Oak Class

In assembly, we have celebrated Connie and Jack's achievements over the last two weeks.



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