

Dear Parents and Carers

As this busy term draws to a close I would like to share some of the fabulous activities that have taken place in school. Thank you for your kind donations for Children in Need, Save the Children and reverse advent that will be delivered to The Trussell Trust. It was a pleasure to welcome so many of you to our Remembrance service and lovely to see the children in their Brownies, Cubs and Scout uniforms.



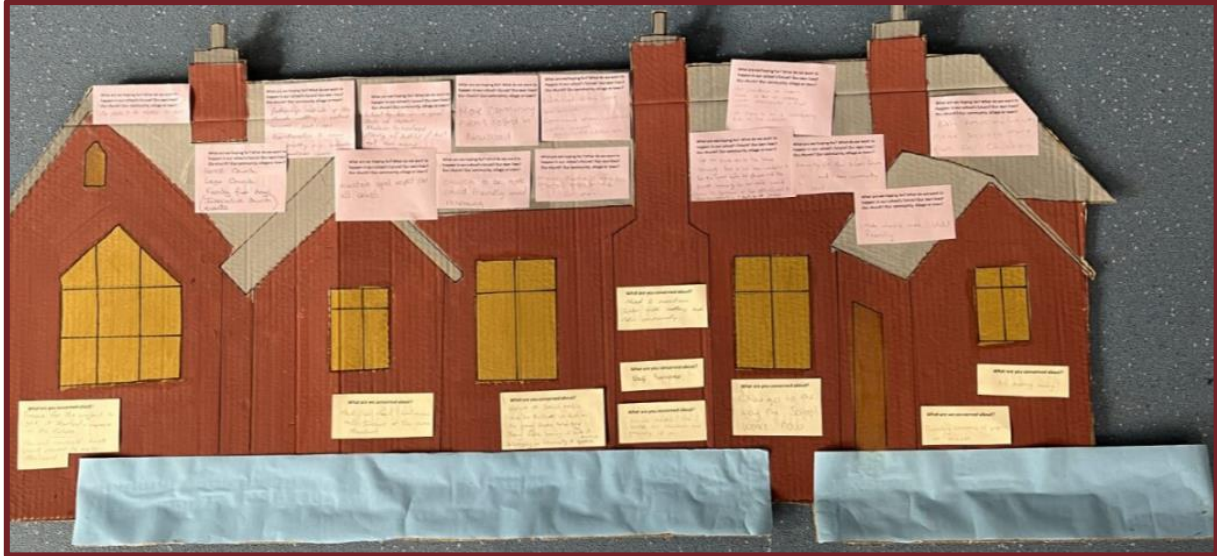
Earlier in the term the children took part in Odd socks day to start Anti Bullying week, celebrating our differences.



This half term we have hosted a community and grandparent's lunch both of which were a great success, please look out for these in the new year as we ensure our school is at the heart of the community.



Many thanks to the parents and community members that contributed towards our Minster community story board. You shared your hopes and wishes, these have been added to the children's contributions and have been sent to the Minster community.



We are going head on into the Christmas season with matching outfits, festive ears, our carol service, Christmas dinner and a very successful Christmas craft afternoon. The Little Ducklings also got a visit from Santa!



Robins

Robins enjoyed the World War II Day. A big thank you for helping them look the part.



As we come to the end of this long autumn term we can look back on many exciting activities. The Christmas nativity has taken up a lot of our time and I am sure you are proud of the children for working so hard and enthusiastically to retell the Christmas story of Everyone Loves a Baby. It has been great to have Miss Green with us this term and we are very grateful to her for all her hard work in Robins. She has moved onto another school for the spring term but the good news is that she will return for her final placement in the summer term.



We have enjoyed exploring space travel this term with Reception flying to the moon in their cardboard boxes and KS1 writing their own stories based on the Space Dog Book by Mini Grey. We have also

found out about the history of space travel and this has helped us to understand timelines and find out about Neil Armstrong and his life.



