

Autumn
2013

Newfield Express



Letter from the Newfield Express Editor.

Hello! My name is Zahid Khaliq. I am the editor for the school's newsletter this term.

I am writing the newsletter in my final year at Newfield School. This term has been really busy with lots of exciting activities, including a trip to Blackpool! Our first celebration was Eid and we had a fun Eid Sensory Day. We raised money for Jeans for Genes and Children in Need. There was a leaving assembly for staff who had worked here for a long time and we had many other assemblies including Remembrance, Bonfire Night, and Harvest. Zoolab brought in some

exciting exotic animals for us to see and touch. Some of us went to exciting places to enhance our learning, for example, a Chinese supermarket, Clitheroe Castle and more. Our street fair to celebrate the European Day of Languages was fabulous and the Christmas Fair was hugely successful with the mayor in attendance. For Christmas we had concerts, Santa visiting, a disco, lunch, Christmas Jumper Day and some of us watched the Mother Goose pantomime. *Hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

- Children in Need Christmas
- Class trips
- Remembrance
- Children's Takeover Day
- European Day of Language
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Harvest
- Halloween fun
- Christmas jumper day
- Jeans for Genes day
- EID
- November
- Bamboozle Theatre Company



Breaking news... Right as we go to press, the Mayor is in school! He enjoyed visiting us at the Christmas fair so much, that he decided to come back with his entourage to give every single child a christmas present - thanks very much to The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council – Councillor Salim Mulla.



Welcome...

Lots of pupils and staff joined us in September at the start of this school year. We would like everyone to give a warm welcome to all of our newcomers - here are all of our new pupils for you to meet!

नवा विधार्थीओ

نئے طلباء



Muhammed Mahmood



Oscar Miah



Shahid Patel



Damares Milea



Erin Rawlinson



Natasha Simane



Faiz Akhter



Tasneem Pathan



Sumaiya Patel



Alima Asghar



Billy Gilbert



Lucas White



Waseem Rakha

Welcome also to...



New pupils Yusuf Zabier and Liam Bond, as well as all of our new staff - TA's Louise, Denise, Nicola, Faye, Carol, Salma, Jennie; Welfares Cheryl & Taymena; Site supervisor Dave; and Lisa, William & Gemma in the office!



Christmas Fair

On Friday 6th December we held our annual Christmas Fair - and what a huge success! We had crowds of people waiting to come in and they all had a great time. We were delighted to have the honour of the Mayor of Blackburn come along! Children had hand made all sorts of things to sell, Christmas wreaths, cakes, pictures, mugs, jewellery, cards, decorations...the list went on and on...

The hair and beauty girls were doing massages & manicures and some of our pupils ran the cafe, which was very busy with guests enjoying a hot drink and a mince pie. We were entertained by the brass ensemble, Corus Brass, who played many of our favourite festive songs.

Father Christmas also paid us a visit and thrilled many of the children in the Grotto



Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

In September, we began to offer our older pupils the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. This is a challenging programme of activities which we hope will provide some very memorable and exciting experiences for the pupils that take part. We currently have 10 participants who are working towards the Bronze Award. Each member of the group has developed a personal programme of activities and set themselves goals to work towards. Some of the activities that participants have chosen to use towards achieving their Bronze Award include swimming, cooking, membership of the school council, promoting rights in local schools, attending to an allotment and dance. The group have also begun to prepare for their Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition! In the summer term pupils will undertake a two day expedition with an overnight stay. They have been thinking about how they will travel; on foot, by canoe, by adapted trikes... the possibilities are endless! They have also been thinking about what equipment they might need and paid a visit to Go Outdoors for inspiration. Pupils have made excellent progress this term and are well on their way to achieving their Bronze Awards, a huge well done to our D of E participants!



2-11 Christmas Performance

Our 2-11 pupils were all fantastic in our performance 'A Little Bird Told Me'. There was lots of singing, signing and switch work as they told the story of Robin and his journey to Bethlehem to see baby Jesus. The costumes were super and the children had even created the backdrops for the scenes which were clear for everyone to see thanks to our 4D equipment. It was great to have so many friends and family come along to the performance and they loved it!

Well done to all our talented pupils and a big thank you to all the staff for their hard work too!



November 2013

This year, for the first time, we joined in with 'Movember' with male staff and students growing moustaches throughout the month to raise awareness and money for testicular and prostate cancer. They all loved getting hairy, and on 29th November, we all wore fake moustaches - it was surprising how much some of the girls suited them! We raised £81.47 for the charity and had fun.



European Day of Language

On Thursday 26th September we joined people across Europe in celebrating 'European Day of Languages' with our very own international street market! We had stalls set out, each representing a country and it's language, along with jigsaws and sound matching activities exploring languages. Children and staff visited the market, exploring and experiencing new languages and cultures, as well as celebrating their own.

Lots of classes ran the stalls - with pictures, flags, words, artefacts, music, sensory objects and obviously, being Newfield, food to taste!



