

Newborough C of E Primary School



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Dear Parents/ Carers,

In Reception we use Tapestry as one of several forms of assessment. We observe and record key moments in your child's development. This letter is a quick outline of how we do this for your information.

1. We write a record of what we saw your child do.
2. We try to quote the child accurately using the exact language that he/she used.
3. Sometimes we also note the progress or comment on the learning demonstrated.
4. Sometimes we will write next steps so you know what to focus on with your child at home.

Observations by Parents

One of the fantastic features of Tapestry is that parents can also add observations/wow moments from home to your child's journal. This is a great way of supporting us in assessing your child outside the school environment or aspects we do not see at school, it also provides us with opportunities to celebrate any achievements your child has made at home (we are still doing Superstars alongside this). Only staff members can see observations from home.

When making observations at home, here are a few tips to help you to understand what an observation looks like.

1. Add a title to your observation to summarise your moment e.g. Feeding the ducks
2. When writing your observation keep it simple. Try and record what your child said in their exact words and then comment on why this is a wow moment
E.g. 'X was excited to feed the ducks, she said "Look that duck is bigger than that duck".
E.g. 'X is starting to point out the differences between different objects.' 'X went to her cousin's birthday party, she spent lots of time bouncing on the trampoline without help and taught her cousin how to jump and turn around at the same time.'
3. If you wish, then you can then add a photo or video to your observation.

Commenting on observations

When you read the observations from school there is an option for you to leave a reply. Perhaps your child has done something similar at home or is showing particular interest in the topic of the observation - if so we would love to hear about it. If we have written a next step then you can also reply to the observation telling us about how your child got on at home e.g. 'X loved talking about this painting at home and could tell us how she mixed the colours to make orange'.

There is also an app for Tapestry, if you wish to download this the icon will look like this:



We loved seeing what the children get up to at home and it can often start great conversations in the classroom. I have sent activations out and if you require any assistance with this please let me know. We look forward to seeing your observations.

As always, if you have any question please do not hesitate to come and talk to me.
Thank you for your ongoing support.

Miss Driscoll
Class Teacher