



Newsletter September 2024

A Message from Mrs Harvey, Head Teacher

Welcome Back. The first few weeks of school are normally a real shock to the system and hard for all of us to get back into routines. Thank you all for supporting your pupils and not only making them look so smart with new uniform, but getting them into school daily at the correct times. Attendance at school is vital to your child making the progress they are capable of.

We have spent the first few weeks voting and interviewing for our leadership roles across the school. A huge thank you to all our pupils for applying for those roles, they are key to the success of the school. I hope you like the new lanyards we have introduced, in order to really celebrate and raise the profile of these roles.

We have several key dates coming up for parents' evenings, workshops and assemblies – please continue to look at these. Where possible we will continue to give you dates in advance so you can plan your diaries.

Please fill in the trip questionnaire I sent out as I am really keen to listen to all your views around trips, so we create the best model for our community.

I look forward to seeing you all on the playgrounds in the morning or at our events throughout the year – do not hesitate to ask any questions at these key times.

Mrs K. Harvey

School Uniform & Belongings

It was a pleasure to see how smart our pupils looked when they returned to school this term. Kitting your child(ren) out with school uniform and PE kit can be expensive and with nearly 400 children wearing the same clothes, it can be hard to reunite pupils with their belongings if they lose them. **Please may we ask that all uniform and belongings are named.** Names can be written on clothing labels & inside lunch boxes etc or printed name labels can be ordered from various companies. We end up with a lot of lost property at the end of each term - sometimes complete sets of clothes including shoes and coats! If your child loses anything, please encourage them to look for it - lost property is placed in the deep drawers outside the hall.

Free School Meals - Don't forget to apply!

All children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 are automatically entitled to a free school meal. When your child moves into Year 3, this no longer applies. However, if you receive certain benefits then you can apply for free school meals to continue. For more information and to apply online, visit <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/> or speak to Miss Grove in the office if you need help.

School Dates

Inset Days

6th January 2025

25th July 2025

1 more to be confirmed

10th October - Hello Yellow
mufti day

Parents Evenings

14th October - EYFS

16th Oct - Y1, 2 & 3

17th Oct - Y4, 5 & 6

24th October - Parents in lessons

9 -10am - EYFS & Y4, 5 & 6

2-3pm - Y1, 2 & 3

Half Term

Mon 28th Oct - Fri 1st Nov

Road Safety

Please can we ask for everyone's help to keep our pupils safe.

We are becoming increasingly concerned for the safety of our pupils at the start and the end of the day. Some parents are putting pupils, parents & other drivers at risk as they are stopping right outside school to drop their children off or parking dangerously on the zig-zag lines whilst they collect their child. We have seen parents park so far on the pavement that pedestrians have been forced to walk in the road; we have seen parents and taxi drivers pull away and drive whilst still half on the pavement; we have seen parents and taxi drivers stop right outside the school gate to drop off, causing other drivers to have to stop or go round them which is not easy on this busy hill.

Please may we remind you ...

- No vehicle should stop or park on the yellow zig-zag lines (on either side of the road) outside school
- No vehicle should be driving whilst mounted on the pavement
- Please do not pull into/ reverse out of the drive way in front of the school gates as children (and parents) are walking up and down
- The lower car park is used by our youngest children and their parents at drop off and collection time - therefore no cars are permitted at this time (the only exception to this is for a pupil with a wheelchair).
- Parents walking through the lower car park should supervise their children
- Some of our pupils are very small and are not always visible above car windscreens or car blind spots.

Considerate Parking

Please may we ask on behalf of the residents who live in Highbridge Road, opposite our school, that you do not park outside their homes or block access to their road.

We know our school site is in a tricky position but please help to keep all of our pupils - your children and their friends - safe, by driving and parking safely.

The logo for ASDA Rewards, featuring the text "ASDA Rewards" in white on a green rectangular background.

What is the Asda cashpot for Schools?

Between 2nd September and 30th November 2024 – **every time you shop with Asda using your Asda Rewards app, Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to your chosen Primary school.**

Even if you don't shop at Asda, if you download the app and opt-in to support our Primary school, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot.

Pupil Leadership Teams

In the first couple of weeks of the new school year, the pupils have been busy volunteering and voting for new pupil leaders for the various leadership teams we have at Netherton CofE.

In keeping with our vision and values, we offer our pupils a wide range of opportunities to enable them to develop as well-rounded individuals.

We have established a variety of pupil leadership teams, whose roles are constantly developing and who are involved in different projects and activities, but all of them have the shared aim of helping leaders to develop and improve our school, for all our pupils. By having pupil representatives on a range of leadership teams, all our pupils have a voice.

Pupils have the opportunity to volunteer for a number of leadership opportunities, with representatives from all year groups, 1 - 6.

Different teams have different selection processes, so our children gain experience of applying for, being nominated for, or being chosen for roles. With a number of roles being voted for by their peers, the children learn about one of the British Values - Democracy, experiencing an election.



Head Boys & Head Girls

The Head Boys and Girls of the school are responsible for supporting the Leadership Team, in being ambassadors for the school. They are the ultimate role models for all other pupils in the school.

As ambassadors for the school, they have a number of roles and responsibilities including greeting visitors and ensuring that the views of all pupils are represented and listened to.

Selecting our Head Boy & Head Girl

Thirty pupils wished to be considered for the role this year. They each wrote a letter to the Head Teacher, outlining why they would like to be Head Boy/Girl and why they would be good at the role.

As well as considering their application letter, Mrs Harvey consults the staff team and considers the pupil's attitude and conduct throughout their time at school, before speaking to each of them.

Introducing our new Head Boys & Girls



Qayus

Evie

Millie

Carter

Child Ambassadors

This year, we have a newly created team, Child Ambassadors. They are 2 of our caring children from Y6 who will be a point of contact for any children needing support or a friend in school. They will also be a welcoming face for pupils who join our school throughout the year.



