



# Newland St John's

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

**Living Together, Learning Together and Shining Together in the Love of God.**

*'...Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.'* **Matthew 5:16**

## Newsletter - March 2025

### A message from Mrs Brett

It has been another busy half term and it has been a joy to see the children so engaged in their learning. Thank you for all you do as parents, carers and friends to support the school in this. One of the questions that we have begun to think about is *'what were you looking forward to when you came into school today?'* and we have had some great answers: from looking forward to maths lessons and history, to returning to the class novel because the story was left on a cliffhanger the previous day.

As we head towards the summer months, it has been wonderful to see the spring flowers come into bloom. Led by Mr. Kenningham, our Green Ambassadors have been working hard to develop the outside space near the Year 2 classroom. We hope their work will inspire all the children to become courageous advocates for the environment- recognising that we are stewards of our world.

### March Highlights

World Book Day has been a highlight this month. It was a joy to see the children sharing their favourite books with their friends in the sunshine with their hot chocolates. We want to develop a life-long love of reading and we hope that this day will inspire the children to find the 'right book' for them. Thank you for all the amazing shadow photos that were sent to school. They were a testament to your creativity and brought delight to the school.

As part of their work in Religious Education, and in order to understand more about different world views, our children in Year One and in Year Five were given the opportunity to visit Hull Synagogue. During this visit, the children learnt about the commonalities between the Abrahamic religions: Islam, Judaism and Christianity. It was a fascinating trip to this place of worship- as many have not

been in a synagogue before.

Our youngest children welcomed a range of different animals into school including a bearded dragon and a corn snake as a culmination of their work in science on animals.

## Free School Meals

The Department for Education has permanently extended free school meal eligibility to children in all households. This includes households with No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)\*, subject to maximum income thresholds. We would encourage all eligible families to apply for free school meals - even those in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2, who do not have to pay for their meals as part of the universal offer.

You can apply using the portal: [Free school meals | Hull](#)

If you are interested in applying or are just not sure about how the system works, please do not hesitate to call the school and speak to Wendy Palmer, who is based in the school office, and she will be able to support you through the application process.

## Shining a Light on Mental Health

Being a parent or a carer isn't always easy, particularly if you are worried about your child's mental health. However, there are a number of different places that you can go to for advice and support.

This website has lots of practical ideas to help you support your child: [Parents Mental Health Support | Advice for Your Child | YoungMinds](#). There is even a separate section which offers mental health advice for young Muslims: [Mental health advice for young Muslims | YoungMinds](#).

There is also a range of practical resources focused on emotional health at [Free wellbeing online courses in Hull – inourplace](#) and our school is in a pre-paid area meaning they are all completely free for you to access! Just use the code FREEDOM.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD  
SOLIHULL APPROACH

inourplace NHS

### Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

Free online course for all parents, carers, and grandparents.

- Reading your child's behaviour and understanding their feelings
- Effective communication techniques
- Reflecting on your relationship and how to nurture your child's emotional health
- A transformative journey that can strengthen your bond with your child at every age

Designed by clinical psychologists in partnership with practitioners and parents

www.inourplace.co.uk

Behaviour is communication.  
What is your child telling you?

## Understanding your child: from toddler to teenager

An online course

### Day 1

How your child develops

24 min

### Day 2

Understanding how your child is feeling

20 min

### Day 3

Tuning into what your child needs

22 min

### Day 4

Responding to how your child is feeling

20 min

### Day 5

Different styles of parenting

28 min

### Day 6

Having fun together

22 min

### Day 7

Rhythm of interaction

20 min

### Day 8

Why is sleep important?

20 min

### Day 9

Self-regulation and anger

20 min

### Day 10

Communication and tuning in

20 min

### Day 11

Looking back and looking forward

26 min



# Our Safeguarding Team



**Mrs Brett**

Principal

Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mr Kenningham**

Deputy  
Headteacher

Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Miss Jones**

SENCO

Safeguarding  
Officer



**Ms Briggs**

Class  
Teacher

Safeguarding  
Officer



**Mrs Williams**

Wellbeing  
Officer

Safeguarding  
Officer

## What to do if you have a concern about a child:

### During School Hours:

- Contact the school and speak to either Mrs Brett or another member of the safeguarding team, via the main office on 01482 305740.
- Contact the Access and Assessment team for Hull on 01482 448879

### Out of school hours and during school holidays:

If your concern is urgent and there is an immediate risk of harm, then contact the police via 999

If your concern is less urgent but you are worried about the welfare of the child then contact the Early Help and Safeguarding Hub on 01482 448879 or the Emergency Duty Team 01482 300304 (After 5pm and weekends)

For more information, click on the link: [Worried about a child | Hull](#) Please remember that if a child discloses anything that is worrying them, we may need to speak to parents and carers. This is part of our duty of care.

## Safety on site at the end of the day.

Thank you for informing the office when somebody different collects your child at the end of the day. Please remember, we cannot release a child unless we have been given permission from a parent or carer for them to go with someone else. This can be given by calling the office on 305740.

