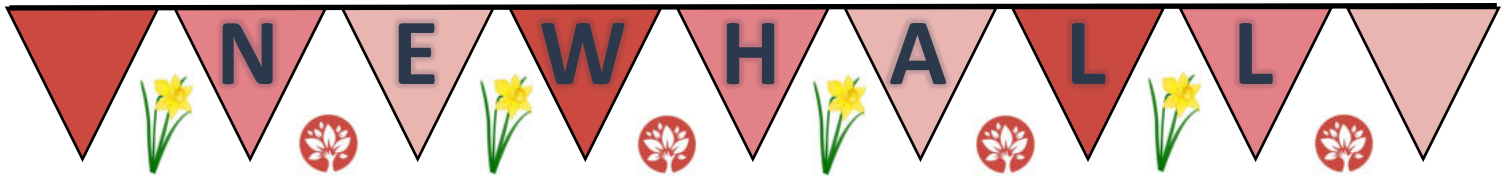


# Newsletter

Friday 14th February 2025

Roundhouse Way, Harlow, Essex, CM17 9SF



## A Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We began this half term with our annual Eco-Week: the children explored various environmental issues such as animal extinction, sustainable cities, and climate change. These important themes are also integrated into our science and geography curriculum.

When we returned in January, our Year 5 children had the wonderful opportunity to sing at St Clare Hospice. We received a heartfelt letter that said, "The children were absolutely delightful and I am not sure there was a dry eye in the room. Everyone commented on how well behaved they all were and that their singing voices were fabulous." What a lovely complement for the Year 5 children at Newhall! We were incredibly proud of them.

We've had the pleasure of our final five class assemblies this half term; the children performed confidently and enthusiastically. One class even sang an original song, accompanied by their teacher on the guitar!

For those of you with time off over half term, have a lovely break with your family and friends.

Warm regards,  
Mr Duffy



## A Message from the Nursery Manager

We are very excited to welcome back Carla Hamill as a full-time permanent member of the Snowdrop team, Sharon Lewis has started with us and is working across all rooms and we are currently looking for an apprentice for Bluebell. If you know of anyone who would like to gain a childcare qualification, please do signpost them to the Facebook page where the advert can be found. Alternatively, applicants can apply via this link: <https://mynewterm.com/school/Newhall-Primary-Academy/145880>.

What a fantastic half term we have had. Snowdrop and Bluebell have started to access the school library which is very exciting, and the children love to visit the 'big school'.

Bluebell have started to learn their phonetical sounds using the Read, Write Inc programme. Dinosaurs has been a real hit with the children, and it's been lovely to hear the new terminology that the children are being taught with this topic.

Snowdrop have had great fun with their topic, and I have really enjoyed seeing the pictures from what the lady bird heard. The ladybird printing with potatoes was very exciting and it was fantastic to see how independent the children were becoming with putting their own aprons on.

Blossom have had great fun this term and it was lovely to see the cooking activities that they have been doing. The children enjoyed the penguins in ice and it was lovely to hear some of the children with new words such as cold, hard and melting.

Just as reminder if you are wanting additional sessions in September and/or if you have a sibling you are wanting to start with us (even if they have not arrived yet) please do make sure they are on our waiting list. We are currently at full occupancy until August 2026.

As we start to edge into the warmer months, we will be developing our garden "one man's junk is another man's treasure". If you have any guttering, old outdoor paint, paint brushes, small garden toys i.e. bats, balls, old sauce pans, seeds, pots, plants, we would be very happy to have them.

Ms Pike



# NEW HALL

## Once upon a time...

### Year R

Reception have had a term discovering the topic 'Once upon a story', learning about the characters and settings in the story. We loved learning about Chinese New Year and sampling some Chinese food in our Chinese Restaurant. Both classes performed amazingly in their class assemblies, showcasing their learning to their parents through acting and singing. We finished off our term nicely with making jam sandwiches to help us sequence events in order using the language first, next, then, after that and finally. It has been an amazing term and we look forward to returning to a new topic, 'Food Glorious Food'.



### Year 4

This half term, our Year 4 students have been diving into the magical world of "The Firefox." Inspired by the book, they've been creatively crafting their own sequels, imagining new adventures for the characters. In science, we've been exploring the fascinating topic of sound, conducting our own experiments to understand how it works. Additionally, we've been inspired by the iconic designer Vivienne Westwood to create our own upcycled T-shirts, learning about sustainability and fashion. We've also been engaging in lively debates about whether zoos should exist, encouraging critical thinking and respectful discussion. It's been an exciting and educational journey for everyone!

