

Terms 1 and 2 Newsletter



We are pleased to welcome everyone back to school at the start of what we hope is a successful year. You will have noticed there is a lot of change about, particularly with our school buildings. We have acquired a vast amount of additional indoor and outdoor space which we are keen to develop to benefit our pupils and community. We will keep you updated with plans as they emerge. Please feel free to browse the school website which we are keeping updated with pictures and commentary about the progress of the works. Meanwhile the summary below gives you an idea of what we hope to achieve when the works are completed next year.



The school building

At the end of the refurbishment works there will be:

- New playgrounds, including a multipurpose, all-weather pitch for football and other ball games.
- Refurbished pupils toilets with changing rooms for Year 5 and 6 pupils.
- A brand new ICT suite with facilities to be able to teach whole classes more effectively. Until then we are using our Laptop trolleys in classrooms.
- An additional hall upstairs which will have new PE apparatus, the hall downstairs will have a new stage, a serving hatch for school dinners and direct access to the kitchen.
- A new staffroom allowing staff working and meeting space.
- A brand new reception office with family room.
- A large community room.
- More accessible library areas for each phase.

We are hoping that most of this will be completed by September next year. We have involved pupils and staff in the design of some of the facilities and we are keeping photos of what the building looked like before and during the stages of refurbishment.





School Lunches

Our kitchen is currently being moved and the main hall downstairs refurbished. The hall will be completed by November. In the meantime our school lunches are being cooked off-site and served in the small hall. Please be assured that the food is still of a very high quality and there is choice as before with checks by Medway Council being undertaken regularly. Year R, 1 and 2 pupils are having their packed lunches in their classrooms and Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be eating their packed lunches in the top hall.



Launch of Mathletics

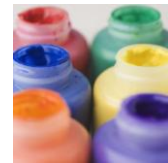
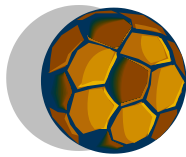


Mathletics is a new on-line programme designed to supplement maths teaching in schools. It allows teachers to set tasks at the level of difficulty appropriate for each pupil. Pupils challenge themselves to increase their credit scores and complete with other pupils thereby improving their maths knowledge and skill. We have sent information home and will be running some parent training sessions during forthcoming terms to help you support your child(ren) at home.



After-school Clubs

Look out for the letter which will be on its way to you highlighting the range of clubs we will soon be running. These will include Art, Dance and Football. We want to give as many pupils as possible a chance to experience different activities and will be running successful clubs each term.



Prescribed Medication

The School is aware that pupils may, at some point, need medication administered so we would like to inform Parents/Carers of the procedures that need to be followed. Medications which can be administered in school must be prescribed by a medical professional and be in an original container with dispensing instructions clearly visible. Parents/Carers should bring medications to the Main Office so that the Headteacher can be made aware and agree to them being administered by a designated person within the school. A care plan, available at the office, must be completed with all the details to ensure safe administration takes place. Unfortunately, we are unable to administer over the counter medicines, eye drops and any medication that contains Ibuprofen. Any medications that need to go home at the end of the school day should be collected from the front office by an adult and returned the next morning if necessary. Please do not send medicines with pupils as the Headteacher must be made aware of all medications on the school site.





A tribute to Mary Khan – school counsellor

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Mary Khan during the summer holiday. Mary had been working with identified pupils at the school providing counselling and Play Therapy sessions. She was much admired for her work and the pupils benefited greatly from her support. Above all else, Mary loved working with children. She had a smile for everyone and was like a ray of sunshine as she walked into the school. She will be missed greatly. Mrs Dunster is working with those pupils affected by this news. Some of the pupils have requested that we have a display board in our Quiet Room as a memorial to Mary. We are keen to do this also.



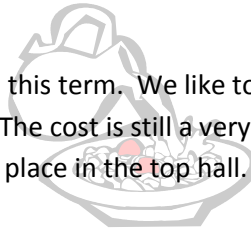
Parent Helpers

We are most grateful to our small group of parent volunteer helpers and each year we always ask if you have some spare time to come and help pupils with their learning. We would like to encourage more parents to help in school: hear pupils read or if you can offer a skill please let your child's class teacher know. Any help you can offer will be most appreciated. Please contact your child's class teacher if you can help.



Breakfast Club: £1:00 per pupil per day

Our popular Breakfast Club started up extremely well this term. We like to see our pupils enjoying a healthy breakfast and various educational activities. The cost is still a very reasonable £1:00 per pupil per day. At present the Breakfast Club is taking place in the top hall.



Road Crossing Patrol (RCP) – Napier Road

Mrs Slade and Mr Cross are continuing to do this everyday. However, Mr Collins – our new caretaker will soon be trained as RCP for Napier Road and will perform the morning duty until we recruit another person; if you are interested in applying for this post, please contact the main office.



We have noticed that despite various reminders some parents are choosing to park on the zig-zag lines to drop off and pick up their child(ren). This endangers others, blocks vision up and down the road and is illegal. **Please park your vehicle legally and safely.**



Tuck Shop

This is organised and run by Year 6 pupils and continues to offer healthy snacks. Pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are able to buy a range of fruit-based snacks during morning breaks on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays. Please can you ensure that pupils do not bring excessive amounts of money into school (snacks cost between 20p – 60p).



Information for Parents on our Website



We have developed on-line access for parents to a calendar of events. You can access this via our website; please note the following log-on details will be required: -

Username: **8872406.Parent**
Password: **napier**
DO NOT CHANGE ANY PASSWORDS!

You can also obtain the school's term dates, including staff development days listed on the website, uniform order form and previous newsletters. If you require hard copies of any information please let the main office know.



Congratulations to Mrs Hollingsworth

We would like to congratulate Miss Elliott who married during the summer holiday and became Mrs Hollingsworth. She teaches in Year 4 and her class is 4SH.



Welcome to new staff

We would like to welcome the following Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA): Mrs McAllister (Year 3); Mrs Simpson (Year 4) and Miss Buxton (Year 6). Mrs McLeod, although not a new member of staff is training to become a HLTA in Year 1.

We also have a (temporary) part-time Caretaker: Mr Collins who many of you will have met at the Beresford Road Gates at the end of school.



Any problems or queries please bring them to the attention your child's class teacher or the following senior leaders:

Mrs Kyle – Foundation Stage Leader

Mrs Vincett - Key Stage 1 Leader

Miss Chellen – Assistant Headteacher (Key Stage 2)

Mr Cross – Deputy Headteacher

We look forward to a very successful academic year, ensuring your children reach high standards and enjoy their education at Napier.

Yours sincerely

Z. Slade .

Zerina Slade
Headteacher

