



Newnham St Peter's C of E Primary School

Cherish Everyone ~ Flourish Together ~ Serve Others

Station Road, Newnham-on-Severn, Gloucestershire. GL14 1AT
Tel: 01594 516208 Email: admin@newnham-st-peter.gloucs.sch.uk

Website: www.newnhamstpetersschool.org.uk

Headteacher: Ms Aga Przybylska

15th September

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to extend a warm and hearty welcome to all of you as we embark on a new and exciting academic year here at Newnham St Peter's C of E Primary School and Pre-school. It is my privilege and honour to serve as the Headteacher of this remarkable place, and I look forward to getting to better know each of you and your children in the coming months.

Starting a new school year is a time filled with anticipation, hope, and enthusiasm. It is a time for new beginnings, fresh opportunities, and the chance to grow and learn together. Whether you are new to our school community or returning for another year, I want to assure you that we are committed to creating a nurturing, inclusive, and dynamic learning environment where every child can flourish.

First and foremost, I want to express my profound gratitude to the entire Newnham School community for the warm reception and support I have received since stepping into this role. It is evident that this school is not just a place of learning; it is a close-knit family that values education, growth, and excellence. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work alongside our dedicated staff, supportive parents and carers, and most importantly, our exceptional children.

As we embark on this new academic year, I invite you to join me in fostering a love of learning in our children. Encourage them to ask questions, explore their interests, and embrace new challenges. Together, we can help them reach their full potential and prepare them for a bright and successful future.

As we begin this academic year, I wanted to share a few key points with you:

Our Vision and Values

"cherish everyone, flourish together and serve others"

At Newnham St Peter's C of E Primary School, our vision of "cherish everyone, flourish together and serve others" is anchored in the profound essence of love, faith and hope. Rooted in the teachings of Jesus, love is woven into the fabric of our school's identity, influencing every aspect of our mission to ignite a passion for learning and personal growth, empowering students to embrace challenges, pursue excellence, and realize their dreams with unwavering determination.

The timeless Christian value of love serves as the compass that directs our decisions, shapes our curriculum and our pastoral care practices, and inspires our community engagement efforts.

We are committed to cultivating an inclusive, and compassionate educational environment where love is the cornerstone, nurturing the growth, character, and success of every individual.

We are dedicated to fostering a culture of excellence, respect, and inclusivity. Our vision is to inspire and empower our students to become lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and responsible citizens. We are committed to upholding our core values of integrity, empathy, diversity, and collaboration in everything we do.

Academic Excellence

We have high expectations for academic achievement and personal growth for all our children. Our dedicated and passionate teaching staff are here to provide the guidance and support needed to help your child succeed. We

encourage open communication with teachers, and we are always here to address any questions or concerns you may have.

Safety and Well-Being

The safety and well-being of our children are of utmost importance. We have strict policies and procedures in place, and we are dedicated to creating a safe and secure learning environment where all children can thrive.

Uniform

Our pupils both represent and are ambassadors of Newnham St Peter's Primary & Preschool. We encourage our pupils to wear their uniforms with pride. We ask all parents/carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. One of the responsibilities of parents and carers is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, that it is clean and in good repair, and that all items are clearly labelled. All the information is available on our school website. There are no changes to colours, logo nor to what garments children can wear.

The rationale for having a uniform policy is based on several important principles -

1. **Promoting Equality:** The primary goal of our uniform policy is to create a level playing field for all students. By wearing the same attire, regardless of their socioeconomic background, students can feel equal and focus on their studies rather than their clothing choices.
2. **Fostering a Sense of Belonging:** Uniforms help foster a sense of belonging and unity within the school community. When students dress alike, they are more likely to identify with the school's values and form stronger bonds with their peers.
3. **Reducing Distractions:** School uniforms can help reduce distractions caused by fashion trends and clothing styles. This allows students and teachers to concentrate on the learning process without unnecessary disruptions.
4. **Preparing for the Future:** Uniforms help instil a sense of professionalism and discipline, which can be valuable qualities in students' future endeavours, whether in higher education or the workforce.
5. **Safety and Security:** In some cases, school uniforms enhance safety and security, making it easier to identify outsiders on school grounds.