Please remain vigilant on the playground and ensure that you keep your children close and in sight, especially pre-school children. The playground can be a busy place. We kindly request that you do not allow children to play on the trim trail before or after school.

## SENDCo Spotlight - Miss Jones



### World Autism Awareness Month 2025

Autism Awareness Month starts with the United Nations-sanctioned World Autism Awareness Day on April 2.

It is an international opportunity to increase understanding and acceptance of autism. There are many ways you can get involved - from wearing blue to having a conversation about autism, every little helps on our journey to awareness.

Click the link for more information from [Autism Speaks](#) - a charity promoting Autism awareness



### We want to hear from you!

At NSJ, we're always looking for ways to improve our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) provision. Your feedback is vital in helping us provide the best support for your child.

Please take a few minutes to complete our online feedback form and share your thoughts on how we can enhance our SEND offer. [Parent/Carer SEND Voice](#).

Your opinions matter and your input will help shape a more inclusive and supportive environment for all our students.

Thank you for your time and support!

### Where can I get SEND advice?

- **Hull Local Offer** [The Hull Local Offer website](#) is where parents, carers, children and young people up to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can find information, advice and guidance about support, services and activities that are available to those living in Hull.
- **SENDIASS (Special Educational needs Independent Advice Service)**  
Telephone: [01482 467 541](tel:01482467541) Email: [hullsendiass@kids.org.uk](mailto:hullsendiass@kids.org.uk)



If you have any queries regarding this update, or would like to speak to the SENCo about anything to do with your child, please do not hesitate to email [hello@nsj.hslt.academy](mailto:hello@nsj.hslt.academy) for an appointment.

## Help for Families

Help for Families - a reminder the cost of living crisis is having an impact on all families in our community. We would like to signpost some sources of support that may help.

Food Banks:

[Hull Foodbank](#)

[Hull Vineyard Church](#)



## Spotlight on Maths - Times Tables

Learning times tables by heart is essential for building confidence and success in maths throughout Key Stage 2 and beyond. Quick recall of multiplication facts helps children solve problems quickly and supports their learning in so many areas of maths.

To help with this, we encourage regular practice using Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) and the Mathsframe Times Tables Check activity. Here are the links:

TTRS Login: <https://play.ttrockstars.com> (let us know if you need a reminder of your child's login)

Mathsframe Tables Check: <https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check>

In June 2025, all **Year 4 pupils** will take the statutory **Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)** to assess their fluency with times tables up to 12x12. Here is some information from the DFE about the MTC:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/multiplication-tables-check>

Here you can view an information poster for parents all about the MTC in Year 4)



For all children in Key Stage 2, a few minutes of practice each day can make a huge difference—let's keep practising and build confident mathematicians!

## Key Dates - Summer Term 2025

Date	Event
Tuesday 1st April	Class School Photos
Wednesday 2nd April	Foundation Stage Stay and Play
Thursday 3rd April	Year 3 Easter Service
Friday 4th April	Year 3 Virtual Volcanoes and Earthquakes Virtual Visit
Friday 4th April	Years 5&6 Growing-Up Talks
Friday 4th April	School closes to children for Easter Holiday
Tuesday 22nd April	Return to school after the Easter Holiday
Wednesday 23rd April	Year 3 Trawling Experience at KCOM Learning Zone
Tuesday 29th April	Year 1 Stay and Read and Phonics Chat
Thursday 1st May	May Day Hull Minster Tower Top Singing (Choral Choir)
Monday 5th May	School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 6th May - Friday 9th May	Year 5 Bikeability
Monday 12th May-Thursday 15th May	Year 6 SATS
Monday 19th May	Foundation Stage Audio Test
Friday 23rd May	School closes to children for Spring Break
Monday 2nd June	Return to school after the Spring Break
Monday 2nd June - Friday 6th June	Year 4 statutory Multiplication Tables Check (MTC)
Wednesday 4th June	Year 5 Benin Virtual Visit
Wednesday 18th June	Nursery and Foundation Stage Sports Morning
Wednesday 18th June	Key Stage One Sports Afternoon
Thursday 19th June	Lower Key Stage Two Sports Morning
Thursday 19th June	Upper Key Stage Two Sports Afternoon
Tuesday 1st July	Year 6 Production to parents (evening)
Wednesday 2nd July	Foundation Stage Stay and Play

Thursday 3rd July-Friday 4th July	Year 6 Residential and watersports activities
Thursday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers' Service (morning) <i>(Open to all parents/carers especially those with children in Year 6)</i>
Friday 18th July	School closes to children for Summer Holidays

Parents are invited to attend the events highlighted in blue.

## The Power of Nature for Children's Wellbeing

As the days get longer and spring blooms around us, it's the perfect time to encourage our children to step away from screens and enjoy the great outdoors. Research shows that spending time in nature can significantly improve children's mental health, reducing stress, boosting mood, and increasing their ability to focus.