Mrs Mack came into school each week to help us to sew a felt decoration for the Christmas tree at St Matthew's Church, Worthington. Ms Hitchman put our ornaments on the tree for us to represent the theme of the carol We Three Kings. Hopefully we will have these returned to us so that you can see their sewing and keep it for your own Christmas trees. We also joined in with a virtual lesson on Chanukah and then went on to find out more about the Jewish festival. This was our final lesson for the half term and we have been finding out how Jewish people live.

It has been good to see the progress the children are making in their reading and writing and becoming much more independent. Please continue to read regularly. I know the children are enjoying receiving the rewards and it is helping them so much to progress with confidence when they read regularly. In maths, alongside number we have started to learn to name 2D and 3D shapes which they found quite challenging and also telling the time which is a difficult skill. Any practice you can give them would be much appreciated.

In PSHE we have been talking about our emotions and anti-bullying. We have been practising putting some of the things we have learnt into practice. I think we particularly enjoyed the lesson on relaxing!!

Please keep reading as much as possible and practicing any phonic cards you have in bag as it really helps the children to become confident in their reading skills.

It is really important to make sure we are expecting them to say their sounds correctly mmm not muh, nnn not nuh. Please use the link below to check the pronunciation.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading-owl/find-a-book/read-write-inc-phonics--1/phonics-pure-sounds-video>

As I come to the end of my time at Newbold, I would like to thank everyone for making the last thirteen years so special, I know that there will be many things I will miss. It has been good to be working with such a supportive community. I am very grateful for the opportunities the different headteachers have given me to grow my skills and give me the confidence to move onto this new role. I would like to thank everyone for all their warm wishes for my future and pray that you will continue to encourage and build each other up, working together to make Newbold a place where everyone feels welcome.

May God Bless you and keep you. May he make His face shine upon you and give you his peace this Christmas.

Swans

This half term, KS2 have had the pleasure of supporting Miss Ford and Miss Iontton on their journeys to become primary school classroom teachers.

Following a history theme, we have written historical narratives in English which include flashbacks to events in WWII and persuasive texts to encourage people to use blackout blinds and make the most of rations available. We have written diary entries from the point of view of an evacuee and recounts from the perspective of a Jewish child that had escaped on the Kindertransport to the UK. Both of these pieces of writing were based on our Class text - Letters from the Lighthouse by Emma Carroll.



In Science we have finished our investigations into which type of materials make good blackout blinds. As well as learning about key events and people of WWII.

In DT we learnt about the 'make do and mend' movement. During the war, people were encouraged to repair, reuse and repurpose clothing due to severe rationing and war time shortages. The children have practised a range of simple stitches culminating in the production of a sewn fabric bookmark.

To end our World War II topic, we enjoyed a whole school themed activity day to bring together all that we have learnt.

To supplement this theme, we have investigated what features can be inherited by passing on genetic information and the benefits of this in relation to natural and artificial selection. We have also looked at fossils to see how they are used to tell us about evolution over a long period of time.

In English, we have also studied poetry, writing our own, self-reflective poem.



School Clubs

Our after-school clubs will run from Monday, 5th January – Thursday, 12th February. The signup form is now live on Weduc.

Monday: Scooter Skills all classes

Tuesday: Art Club all classes

Wednesday: Drama all classes

Thursday: Multi Sports all classes

If you would like to run an after-school club please phone or message the office.

Key Dates 2026

Monday, 5th January: School Opens

Friday, 13th February Finish for Half Term

Monday, 23rd February: Term Starts

Tuesday, 24th February: Whole School Trip

Friday, 27th March: Finish for Easter.

Headteachers Message

I hope you all enjoy a fabulous Christmas break and return to school refreshed for an action packed spring term. Please book up for our community events, dates to be advertised in the new year.

We continue to enjoy your support in achievement assemblies on Fridays as the children are delighted to share their successes with you.

FON's would like volunteers to help to plan and run events to raise money for the school and the community please let the office know if you can help with this and we will pass the message on.

Please remember that we are here to support you, so message us via Weduc or email office@newbold-cecp.leics.sch.uk if there is anything we can support you with.

Take care & thank you

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Sherryl Hitchman'.

Sherryl Hitchman

