



# Newker News



## February 2024 Newsletter

Newker Primary School, Waldrige Road, Chester-le-Street, DH2 3AA

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### Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great half term, with some super learning and behaviour from the children and many Gold Cards awarded by staff. I gave out 36 last week, which is a record! Over the next half term, we will be doing some more work around developing our OPAL (outdoor play) provision for the children at lunchtimes, which we will keep you informed about. Please see the list of dates below for this and next term.



Kind Regards,  
Mrs Kirkland- Headteacher



### Staffing update

We have appointed a new Deputy Headteacher: Mr Neil Bell, who is currently a Deputy Headteacher at another school in Durham. He will start as Deputy Headteacher and teach in Year 5 at Newker after the Easter holidays.

### Cross Country and Football

**Cross Country-** Over the past 3 consecutive Saturdays, Y5 and Y6 children have been competing in the Cross Country Competition at Newker, Ouston and Rickleton against other schools. The children have done really well showing great determination and congratulations to both the girls and boys teams. The boys team came 3<sup>rd</sup> overall. Thank you to the parents and carers who attended to support their children.



**Football-** Children from Y5 and Y6 have participated in football games playing against other local schools in the Winter League.

Our boys 5-a-side team competed in a small tournament on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February representing Newker in the Chester-le-Street area tournament at Park View Sports Hall. They played three games winning 2 and drawing 1 making them overall winners. They will now represent Chester-le-Street in the Durham County Semi Final held at Park View on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

### School Uniform reminder

Please could you ensure that children have warm/waterproof coats to wear at breaks and lunchtimes and that only black shoes or trainers are worn during the school day, as there have been some children wearing coloured shoes/trainers as uniform, rather than just for PE sessions. Our Uniform is:

Red crew neck sweatshirt or cardigan with or without the Newker logo  
White polo t-shirt or plain white school shirt with or without the Newker logo  
Dark grey or black school trousers/leggings/skirt/pinafore dress  
Black flat sensible school shoes (plain black trainers are acceptable)

Our Uniform Policy can be found on the school web-site. Please can you make sure that children are also wearing sensible small size (no large size) bows or hairbands (no animal ears/unicorn horns) and that no make-up or nail polish is worn for school. **PE kits-** to be brought in a bag and left on pegs. Children will change into PE kits for lessons. T-shirts in their house colours: South- red, North- blue, East- yellow, West- green. Navy or black shorts or track-suit bottoms, spare socks and trainers. Trainers can be worn or brought in to wear on PE days and then taken home.



### Safer Internet Day



**SAVE the DATE**  
**Safer Internet Day**  
**2024** Tuesday  
6 February  
[www.saferinternetday.org](http://www.saferinternetday.org)

Today, Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February is Safer Internet Day. This is an annual event which is organised by the UK Safer Internet Centre and is celebrated in over 180 countries worldwide. The aim of the day is to promote positive and responsible usage of the Internet. It is a day to speak to children about how to look after themselves and others while staying safe in an online space. The theme for this year is: 'Inspiring change? Making a difference, managing influence and navigating change online'. The children will be engaging in conversations and learning across school around online safety.

### Dates for your diary

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Safer Internet Day
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	<b>School closes for the Half Term Holiday</b>
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	School re-opens to all pupils
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	World Book Day- letter to follow
Week beginning Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Science Week- letter to follow
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Comic Relief Red Nose Day
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March & Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Parents Evenings- letter to follow
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2024	World Down Syndrome Day- letter to follow
Week beginning Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Easter events in school- letter to follow
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	<b>School closes for the Easter Holiday</b>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School closed for Inset Day
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School re-opens for all pupils