



NEWTON NEWS - December

Website: www.newton.derbyshire.sch.uk Tel: 01773872384 Email: info@newton.derbyshire.sch.uk

Dear Newton Families,

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, we want to sincerely thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's learning journey.

A big thank you to everyone who attended our nativity performances—it was wonderful to see so many of you there, sharing in the festive joy!

We wish all our families a joyful Christmas season and a healthy, happy start to the New Year. 🌲 ✨

Just a reminder: the last day of school before the winter break is **Friday 19th December**, and children return for the Spring Term on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.



Staffing update

Time to say a big thank you to Mrs Thornhill, who has been supporting the school since February. Although she is stepping back from her current role, we're delighted that she will continue to serve as a school governor and will still be working closely with Mrs Hughes and Mrs Baines on school improvement priorities. Her ongoing support is very much appreciated.

We're also very pleased to officially welcome Mrs Baines, our new Deputy Headteacher, to the Newton team. Mrs Baines will be teaching Ruby Class on Mondays and Tuesdays, and Amethyst Class on Thursdays and Fridays. We're excited to have her expertise, warmth, and leadership as part of our school community!



Forest School for Topaz Class – Starting After Christmas!

After the Christmas break, our Year 4 children in Topaz Class will be taking part in Forest School sessions every Friday afternoon.

Forest School is a fantastic opportunity for children to explore nature, build confidence, and develop teamwork and problem-solving skills in an outdoor environment.

To help your child get the most out of each session, please make sure they come prepared every Friday with:



Warm clothing (that you don't mind getting muddy)



Wellington boots



A waterproof, all-weather coat

We'll be heading outside in all kinds of weather, so it's important children are dressed appropriately each week. Thank you for your support—we can't wait to see what adventures await!

Be the best you can be!

Safeguarding over the holidays.

SHOUT: Shout is the UK's first and only free, confidential, 24/7 text messaging service for anyone who is struggling to cope. Text 'SHOUT' to 85258

YOUNG MINDS: The UK's leading charity fighting for a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health Young Minds | Mental Health Charity for Children and Young People | Young Minds

CHILDLINE: Call 0800 1111 Childline | Childline Childline is open 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

Call Derbyshire 01629 532 600

The Importance of Good Attendance

Regular attendance is vital to your child's learning, progress, and overall wellbeing in school. Every day really does count—children who miss key lessons can find it harder to keep up with classwork and routines, which can affect both confidence and achievement. We understand that children get ill from time to time, but wherever possible, please avoid taking time off during term time. As a reminder, holidays during term time cannot be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances, and may result in a fixed penalty notice (fine) being issued by the Local Authority. Let's work together to ensure every child has the best chance to thrive by being in school, on time, every day.

Reception Places at Newton Primary – Apply Now!

Is your child starting school in September 2026? We are now accepting applications for our Reception places at Newton Primary! Our early years setting is a warm, nurturing, and engaging environment where children thrive through play, discovery, and high-quality teaching. We focus on building confidence, curiosity, and a love of learning from day one. If you'd like to come and see our Reception class in action or find out more about what we offer, please get in touch—we'd love to welcome you for a visit! Applications must be submitted by **midnight on January 15, 2026**, late applications will be considered after this date, but with reduced chances for popular schools. Always apply online via [Derbyshire County Council](#) for the best experience and to get offers on National Offer Day, April 16, 2026.

A Magical Term to Remember

This term has been packed with unforgettable experiences that brought joy, creativity, and community spirit to life across the school. From the Blackwell panto, two exciting theatre trips, and *three* fantastic nativity performances, to the Christmas choir, Rock Steady concert, and our moving performance at Derby Cathedral, the talent and enthusiasm of our children have truly shone. We also shared festive cheer with Topaz singing at the care home, a snowy mile of fun, Christmas films, a surprise visit from Santa and his elves, and heartwarming carols at the community centre. And that's just *some* of it! A huge thank you to all the staff, pupils, and families who made this term so special. It's been a busy few weeks—but full of smiles, sparkle, and moments to be proud of.

Year 3/4 Archery Club

We are excited to offer a Year 3/4 Archery Club starting on Wednesday 4th January, running from 3:30–4:30pm. Sessions cost £2.00 each, and payment is required up front for the half term. This term will cost £12 in total.

If your child would like to take part, please make payment via ParentPay. We look forward to aiming high together! 

384 Club – Important Reminder

Please ensure your account remains in credit for 384 Club and let us know in advance if your child will not be attending a session. With limited places available, cancelling with notice allows another child the opportunity to attend.

As the club operates on a not-for-profit basis, we will need to charge for sessions not cancelled at least 24 hours in advance. Thank you for your understanding and support in helping the club run smoothly.

Lunchtime Provision – Donations Welcome 😊

We are currently developing our lunchtime provision to offer children more fun and engaging activities. If you are having a clear out over Christmas, we would love to receive any unused Lego, outgrown dressing-up clothes (in good condition), or garden games.

Thank you for supporting us in making lunchtimes even more enjoyable for our children! 🎲 🧱

🎄 Season's Greetings from All of Us at Newton!

We'd like to send our warmest wishes to all our families for a joyful and relaxing festive season. Thank you for your continued support and for the many thoughtful gifts and kind messages our staff have received—they are truly appreciated.

We hope you all enjoy a happy, healthy start to 2026, and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Take care, stay safe, and have a wonderful holiday!

The Newton Team

📅 Dates for Your Diary – Spring Term 📅

Below is a list of key dates for events happening in school next term. While we do our best to stick to the schedule, some dates may be subject to change—especially due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. We'll always keep you informed of any updates or changes via the **school app**, so please make sure your notifications are turned on.

Diary dates Spring Term 2026

Tuesday 6 th January	Children return to school
Wednesday 7 th January	Balance bikes for Reception children
Wednesday 7 th January	Archery after school club starts.
Wednesday 14 th January	Swimming starts
Wednesday 14 th January 2025	SEND Coffee afternoon
Thursday 15 th January	Themed school meal "Big Breakfast"
Wednesday 4 th February	Sports hall athletics.
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February	Half term holiday
Monday 16 th March	School council event at Blackwell Primary school
Monday 16 th March	Full governors. 5.15pm
Friday 20 th March	Red nose day
Thursday 26 th March	Bikeability
Monday 30 th March -13 th April	Easter holidays

Be the best you can be!

PE Timetable

Spring 1 2026

	9.00 – 10.00		10.00 – 11.00	1.00 – 2.00	2.00 – 3.00
Monday					Diamond
Tuesday				Emerald (Real PE)	Topaz (Real PE)
Wednesday	Hall in use	Diamond Premier Sports (10-10.30)	Amethyst Premier Sports (10.30-11.30) (Gymnastics)	Emerald Premier Sports (Gymnastics)	Topaz Premier Sports (Gymnastics)
Thursday				Amethyst Real PE	Ruby Real PE
Friday				Ruby Dance	

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