

Newlaithes Newsletter



9th September 2024

Diary Dates:

24th Sept Photo Day
Oct 7th/8th/9th Book Fair
Year 4 Robinwood Oct 16th
21st Oct Year 6 Cyclewise
Last day of half term 25th
October
Back to school - Mon 4th Nov

Parents Evening

Parents evenings are in the diary for October 15th and 22nd. Keep an eye out for more information on booking a slot.

PTA

The school PTA are meeting next week to put together their program of events for the year. Any parents wishing to join please can you get in touch with the school office. It is a great way to give support to school, the events organised are so important to our community and any funds made are a huge bonus to the activities we can provide. Even if you cannot make the meetings being able to support and organise the events is a great help.

Attendance

The hot topic at the moment in the news is school attendance. We have been sent a raft of new guidelines from the government and the Local Authority emphasising the importance of good attendance. It is highly unlikely that any holiday will be authorised and I expect there to be many more prosecutions for poor attendance. The L.A. have employed five new attendance officers which is a sign in itself. Please see the letter attached for more information.

Any class achieving a full week of 100% will achieve their very own non-uniform day and there will be certificates/treat for any child achieving a 100% record through the year.

100%

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone has had a great break and enjoyed the recent weather but I am sure many of us, not just the children but the staff and parents, are glad to return to a structure.

It has been great to see children settling into their routines, rekindling relationships and building new friendships. Our children have quickly returned to the business of learning and developing and we can see the pride and determination children have in their learning already.

A special mention goes to Year three children and parents who have so quickly adapted to the changes when moving to the Junior school. As I look forward to a new academic year, I am filled with excitement at what can be achieved by all members of our community and look forward to discussing this further over the coming weeks and half term.

I'd like to welcome our new members of staff to the Newlaithes team. Miss Prosser in Year six, Miss Oates as a T.A. and Mrs Magri in the school office. I'm sure they will all be great assets to an already strong team.

Class Dojo had so many great responses last year and so it looks like it is here to stay. If you are not yet added or need help joining please get in touch. It is a great place to see what is happening in school and where we will share information. Please do not use it for any important messages as we are much more likely to respond quickly to emails and phone calls. Please continue to call the office for absence as Mrs Rankin, Mrs Harris and Mrs Magri are the ones who have to complete the daily attendance registers.

School Calendar

The school Google calendar can be found on the [school website here](#). We will endeavour to put all our major dates on there once finalised. Please see the attached Term Dates for this year, taking careful note of the holidays!

Head Teacher's Awards

Well done to our first Head Teacher Awards of the year. You should all be really proud of yourselves.



School Photos

School photos are booked for 24th September where we will do individual and whole class this year.

I was asked by a parent if we could do sibling photographs with the Infant School and Mr Wilkinson is happy to oblige on the 18th September 9:00am. [Please complete the online form sent out if you would like your child taken over to the Infants. Any difficulties please get in touch.](#)

Governance

We are always looking for new Parent Governors to join our Governing body. Any parents who are keen to support the strategic development of the school please get in touch with Mrs Rankin or Mrs Magri in the school office. We have had some Governors retire from the post recently after several years and I'm hopeful we will get new ones stepping up to the challenge.

School responsibility

We have our new prefects, peacemakers and helpers in place and it is so great to see children desperate to have a role in school. Below are the new prefects proudly wearing their badges.



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NEWLAITHES
JUNIOR SCHOOL



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Asda Cashpot

Our school is signed up for the Asda Cashpot where money gets donated to schools. Keep an eye out in store, if you shop in Asda you might be able to help. [More information here.](#)

**YOU SCAN,
WE DONATE
£££ TO
SCHOOLS.**



School Website

The new school website is up and running and I have had a few comments about how simple it is to find things and easy it is to use. Let me know if there is anything not quite right and I will amend as necessary. The quicklinks is a helpful button on the front page as you can quickly get to the calendar, term dates, newsletters and logins.

Support

I cannot emphasise enough the importance of your support in your child's learning. We can only do so much in school with the time and resources that we have. Please, please, please read with your child—every night if possible. Help them complete their homework, give them good routines, keep the screen time to an acceptable level and the likelihood of success is greatly increased.

We are always on the lookout for parents or grandparents who would like to come into school to listen to readers. I know from experience it is very much a two way thing. Not only do the children get a lot out of the experience but also the listener.



Wraparound Care

Wraparound Care is up and running and we have had our first bookings. To book go through the ParentPay App. More info can be found on the [school website](#). Please make sure you have completed a registration form before your child attends.

School Uniform

Yep, I've spent several hours this week looking for owners of coats, ties, jumpers and lunchboxes. Please, please, please put names on **ALL** items even if it is attached to your child when you send them to school. Items are way too expensive to lose and it is so much easier to find the owner if there is a name on it. Everyone looks super smart by the way.

Year 6 Geologist

Year 6 were really lucky this week to have Stephen from Celeld Rocks sharing his knowledge about volcanoes. Stephen is a scientist who has travelled the world studying geology and volcanoes and it is fantastic to be able to share his knowledge with our children. Blimey second week in and we have visitors! What a start.



Maithes Junior Schools new website. We hope you like the new format and can find everything you are looking for. [Search](#) [Translate](#)

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Key Information](#) [Year Groups](#) [Our Curriculum](#) [Safeguarding](#)

Newlaithes Junior School
Inspirational Learning,
Aspirational Children

Respect

Quicklinks

- SCOPAY
- Newsletters
- School Calendar
- Parents' Evening Booking
- ParentPay Login
- Term Dates
- School Dots

[Contact Details](#) [Attendance](#) [Quicklinks](#) [House Points](#)



Inspirational Learning, Aspirational Children.