While technology has its benefits, excessive screen time can lead to anxiety, poor sleep and difficulty concentrating. By encouraging outdoor play, we help children build confidence, resilience, and a lifelong love of nature.

To make outdoor adventures more exciting, we're sharing a fantastic list from the National Trust—50 things to do before you're 11¾! These activities are designed to spark curiosity, creativity and joy in the natural world. Here is the full list: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/50-things#50-things-activities-list>

Here are 10 of these activities to start you off:

1. Roll down (or run up) a really big hill
2. Search for minibeasts
3. Create wild art using leaves, twigs and flowers
4. Explore inside a tree
5. Make a trail with sticks and challenge someone to follow it
6. Discover what's inside a rock by cracking it open
7. Lie on the grass and watch the clouds make shapes
8. Watch a sunset or sunrise
9. Eat a picnic outside
10. Spot stars in the night sky



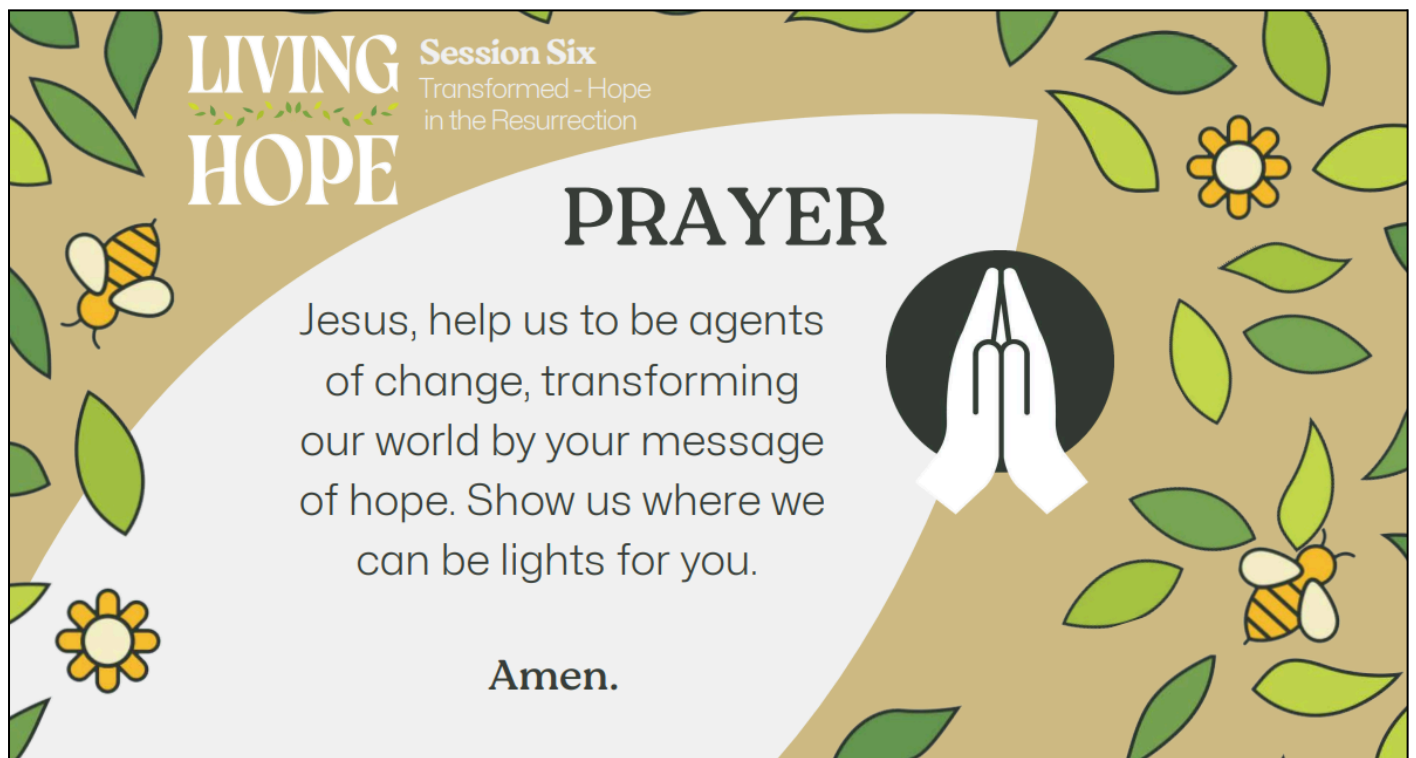
Encouraging your child to take on these challenges can lead to wonderful family memories and a strong



## Reflection

### A prayer for Easter.

The final prayer in the **Living Hope Resources** that we have been using for the last six weeks fits in beautifully with our school vision and therefore seems to be the perfect reflection for our final newsletter before Easter.



**LIVING HOPE** Session Six  
Transformed - Hope  
in the Resurrection

## PRAYER

Jesus, help us to be agents  
of change, transforming  
our world by your message  
of hope. Show us where we  
can be lights for you.

**Amen.**