

## LEARNING OUTSIDE

### Hello and welcome...

... to our termly e-newsletter where we give you a round up of some of the activities that we have been up to - please remember to regularly visit our [website](#) to see all of the [blogs](#) and photos from our always busy Newfield Family!

It has been another very exciting, busy Autumn term, from our youngest learners having guest writers to read them [sensory stories](#); to our older pupils working alongside [Blackburn Rovers](#) staff and making a video - there is always something happening!

## CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES & CELEBRATIONS

There have been lots of visitors and exciting opportunities for our learners to develop new skills and independence - so read on and click on the links to find out more.

Many of you will know that we have been developing our [curriculum](#), so please have a look at the section on the website and let us know what you think.

Our parents have been able to access a number of workshops to help [support their children](#) as well as focusing on the importance of [caring for themselves](#).

## INDEPENDENCE SKILLS

At the end of term we celebrated Christmas, especially being [kind](#) and enjoying a [carol concert](#). We had some [elves](#) running around school which caused mayhem and excitement. What a busy term with lots and lots of learning and fun!

Thanks as always for all of your help, commitment and support for school, it is much appreciated.

We wish you all a very Happy Holidays, enjoying time with family and friends, and we look forward to seeing you for more Newfield Family adventures in 2024.



## Hello from the Headteacher...

Hello everyone

What a jam packed, fun packed term this has been. Looking at all the hard work and events that have taken place shows us all what our amazing Newfield Family can achieve together.

There has also been a lot of change in school to cope with. Your children have all surpassed themselves in developing their independence and resilience in learning and practising new skills. These have ranged from our TG students selling homemade gifts on Blackburn Market, primary developing their football skills alongside Blackburn Rovers, and our new Explorer classes taking part in their first Nativity.

It just goes to show that it's not just Christmas but for our Children every day at Newfield it's the most wonderful time of the year!

It seems fitting to share with you the target all staff are supporting our children to achieve this year: *I am gaining skills to help me regulate my body, senses and emotions to help learn and use new skills.*

Please just a final reminder that we still need you to support your children in getting the maximum benefits from the brilliant education we provide them by making sure they attend regularly.

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas

*Rachel*

## SPECIAL ENRICHMENT EVENTS

During this term, we have taken part in a number of charity events, raising awareness and money to help others as well as special events to enhance our experience of the world.

In September we celebrated our support staff on [EHCA Appreciation Day](#). Our older pupils enjoyed spending time in their new common room. We spent lots of time taking part in [sports](#) both in and out of school, and we also learned lots about different languages and cultures on [European Day of Languages](#); had an art competition and raised money wearing denim on [Jeans for Genes day](#).

**JEANS FOR GENES**



In October we enjoyed [harvest](#) as well as thinking about what we do that makes us happy for [World Mental Health Day](#). We had lots of parent workshops and also the first [Dads & Lads](#) club of the year. At the end of the half term, our staff showed their [kindness](#) to each other!



In November after our half term break, we enjoyed [Halloween](#) dressing up and doing [enterprise](#); we then held special events for [Remembrance](#); we joined the nation and Pudsey in one of our favourite fundraisers [Children in Need](#); we welcomed parents into school for our [Transition](#) event to learn more about provision after Newfield; some of us enjoyed planning events for a brilliant '[Takeovers](#)' week with lots going on when the children were in charge!

# SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

Our development targets this year are around ensuring that our pupils all develop their independence, and also that learning outside the classroom enhances our children's experiences and wellbeing - here is some information on what we've been doing to support that exciting initiative.



# LEARNING OUTDOORS

We took part in [outdoor classroom day](#) and everyone had a lovely time in our school grounds, local parks and further afield at Brockholes nature reserve, learning in the fresh air and great outdoors!



# INDEPENDENCE SKILLS

Our older students have been developing [independence skills](#) both in school and within the community. They have also been taking part in [Work Related Learning](#). During Takeover week we had students working alongside the nurses, the catering team and the site team. Some young people had a session with ['Go Kids Go'](#) where they developed skills to push or drive their wheelchairs.



# SPORTS

We have been lucky this term to have staff from [Blackburn Rovers Community Trust](#) coming into school to support each week and help develop new skills, independence & try [new sports](#).



# TAKEOVER WEEK

We held our first ever [sensory takeover](#), where pupils had 'jobs' to carry out whilst pretending they were working in the busy bakery - supported by LouLou's Bakery employee Cody Gates.



In November we once again took part in [Takeover Week](#), where our young people were in charge and doing all of our jobs! They all learnt lots and enjoyed the experience of taking on adult responsibilities ranging from nursing, catering, site management and office work!

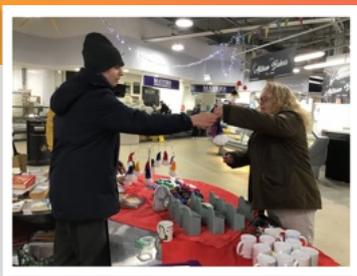


Mackenzie enjoyed [organising](#) all the transport on the carpark at dismissal!

# CHRISTMAS FAIR

We had a very early, and very popular [Christmas Fair](#) on the 1st December, with all the usual stalls selling things made by the children and we were delighted to have so many visitors, raising a total of over £1,200.

Our oldest students set up a pop-up stall down on [Blackburn Market](#) where they used their skills to make £160 - well done guys!



There have been lots of things going on in the run up to Christmas including [Christmas lunch for children](#), parties, [staff quiz and lunch](#) and of course, all of the children getting to visit Father Christmas!

## CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES & PERFORMANCES

Our youngest children - Explorers - presented '[The Nativity](#)' to families and we were amazed by the confidence and talents of the children, many of whom only joined us in September!



Children in our large primary phase entertained families and other guests at their '[Christmas Extravaganza](#)' and did a fantastic job singing, dancing and performing.



### Christmas Holiday

**School closes to all:**

Friday 22nd December 2023

**School re-opens to staff:**

Monday 8th January 2024

**School re-opens to pupils:**

Tuesday 9th January 2024

### Spring Half Term Holiday

**School closes to all:**

Friday 9th February 2024

**School re-opens to all:**

Monday 19th February 2024



Newfield School, Old Bank Lane,  
Blackburn, Lancashire. BB1 2PW

Tel: 01254 588600

Web: [newfield.org.uk](http://newfield.org.uk)

Twitter: [@newfieldbwd](https://twitter.com/newfieldbwd)

Twitter: [@newfieldautism](https://twitter.com/newfieldautism)



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