

# NEWLAITHES NURSERY & INFANT SCHOOL

[www.newinf.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.newinf.cumbria.sch.uk)

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Headteacher: Mr Simon Wilkinson

Spring 2025



## SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWS

Despite an exciting and stormy start to 2025, we have already had so many wonderful experiences this Spring. We have new assemblies each week in the afternoons. Children are enthusiastically joining in with re-enactments of fairy tales each Monday and loving the variety of other assemblies through the week.

Nursery have been having a fabulous focus on drawing and exploring mark making.  
Reception have been wondering why it is so cold outside and learning about penguins and Antarctica.  
Year 1 have been inspired by Beegu the alien's visit to earth and learning about their local community.  
Year 2 have been writing factfiles all about India and following instructions to make Naan bread.

We have recently shared with the children in assembly how our fundraising as a community has meant over £1500 has been donated to the Jigsaw Children's Hospice. They were all very proud of themselves and you for helping us make this amazing contribution. Thank you.



## SCHOOL LIBRARY – Morton Reading Buddies

Our school library is open for parents and children after school on Fridays. Please do come along and choose a book with your child. We **LOVE** reading at school and this is a great chance to borrow a book to share with your child at home.

We are lucky enough to be working in partnership with RR Morton academy students who are coming to read with our pupils for the second year running!

**Be Happy, Learn and Be Proud.**



## OPEN AFTERNOONS

The open afternoons are a window into part of your child's learning. We know they are a great opportunity to come together and share some of the wonderful things your child is learning.

Thank you to all families who attended Reception open afternoons in January. Year 2 open afternoons were just before half term, families loved making Diwa lamps together in the classroom. Children are currently decorating them so keep an eye out for when they come home soon. We know how busy everyone is but it makes such a difference if you or another family member is able to attend when we hold these events. Please don't hesitate to ask if you want to know more about how you can support learning at home. Together we can make the biggest difference to the children.

## HEALTH & SAFETY – please help us keep our children safe

Please do not allow your child to play on the ramp at the front of school at the start and end of the school day.

Cars should not be brought onto school grounds unless you are collecting an ill child during the day.

**Please do not park in the Morton Surgery car park opposite school.**

We have been contacted again by the doctor's surgery about parents parking in their private car park in the morning and afternoon when dropping off and collecting pupils. We appreciate this is a small number of our families but it has a negative impact on the service the medical centre is providing for our community. We have had reports of abusive behaviour towards NHS staff and driving which is unsafe. The vast majority of our families park responsibly and safely. Can we remind you that the **Royal Scot** kindly allow parking. The doctor's **do not** have this option due to limited parking and appointments. Thank you for respecting private property.

To further support this **St. Luke's Church** have also offered parking in their car park at the vehicle owners' own risk.

Bicycles and scooters are an excellent way to travel to school. Thank you for walking and wheeling them as soon as you are on the school grounds.



Please do not bring dogs onto the school grounds.

**Jewellery is not permitted in school. This includes earrings.** Children can wear earrings at the junior school as they are old enough to remove them and look after them for PE sessions.

## WORLD BOOK DAY



World book day is officially celebrated on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March this year but we will be having a special Newlathes celebration on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March**. Your child can dress in pyjamas or a onesie if they would like to as we are exploring dreams. Your child can also choose to wear non-uniform instead. As always we are very conscious that the cost of living is rising. We want every child to enjoy this day the same so please don't buy anything for just one day. The children will have a fabulous day whatever they wear.



### COMIC RELIEF

This year, comic relief is taking place on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**. Amazingly it has been 40 years since this began. Some of us are even old enough to remember the first one! This will be a non-uniform day with voluntary contributions for this charity.

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All children in reception, year one and year two are currently eligible for universal free school meals. This is different to 'free school meals' that attracts additional funding for your child in school.



Sometimes parents don't apply for these as their child already receives universal free school meals. However, if you are eligible, and once accepted, even if just for one day, under

current legislation, school will receive the funding of £1480 and your child will receive free school meals for up to 6 years after you start being eligible, which would mean free school meals right through juniors and into secondary school.

Do I qualify for free school meals and school clothing vouchers?

Please check at the Cumberland website below.

<https://www.cumberland.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>

Your child can still choose to have a packed lunch. Please apply if you think you may be eligible. **There are many other benefits you would be missing out on by not applying.**

## HOMEWORK & ENGAGEMENT AT HOME

Homework in our school is designed to be an experience for the children and their families to share. It's great to encourage independent learning but this should be something you can do together and discuss. It's a real opportunity for language development through talking to each other whilst your child completes their work. Homework is designed to be age appropriate and enjoyable. It includes experiences as well as writing and reading. **Thank you for taking time each week to do this alongside reading together daily. We know you will have many other activities to share as a family which enrich your child's learning too!**



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### March

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	World book day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	U Dance (Year 2)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Comic Relief (non-uniform)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	am/pm Year 1 Farm trip

#### April

Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	1:15pm Children finish
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**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday / Easter Holidays begin**

#### April

<b>Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>8:45am</b>	<b>Summer term begins</b>
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	3pm onwards	Parents Evening (Nursery only)
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	After school	Parents Evening (including Nursery)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	After school	Parents Evening
<b>(Sign up details will be sent out in the coming weeks)</b>		
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	am/pm	Reception Farm trip

*Any additional dates will be sent by email or added to the website as needed.*