

Key Dates for Term 1

Tuesday 12/09/17

- 1.55pm Year 3 - Back to School Meeting
- 2.25pm Year 4 - Back to School Meeting
- 2.55pm All - School Development Update (Upper School Hall)

Wednesday 13/09/17

- 1.55pm Year 1 Back to School Meeting
- 2.25pm Year 2 Back to School Meeting
- 2.55pm All - School Development Update (Upper School Hall)

Thursday 14/09/17

- 1.55pm Year 5 Back to School Meeting
- 2.25pm Year 6 Back to School Meeting
- 2.55pm All - School Development Update (Upper School Hall)

Monday 18/09/17

- Clubs Start

Tuesday 19/09/17

- Year 4 to Stonehenge

Monday 02/10/17

- 2pm Shared Learning

Wednesday 04/10/17

- 6 - 7pm Shared Learning

Wednesday 06/10/17

- 2pm Shared Learning

Monday 09/10/17

- School Photos

Tuesday 11/10/17

- Parents Evening

Thursday 19/10/17

- Parents Evening

CLUBS

Letters regarding clubs are
now on our website

HEAD'S VIEW

Dear Parents and Carers

I offer you all a very warm welcome to our new academic year and particularly if your first child is joining Reception. We also welcome Sydney, Lotte and Katherine and their families to our school community. Mrs O'Byrne has now returned from maternity leave to teach in Year 3 and it is lovely to have her back as part of the team. These are always exciting times - new starts, new faces, new classrooms, new friends, new routines and new things to aim for. Our week started with two Inset days for the staff and then on Wednesday I was delighted to see the children and how beautifully all of them came into school. Seeing everyone together in our morning assembly was fantastic. We set out our stall in terms of aiming high and always trying our very best in all that we do. I have high hopes for the year and I am sure it is going to be a great one.

School buildings and maintenance: The summer holidays proved very busy indeed with a great deal of building maintenance taking place. Thankfully Mr Clark and his team worked throughout the summer to keep the schedule of work going. There are some parts to finish, but in the main the upper school is much improved with: a new roof, new lighting and electrics in some areas, a new carpet in the main corridor, a new ceiling in the cloakroom, cleaned windows across the whole site and Wi-Fi throughout the entire school and grounds. The Wi-Fi was very generously funded by the NPSA and will prove invaluable to the children's learning.

The new After School Club: A major piece of work was the relocation and expansion of the After School Club. If you haven't seen it yet, you are in for a real treat. It is now sited at the west end of the grounds, beyond the upper school building and can be accessed by entering the children's gate at the rear of the upper school and then following the path all the way around the building - when you get there, you cannot miss it! It has been our aim to expand this resource for some time - our After School Club had previously been short of spaces, but we can now take a further 20 children, each evening. If you would like to have a tour of the new base, then please come along at 2:30pm on Friday 15th September, when Mr Clark who oversees the club, will be available to offer you a tour and tell you more about what is offered. Please just turn up, there is no need to let us know that you are coming. The Music Room and Mrs Houston's teaching base is now in the former After School Club which has a new carpet and the internal walls have been painted.

Our site takes a great deal of up-keep and we still hope for further work to be carried out, but I can say that the upper school is in better shape now than it has been for some time. It is only fair that our children have the best learning environment possible and I believe that the improved areas will be reflected in the children's attitude to their learning and in their sense of responsibility for their school.

School Development Plan: We have prioritised our objectives for the forthcoming year and will provide you with the headlines of these at the meetings Mrs Hansard and I are holding after the Back to School meetings with your teachers. We will also update you on other changes we are implementing. If you are not able to attend the meetings next week, the slides will be made available and I will provide an overview in next week's newsletter. The meetings will take place at 2:55pm in the upper school hall. The Back to School meetings with your year group teachers will take place in one of the year group classrooms.

Curriculum Overviews: These have been published on the school website for each year group, for Term 1. From the website's home page select 'About Us' and then 'Curriculum'.

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Start of the school day: The start times may be confusing, especially if you have children in different areas of the school. The children in Reception (Bee and Ladybird Class) need to wait in their line, on the playground, ready for their classroom door to be opened at 8:50am. The children in Year 1 and 2 also start school at 8:50am, but the classroom doors are opened at 8:45am to allow a 5 minute window for all of the children to enter independently. If a child in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 arrives to the classroom after 8:50am, they will be marked as late in the register. For children in Years 3 to 6, the school day starts at 8:55am, though the children's entrance at the rear of the upper school is opened at 8:45am. Children who are not in their classrooms by 8:55am are marked as late in the register. All of the children finish school at 3:15pm.

