

NEWINGTON GREEN

NEWSLETTER

24/10/25

ADMIN@NEWINGTONGREEN.CO.UK

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we finish our first half term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic experiences and achievements our pupils have enjoyed over the past few weeks. It's been a busy half term full of learning, fun and growth. We're incredibly proud of the enthusiasm, curiosity, and commitment shown by all our children.

Highlights from this week include:

Arsenal Attendance Trip – A group of pupils were rewarded for their excellent attendance with a special trip to the Emirates Stadium. Their commitment to being in school every day really paid off!

Black History Month Showcase – Pupils shared their work from BHM on the theme 'Standing Firm in Power and Pride', honouring the contributions and stories of Black individuals past and present.

Year 6 at Into University 🎓 – Year 6 Ash had a brilliant time exploring future aspirations and learning about university life. This culminated with a trip to Cambridge University today!

Year 5 at the Royal Opera House 🎭 – Year 5 enjoyed a visit to the Royal Opera House to watch The Magic Flute

PTA Spooky Disco - The children had a fantastic time and enjoyed a range of spooky activities. Thanks to the PTA for all their hard work in making this a successful event.

We're so proud of everything our pupils have achieved this half term and grateful for your continued support. We hope you all enjoy a restful and well-deserved break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday 4th November**.

A MESSAGE FROM PAUL THOMAS, EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

As we come to the end of our first half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a very positive start to the school year. Pupils have settled into their new classes with confidence and enthusiasm, and it's been a pleasure to see such a strong sense of focus and community across both schools.



We've also welcomed visits from our governors and our link representative from Islington, who were impressed by the calm, purposeful learning environments and the warm, inclusive atmosphere. Their feedback was a real testament to the hard work of our staff and the support of our families.

One area we continue to emphasise is attendance. Being in school every day makes a real difference—not just to academic progress, but to friendships, routines, and wellbeing. We appreciate your efforts in making attendance a priority and encourage you to reach out if you need any support, as we will be reaching out to those whose attendance may cause us concern.

This term has also seen some joint work across the Federation, with both schools working together on key areas such as attendance and oracy. These joint initiatives are helping us share expertise, strengthen practice, and offer even richer learning experiences for our pupils.

Thank you for your continued support and for being such an important part of our school community. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Paul Thomas

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS: A MESSAGE TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

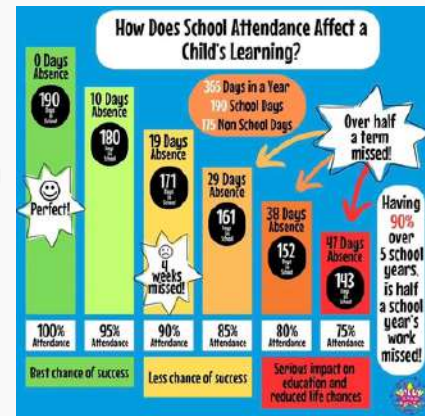
At NG, we believe that every child deserves the very best chance to succeed. One of the most important ways we can support this is by ensuring that children attend school every day, on time, whenever they are well enough to do so.

Many families are surprised to learn that attendance percentages work very differently to test scores. For example, in a test, 90 percent is considered a strong result. However, in attendance terms, 90 percent means that a child has missed almost four full weeks of school across the year. That is the equivalent of:

- Over 30 hours of English and 30 hours of Maths
- Plus many more hours of science, reading, PE, art, and social learning that cannot be replaced.

These lost hours matter. Lessons build on each other. When children miss days, even here and there, they miss the foundations needed for the next steps. This can make learning feel harder, and children can lose confidence. The graphic shown above breaks this down clearly.

This is why as a school, we aim for every child to achieve at least 96 percent attendance. This aligns with our school values, where we are always aiming high.



