



## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2017

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term. I hope you were able to spend some family time together. If you have been collecting your children you will have noticed that once again we have been making fantastic improvements to our school site. You will know, as parents, that we benefit from a huge outdoor space here at New Hall and we continually want the children to be using our outdoor areas for their learning. We have had artificial turf fitted around both the pagoda and wooden play house so that children will not be coming home with muddy shoes from playing around this area. We have also had a new 'log cabin' installed in the key stage 1 area to provide additional teaching space for small groups. One big area of development has been in Early Years where the whole of the outdoor area has been redesigned to ensure that learning outside can be accessed as often as possible. We have also now completed the outdoor maths area. We hope that the children will come home excited to tell you about what they have been doing in these new areas.

Can I also request that during collection times, that you, as parents, do not allow the children, or their younger siblings to 'play' on this equipment. Often it will be set up for the next day and we cannot accept any responsibility if you choose to allow this. In times of ever changing cutbacks to school budgets, we want this equipment to last, and it may be damaged unintentionally if children are not supervised.

Thank you for your help and support with this.

### Whitemoor Lakes

Just before half term, year 6 got to go on their highly anticipated residential visit to Whitemoor Lakes. The children had a fantastic time trying all the activities on offer which included archery, fencing, abseiling, climbing, zip wire, problem solving and the famous high ropes course featuring the 'leap of faith'! The trip was a great bonding experience for the children and they were able to develop their communication and team work skills as well as conquer their fears. Here is what they said about the experience:

'My experience was amazing because I did things I had never done before and I also conquered my fear of heights.' (Tom)

'My favourite activity was the challenge course because we worked as a team.' (Demi)

'My favourite activity was the zip wire and abseiling because it was exhilarating experience going down the zip-line.' (Kundai)

'I learnt to not look down when you're up high. Also to take a couple more steps so you know you have done your best.' (Khianna)

'My favourite activity was the zip wire. I was scared at first but when I got on it I felt really proud.' (Jamie B)



## Prison Me? No Way!

To celebrate our Rule of Law and Individual Liberty British Value day last Monday, ex-prison officer, Graham came to visit us from a charity called Prison Me? No Way! In an assembly to the whole school, he shared with us how making poor choices as you grow older can have severe consequences. Later in the day he worked with Year 4 and 5; showing them inside a life size replica of a prison cell and giving them inside knowledge on the day to day life of young prisoners. Pupils used this experience to consider how they saw their future in a much more positive light and they are keen to follow the law to be able to achieve their aspirations!

## Preventing the spreading of germs - Washing Hands Correctly

There is one thing that we can all do that we quite often underestimate its power. Good hand washing. Good hand washing is the first line of defence against the spread of many illnesses — from the common cold to more serious infections.

To minimize the germs passed around your family, make regular hand washing a rule for everyone, especially:

- before eating and cooking
- after using the bathroom
- after cleaning around the house

after touching animals, including family pets

- before and after visiting or taking care of any sick friends or relatives
- after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing
- after being outside (playing, gardening, walking the dog, etc.)

The few seconds you spend at the sink could save you trips to the doctor's office.

## World Book Day

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 the whole school took part in World Book Day celebrations. There were lots of fabulous characters around school sharing their love of reading and thank you to all parents and carers who supported their children with dressing up. Everyone had the opportunity to talk, read and share all the wonderful books that inspire us to be great readers. We also welcomed some African storytellers in for the day, who shared their love of reading through music and drama. Lots of fun was had by everyone.

Using World Book day as a starting point we have introduced weekly star readers into school, where staff choose a star of the week for enjoying books, reading at home and sharing their love of books. Please continue to encourage your children to read at home, both books on our interactive reading programme, Bug Club.

## **E-Safety Tip**

Passwords should be like your toothbrush and not shared.

## **Curriculum**

Parents, if you would like to know more about the curriculum planned for your children, this can be found on our website under 'Our School'. If you have any queries please speak to the class teacher.

## **Easter Playscheme**

Monday 10th April - Thursday 13th April  
8.00am - 6pm. Morning and afternoon sessions are available. Lots of fun activities planned: trip to Sutton park, cooking, Easter egg hunt, art/crafts and much more. If you require any further information please come enquire at the school office.

## **Term Dates 2016/2017**

### **Spring Term 2017**

Friday 7 April 2017 - Term ends

### **Summer Term 2017**

Monday 24th April 2017 - Term starts

Monday 1st May - School closed

Tuesday 2nd May - School open

Half term - Monday 29 May 2017 - Friday  
2 June 2017

Monday 5th June - Teacher training day

Tuesday 6th June - School open

Friday 21st July 2017 - Term ends

Monday 24th July—Teacher Training day

Tuesday 25th July—Teacher Training day

### **Autumn Term 2017**

Term starts Tuesday 5 September 2017

## **Uniforms now available at F&F**

You can now purchase New Hall logo uniform online at [www.tesco.com/ues](http://www.tesco.com/ues).

Prices are very competitive and excellent quality. A 5% cash donation is also made to our school every time you make a purchase.

## **Children Centre Timetable**

### **Monday**

Stay & Play - 1.30-3pm £2

### **Tuesday**

New Hall Nemo Swimming

Sessions - 9.00 - 10.30am (phone Helen Cotton to book a place 07792 181483)

Baby Massage - 1.30 - 2.30pm (phone to book your place)

### **Wednesday**

New Hall Nemo Swimming

Sessions - 10am - 12 (phone Helen Cotton to book a place 07792 181483)

New Births/New to area  
registration (call to make appointment)

### **Thursday**

Baby Drop In Clinic - 9.30-11am

Homestart Stay & Play group (no charge) -  
1.30-3pm

**Friday** - Stay & Play - 1.30-3pm £2

Any queries please call Kylie on 0121 464 5170 option 2.