

New Mills Primary School
Newsletter No. 4
Friday 27th March 2026



Dear Parents,

I'm always quite shocked at the speed with which the terms fly by!! The Easter holidays have arrived and I hope you are all doing something restful/peaceful/exciting or adventurous! Whatever it is, I hope you have a really good time. This term has been extremely busy, as you'll see from the information below. Whilst there is no specific information to share on my replacement, I can say that upwards of 12 potential candidates have been to visit the school – that's a high level of interest. The governors will keep you informed of any updates over the coming months. The High Peak Kids Council will be carrying out a 'No-Tech' day in June (more information to follow), nobody will be allowed to use any form of tech for teaching or learning during the day – that should be interesting! As always, huge thanks to the PTA and governors for all their support this term – I couldn't run the school without you!!!

Carol Taylor – Head teacher

Parking on Meadow Street

Please ensure that, when you park, you consider the safety of the children. Although it may be legal to use a disabled pass on double yellow lines, that doesn't make it safe. Arrive early, park safely and, if you are late, we will hold on to your child/ren until you arrive. We are still being supported by the PCSOs.

Staff Changes

Toni Kania has worked in the office with for almost a year now. Toni has taken over the role of School Business Officer. If you need to speak to her or book wraparound care, she can be contacted on Dojo or by email – enquiries@newmills-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk. After Easter, Kathryn Taylor-Fitzgerald will be joining Toni in the office as our new School Business Officer.

World Book Day

The children had a great time on World Book Day – they visited different rooms for a wide range of book related activities.

Neurodiversity Week

We enjoyed Sensory circuits and Silent Disco's in each class to celebrate our diverse brains and the different ways we experience the world.

Outdoor Play and Learning

Thankfully, the sun has dried up much of the grounds – they were sodden! The natural spring entering the school from the top playground hasn't helped!!

Additional storage has been purchased so we have more space to store the resources. The bikes have been checked by a specialist. Some of them will need replacing. If anyone sees any bikes that need a good home, we'd be delighted to have them.

Our next small part of the project is to have painting outside. If you have an old shirt, please send it in so the children can cover their uniform before painting.

What we have noticed most since starting OPAL is that the children play much more imaginatively than before.

Recycling in School

Just a reminder that we recycle used stamps, batteries & small printer cartridges. We also have a clothing recycling

bin (all clothes must be bagged & shoes paired together.) No duvets or bedding. Thank you.

Year 3 and 4 Production of Porridge

And what a performance it was!! The children were incredible. They learnt their lines beautifully and executed them with enthusiasm and energy. Fantastic singing from the soloists and the whole ensemble. Altogether, a wonderful experience. Thank you to all the staff involved and all the parents who attended.

PTA Events

The Bake Sale was a wonderful success. Thank you to everyone who contributed cakes. The sale went really well – the queue was down the street. I'm always blown away by how much support parents give. Huge thanks to the PTA for organising the event and to Diane Fothergill for running the competition. Winners to be announced during Friday's celebration assembly.

After School Clubs Next Term

Tuesday – ELS Theatre & Dance
Thursday – Paintbox Art Club

If you need emergency wraparound care, there message 07484940428 – this is the phone number the wraparound team use to keep track of late bookings or changes to bookings.

Pupil Premium

If you are claiming Universal Credit or Income Support then you also qualify for Free School Meals. This also entitles the school to a Pupil Premium Grant of £1,515 per child, per annum. This funding lasts for 6 years after the family has finished receiving support. It makes a significant difference to what we can offer our children in terms of additional nurture, therapies and learning support. Children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 receive Universal Free School Meals, this shouldn't be confused with the Free School Meal Grant for families on lower income. Please approach the school if this applies to you, so that we can support you confidentially with an application.

Future Opportunities Week

Massive 'Thank You' for responding to the request for coming to school and sharing what you do for a living with the children. We are going to organise talks during the week beginning 18th May 2026. More information to follow.

From all the staff and governors

Dates for your Diary:

- Monday 13th April - Term 5 start date*
- Friday 17th April - PTA meeting @ 3:15pm*
- Wednesday 22nd April - Year 6 Maths Club*
- Wednesday 23rd April - Y2 trip to Chester Zoo*
- Wednesday 23rd April - Cyclocross competition*
- Wednesday 30th April - Tennis competition*
- Monday 4th May - Bank Holiday Monday*
- Tuesday 5th & 6th May - Y3 & 4 Whitehall trip (more info to follow)*
- Wednesday 6th May - Year 6 Maths Club*
- Friday 8 May - Y2 Whitehall trip*
- Friday 8th & Saturday 9th May - PTA plant sale*
- 11th to 14th May - Year 6 SATs*
- Thursday 21 May - Y1 Trip to Matlock Farm (info to follow)*
- Friday 22nd May - Break the Rules Day*
- Friday 22nd May - School closes for Half term*

- Tuesday 2nd June - School reopens*
- Tuesday 2 June - Y3 Trip to DEVA, Chester (info to follow)*
- Friday 5 June - Y2 Whitehall trip*
- Saturday 6th June - Carnival Day - Heroes and Villains*
- Thursday 18th June - Reception trip to the Avro Museum*
- Tuesday 23 June - Y4 Trip to Liverpool World Museum (info to follow)*
- Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd July - Y6 transition days to New Mills School*
- Friday 3rd July - Summer Fair*
- Monday 6th July - Summer Disco*
- Wednesday 23rd July - School closes for Summer*