CELEBRATING POSITIVE ATTENDANCE

We are committed to supporting families and encouraging children to take pride in good attendance. Recently:

- **Maple Class** celebrated with a Popcorn Party while watching Monsters Inc.
- **Elm Class** enjoyed a cinema experience Popcorn Party in the main hall, watching Paddington.
- **Children with consistently strong attendance** enjoyed a trip to the Emirates Stadium on Thursday, which was a fantastic experience full of excitement and pride.
- And because the **whole school reached 96 percent attendance last week**, the children were delighted to enjoy a cookie and ice cream dessert on Friday, prepared with care by our amazing kitchen staff. An ingenious idea from our school council.

These celebrations are not simply treats. They show that commitment, teamwork, and daily effort lead to shared success, and we want our children to feel proud of that.



WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT ATTENDANCE

We know that attending school every day can sometimes feel challenging. The *Islington Life* article beside this section explains how Islington Attendance Mentors work with families to understand difficulties and support routines that help children attend regularly. Some families will recognise Uma, who is featured in the article and who previously worked at Newington Green as our Bright Futures Link Worker. Our Attendance Lead has already spoken with a number of parents about this support, and will continue to connect families where it may help. Click the article for further information.

At NG we also offer support in school:

- A new School Wellbeing Service (SWS) group is beginning soon.
- ELSA sessions are available to help children manage emotions.
- More individual or tailored support can be arranged if needed. Please speak with us.

To help at home, try to keep morning routines steady and aim to book appointments outside school hours. Let us know early if something is making attendance difficult so we can work together.

Please remember that **term time leave is not authorised**. More information is on the final page of this newsletter.

Every day matters and every child deserves the chance to succeed.

Family matters: school attendance



Just as school plays a vital role in every child's development and future, missing school has a huge impact on Specialised Term, Graham and Uma tell us more - and how they can help.

Reason: We are all early help attendance mentors at Islington Council, working with schools to identify pupils whose attendance is starting to slip. Tackling the problem early on can make a big difference, and we want to ensure your child is in school, learning, and thriving.

We really work with children on a one-to-one basis in school, but we also support parents to ease their anxiety and improve attendance.

Uma: From the first session with each parent we try to understand what the challenges are. For some people it could be because of lack of sleep, because they don't like the teacher or the lesson, or they may struggle with empty waiting in the morning, having a routine, or perhaps mental health issues.

It's about small steps and understanding what works for each individual. We try to understand what they're struggling with and will work with the school and parents to address those things in a way that they can personally achieve.

Disclaimer: In any other situation at school, 95 percent sounds really positive. But when you break it down, 95 percent is 95 days missed in a year - that's missed a month. It's really hard to break that habit once it becomes 'normal', so it's important to get in early and shift that habit.

Going to school every day helps kids achieve academically, but it also helps with soft skills - empathy, sharing, critical thinking, routine keeping, time management. School is a place that can help prepare a young person for their adult life. For example being on time at work. When you have those skills at a young age, you're more capable when you're older.

EMIRATES STADIUM TRIP

This week, a group of our pupils with excellent attendance had the exciting opportunity to visit the Emirates Stadium. The School Council also joined the trip, as they were the ones who suggested having special outings to reward good attendance across the school. It was a wonderful experience to see children from different year groups together, with older pupils helping younger ones and showing real care and responsibility.

The children were full of excitement from the moment we arrived. Many were truly mesmerised, especially when they stepped inside the players changing rooms and imagined what it might feel like to be a professional footballer preparing for a match.

Our Head Boy, Malakai, our Deputy Head Girl, Alina, and Raiyaan, one of our pupils who has achieved 100 percent attendance, have each written reflections about the trip, which are shared below.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Arsenal Hub for hosting us, and to Vania, Ava's mum, whose support helped make this unforgettable day possible.

As Arthur in Year 4 said, "I want to have 100 percent forever if it means I can come on this trip again."

If any parents have links with local businesses such as restaurants, cinemas, or venues that might help us create more exciting attendance rewards, please do get in touch. We are very grateful for the support of our school community.

YEAR 6 REFLECTIONS

Hear All About Our Amazing Emirates Stadium Trip!

After a long and exciting trip to the Emirates Stadium, we were all very happy to be back at school. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop.

We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop.