While we understand that personal expression is important, we believe that the benefits of our uniform policy outweigh any drawbacks.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance and punctuality are crucial for children success and mandatory from the beginning of the new academic year. For parents and carers of children of compulsory school age, this means that the legal duty on you as a parent to send your child to school regularly will apply. Local Authorities and schools have a range of legal powers to enforce attendance if a child misses school without a valid reason. If your child is unable to attend, please notify the school as soon as possible. Consistent attendance and punctuality not only support academic achievement but also teach valuable life skills.

Medical and dietary needs

If your child has a medical or dietary requirement, please contact the school as soon as possible.

Extracurricular Involvement

Participating in extracurricular activities can greatly enrich your child's school experience. We encourage children to explore their interests by joining clubs, sports teams, or other school groups. These opportunities help develop

teamwork, leadership, and social skills. This year, we are planning to add lunchtime clubs to our extracurricular activities. In Autumn Term, we will introduce Gardening Club, Oracy Club and Choir. Separate letters will be sent with more details.

Communication

We understand that clear and timely communication is crucial for parents and carers to stay informed and engaged in their child's education. We apologize if you have ever encountered difficulties in accessing information or if the information provided has not been as clear as it should be.

We are continuously reviewing and actively enhancing our methods of reaching out to parents and carers. In addition to newsletters, the school website and text messages, we are exploring other communication channels including email, or possibility of hosting information sessions with parents and carers to address any concerns or questions directly. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us improve our communication strategies.

We encourage you to stay involved by attending parent-teacher meetings, school events, and volunteering opportunities. We firmly believe that when parents/carers and teachers work together, the potential for success is limitless.

My door is always open to parents and carers, children, and staff, and I welcome your feedback, ideas, and concerns.

Meet the Teacher meetings

Next week, we will hold 'Meet the Teacher' meetings in your child's classroom. This will be an opportunity to meet your child's teacher, hear about the curriculum and find out what your child will be learning this year, take note of key information about things like PE days, and ask the class teacher any general questions you may have. They will be on the following days:

| | <i>Thursday 21st September</i> | <i>Monday 25th September</i> | <i>Tuesday 26th September</i> | <i>Wednesday 27th September</i> | <i>Friday 29th September</i> |
|------------------|---|---|--|--|---|
| <i>3.00-3.30</i> | <i>Wrens – EYFS Phonics Session</i> | <i>Owls – Y5</i> | <i>Starlings – Y3/4</i> | <i>Sparrows – Y1/2</i> | <i>Falcons – Y6</i> |

If you aren't able to attend, an overview of what was discussed will be published on our website.

Library & Thank you to PTFA

We are overjoyed to share some remarkable news that will bring immense value to our school—the installation of our beautiful new school library!

Our new library is more than just a collection of books; it's a gateway to imagination, a place for exploration, and a hub for fostering a lifelong love of learning among our young scholars.

At Newnham St Peter's, we are committed to nurturing young minds, promoting literacy, and fostering a lifelong love of learning. Our new school library is a testament to this commitment, and we are excited to share it with our school community.

I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks for the incredible fundraising efforts our PTFA have put forth. The PTFA's dedication and hard work have made a significant impact on our school community. The PTFA's commitment to our school and our children is truly inspiring. The funds they've raised will enable us to enhance educational experiences, support important initiatives, and create a more enriching environment for our children.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation for the support of all parents and carers, as it is through the generosity of donors like you that we can continue to fulfill our mission.

In conclusion, we are excited about the possibilities that this new school year brings. With your cooperation and active participation, we believe that Newnham St Peter's School will continue to be a place of excellence, growth, and personal development for all our students.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to support you and your child every step of the way. Together, we will make this academic year a remarkable and successful journey for your child.

Wishing you a fantastic school year ahead!

Aga Przybylska and the Newnham St Peter's Team