



# Speenhamland Primary School

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## SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER 20th December 2023



# School Council at SPEENHAMLAND

Dear All

This is the first school council newsletter of this academic year, and what an exciting first term it has been.

It seems a long time ago that we all voted for our school councillor and decided on the child in our class that would represent our voice.

As a school council this year, we have been looking at our 5Rs and what this looks like in our pupils. As an example the school council considered residence and came up with:

## A Resilient Pupil:

- Never gives up
- They try their best
- Don't stop believing in themselves
- Not afraid to ask for help
- Tries different methods
- Persevere with difficult tasks
- Explains in different ways to help others understand.

School councillors again helped sell the poppy merchandise for the British Legion, giving up their break times to be of service for this worth while organisation. Well done to the whole team. It was a sell out!



From January, School Council Surgery will commence every Friday in Bluebell class from: **12.15 until 12.55**



At the beginning of November, School Councilors met with the local authority and Active Maps for the afternoon to discuss their ideas.

The purpose of the meeting was for our school to be involved in creating the '5 ways to wellbeing NewburyMaps.' The children were able to talk about the local area showing pride in their home town as well as the creation of fantasy characters.

It was a pleasure to be part of a vibrant and creative afternoon and I am pleased to show the first draft of the Map for Newbury.

As you can see, the team have chosen a Disco Dragon theme and we look forward to being part of its launch in the new year.



This section is full of bits for the grown-ups. For the Treasure Map Trail, please turn over!

### How to use this map

Treasure Map Trails are based on real locations, but we take a few liberties with every route. Here's what you need to know to complete the trail.

You can start from anywhere and there's no set route. Use the street names to get your bearings.

We might have missed out some smaller streets to keep things from getting too cluttered, so don't be put off if you can see them but they're not on the map.

We've included several of the location's most eye-catching buildings, but to help little ones spot them we might have tweaked some around so they all face forwards on the map.

- The white boxes are your biggest clue as to the location of each Treasure. Each box signals a treasure is in the vicinity, so have a good look around until you find it.
- Treasures can be on buildings, roofs, pavements, street furniture... but they'll always be in view. So look up, look down, and have a good look around.
- There's no time limit on completing a map. If you only have 20 minutes spare, why not tackle a clue or two and save the rest for your next visit.

### Loved your Treasure Hunt?

We're a small company and your support makes a world of difference. If you enjoyed your adventure, please send us your pictures. Tell us how you got on, and leave a review on our Facebook page.

Facebook: [TreasureMapTrails](#)  
Twitter: [Tum@TreasureMapTrails.com](#)

### HAS SOMETHING CHANGED?

We try to keep our maps up to date, but if something has changed or a treasure is missing, please let us know.

This map is recyclable

### NEWBURY Did You Know?

**Norman Beginnings:** Newbury was founded in the Norman period as a Norman 'free town' and, unlike Thatcham, it is not mentioned by name in the Domesday Book (1086), which was a record of who owned the land.

**Famous Clothier:** In the 1500s, Newbury's woollen cloth gained an international reputation, namely for a cloth called Kersey. John Winchcombe (1480-1537), also known as 'Jack of Newbury', was one of the town's most successful clothiers. A person who makes and sells cloth. We'll meet Jack again in the Further Adventures section below!

**Canal and Coat of Arms:** The construction of the Kennet and Avon Canal from Newbury to Bath began in 1794 and the canal opened to barges in 1810. If you follow the map to view 'Wheat Road Bridge' from the canal, you'll see Newbury's Coat of Arms proudly displayed in the centre of the bridge. This emblem features several elements important to Newbury: a blue wavy line for the river Kennet; a basket, which was traditionally used in the local cloth-making industry; and the crossed swords, symbolising the First and Second Battles of Newbury fought as part of the Civil War in the seventeenth century.

**Castles and Crests:** At the top of the town's crest is Newbury Castle. There is no concrete proof of its existence, but the castle remains a popular symbol and can be seen on the Town Hall (Treasure I) and above the entrance to the Corn Exchange and the Newbury Building Society (Treasure O). One ruined castle that does survive is the 14th century Domington Castle. Both King Henry VIII and Queen Elizabeth I are thought to have stayed there!