Dear Parents, we are pleased to share with you the highlights of our trip to the Emirates Stadium. We had a fantastic day and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop.

Selected people for the Arsenal Stadium trip. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop.

On arrival at the stadium, we had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop.

Our trip to Arsenal was a great experience. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop. We had a great time and saw some amazing things. We were lucky to see the stadium and the players' changing rooms. We also saw the Arsenal museum and the Arsenal shop.



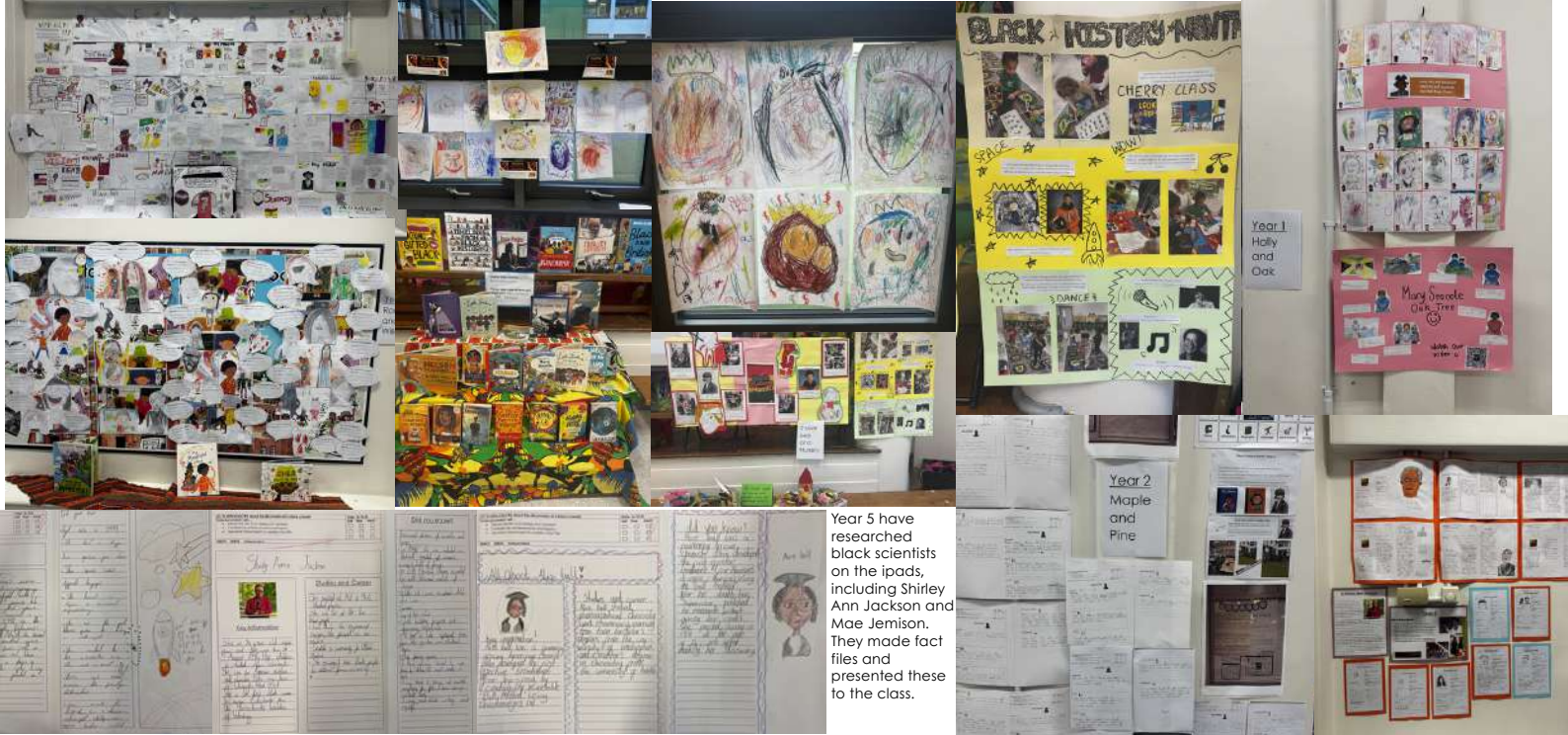
BLACK HISTORY MONTH @NG

This month, our children took part in a wide range of creative and meaningful activities to celebrate Black History Month. Across the week, pupils produced artwork, writing, drama, poetry and research projects, which all came together in a whole-school exhibition for families to explore. It was wonderful to welcome so many parents and carers to view the children's work and share in their pride. Please see the photos included for a glimpse of what took place.

