

Newhall Junior School Chesterfield Avenue, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 0TR 01283 217472

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Executive Principal Robert Prior Acting Head of School Clare Weaver

Monday 2nd June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Summer Term 2! We hope you had a wonderful and restful May half term, filled with fun, sunshine, and special moments. We're excited to dive into a new term full of learning, laughter, and exciting adventures together.

Curriculum

This half term, our learning will continue to be rich and engaging across all subjects. In Geography, we'll be exploring the theme of Journeys, focusing on where everyday items come from. In Science, we'll investigate Forces and how they influence movement. Our Religious Education lessons will encourage thoughtful reflection as we consider the question, "What is the best way for a Christian to show commitment to God?" In Computing, children will develop their programming skills using Logo, while in PSHE, we'll be exploring the topic Changing Me, supporting pupils through personal growth. In Design and Technology, we'll be working on Mechanical Systems by designing and creating popup books. In Maths, our focus will be on decimals, converting units, negative numbers, and volume. In English, we'll begin by writing an online news article inspired by Flotsam by David Wiesner, followed by a poem based on Rhythm and Poetry by Karl Nova, and we'll conclude the term by writing a letter to our new teacher. Our Reading lessons will continue to explore a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts to build comprehension and critical thinking skills.

PE

PE this term will be on a Friday. This session will be outdoors where possible so please can children be dressed to suit the weather. Children should be wearing their school PE kit - please refer to the uniform policy. Children also need to have hair tied back and have removed their earrings or be able to take them out themselves. Swimming will also take place on a Friday.

Lost Property

To cut down on the amount of lost property each term, please could you ensure all items of your children's clothing is clearly labelled. This includes uniform, coats, lunch boxes and water bottles.

Homework and Weekly Tests

Homework this year will be to access Spelling Shed (https://play.edshed.com/en-gb) to practise spellings and Times Table Rockstars (https://play.ttrockstars.com/) to aid them in developing a rapid recall of multiplication facts. We ask that they complete these activities 4 times per week. This will be monitored by class teachers to ensure participation. Spelling tests will be on a Friday afternoon.

Reading

Your child is encouraged to bring their reading book home each day, along with their reading diary. Please set aside time at home for your child to read quietly or to an adult. Reading at home, when it is a regular habit, has a remarkable impact on reading progress. We ask that children read at least 4 times per week at home and that this is evidenced in their reading diary by an adult.

Yours faithfully,

The Year 5 Team