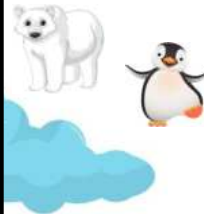
### Year 6

Year 6 have had a brilliant half term and secured their silver award- a pyjama and movie day! We rounded off our history topic 'Mayas' by having a hot chocolate 'Mayan style' complete with chilli. The children have worked so hard so far this year and it was lovely watching them all enjoy a treat.



### Bluebell

Bluebell have had a roar-some half term investigating all things dinosaurs! The children have learnt new vocabulary including palaeontologist, herbivore, and carnivore and found it so exciting to learn that dinosaurs lived millions of years ago. They showed off their amazing prediction skills when we conducted a volcano experiment and have used their creative abilities to create fossils, as well as experimenting with bright colours to represent an erupting volcano! We look forward to next half term when we will go on a rhyming adventure in our 'Land of rhyme' topic.



### Blossom

This term in Blossom the children have enjoyed exploring the cold weather through all types of play. In the garden we found some ice that formed over a cold weekend then brought some inside with penguins for them to explore how it melts and feels in their hands. We have also been learning about the animals who live in cold environments such as penguins, polar bears and whales. Blossom have also been using their physical skills to build snowmen and play with 'snowballs'.

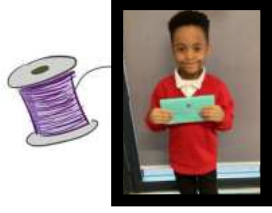




# NEW HALL

## Year 2

Year 2 have especially enjoyed our learning in Spring 1. One of the children's favourite things has been DT, which involved looking at where wool comes from, its uses, as well as how sustainable it is. The children practised the skill of creating their own merino wool by fusing the fibres together using bubble wrap and washing up liquid. They then used their hand made felt to adorn their final product purse. The children had a go at a running stitch to hold their felt purse together and their purses came out amazingly! Well done Year 2.



## Year 3

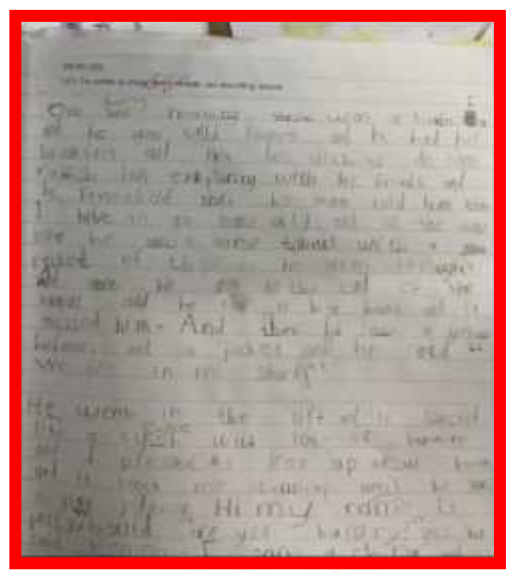
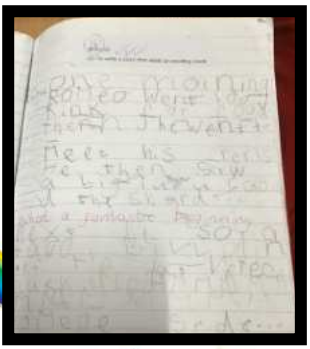
In Year Three, we have had so much fun in science learning about different types of skeletons and how muscles make our bodies move. In history we have been learning about the Bronze Age and the Iron age and created our own bronze age inspired clay pots to kick start this topic. In English we have been working hard on our ambitious vocabulary choices and created haiku poems based upon our class story 'Alice in Wonderland'. Finally, in Maths we have worked extremely hard adding and subtract lengths by converting units of measure.



## Year 1

We have had a very creative half term in Year 1: in science we have been learning about properties of different materials. We have also had lots of fun in Art learning about Wasily Kansinsky and Mondrian; we painted our own abstract art!

In English, we have enjoyed reading our class text - Romeo at the Shard. We planned then wrote our own versions of the story.





# N E W H A L L



## Year 5

This half term, our Year 5 children have been learning about Ancient Greece. In our art lessons, we have been attempting to make Greek amphora. We learned about the different styles and uses of these amphora, how they might be decorated and what they tell us about life in Ancient Greece. Some were decorated with representations of everyday Greek life, some with stories of the Greek gods and some with depictions of military or sporting triumphs. We designed our own Greek amphora and then learned the pottery skills we would need to make them. The class loved working with the clay and are so proud of the pottery that they have made.