In the dining hall, children also enjoyed a Black History Month celebration meal, with some of our teachers joining them. Music played in the background, helping to create a joyful and welcoming atmosphere.

On Friday, staff were also treated to a delicious spread prepared by Jennifer, which was a thoughtful and generous way to finish the term. We are very grateful for her time, care and wonderful cooking.

Thank you to all staff, children and families for making this Black History Month a celebration of culture, learning and community. Please enjoy the photographs throughout this newsletter showing just some of the fantastic moments from the week.



In Apple class to celebrate the life of Bessie Coleman we made aeroplanes using junk models. The children really enjoyed it. At the playdough table creating Bessie's face using playdough using their imagination. Some children drew pictures of Bessie at the literacy table using pictures and keywords.



PTA SPOOKY HALLOWEEN PARTY

A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising such a brilliant Spooky Halloween Party. The children had a fantastic time, with lots of dancing, games and laughter. Even our Deputy Head, Helen, joined in and showed off her dance moves on the floor with the children.

We are very pleased to share that the event raised £604, which will go back into supporting experiences and opportunities for our pupils. Well done to everyone involved.

The PTA are always looking for volunteers to help with future events. If you would like to get involved, please take a look at the PTA newsletter that was emailed out this week. You can also access it [here](#).



YEAR 5 BOOK LAUNCH

This week, Year 5 pupils had the exciting opportunity to attend the launch of Ivor Baddiel's new book Brainchild. They were joined by Year 5 pupils from Rotherfield and Parkwood. The visit was arranged through the Children's Book Project, and we are very grateful for the opportunity.

The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting Ivor and hearing him speak about how he wrote the story, what inspired him, and the big ideas behind the book. He even tested everyone's brains with fun questions about science and imagination. The discussion encouraged pupils to think deeply about what it means to be good, evil, or somewhere in between.

Each school that attended was presented with a copy of Brainchild and invited to write a review to share their thoughts and responses to the story. Thank you, Ivor, for an inspiring and memorable visit. We cannot wait to get reading.



MESSAGE FROM THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

Student Council would like to send a big thank you to everyone who took part in our Wear Yellow for Mental Health Day! Together, we raised £46.03 for Young Minds, a charity that helps children and young people look after their mental health. They give advice, support and resources to help everyone feel their best. Your kindness helps make sure every child has what they need to stay happy, healthy and safe, linking to Article 27 of the UNCRC: the right to a good standard of living.

We have been busy looking at all the fantastic ideas shared by pupils. This links to Article 12 of the UNCRC, which reminds us that children have the right to share their views and be listened to when adults make decisions that affect them. Next week, the council will work together to create an action plan, allowing us to start turning some of these ideas into reality. Unfortunately, a swimming pool with floaties in the playground isn't possible, but there were lots of other brilliant suggestions we can explore together!

YEAR 6 TRIP TO QUEENS COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

This week, our Year 6 Ash Class took part in their IntoUniversity programme, a week-long experience designed to inspire aspirations for the future. The week culminated in a very special graduation ceremony held at Queen's College, Cambridge. The children arrived bright and early and were full of excitement as they explored the historic grounds where many well-known academics and leaders have studied. It was a proud and memorable moment for them to celebrate their achievements in such a remarkable setting.

As part of their wider learning, the class also enjoyed a trip to the RAF Museum, linked to their World War Two topic with a focus on the Windrush Generation. The children were able to explore real aircraft, exhibitions and artefacts that brought their history learning to life. See the photos below.