Newlaithes Junior School
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web: www.newlaithes.com

Headteacher: Mr R Clark

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Department for Education have shared with schools and Local Authorities changes to attendance guidance that will become statutory and must be implemented after the 19th August 2024. These changes must be made by all schools and Local Authorities across the country, with the aim of ensuring consistent approaches.

These changes have been broken down into 4 categories.

1) A new National Framework for Attendance Penalty Notices

Any attendance penalty notices issued after the 19th August 2024 will be issued in line with the new regulations. The new Penalty Notice regulations are:

- Each parent will be issued a separate penalty notice, for each child who is absent.
For example, 2 parents and 3 children, each parent will receive 3 penalty notices for £160 each, with a family total of £960 in fines.
- The fine amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.
- This will be considered your first offence.
- The next time an offence occurs, within 3 years of the date the first penalty notice is issued, the fine amount will be £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days, with no reduction.
- The third time an offence occurs this will be presented to Magistrate's court with no penalty notice issued.

This will include Term Time Leave fines, and Irregular Attendance. Term time leave does not just include holidays. Where a child is absent and it is believed they are absent due to term time leave, schools will be expected to carry out a home visit and see the child on or before the 3rd school day of absence.

For irregular attendance - Where a child has unauthorised absences of 10 sessions or more in any 10-week period, the school must consider escalation to prosecution. Sessions refer to each half a school day, with most schools having 2 sessions each day. The school must consider the reasons for the absence, the support already offered, and the engagement of the parents/carers and young person. These 10 sessions could be made up of term time leave, unauthorised late marks, or unauthorised absence.

It is therefore important to notify school every day that your child is absent, providing a reason, and where appropriate evidence of medical appointments or prescribed medication. Schools will consider NHS guidance [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-protection-in-children-and-young-people-settings-including-education) and [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/child-absence-from-school/) when making their decision whether to authorise absence due to illness.

2) Updates to the Working Together to Improve Attendance Guidance

The Department for Education have updated the [Working together to improve school attendance \(applies from 19 August 2024\) \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/123456/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance-applies-from-19-august-2024.pdf) available on the DFE website. This clarifies the expectations for parents, schools and the Local Authority to promote the importance of regular attendance at school, and to provide ideas for support and interventions when a young person is not attending school on a regular basis.





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Aspirational Children.*

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3) Regulation changes to modernise school attendance and admission registers.

The predominant change is around the use of attendance coding for schools to use on their attendance register. This may mean that you see different marks on your child's attendance certificate, including sub codes for example C2 for a reduced timetable, or Y4 for school closed due to weather conditions. The H code for authorised term time leave (holiday) has been removed, therefore Headteachers can no longer authorise term time leave, unless there are exceptional circumstances covered by the C code and must request an attendance penalty notice if there are 5 or more days of unauthorised absence.

Another change to these regulations is that parents must accept the school place offered prior to their child going on school roll. Therefore, if you have been offered a school place that was not one of your preferences you must either accept the school place or notify the Local Authority how you intent to educate your child.

4) Regulations will come into force on the 19th August 2024 to mandate attendance data sharing by all state funded schools.

This means that your child's attendance data will be shared with the Department for Education and the Local Authority every day. This will be live data. This will allow the DFE to provide schools with the tools to monitor and see improvement in attendance, and will allow the Local Authority to provide advice, support, and Early Help services. It will also allow tracking of attendance trends for example a child reported as ill the same week each year, or a certain year group or cohort with patterns of absence.

With all of these changes the priority is supporting a young person to access school every day, ensuring they have the reasonable adjustments, interventions and early help to engage in their learning.

If your child is finding attending school difficult, is feeling anxious about attending school, or needs help to access their education speak to the school, arrange to meet to discuss reasonable adjustments and the support available for your child.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R Clark



CUMBRIA SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024/2025

AUTUMN TERM 2024

STARTS	ENDS	HALF-TERM HOLIDAY
Wednesday 4 September	Friday 20 December	Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Number of school days in term – 73

SPRING TERM 2025

STARTS	ENDS	HALF-TERM HOLIDAY
Tuesday 7 January	Friday 4 April	Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Number of school days in term – 59

SUMMER TERM 2025

STARTS	ENDS	HALF-TERM HOLIDAY
Tuesday 22 April	Friday 18 July	Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

Number of schools days in term – 58

Good Friday – 18 April
Easter Monday – 21 April

Early May Bank Holiday
Monday 5 May

Number of days in year – 190

INSET Days/Sessions

The 190 day school year identified above makes no provision for the additional 5 days non-contact time for which full-time teachers are contracted.

Therefore, any INSET sessions should be arranged either outside the above school term dates or outside pupil hours.

The following dates are suggested as dates that could be used for INSET: -

Monday, 2 September 2024

Tuesday, 3 September 2024

Monday, 6 January 2025

Plus two others, to be locally determined.



Got an itch? Tummy trouble? Tickly cough?



Head to your local
pharmacy.



Pharmacists across the North East and North Cumbria can offer advice and treatment for many common conditions, including:

Sinusitis 12 years+

Sore throat 5 years+

Shingles 18 years+

Earache 1 to 17 years

Impetigo 1 year+

Infected insect bites 1 year+

UTI's non pregnant women 16-44 years

Step 1

Speak to your pharmacist about your illness and they will offer advice.

Step 2

Need treatment? The pharmacist will check your eligibility and if the illness is covered by the service.

Step 3

A suitable medicine may be offered to you.*

*Charges will apply if you normally pay for your prescriptions. If you hold a medical exemption certificate, for example people under 16 or over 60, then you will not pay for the medicine.

Find further information at:
www.psne.co.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst.html