## Snowdrop

This term in Snowdrop Class, we have been exploring our exciting topic, *Our Furry Friends!* The children have loved sharing photos of their own pets and looking at those of their friends, sparking lots of lovely conversations about how we care for animals.

We have enjoyed reading a range of animal-themed books, including *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *Dear Zoo*, and *What the Ladybird Heard*. These stories have inspired imaginative play, storytelling, and discussions about different animals and their habitats.

Some of our favourite activities have included:

- Making bear toast! The children used their practical skills to butter toast, cut fruit, and talk about hygiene when handling food. Best of all, they got to enjoy their delicious creations as a snack!
- Using potatoes to print ladybird pictures, exploring patterns, textures, and creativity.
- Matching up mummy and baby animals, which encouraged conversations about growth, family relationships, and animal names.

It has been a fantastic topic full of hands-on learning and fun! We look forward to our next exciting topic of Food, Glorious Food!



# NEW HALL

## Attendance

Our attendance for each class for the autumn term is shown below. Well done to Chestnut Class with the highest attendance! Our school target for attendance is for each class to be above 96%.

Year Group	Class	Attendance
R	Cherry	88%
R	Willow	97%
1	Beech	96%
1	Rowan	96%
2	Elm	93%
2	Hazel	95%
3	Chestnut	98%
3	Maple	96%
4	Ash	92%
4	Juniper	96%
5	Birch	95%
5	Cedar	96%
6	Hawthorn	95%
6	Oak	94%

**GET CAUGHT READING**

Get caught reading, take a picture of yourself reading in the most strangest unique place and then send to OFFICE@newhallacademy.co.uk and you might get a prize. Thank you!

From Zohar, Frankie, Lily and Otis Oahly

Please send photographs to: [office@newhallacademy.org](mailto:office@newhallacademy.org)

One winner in each year group will be announced in school before the Easter holidays.

Get creative and Get Caught Reading!

If you are a member of your local library, your child can access Britannica library via the following link.

<https://library.eb.co.uk/storelibrarycard?id=essexlibrary&target=/levels/junior>

Users can switch between three reading levels on each article and listen to articles being read aloud. Britannica Library Children is the perfect place to find unique and safe content that empowers younger users to ignite curiosity and discovery.



### Library Patron Remote Log-in

Please type in your library borrower card number or code to log in. Please note, your card code may be case sensitive.

If you do not know or have access to a borrower card number, please contact your local library system. Public Library Services are only licensed to provide Remote Access to members of the public who are registered library patrons. Please note that access to Britannica Online within Schools, Universities, Corporate/Government Organizations, by users who may be members of the Public Library, is NOT COVERED under the Library license agreement.



## Children

For young learners

Britannica Library **Children** is the perfect place to find unique and safe content that empowers younger users to ignite curiosity and discovery.





# NEW HALL

## Sporting Events (reported by Mr Woodall)

Once again, our Newhall pupils have taken part in lots of sporting activities and events this term. We are extremely proud of the pupils representing our school. Please see below the start of some fabulous sporting events which we have kicked off the Spring Term with so far.



**24/01/2025:** On Friday 24th January, our Year 3/4 athletics team competed in an Indoor Sportshall athletics event at Mark Hall Sports Centre.

All the children couldn't wait for the event to start and represent our school against other local schools in Harlow. Every child performed exceptionally well and supported one another to understand each event in the competition. For some of them, this was the first time representing Newhall in a sporting event and by the end of the competition, all the children left with a beaming smile.

With regards to the results, we finished in 11th place out of 25 schools. All the children should be extremely proud of themselves for competing at a high level and representing our school in a positive light.

We look forward to our next sporting event!



FRIENDS OF NEWHALL *Presents*

# BINGO NIGHT

A Fun-Filled Evening for All Ages!

**Friday 7th March 2025**  
Newhall Primary Academy  
Time: 7pm  
£5.00 per person

Scan the QR Code to book your spot!

- \* Exciting Bingo Games
- \* Amazing Prizes to be Won!
- \* Bring your own Snacks & Refreshments
- \* Lots of Fun & Laughter



## Important links:

Calendar: <https://newhallacademy.org/academy-calendar/>

Twitter: [Newhall X Account](#)

## School Meals— Spring Menu

Our new school menus will be sent via email next week!

## HAPPY HALF TERM!

Wishing all our families a lovely break!

See you on Monday 24th February.