What an incredible week of learning and inspiration for Ash Class.



YEAR 6 TRIP TO THE RAF MUSEUM



ENRICHMENT CLUBS NEWS

We are delighted to share that Newington Green is offering a wide range of after-school enrichment clubs this term. From hands-on Cooking to curiosity-fuelled STEM and calming Mindfulness, there is something for every child to enjoy, learn, and thrive.

Bookings open today at 6:00pm via Arbor. Places are limited and popular clubs fill quickly, so please log in promptly to secure your child's spot. Look out for the photos below from recent sessions. If you have any questions about Arbor access or club details, please contact the school office.

Newington Green Primary - After School Clubs				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Club 7:30 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:30 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:30 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:30 - 8:55	Breakfast Club 7:30 - 8:55
Multi-sports Y1&2 (S.Hall)	Gymnastics Y2-Y3 (S. Hall)	Football Y3-Y6 (S.Hall)	Dance Club Rec-Y6 (P. Hall)	Gymnastics Rec-Y1 (S. Hall)
Dodgeball/Benchball Y4-6 (P.Hall)	Turkish Club Y1-6	Sewing Club Y4-6	Mindfulness Rec-Y4	
Spanish Y2&3	Gardening Club Y3-Y6	S.T.E.M CLUB Y3-Y6	Gymnastics Y4-Y6 (S. Hall)	
After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 6:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30	After School Club 3:30 - 4:30 4:30 - 6:30 3:30 - 6:30

COOKING CLUB

This week in Cooking Club, pupils have been learning safe knife skills while carving their own Halloween pumpkins. They practised careful cutting, scooping, and shaping to create fun seasonal designs. Alongside this, the group explored recycling and reusing everyday materials by transforming used milk bottles into spooky ghost decorations. It has been a great blend of creativity, sustainability, and practical kitchen skills, and pupils were very proud of their work.



MINDFULNESS CLUB

In Mindfulness Club this week, pupils explored different emotions such as love, anger, happiness, and sadness. They discussed what each feeling means and how our bodies and thoughts can change when we experience them. Pupils then selected and glued images that matched each emotion, and wrote about moments in their own lives when they had felt these feelings. This helped to build emotional awareness and supported pupils in recognising and talking about their feelings with confidence.



STEM CLUB

STEM club will be returning to Newington Green after the October half term. We will be making toys with children in years 3-6. Children will make a pinball machine from cardboard, clothes pegs and marbles which they can take home at the end of the project. We will use recycled cardboard and learn scientific skills like gravity, forces and material properties. The club will run after school on Wednesday, starting on the 5th November, and will finish at 4:30. Please book on Arbor, spaces are limited.



CYBER SECURITY ADVICE FOR YOU & YOUR FAMILY

To help your family stay safe at home, I've included a guide from the National Cyber Security Centre. It has step by step guides on how to avoid the most common cyber-crimes. These guides have been updated with the most recent trends and was written by the people who actually investigate these crimes. I hope you find it useful. Click image below for further information



Data breaches: guidance for individuals and families
How to protect yourself from the impact of data breaches



Online gaming for families and individuals
How to enjoy online gaming securely by following just a few tips



Shopping and paying safely online
Tips to help you purchase items safely and avoid fraudulent websites.



Social Media: how to use it safely
Use privacy settings across social media platforms to manage your digital footprint.

YEAR 5 TRIP TO THE ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Year 5 had a wonderful opportunity to visit the Royal Opera House this week to watch a performance of The Magic Flute. The children were captivated by the music, storytelling and staging, and it was exciting for them to experience a live performance in such a world-renowned venue.

Please take a look at the photos in this newsletter to see some highlights of this special trip.



TERM TIME LEAVE

Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to remind families that there is no automatic right to take holidays during term time. Headteachers may only grant leave in exceptional circumstances, and holidays are not considered exceptional. Absences can significantly affect learning, and there are 175 non-school days a year for family time and holidays.

