

Kindness at Newton Prep

At Newton Prep, kindness is at the heart of everything we do. It underpins our values, shapes our community, and guides the way our pupils interact with each other and the wider world. Over the past year, we have been proud to embed kindness even more deeply into school life, with a wide range of activities, initiatives, and events that encourage compassion, empathy, and generosity.

Kindness and Mental Health Week

One of the highlights of our year is Kindness and Mental Health Week, where every year group, from Nursery to Year 8, takes part. We began the week with a whole-school Kindness Assembly, attended by the entire Newton community, where we joined together in celebration of kindness. During this assembly, funds were also raised for charitable causes, reminding our pupils that kindness has the power to ripple out beyond our own community.

We were delighted to welcome back explorer Charlie Walker, who once again spoke to our pupils. This time, he shared new and inspiring stories about perseverance and the importance of resilience, underlining how kindness and determination often go hand in hand. His experiences encouraged our children to see kindness as a strength that supports us in overcoming challenges.

Early Years

Nursery: Children took part in activities such as Pass the Kindness Ball and the Kindness Parade. Through games and play, they learned how small actions like kind words, smiles, and inclusion can make a big difference.

Reception: Pupils created a Kindness Collage using images and words that represented caring actions. They also enjoyed The Smile Game, practicing gratitude and kind communication.

Lower School

Year 1: Pupils crafted sustainable toys for Battersea Dogs and Cats Home, which were later featured on ITV's For The Love of Dogs with Alison Hammond, giving children the pride of making a real difference for animals in need. They also played inclusive playground games to encourage teamwork and belonging.

Year 2: Each child designed a personal bookmark that classmates filled with kind and positive adjectives, reminding them how they are valued by their peers.

Year 3: Pupils discussed mental health in workshops with Kasia Adamska and contributed to a Self-care Jar of positive strategies, displayed for the whole year group to share.

Year 4: Year 4 took part in a mental health assembly with Emma Howard, followed by classroom reflections and activities. They also created a Random Acts of Kindness Jar, recording acts of goodwill throughout the week to decorate their Positivitree.

Upper School

Year 5: Each day began with Tai Chi during registration, reinforcing the importance of caring for both body and mind. Later in the week, pupils recorded Digital Kindness Shorts— uplifting video messages for classmates to watch whenever they needed encouragement.

Year 6: After weeks of exam preparation, Year 6 celebrated self-kindness with an afternoon in Battersea Park filled with play and sport, highlighting the importance of balance, rest, and fun.

Year 7: Pupils designed kindness postcards inspired by Henry Fraser’s art, writing messages to staff who had had a positive impact on them, keeping their identities anonymous to focus on gratitude rather than recognition.

Year 8: Pupils organised a foodbank collection, gathering an incredible 1,130kg of donations—equivalent to around 1,900 meals—for families in Wandsworth.

Whole School and Community

Kindness at Newton goes far beyond the classroom. Our pupils and families raised £1,420 for Trinity Hospice by knitting and raffling hundreds of Easter chicks, while community sports partnerships helped bring people together through football, hockey, and netball. These initiatives not only strengthen bonds within our school but also extend kindness to our local community and beyond.

Our pupils also had the pleasure of entertaining the residents of a local residential care home, where they regaled them with Christmas carols and songs from the past.

Newton Prep is proud of how our pupils have embraced kindness in so many forms—through creativity, generosity, empathy, and joy. By weaving kindness into daily life, we are nurturing a culture where every child learns that even the smallest kind act has the power to make a big difference.