**Dragon Tales:** There is a story of a dragon terrorising the area in 1100s and the local paying King Stephen to rid them of it. The memory of the dragon endured as when the Guild Hall was built in Newbury in 1811, a dragon weatherstone was put on the roof. Sadly, this dragon did not survive the demolition of the Guild Hall in 1828, but the story does not end there as a copy of the dragon weatherstone was made and put on the seventeenth century Cloth Hall (now part of West Berkshire Museum) in 1904 - he is called Blaze and is very friendly!

**Mosaic of History:** Outside Newbury Library, the Timeline Mosaic beautifully depicts 1000 years of Newbury's fascinating history in 12 panels, stretching from the town's beginnings to more modern achievements. See if you can find the panel selected for treasure E!

**Bronze Panels:** On the Kennet Centre's side on Market Street, six bronze panels from the 1970s display various cityscapes. Can you find treasure F among them?

**Faces of Newbury:** As you explore the town, look up to find faces from history gazing down from the rooftops: heads at the Corn Exchange (home to Treasure D) to the apse on St Nicholas (Treasure H) and the green men carved on the wooden canopies of West Berkshire Museum's Cloth Hall (Treasure J). These faces add character to our town.

If you found this adventure, find even more maps at [treasuremaptrails.com](#) or scan this code:

### Street adventures, welcome to Newbury's Treasure Trail in this land of growing dragons and shimmering light. Here are 12 hidden treasures to find. Solve each of the clues, then return around the ring road, and catch by the way - but not your quest for fun and magical mystery here. Let the dragons guide you!

Use the street names and buildings to find your way, and mark the treasures on the map by putting the name letter in the correct box. Complete the map and you can move up a rank in the Treasure Map Trails Academy!

As you find each of these treasures, write the letter in the  above, check to where you discovered them.

Ready to go? Let's do it.

**TREASURES**

A B C D E F G H I J K

### COMPLETED YOUR ADVENTURE? GET YOUR CERTIFICATE

Each time you complete a treasure hunt you climb a level in the Treasure Map Trails Academy, earning a new certificate every time. Can you go from Cadet to Treasure Hunter Master?

**TREASURE HUNTER RANKS**

1. CADET  
2. CAPTAIN  
3. EXPLORER  
4. ADVENTURER  
5. MASTER

To get your certificate scan this QR code, or go to [treasuremaptrails.com/level2](#)

### Aargh, I'm completely stuck!

**SPIDER ALERT - THE ANSWERS ARE BELOW. ONLY LOOK IF YOU ABSOLUTELY NEED TO.**

If you have looked everywhere and still can't solve a treasure or two, get help here:

- Newbury Coat of Arms on Wheat Road Bridge
- Dragon weatherstone on Cloth Hall, Wheat Street
- Barnel above entrance to Coopers Arms, Bartholomew Street
- Bronze panel above window on Corn Exchange, Market Place
- Scene from Newbury Time-Line Mosaic by Newbury Library
- One of a series of bronze panel cityscapes on the side of the Kennet Centre, Market Street
- Carved logo above entrance to Newbury Building Society, Bridge Street
- Grotesque on corner of St Nicholas Church, Bartholomew Street
- Newbury Castle decoration on the Town Hall, Marlborough House Street
- Decorative face on the Cloth Hall, Wheat Street
- Crown decoration above entrance of old Post Office, Cheap Street

**PLEASE DON'T COPY THIS MAP**

If you need this Treasure Trail and need your friends and family to give it a go, please send them to your local retailer or [treasuremaptrails.com](#), so they can buy copies too. This will help us keep prices low and create fabulous new maps for you to follow!

**Thanks to our supporters**

The theme for this Treasure Trail was developed by the incredibly creative children at Speenhamland Primary School.

### FOR FURTHER ADVENTURES IN NEWBURY

Looking for even more adventures? Here are four more conundrums for you to solve on your adventures in Newbury.

- How many lions guard the Queen Victoria statue in Victoria Park?
- A tiny section of Jack of Newbury's house still stands on Northbrook Street. What does the old sign on the side ask you not to commit?
- The use of what is prohibited on Marlborough House Street?
- At Newbury's famous Clock Tower at the end of Northbrook Street, what are shown on the triangular turret above the three clock faces?

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# Christmas at Speenhamland



## School Council

School Councillors ended the year by being invited by EYFS to watch their Christmas Performance. A truly beautiful round of Christmas songs, performed with actions. All councillors were really impressed with how clear they sang and how many songs they had learnt.



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