If leave is unavoidable, you must apply in advance using the form available from the school office, and ideally before booking any travel. We may ask for evidence such as return flight tickets to support your request.

If you withdraw your child from school for this leave it may be recorded as unauthorised absence. You may be served with a Penalty Notice by Access and Engagement Team (a fine of £80–£160 per parent per child) or a summons to court for your child's unauthorised absence. Parents have a duty to ensure their child's regular attendance at school and failure to do so is an offence under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra (Attendance and Pastoral Worker)

NEWINGTON GREEN

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Last day of term** Friday 24th October.
- **Inset Day (School closed)** Monday 3rd of November
- **Return to School** Tuesday 4th of November.
- **Year 2 trip to The Monument** Thursday 6th November
- **Year 1 trip to Freightliners Farm** Thursday 13th November
- **Year 5 trip to The Science Museum** Friday 14th November
- **Bring a parent to school reading morning** Friday 14th November followed by The Book Fair



STARS OF THE WEEK

Year 1 - Kah'Myah and Yusuf

Year 2 - Hamide and Usman

Year 3 - Sophia and Ada

Year 4 - Pippin and Asiyah

Year 5 - Birken and Skylah-Rae

Year 6 - Selin



ATTENDANCE STATS

Whole school attendance this year: 94.5%

Statutory school attendance: 94.8%

This week's average: 94%

National average this year: 95.5%

Mulberry	99.30%
Maple	98.10%
Rowan	98.00%
Holly	97.30%
Elm	97.30%
Cedar	97.10%
Sycamore	96.00%
Pine	95.50%
Palm	95.30%
Oak	94.50%
Beech	93.60%
Willow	93.30%
Ash	90.30%
Apple	90.00%
Silver birch	87.30%
Cherry	81.30%

BREAKFAST CLUB

Newington Green Primary School Breakfast Club Plan for week beginning 03.11.2025				
Staff who we know will be working at Breakfast Club: Lisa B				
Playworkers: Amiee & Syrus				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!	Reading corner Homework support, please bring in the work you would like support with!
	Maths Activities Breakfast Colour by Number	Literacy activities Chromatopes Word Search	EYFS Focus Whole Body Fray Labelling Activity	Free Choice activity area, colouring, sticking, crafting, etc.
Legol Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legol Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legol Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legol Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts	Legol Board games Giant Jiggle Puzzles Knitting & Cross stitch Arts & Crafts
<p>Adaptations Small groups of children will participate in activities with adult supervision to gain access and support where needed</p> <p>Menu Weetabix, Rice Krispies, and Cornflakes. Hot food will be one of the following: Pancakes with syrup, toast with scrambled eggs, toast with jam</p>				

AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Newington Green Primary School After School Club Plan for week beginning 20.10.2025				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Board and/or card games	Board and/or card games	Board and/or card games	Board and/or card games	Board and/or card games
Communication and construction	Construction area - Giant wings	Giant Jiggle Puzzles	Construction area	Construction area - Doll houses
Library & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Library & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Library & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Library & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles	Library & Mathematics Wordsearches, Crosswords & Maths puzzles
Halloween Art with Macia Face Make Make	Paint with Zannah Art & Design	Fem Pam with Tugest Fine Motor Skills	Colour by Numbers with Amiee Club by Winter	Halloween Card Making Self Expression
Free choice activity area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice activity area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice activity area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice activity area, including colouring, sticking, crafting, collage etc.	Free choice activity area, including colouring, sticking, collage etc.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Do you qualify for free school meals (FSM) status. Anyone who hasn't applied or whose circumstances may have changed please apply on Islington's Citizen portal to see if you are eligible.
[Free School Meals](#) | [Islington Council](#)

SUPPORT WITH CHILDCARE

If you are a working parent and require help with Childcare please use the links to see what help is available.

[Eligibility checker: I Best Start in Life](#)

[Tax-Free Childcare - GOV.UK](#)

[Free Childcare for Working Parents: Overview - GOV.UK](#)

Well done Mulberry who will be receiving a Popcorn Party!