Code of Dress: Thank you for adhering to the school's Code of Dress; the children all look very smart. The only thing to mention is that hair accessories should be minimal.

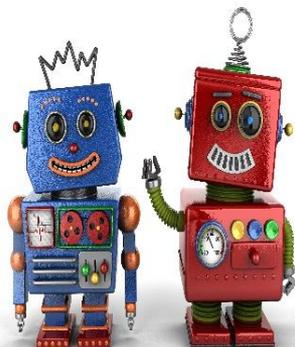
Lost Property: This has been a huge problem for many years. Regardless of how many messages we give the children about being responsible for their possessions, there always seems to be a mountain of lost property lying around. The problem is worse in the upper school with very often school shoes, trainers, coats, sweatshirts, Forest School clothes and PE kits left in varying places. In the past we have gathered this up and placed it in the large crate in the main corridor. We believe that doing this does not help; it is left there for a term and then staff and children waste time sorting it. Therefore there will no longer be a crate in the upper school. I have told the children this and again I have reiterated the responsibility they have for their possessions and in keeping the school tidy. Please can I ask two things; firstly that you impress on your children their responsibility for their possessions and secondly, that all uniform, coats, Forest School clothes and PE bags are named. We can deliver named property back quickly, but unnamed items prove a real hassle for us. I really would appreciate your help with this.

I look forward to seeing you next week, have a lovely weekend.

With kind regards

Gill Kennaugh

Help with Robotics



In Year 5 this term we are taking a close look at robots and how they function. We would really love to provide children with the experience of working with technology and the wonders of robotics. We were wondering if there were parents within our Newbridge community, who would be able to support us with this.

Do you work within the development or programming of robots, or work in a profession where robots play an integral part? If you do, then please, please come and see Mrs Bartlett or Mr Hempleman. Any support, information and/or input would be very welcome.

Many thanks in advance.

Young Voices for Years 3-6

Letters went out by parentmail yesterday providing details for this exciting event. Copies can be obtained from the office. Places are allocated on first come first served basis, so don't miss out.

If you'd like to see the kind of experience your child would have, please go to:

www.youngvoices.co.uk

NB: your child will be expected to practise the songs lots and take part in other choir events

Please see Mrs Houston for further details

Instrumental Lessons start next week

If you have booked your child into lessons via Banes music service or through Mrs Houston, then please make sure your child knows which day they are having the lesson and remind them to look at the music notice board in the US corridor for timetable information. Timetables, once they are finalised, will be available on the school website as well as the notice board.

Monday	piano, clarinet
Tuesday	cello
Wednesday	singing, flute, brass
Thursday	guitar, violin (starting in 2 weeks)
Friday	guitar, drum kit, clarinet

Dinner Money

All dinners should be taken on a weekly basis. Dinner money is £2.60 per day (£13.00 per week) You are welcome to pay per week, month or term. Please could dinner money be paid for **in advance** on the first day of every week (or month/term if appropriate) and **not retrospectively**.

Payment can be made either electronically through the School Gateway system or by cash/cheque.

If paying by cash or cheque please send the money in an envelope with your **child's name and class** on it - please also include the dates the payment covers. Cheques should be made payable to B&NES

Activating your School Gateway account is quick and easy to do. All you need are your email address and mobile number that school holds on record for you.

If you have a smartphone, please download School Gateway from your app store (Android and iPhone). The app shows the same information as the website PLUS it saves the school money when we send you a text message.

Please note, you do not get a prompt if you are paying online, so please remember to top up your dinner money account.

Dinner money for the coming terms is as follows:

Sept	18 days = £46.80
Oct	17 days = <u>£44.20</u>
	£91.00
Nov	22 days = £57.20
Dec	11 days = <u>£28.60</u>
	£85.80

Many thanks.

SCHOOL ALLOTMENT

Would you like to come and help out on the school allotment? You don't need tools, skill or to make a big commitment. Come along and be one of the Newbridge gardeners! For more information email Lucy @ lucyhewsonfamily.co.uk

There are also some areas of the school we could brighten up with some spring bulbs. If you find yourself at a garden centre why not buy a packet for school and we will help the children to plant them. Any variety/colour will be gratefully accepted. Please leave at the office.

Thank you

Newbridge Journey Books – help required

Last year many parents and carers very kindly helped make up the Newbridge Journey Books. At the start of the year we need these books for our current Year 1 children, as they have not had them before. Please leave your name at the office if you are able to stick in the necessary sheets .or back the books; your help would be very much appreciated.

Gill Kennaugh