Children's Takeover Day

Friday 22nd November saw pupils take over adult roles in school as part of the Children's Commissioner's Takeover Day. Some of the roles pupils had the opportunity to experience included office assistant, teaching assistant, site supervisor, catering assistant, car park co-ordinator and some pupils even attended a Business Services meeting and Senior Leadership Team meeting with the head and deputies!



Rights Respecting School Award بچوں کے حقوق کا احترام کرنا

Our steering group has been busy this term, recruiting new members and splitting into several different committees, each ensuring that we spread the word on Children's rights. A group took an assembly and workshop to St Paul's RC primary school, where they acted as ambassadors for UNICEF - they did a great job and then went out for lunch! We have also audited school, to check that classes have charters - we discovered that the leadership team do not have one, so we have asked them to create one and we will be back to check up! We are in regular touch with our International link schools, are in the process of updating our main display in the Atrium and we are looking at developing Fair Trade in school next term - busy, busy, busy!



Message from the Head...

Hi Everyone!

We seem to cram so much into a term with all the events and activities. I would urge you to look at the 'Blog' on the website (www.newfield.org.uk) as it is full of stories and pictures of not only what we have done over the Autumn Term, but also the past couple of years.

There are too many highlights to mention here, but most recently the Christmas performances were excellent!..and enjoyed by families and friends!

The Christmas Fair was also a great success and a lovely atmosphere.

As always, thank you all for your continued support in school and I wish you a very Merry Christmas, New Year and holiday!

Geoff Fitzpatrick

Goodbye & Good Luck...



Janet



Tracy



Pat

Three staff left this term, nurse Tracy, who went to work in a residential setting, Janet, one of our TA1's, and Pat, our Finance Manager, both of whom are taking early retirement. Thanks to both of them for all the happy times helping us! We wish them all good luck for the future and we hope they keep in touch.



11-19 Christmas Extravaganza

On 11th December it was the turn of the 11-19 age phase pupils to showcase their singing, dancing and acting talents at our extravaganza. Lots of parents, governors and friends attended and the show was lively, colourful and lots of fun. Audience participation was encouraged with opportunities to sing, be covered in snow and throw sprouts in an interactive story about a smelly sprout! We had an amazing rendition of Rudolf the red nosed reindeer, with Ibrahim impressing all with his incredible Louis Armstrong voice – who knew he had such a hidden talent?!

There were scenes from the Nutcracker, traditional and popular Christmas songs with dances and a rousing singalong version of the twelve days of Christmas. Everyone had a fantastic time and the enthusiasm and hard work of the pupils and staff was plain for all to see.

Thank you and well done, what a great show!



Children in Need

We loved taking part in fund raising activities for Children in Need this year. Pupils and staff came to school in their pyjamas and each donated £1 to this very worthy cause. Our pods were set up in the hall, housing sensory learning activities which taught us about how our donations help others. Pupils decorated Pudsey biscuits and we even had a visit from Pudsey himself. We ended our day with a fantastic pyjama party which everyone really enjoyed. Altogether we raised a fantastic £405.10. Thanks very much to everyone involved in the day.



Save the Children - Christmas Jumper Day

At the end of the year we were busy knitting and getting ready for Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 13th December! Staff and friends of the school knitted 50 tiny jumpers, to raise money for Save the Children. We sold these during December and on the special day we all wore either bought Christmas jumpers, or ones that we had made ourselves to raise even more money. It was our pupil Christmas lunch on the Friday too, so our jumpers made it even more special. Altogether we raised over £175 for Save the Children - well done and thank you!



Important Dates:

Christmas Holiday
School Closes:
 Friday 20th December 2013

School re-opens:
 Monday 6th January 2014

Spring Half Term Holiday
School Closes:
 Friday 14th February 2014

School re-opens:
 Monday 24th February 2014

We were all saddened to hear about the Typhoon that hit the Philippines and which caused such suffering, so we decided to raise awareness and money to help the people out. We held an assembly and gave information about the Philippines, looking where in the world it is as well as holding a collection. At the end of November, during our Children's Takeover event, pupils ran a cake stall, with staff buying cakes that their colleagues and some of the children had made and donated.



We consider ourselves a family at Newfield, and it is in times of adversity that we can come together to support people, whether they are close to home, or as we learnt today, a long way away. Altogether we raised £184.85 to send to the Disasters Emergency Committee for the Philippines Typhoon Appeal.



Facilities Improvements

This term, we have had a new outdoor gym, a fantastic hygiene suite and a willow tunnel, which is the start of our new sensory garden!



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'Newfield School is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults as its number one priority' Full copies of Policies and Procedures related to all aspects of Safeguarding, and the Complaints Policy, are available on request from Geoff Fitzpatrick, Head Teacher and Designated Senior Person for Safeguarding and Child Protection Newfield School complies with the general and specific duties of the Equality Act (2010). In accordance with the duty we publish information that demonstrates that we have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, Advance equality of opportunity & Foster good relations. These specific duties have been considered in relation to all our policies and procedures in school. Our objectives will be reported on and published as part of the Governance public documents available for inspection under the Freedom of information Regulations and Data Protection duties.