



## TAKEOVER CHALLENGE

### Hello and welcome

to the Autumn 2016 issue of our newsletter - and another issue packed with news about some of the activities going on - if you want to know more, don't forget the blog on our website is updated regularly - [www.newfield.org.uk](http://www.newfield.org.uk)

This term began with a visit from the Leading Parent Partnership Award assessors and we were delighted to be re-accredited successfully. We also had lots of

## LEADING PARENT PARTNERSHIP AWARD

new faces around with new pupils and staff joining us - they've all settled in now - you can meet all of the new pupils on page 2.

Pupil voice is very important to the Newfield family, and the School Council and Rights Respecting School steering group have been meeting regularly, making choices and taking responsibility for some of what happens in school and in the wider community. There have been many exciting educational, fun, enriching, fundraising,

## CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

celebratory, poignant and empowering activities going on as always! Our pupils and staff have worked tirelessly to make each day count and we have created lots of happy memories to share with you here. So, read on and enjoy.

We wish you all a well earned rest at the end of the year, and a very happy festive season.

We look forward to seeing you in school in the New Year.





We have had lots of new children joining us again at the start of the Autumn term and they are settling in well, making new friends. We have also welcomed some new staff this term - so there are lots of new faces around - here are our 20 new children!



Yahya



Kody



Masun



Urfan



Sabiha



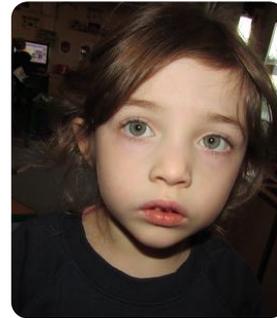
Corey



Hafizur



Logan



Emiegh



Zainab



Ahmad



Kieren



Mushy



Fozia



Ashton



Kulsum



Mackenzie



Sully



Terence



Cammie



# EID CELEBRATIONS

On Monday 12 September, many of our pupils celebrated Eid Al-Adha which marks the end of the Hajj pilgrimage, at home with their families. So, later in the week all pupils enjoyed a feast during lunchtime with curry, naan bread, samosas and mango kheer (rice pudding) kindly prepared by Helen and the kitchen staff. They learnt that Eid Al-Adha is also known as the Sacrifice Feast to remember the time when Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) was willing to sacrifice his son to God.

Continuing the Eid celebrations, everyone had the opportunity to dress up in their colourful party clothes and some pupils came in with some lovely traditional dresses and shalwar kameez – in the photo you can see everyone dancing in the Bollywood themed disco that took place in the afternoon. There was a great atmosphere with our DJ Lynx managing some song requests as well as Bollywood classics. Everyone had a wonderful time even though it was hot inside.



# LADY TAVERNERS BLACKPOOL TRIP

On Saturday 17th September pupils and staff met up at school and went to Blackpool as guests of the Lady Taverners Charity on the now annual seaside trip. This year is the 25th anniversary of the charity for children and as always it was a fantastic day out. The sun shone, the group enjoyed all the big rides on the Pleasure Beach, they had a great fish and chip lunch and were then entertained by the singing and dancing Nickelodeon characters. Special guest Judith Chalmers, a Lady Taverner herself, spoke to everyone and added a touch of sparkle to the day. Thank you to the Lady Taverners and also to our fab staff who spent their Saturday enabling the children to have such a great time.

We all love any excuse to dress up, eat cake and fundraise here at Newfield! So, our first charity event of the year took place on 23rd September celebrating Jeans for Genes day. Lots of pupils and staff paid £1 to wear their jeans, as you can see in the photos. There was a cake stall which was really busy and a colouring competition. We had a really fun day and raised lots of money - £160.09 - well done!



Jeans for Genes®



## HARVEST FESTIVAL

On 29th September pupils, parents and staff joined together to gather food and celebrate in our harvest assembly. The school was joined by Reverend Andrew Raynes from Christ Church Blackburn and Barbara Foster from Blackburn Food Bank. Our families had sent in lots of food and classes had decorated boxes to hold it in, which Barbara took back to the Blackburn Food Bank.

It means a lot to us to be able to contribute to the community, particularly when you hear of the enormity of the demand for this vital local charity.

The assembly was also roused by songs from Class 4 and the post 16 choir and a beautiful poetry reading from R6.

Thank you again to all who attended and contributed. This school could not be what it is without you.



## LANGUAGES DAY

In October, the school celebrated languages day – each phase of school had been learning about the language and culture of a different country and in the morning we came together in the hall for a market by putting up stalls and creating a real experience representing each country. We had China, Spain, France, Italy and India joining us with sensory activities everywhere and a mouth watering aroma of the food and spices. We were able to feel lots of different textures and one of the best things was the Seville oranges on Spain's stall that had been made into switches which when squeezed said words in Spanish!

Some parents and governors attended and everyone really enjoyed the fantastic market atmosphere.

In the afternoon it was time for 'Worldvision' with performances from each country. All the pupils loved being stars for the afternoon and experiencing the music and culture of the countries. Spain won thanks to their fabulous flamenco dancing!



## REMEMBRANCE

On the 11th November we held our Remembrance assembly, to honour the brave people who have served in wars and conflicts to protect others and give us the freedom that we enjoy. Pupils in post 16 had been selling poppies all week to raise money for the Royal British Legion and on the special day all the pupils and staff wore red. At 11 o'clock there was a minutes silence in classes.

In the assembly the choir sang, teacher Anna played the Last Post on her trumpet and some pupils read out poems including 'In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae.

It was a poignant assembly and the sea of red from the Newfield family in the hall decorated with Remembrance artwork from all of the classes was a fitting tribute.



## CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 18th November we joined the nation going spotty for Children in Need. Pupils and staff dressed up, there were lots of activities going on including a cake sale, a special Pudsey pie lunch, a disco in the afternoon and we even had a visit from the main man himself, Mr Pudsey bear! Everyone had a fantastic time and loved saying hello to Pudsey. Thanks to everyone for their donations altogether we raised just under £200.



## RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL EVENTS

Our steering group have been busy this term planning, coordinating and holding a number of events to make sure that they continue to spread the word on Children's Rights, fundraising and making sure that all new people in school know how important this is to us all at Newfield.



## STAFF COFFEE MORNING

Pupils held an information sharing coffee morning for some of our new staff. They explained what RRSA was and our role in the steering group. They talked about their rights and the rights of all children and young people. They explained how students at Newfield have become ambassadors for UNICEF spreading information about children's rights to other schools. This was so successful that steering group pupils now deliver this session as part of our HR induction programme to all new staff and it gets great feedback!



## LOVE FOR KENYA ASSEMBLY

Following on from our 'Love for Kenya' charity event in the Summer term, some of the RRSA steering group and School Council delivered an assembly to the whole school to show them where their kind gifts went and how the children in Kenya enjoyed their new resources. The students showed a power point made up of photos which were taken in Kenya and showed the children playing with the footballs and their parachutes. Newfield students were very proud of the event and would like to keep in touch with the children from Kenya

## BAG2SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

We have also held another whole school assembly helping children and staff to think about wants and needs in the run up to Christmas - and help others by donating their unwanted clothes. We got loads of bags of clothes brought in from home by pupils and staff, which the charity came and collected on a big lorry, weighing them and giving school a donation of £125 cash, whilst the clothes are donated to projects or turned into material to be used to help in poorer countries.





LUCAS PROGRAMMING THE 4D HALL EQUIPMENT WITH LYNX THE IT TECHNICIAN

JESSICA COOKING AND SERVING LUNCH WITH THE CATERING TEAM



STEPHEN HELPING LIONELL SUPERVISING THE WHOLE SCHOOL SITE



MATTHEW SETTING UP FOR A 'MOVE' SESSION



MYRAH WORKING IN THE OFFICE WITH ASIYA AND TEAM



LEWIS, DARREN & HEENA TAKING OVER AT APPLETTREES PREPARING, COOKING AND SERVING LUNCH



ADAM WORKING AS HEADTEACHER CHAIRING A MEETING



We've had an absolutely brilliant time this term with our Takeover Challenge going on for 3 weeks this year! Our older pupils have done a wide range of adult roles in school and really worked hard to make sure they did a good job and benefitted from the experience. Some of our pupils even took over at Appletrees - planning and preparing a craft activity, making a shopping list, doing the shopping and then preparing a meal for children attending later that day - brilliant! There are details of each Takeover on the blog on our website, so please go and have a look. We are hoping to achieve a 'Silver level' certificate from the Children's Commissioner this year. - so watch this space.

# CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

This year we have decided to hold just one Christmas performance, giving our older pupils more time to prepare for their production - next term when they will be doing the musical 'Hairspray', which means they have had more time to enjoy Christmas activities! We celebrated with Christmas lunch, visits to the pantomime, trips to look at Christmas lights and shopping. The whole school enjoyed a Christmas Extravaganza for the senses in our 4D studio, going

sledging and using their senses to explore Christmas. The choir went to Royal Blackburn Hospital and treated the patients, visitors and staff to carols and singalong songs which they loved. There was an excuse to wear awful clothes on Christmas jumper day, which raised money for Save the Children. We held a carol concert and everyone joined in singing and playing instruments. There were parties & discos and visits from Santa... lots of brilliant fun!



## PRIMARY NATIVITY

The primary age children in school held a lovely Nativity. We were delighted to have a packed house with parents and families all coming to enjoy the performance as well as some of our governors. The children and staff had been rehearsing - learning songs and dances as well as making costumes and props - and they did another really good job of showcasing the talents of our wonderful children. There were all the usual very cute angels, kings, donkeys, sheep, stars as well as Mary and Joseph - and it all went more or less to plan!

All the parents really enjoyed the performance and were impressed with what the children achieved - and there were a few teary-eyed proud mums and dads too.

Well done to everyone, it was a lovely, happy Christmassy performance.



# CHRISTMAS FAIR

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

### Hi Everyone!

Once again we appear to have filled our Autumn term with some brilliant activities....too many to mention here and a lot are in this addition of the Newsletter!...the 'Takeover Challenge' has been particularly successful this year with lots of excellent opportunities provided for students to make their mark...more details can be found on the 'Blog' on the website with some great photos!

Earlier in the term we were pleased to be re-accredited with LPPA - the Leading Parent Partnership Award - and I am very proud of all the pupils' achievements. Recently at the Governors meeting, I was delighted to present our statistics from last year which show how outstandingly well the students are doing in all their work! Of course all this could not be achieved without the hard work, dedication and commitment of all the staff and parents, carers, volunteers and professionals who support our work....so thank you to you all!...and have a restful holiday and for those who are celebrating Christmas....

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Geoff Fitzpatrick



At the start of December we held our annual Christmas Fair - It was very well attended and everyone had a great time, catching up, playing games, shopping for the handmade gifts, eating, listening to the brass band and visiting Father Christmas. Thanks to the Mayor, the many parents & families, governors, former staff (with babies!) and pupils from Witton and other link schools who came as well as Santa - it was a special occasion as always and also raised about £1000 for school!



### Christmas Holiday

School closes:

Tuesday 20th December 2016

School re-opens:

Thursday 5th January 2017

### Spring Half Term Holiday

School closes:

Friday 10th February 2017

School re-opens:

Monday 20th February 2017

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