

Welcome to a new school year! It has been so lovely to see everyone again after all this time, and to catch up on news. And of course a very special welcome to our new families – in Reception and across the school.

Over the last 18 months, our school community has maintained its strength and sense of togetherness, through the resilience, determination and hard work of everyone. My sincere thanks to our amazing and dedicated staff, our wonderful children and our supportive and encouraging parents.

I know that we will have another fantastic year; the teachers have worked incredibly hard over the summer break to make the learning environment for your children amazing. Our new members of staff have had an excellent induction period and are ready to ‘hit the ground running’.

For our new families – this weekly newsletter is a way to communicate key messages, reminders, news and celebrations to everyone. Sent out on Fridays, it is an important way to link our families with what is going on in school. Please do read it!

If there is ever anything that you don’t understand, or want to know more about then please email me directly on t.smith@newislingtonschool.co.uk

Value of the week: Each week, we focus on one of our school values – kindness, respect, cooperation and resilience – all under the umbrella of ‘we do the right thing’. This value will be shared in the newsletter, so that you can talk to your children about it, and to encourage them to demonstrate this at home.

Website: Our new website is now live – do have a look! www.newislingtonschool.org

Year 6 transition: Our Year 6 families should now have a clear idea of which school you want your child to move on to. The council application process is now open and closes on October 31st 2021. Please come in and talk to me if you have any questions.

Uniform: Everyone looks so smart in their new white polo shirts. Please don’t worry if the shade of grey of the jumpers is different according to the supplier; both look very smart.

PE kit: Children should come to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE. The PE kit is a plain white, round necked t-shirt, plain black shorts and plain black jogging bottoms or leggings, and a plain black hoodie or fleece. Please do not buy branded, expensive kit.

Booking into Wraparound: Please book a place via the School Gateway App. It is a ‘pay as you go’ system; please do not send your children without making a booking first.

Inhalers: Please can all inhalers be returned to school – they must be ‘in date’ and clearly labelled. Paperwork will need to be completed for each inhaler – please ask in the office.

Time keeping: Please ensure you arrive at school on time – the gates open at 8:45 with classroom doors opening at 8:50. Every minute does count! Late arrivals are marked as an unauthorised absence. We now have a new electronic system to record our late arrivals.

Please leave the school site promptly at the end of the day as our children who are booked into Wraparound club need the space to play.

Water-bottles: Simple bottles, clearly named, only filled with water should be brought in every day.

Homework: This half term’s homework grid has been emailed out, along with the Term Letter giving information relevant to each individual class. Please keep an eye out for them.

Healthy snacks in Key Stage Two: Children in Key Stage Two (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) may bring in a snack for morning break time, but this must be healthy – no crisps, sweets, chocolate, biscuits, cake etc.

Birthdays: Whilst we recognise it is lovely to celebrate birthdays, we ask that cakes, sweets, chocolates or small gifts are NOT brought in to be shared with classmates. We will of course sing *Happy Birthday* and make them feel special, but please do not bring in gifts or food to share.

Year 4 swimming: Miss Bevan and Miss Otu’s class start swimming lessons on Thursday 16th. More information will be sent out.

PTA: The New Islington PTA is an organisation set up to plan and deliver fun events for families with the intention of raising money for school. Meetings are held every month, via Zoom. It is YOUR organisation, and YOUR children benefit! Please do join our meetings and please do volunteer at events. Events and meetings are in the term dates below – pop them in your diary and we look forward to seeing you all there!

Our first meeting is on **Tuesday 14th September at 7pm**

Join via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/4544475138?pwd=VTNXMUx0bnJVa1l0dIBDM0g4d2lhZz09>

Meeting ID: 454 447 5138

Passcode: gGT4Ec

Communication: We want you all to feel welcomed and valued in school. We are here to help answer questions and to resolve any worries. However, please be respectful, considerate and calm in your interactions with all our staff, including our amazing office team.

Staffing: It’s important that you have an overview of the whole team

Year 6	Miss O’Mahony	Ms Burns, Ms Nolan & Ms O’Loughlin
Year 5	Ms Bowers & Ms Dixie	Mrs Halaciuga
Year 4/5	Ms Otu & Mr Hedley	Mrs Rowe, Mrs Luhar & Mrs Soo
Year 4	Miss Bevan	Mr Nightingale & Mrs Yousaf

Year 3	Miss Hughes	Mrs Rahman & Mrs Luhar
Year 3	Miss Li	Mrs Khan, Miss Gumiel & Mrs Khushtar
Year 2	Miss Brown	Mrs Blackett & Miss McHugo
Year 2	Ms Ritchie	Mr Robertson & Mrs Cullen
Year 1	Miss Marshall	Miss Craddock
Year 1	Miss Morris	Mrs Hitchen
EYFS	Miss Streeter	Miss Collyer
EYFS	Miss Ellison	Miss Pearson
Office team	Mrs Kenny-Roberts, Ms Morris, Miss Kenny & Miss Nixon	
Forest school team	Mrs Mirazi & Madame Flo	
PPA cover team	Mr Hedley, Mrs Mirazi, Ms Gumiel, Mr Mac & Mr Roberts	
Breakfast & Wraparound Team	Mrs Uddin & Mr Soares	

Term dates: The following list gives an outline of the term's events. They are not set in stone! New additions or alterations will be highlighted. Greater details will be given as appropriate nearer the time.

Term planner Autumn 1, 2021

10 th September	Term letters and Homework grids sent out
10 th September	Year 5 singing rehearsal in school with Withington Girls School team (Cathedral concert) more details to follow and date of concert below
14 th September	PTA meeting via Zoom at 7pm
16 th September	Year 4 swimming starts
24 th September	Year 5 singing rehearsal in school with Withington team (Cathedral concert)
30 th September	National Poetry day
30 th September	PTA nearly new book sale (to coincide with National Poetry Day) more details to follow
1 st October	INSET teacher training day – NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL
8 th October	Year 5 singing rehearsal in school with Withington team (Cathedral concert)
8 th October	Nasal Flu vaccinations – all pupils
12 th October	PTA meeting via Zoom at 7pm
14 th October	Year 4 concert at Manchester Grammar School – a fabulous event. More details to follow but all families are encouraged to attend – the concert starts at 5:15pm
15 th October	PTA Halloween disco

22nd October Finish for half term

Term planner Autumn 1, 2021

1st November Back in school

8th November Sign up for parents evening this week

9th November PTA meeting via Zoom at 7pm

15th November Year 5&6 Primary Maths Challenge this week – more details to follow

17th & 18th November Parents evening NB Miss Morris will hold her meetings on 16th and 17th

19th November INSET teacher training day – NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL

24th November Year 5 concert at the cathedral with Withington Girls School – parents strongly encouraged to attend this event

7th December Possible Carol Concert at the Halle (Year 3&4)

9th December EYFS nativity

10th December PTA Christmas fair

14th December Key Stage One Carol Concert and Christmas poems

15th December Christmas Jumper and Dinner day

16th December Panto x2 performances

17th December Toy day / parties / finish

As always, contact me any time: t.smith@newislingtonschool.co.uk