



Friday 12th March 2021
Term 4 - No. 3

Headteacher's Message

Our first week back in school has been a great success, with staff and pupils making the most of our return to face-to-face teaching.

The Covid-19 testing programme is so far, running very smoothly and a big thank you goes out to our splendidly efficient team of volunteer Covid-19 testers, who on Day 1 alone, oversaw 414 tests. Further thanks go to Team Leader Mr Piggott, who continues to excel in his administration of this complex undertaking.

We have had a 93% return of consent forms, so I hope this will give parents confidence in the system. There have been no positive cases identified and our pupils are approaching the taking of their lateral-flow tests in a very mature fashion.

Roll on next week!

Have a lovely weekend.

Dr L.V. Ceska

PE Success!



We are delighted to share some fantastic P.E. news. You may remember Paula Radcliffe's Two-15 challenge that we set all our pupils over the half-term break: to complete a total of 2 hours 15 minutes of exercise with at least one other member of their family over the week. Newlands has beaten all other secondary schools in Berkshire to win the challenge!

To put it into perspective:

- 45% of our pupils managed to complete 2h15mins of physical activity with members of their family
- 1456 individuals were involved
- Over 1190 hours of activity was completed by members of the Newlands community (and we know that many of you did so much more).

Due to our success, we have won a live virtual assembly which will be given by Paula Radcliffe herself and we hope the girls can experience this exciting event very soon.

Here is a message from Paula, announcing us as winners: <https://youtu.be/XCS7Cmu3QIM>.

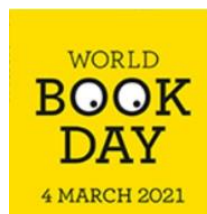


Well done to all pupils and their families who kept active over the half-term break, helping us to win the challenge!

P.E. Department

www.getberkshireactive.org/img-20210128-wa0004

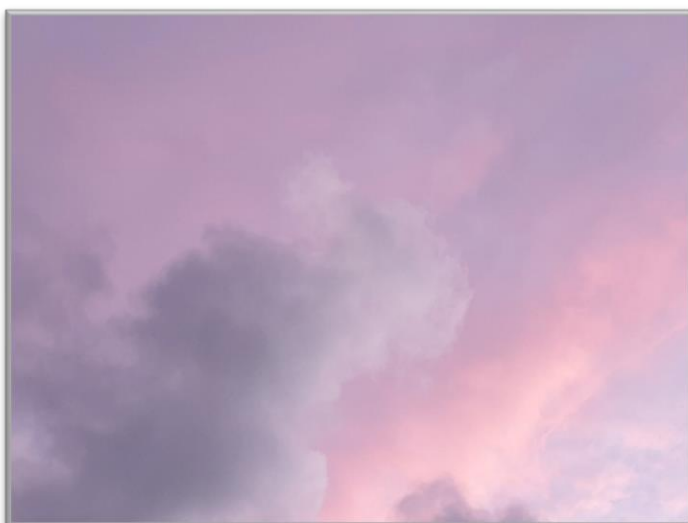
English World Book Day Winner!



In recent years, more and more of us have become fast readers, have access to instant news, and explore amateur photography - simply because of the devices we now carry! To celebrate World Book Day, the English Department combined two of our favourite art forms – literature and media.

Students were asked to choose their favourite book and take a photograph which represented the story to them.

The winning entry was taken by Srilakshmi Seshadri in Year 7:



*I chose this picture as it reminds me of the series '**Rainbow Magic**' and in particular, a book called 'Jacinda the Peace Fairy', by Daisy Meadows.*

The swirling pink and grey clouds reminded me of the happy and colourful world of Fairyland, which the author tells us about in these books.

Srilakshmi Seshadri (Y 7)

Highly commended:

- **Sadie Lake (Y8)**
- **Amber Miles (Y8)**
- **Annabel Rozier (Y7)**

Photos will appear in the next issue of the Library newsletter – *Beyond the Books*.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

Maidenhead Libraries



Maidenhead Libraries Review

RBWM is undertaking a review of its Library service and have put forward proposals to reshape it in a way that builds on the good work already taking place. This relates to digital development, community engagement and volunteering. This consultation will be open until Friday 30 April 2021. If you would like to have your say, please look at the website below:

<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/home/council-and-democracy/consultations/library-consultations>

Student Focus Centre



Mental health is always important but even more so currently. *Young Minds* is a brilliant mental health charity, whose mission statement reads as follows:

“We want to see a world where no young person feels alone with their mental health, and all young people get the mental health support they need, when they need it, no matter what.”

Their website offers a wealth of advice on various topics and is designed to be accessed by both young people and their parents. In particular, their blog section is very useful.

Young people

Text the *YoungMinds* Crisis Messenger for free 24/7 support across the UK if you are experiencing a mental health crisis.

- Text YM to 85258

Parents

Call the Parents Helpline for detailed advice, emotional support and signposting about a child or young person up to the age of 25.

- **0808 802 5544** (9:30a.m. - 4pm, Mon – Fri)

www.youngminds.org.uk

Maths Stars of the Week



The Stars of the week for Maths are:

KS3 - Sana Iqbal (Y8) - Sana actively participates in every lesson, works hard and finishes extension work.

KS4 - Humeraa Rafiq (Y11) - She actively participates in every lesson and works consistently hard.

Maths riddle: how do you make the number one disappear?
(Answer in next week's Friday News)

Answer to the riddle from last week: what is the laziest number? 12, because it 'dozen' do anything!

Parent Support

Face Masks



Please remember face masks are now required in all indoor areas at school. It is a good idea to send pupils in with spares. All masks should be kept clean, dry and in a small bag whilst not in use. Thank you for your help and support in helping to keep our community safe.

There are many websites giving information on how to make face masks, including the government site below:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering/how-to-wear-and-make-a-cloth-face-covering