

**Newstead Academy**

Newstead Road,  
Barnsley,  
S71 3NA

Miss Lauren Norton  
Head of School



Tel: (01226) 395983

Email: [lnorton@watertonacademytrust.org](mailto:lnorton@watertonacademytrust.org)

Office email: [theaton@watertonacademytrust.org](mailto:theaton@watertonacademytrust.org)

1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Weekly Newsletter Autumn 2 Week 4**

Wow, how is it December already?! I am trialling sending the newsletter via email as well as paper this week. If it is successful, we will be moving away from sending paper copies home at the end of this term (unless requested) and will be sending them via email from January. Please check your junk folders as well as your main folder and let us know if you have not received it so we can look into this.

We have some Christmas activities planned for the children but will be keeping them simple and low-arousal. Children will be learning a special song which we are hoping to record and be able to share with you. We will send out a permission letter for this separately but if you have any objections to your child being included in the filming of this, please let me know so we can make arrangements to include them without them being filmed.

### **Parents Evening**

Please get in touch with Tina if you have still not made your appointment for Parents evening on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December**. Appointments can be face-to-face or virtual and will be allocated on a first come-first served basis; they will be 10 minutes each. Please return your slip to school or email Tina with your preferred time slot and preference for in person or virtual.

### **School Photos**

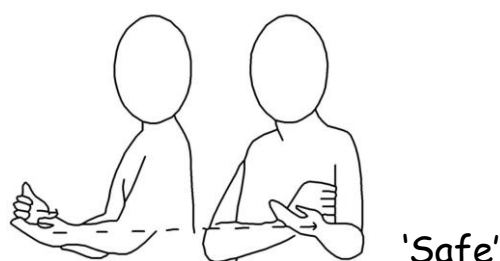
Children had their school photos taken on Tuesday afternoon. The final day for ordering any photos is Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

### **MCAS app**

Tina has asked me to let you know that the My Child At School (MCAS) app will be live from next week and school dinner payments as well as the weekly snack contributions will now be able to be made via the app. She has said that if any one needs their code to be resent to be able to access the app that they get in touch and she will sort this for you.

## Sign of the Week

This week our sign has been 'Safe'.



## What have we been learning this week?

**Theresa's Hive** - Hive 1 have done some fantastic work in maths, understanding the value of one and are embedding a culture that love books and reading. We have enjoyed making and painting Diva Lamps and explored the smells of spices and foods that link to them. All inspired by the Diwali, the Festival of Lights.

**Vic's Hive** - We have had a busy week as usual in Hive 2. In maths we have been exploring the concept of "more" and we had fun writing our letters in sand in sensory phonics. We have also made our own Diva Lamps to celebrate Diwali, the festival of light. The grown-ups in our Hive are very proud of how independent we are becoming!

**Craig's Hive** - This week in Craig's Hive we have been practicing our letter formation making it lovely and neat and re-writing the Rama and Sita Diwali story, in maths we have been looking at number bonds, we played maths games and collected items to make our target number.

Many thanks,

Lauren Norton,

Head of School

---