Our new Child Ambassadors 2024: Sarita & Aiden

School Council

Our School Council is made up of 2 representatives from each class, from Years 1—Y6, headed by the Head Boys & Girls. Their role is to help make the school better. They seek the views and ideas of their class and discuss them with the senior leaders at meetings. They may also be asked by school leaders, to work on specific projects.



Selecting School Council Reps

All pupils in Year 1 – 6 have the opportunity to be part of the School Council. Those wanting to be a School Council Representative are asked to give a short presentation to their class, outlining why they want to be a School Council Rep and why they would be good at the role. The pupils then vote for their preferred candidate at the school's Polling Station, on voting day.

Our new School Council Team 2024:

Y1: Henry, Jessica, Tyler & Ellie-May

Y2: Reggie, Amalie, Harvey & Lillie

Y3: Habib, Karolina, Kodie & Marnie

Y4: Akorede, Alyssia, Nesar & Sienna

Y5: Rayan, Lily, Tishe & Tillie

Y6: Niall, Alexa-Mae, Raia & Danielle

Church Team

The Church Team are responsible for promoting and contributing to a positive school ethos by being caring and helpful leaders within the school community.

They are responsible for sharing and demonstrating our school values, helping to deliver Collective Worship sessions and championing charitable causes through fundraising and advocacy. All pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 have the opportunity to be a part of the Church Team. A class vote is taken to decide on the representative for each class.



Our new Church Team 2024: Y1: Hawa & Grace, Y2: Archie & Faith, Y3: Frankie-Jai & Sienna, Y4: Avah-Grace & Ajooni, Y5: Charlie & Lianna, Y6: Miracle & Zerrie

Sports Leaders

At Netherton we pride ourselves on the love our children have for sport and being active. We teach our children to not only take part, but also lead certain parts of the lesson. The Y5 & 6 children who excel in this are then chosen to be our Sports leaders. This job involves them giving up a great deal of their own time at lunch to deliver activities to the other children to help maintain positive behaviour and achieve our aim of 60 active minutes for every child, every day.

The children chosen show excellent leadership qualities, empathy, understanding and are able to organise and communicate with others. They have the responsibility for organising games, setting up equipment and then coaching and refereeing while the children take part. They are easily recognised by their bright red t-shirts that they wear both on duty and in PE lessons.

Our new Sports Leaders 2024: Millie, Evie, Alfie, Qayus, Regan, Summer, Xaviere, Carter, Miracle, Blake, Indi-Rae, Harley, Leelan, Coby, Jaiden

Well-being Ambassadors

We are delighted to have a well-established pupil Wellbeing Team at Netherton. This is made up of children from Years 1- 6. We consider the role of a Wellbeing Ambassador to be of great importance and encourage the chosen children to actively become involved with pupil wellbeing at Netherton CE.



The Wellbeing Ambassadors at Netherton CE are supported to check in on the well-being of the pupils in their own classes. They support their peers to discuss or talk to an adult if they are experiencing low mood. As ambassadors of the school, they also promote the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing' in their classes and in the wider school.

Well-being Ambassadors 2024: Y1: Orla & Leia, Y2: Aron & Kiah, Y3: Esmee & Finley, Y4: James & Isla, Y5: Ruby & Jessica, Y6: Rabab & Xaviere

Science Ambassadors

Netherton C of E has a team of Science Ambassadors made up of one child from each of the Key Stage 2 classes. These individuals are empowered to share their curiosity and enthusiasm for Science, engage students (and staff) through various science activities, and raise the profile of science across the school and home community.



Science Ambassadors 2024: To be announced

Eco Team

Netherton C of E has an Eco Team made up of 2 representatives from each year group, from Years 1—Y6. Their role is to help make the school and community wider environment better. They study the local environment and monitor the biodiversity of our site and local area, meeting often to discuss how the school environment can be improved. The Eco Team supports outdoor projects and environmental projects in the area around the school.



Eco Leaders 2024: Y1: Chase & Albie, Y2: Kiki & D'Jai, Y3: Alfie & Sienna, Y4: Hurram & Amber, Y5: Roman & Zach, Y6: Vanessa & Jayden

Junior Librarians

We are privileged to have a wonderful library that all our pupils from Reception to Year 6 have access to. Each year a team of librarians are chosen to support the English team. Our junior librarians are a group of children dedicated to promoting and fostering a love of reading across the school through a range of 'Reading for Pleasure' initiatives such as promoting the school library, World Book Day and fundraising for new books. They also have an organisational role in keeping our school library up to date, well-kept and appealing to all; offering book recommendations and a reading buddy to hear other children read.



Librarian Team 2024: Lily, Ruby, Deenah, Blake, Charlie, Dante, Esmae, Amelia, Dakota, Zach, Charlotte, Sofia, Charli, Jessica, Emilia

Well done to all of those pupils who put themselves forward for a role—we are very proud of you and congratulations to all of our new leaders.



We are very proud to announce that Netherton CofE have achieved the School Games Gold Mark again. A big thank you and well done to all those involved.

Netherton CE Primary School

Gold Awarded



We are delighted to announce that we, Netherton CE Primary School, have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting achievements this year include:
Reaching the Black Country Finals in Rugby
Coming 2nd in the Cross Country Championships
Dancing at Walsall Arena
Winning the key stage 1 Gymnastics event
Reaching the finals of the girls football league
Winning basketball and dodgeball competitions
Hosting 3 competitions for other schools to attend
And many more

With a huge amount of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

A special thanks to:
Mr Ludlam, Mrs Harvey, Miss Grove and Mrs Parton

We look forward to applying once again in 2025!

