



NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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<http://www.newbottleandcharlton.co.uk/>

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***WISDOM*COMMUNITY*DIGNITY*HOPE**

A BRIEF RECAP OF THE PROPOSED RE-OPENING AND HOME LEARNING CAN BE FOUND OVER LEAF

Well this is it, my final newsletter as Head Teacher of Newbottle & Charlton Primary School. I have so many wonderful memories of working here with staff, children and families both past and present and feel so lucky to have been a part of this amazing community. Firstly, I must start with the children who are amazing and I have loved seeing each and every one mature. There is nothing more special than as a Headteacher seeing cohorts of children grow and develop year on year with all different talents and skills being nurtured. All so happy, polite and caring whilst making the most of the opportunities offered to them. Using their Growth Mind sets to achieve all that they are capable of which I hope will stand them in good stead for their future.

Then there is you the parents and families who have been tremendous to me over the years. A school needs to grow and develop and this needs to be done with the feedback from parents too. You are a part of the school's success and I feel the recent situation we have found ourselves in has proved this. You are hugely supportive in all we do. A special mention at this point to the PTFA who work ever so hard to support the school and all the people I have worked with in this team share the vision of providing wonderful occasions for the children and the families we have. This has led to some amazing purchases from them which has helped the whole school and ultimately me in my role as Head.

Then there are the Governors who both challenge and support the work carried out. Like all of you they have put their trust in me to lead the school and whilst asked challenging questions have allowed me to grow and develop into the head teacher I am - I have taken risks and learnt a lot along the way. I would especially like to thank Deborah Hayter current Chair who has been a governor the whole time I have been at the school - in fact interviewed me and has been a wonderful support. I would also like to give a special mention to Father Matthew. Losing Father Roger was a tricky time but Matthew came to the parish and has been incredible, both to me personally and to the school as a whole.

Finally, the staff, have also been truly fabulous. Every member of the school staff has gone along with me on my journey of developing the school to what it is today and they all have such amazing skills to offer and care to give. They truly are special people to be with and provide your children with amazing teaching and learning. Because of this I know the school will continue to go from strength to strength and that with Mr Smith at the helm as Acting Head, the vision and values of the school will remain at the heart. He won't want me telling you this but many years ago I was his NQT mentor when he first started teaching so to me it is just amazing that he is now going to lead the school in this way.

I am so fortunate to now count lots of people who started as colleagues and parents as friends. I stand by returning to see each and every one of you when the school can re-open fully - whenever that may be, but for now I am signing off - time to start my next adventure. God bless and stay safe. Here's to an amazing 8 years!

Kind regards, Sarah Smith, Head Teacher

P.S. I have recorded a short message to children and families which you will be able to watch on the class blogs very soon.

**PLEASE
COMPLETE
SURVEYS BY
Tuesday 26th
May**

**Diary Wk Beg
25th May**

School Closed for
Half Term

**Diary Wk Beg
1st June**

School to possibly
reopen for Year
R,1,6 and Key
workers - see
separate
communication
sent yesterday.

ATTACHMENTS

Wakeup
Wednesday how
to clean devices



Children in the classroom

Lessons will be adapted to accommodate some social distancing while the children will be sat down working. Each child in Year 1 and 6 (including key worker children's group) will have a table to sit at and a pack of stationery for them to use. Teachers will still teach and support them but won't be formally marking books. Children will have access to the outside to run around in zones we will also be doing as many lessons outside as we can. It will be relaxed as we can make it and will involve as many of the normal lessons we can. Children will still have access to their online learning tasks on reading eggs etc every day. We will not expect children to be able to social distance throughout the day although we will try to minimise contact using the maximum space available. This is why children will stay in their protective bubbles not mixing and the focus will be on good hygiene. The guidance from the DfE states:

'One of the protective measures we can take to reduce transmission is to have smaller group and class sizes. We know that, unlike older children and adults, early years and primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2 metres apart from each other and staff. Schools should therefore work through the hierarchy of measures set out in our guidance: □ avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms □ frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices □ regular cleaning of settings □ and minimising contact and mixing. It is still important to reduce contact between children and staff as far as possible, and settings can take steps to achieve that and reduce transmission risk by ensuring children, and staff where possible, mix in a small group and keep that small group away from other people and groups.'

In Reception, children will have some time working at a table but this won't be any more than usual, it will just mean they will be more spread apart in class and not sit next to their peers. There will be opportunities to learn through play but these will be in smaller zones with a reduction of play equipment due to the material. They will also have their own stationery packs for colouring and craft. We will not be expecting them to stay apart from each other and but Mrs Dooley will have to direct which toys to play with rather than giving them the freedom to choose. This will give them some grounding for when they are Year 1.

Wraparound

If the reopening takes place then for all children whose parents are key workers (that includes Y R,1 and 6), breakfast club and afterschool will be available as it was before lockdown. The only change is it will finish at 5pm. Please contact the office to book a place. Costs for these sessions will remain the same.

RE OPENING - Reception, Year 1, Year 6 and Key workers

Please take time to discuss with your child reopening plans and differences they will find in school - this will hugely help us when we reopen. We will be sharing videos of the how the school will be changed after the announcement from the government, so your child can see what to expect.

A text will be sent on Fri 29th May with the final Governor and School decision hopefully following clear Government judgement.

Please adhere to the drop off and pick up times in the letter and on your maps to minimise mixing. On Friday we will be closing at 1pm so that staff can organise for a deep clean and teachers can have their PPA to prepare for the next week. This will need to be staggered and so we are suggesting Reception at 12:50pm, Year 1 at 1pm, Year 6 at 1:10pm and key workers at 1:20pm. If key workers need support with childcare on Friday afternoon, please contact the office.

Children will **only need to bring in lunch** (if not ordered through Fresh Start), a hat and appropriate raincoat if the weather is poor (no other book bags or rucksack are needed). We **won't be able to offer fruit** in the short term so children can bring a piece of fruit in a sandwich bag to eat a break-time. We **will not be able to swap reading books** but you will be given further details of websites you can access e-books.

We request that school uniform is to be worn by all, where possible, although **leniency will be given if items have been outgrown**. When wearing replacement clothes can we request they are plain and suitable for school. PE kits will not be needed but all children **can wear suitable footwear** for PE to school on their PE days (Year 6 and Year 1 on Monday and Reception and Key workers on Wednesday.)