



New Road Primary and Nursery School

Headteacher Update

Monday 9th September 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

It really was a pleasure to see the children and staff return to school last week. I am often asked if I enjoy being a headteacher and the honest answer is 'yes'. This is my 17th year as a headteacher and my tenth year at New Road (time has flown). It is true to say the week before school reopens, I still get excited and feel incredibly fortunate to do what I do.

This year I am committing to writing a weekly newsletter, instead of the occasional letter. It will be shared with you on a Monday and my aim is to share with you all that is good about our school and its children. I think it will help **all of us** to feel proud of our school, especially the children.

Many of you will know I am the headteacher of two schools in Whittlesey. Both New Road and Park Lane are incredibly important to me, and I am very proud that both schools are now rated as 'Good' schools by Ofsted, this was not the case three years ago and we have been on a journey.

I am sometimes asked, how do you do it? I nearly always reply, '**I don't, the team does.**'

The New Road and Park Lane team consists of nearly 150 staff. We are one of the largest employers in Whittlesey. I line manage the senior leaders and senior office staff. I am incredibly fortunate to do this with Rachel Bains. We have worked together as a headteacher and deputy headteacher team for many years now and it works.

Its very easy for leaders in all walks of life to forget that they are only as good as the team they lead. Despite the hard work and commitment of the team, I always feel responsible when something goes wrong and frustrated when I can't help or make a problem go away. I know Mrs Bains often feels the same.

Please remember, if you have a concern, please approach your child's class teacher in the first instance. Appointments can be made by emailing or calling the school office office@newroadprimary.com We expect all staff to be friendly and to do their best to support you.

If your concerns or frustrations continue, you can request a meeting with a senior leader. At New Road, Mrs Bains and Mrs Williams will be very happy to help if I am not available.

You are always welcome to approach a senior leader in the playground or at the school gate too.

Now for some good news! **New Road has been awarded the School Games Platinum Award!** The highest possible award for a school's commitment to sport and ensuring its pupils have many sport opportunities!

A huge thank you to Mrs Bowden and her team for the many sports opportunities and events they

organise. We are very fortunate to have sports leadership at this level.

As we begin a new school year, I want to assure you that our commitment to providing a safe, supportive, and inspiring school remains steadfast. We believe that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together, and we value the important contribution that parents/carers make to their children's achievements.

I have attached the term dates below, to help you plan and book any well-deserved breaks for you and your children during the school holidays.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to keeping you up to date with our successes as a school community throughout the year.

Kindest regards,

Mr Rob Litten

Headteacher, New Road Primary and Nursery School



Term Dates 2024/2025

1st Term 2024 Wednesday 4 th September – Friday 25 th October Holiday Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November	2nd Term 2024 Monday 4 th November – Friday 20 th of December Holiday Monday 23 rd of December - Monday 6 th of January
3rd Term 2025 Tuesday 7 th of January – Friday 14 th of February Holiday Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st of February	4th Term 2025 Monday 24 th of February – Friday 4 th of April Holiday Monday 7 th of April - Monday 21 st of April
5th Term 2025 Tuesday 22 nd April - Friday 23 rd May Holiday Monday 26 th of May - Friday 30 th of May	6th Term 2025 Monday 2 nd June – Friday 18 th of July

Staff Training Days when your child **will not** have to attend school are allocated as follows:

Tuesday 2nd of September 2024

Monday 6th of January 2025