



# NEWICK NEWS

[www.newickschool.co.uk](http://www.newickschool.co.uk)

July 2008

## *End of an era.*

This time of year is often both exhausting and emotional as we come to the end of the academic year and say goodbye to both pupils and teachers.

We are extremely sad to see Mrs Smerdon leave Newick after twenty years here. She has left an amazing legacy in terms of the garden and outdoor learning environment which she has developed with incredible enthusiasm, vision and spending hours of her time in the evenings and weekends over the last couple of years in particular. Mrs Smerdon's commitment to an active life and developing sport throughout the school was acknowledged publicly earlier this term when she was awarded a Sports Development Award through Brighton University and we are eternally grateful to her for all she has done in her capacity as a teacher, colleague and friend. She will be sorely missed! Rumour has it, that she may be back tending the garden from time to time so we may be lucky enough to still see Mrs Smerdon around!

Sadly, Mrs Skyrme is also leaving us to emigrate to Cyprus and of course we wish her the very best of luck on this exciting adventure. She has been an amazing school secretary and I know how much she will be missed by parents, staff and pupils alike. I am sure that we will receive post cards of the beautiful place she will be living in, reminding us of how lovely the weather is there!.

For our Year 6 children, this is their last few weeks at Newick and at primary level. All of us here at Newick would like to wish them the very best of luck for the next stage of their education. They have been a lovely class - creative and sparky! I am sure they will all go on to do their very best in whichever direction they choose.

We are also saying goodbye and a huge thank you to Mrs Day, Mrs Lovill, Mrs Ellis, Mrs Wilkins and Mrs Reeds who have covered teachers for their preparation and planning time throughout the year. They have all made a significant contribution to the children's learning. I am sure you may see these teachers from time to time covering teachers when they are absent. We also would like to say goodbye and thank you to Mr Lane who has been the teaching assistant in Seals.

## *On to the future...*

I would like to congratulate Mrs Woodham on her recent news that she is expecting a baby at the end of December! This is very exciting news and I am sure that you will join me in wishing Mrs Woodham many congratulations. Mrs Woodham will not have an individual class responsibility in September but will cover some of the teachers planning and preparation time and senior leaders' leadership time.

Finally, I would like to say that the one publicised INSET day in October has changed. This year, the school will be having training sessions as twilight sessions. This means that the end of the school year will be Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009 and not the publicised date of Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009. The first day back for children here for the new academic year will be Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

I would like to wish all of you a very pleasant summer and look forward to seeing you back here in September.

Sophie Thomas

NSA Summer Fair  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2008  
11.30am – 2.30pm  
See you there!

## Updates...

**ECO-logical News Update**  
We are hoping to complete our Silver Eco Award very soon – we will update you in September!

### **Reminder!**

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July is Dress Down Day

Come as a Sporting Hero of your choice to raise money for our new Sports kits for football and netball teams.

Suggested contribution  
£1



New NSA Committee members from September 08.  
Current committee need to step down at the AGM in September (date to follow) and new people need to fill roles. Contact Denise (723947) for further info.

## **Governor News**

The Governors, like the rest of the school have had a busy year. You will no doubt have seen Governors frequently in school, on their way to meetings or supporting the school in many ways. There are many opportunities for us to be involved in school life. All Governors give generously of their time and expertise.

There have recently been some changes in the Governing body. Chris Davies has resigned and will be greatly missed. He chaired the Finance Committee, where his financial knowledge was incredibly useful. Barbara Lloyd-Davies the Clerk to Governors is retiring, she has been in post for 8 years and her knowledge of Governor Law and Governing Procedures will be greatly missed.

We welcomed two new governors at this months meeting, Dave Evans as a Staff representative and Jane Johnson as a Parent Representative. Next term Julie Farrow will join us as the third Staff representative. There will be another vacancy for a parent governor in September, as John Philpott has been appointed as the new clerk to governors. The details of this will be available next term.

We would like to congratulate all of the staff and pupils on achieving such a good Ofsted result. The inspection was very rigorous, but the inspector, commented, as so many other visitors have before her, on how good it was to see such polite and well motivated pupils and what a great atmosphere the school has. Her comments on the outstanding curriculum and many other areas of the school should make us all proud to be part of Newick School.

I hope everyone has a good summer break and we look forward to an exciting year starting in September.

Mary Mayes Chair of Governors

## **IMPORTANT!**



A parent and dog were hit by a car reversing outside the school earlier this week. Please LOOK – luckily the parent and dog are fine but it could have been **YOUR CHILD!**



The Children's football Club, ***Chailey & Newick Colts*** are holding an Open Training Session and Signing On Evening for the new Season and invite both new and existing members. Parents can come along and meet the coaches and the children can join in some training games. There will also be a barbecue and bar available. All the fun takes place at Newick Sports Ground, Allington Road from 6.45 pm on Friday 18th July. We welcome children from 6 years old through to 15 with the emphasis on opening up football for all and developing teamwork, sportsmanship and participation. All of our team Managers are FA qualified coaches and CRB checked. For more details visit [www.chaileyandnewickcolts.co.uk](http://www.chaileyandnewickcolts.co.uk) or contact Nigel Dean on 01825 723292

## **Stop Press!**

As mentioned in the last newsletter, our new PE kit is on order and should be available to buy from Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2008. It will be available from the last Tuesday of term in the uniform shop. However, due to the short space of time, the office will be selling the PE kit each day until the end of term once it is in.

Prices are as follows:

Black shorts £2.70 22" – 34"

Burgundy T shirts £2.50 22" – 38"

## **And finally....**

We are in the process of smartening our uniform and are asking for parents, carers, governors, staff and children to express their opinion as to whether or not we continue to have a school tie. At present, there is much confusion as to when and where children should wear ties. There will be clear guidelines for summer and winter uniforms. If ties continue as part of the school uniform, the expectation will be that they will only be part of the winter uniform (terms 2, 3 and 4). Ties will only be worn with shirts not polo shirts. Polo shirts will be the summer uniform option (terms 1, 5 and 6) I am asking any parent/carer who wishes to express an opinion to vote for one of three options:

Option 1: No ties for any children

Option 2: Ties for Junior children only

Option 3: Ties for all children.

If you wish to vote, please fill out a voting slip which is in the school entrance and complete by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July. Voting slips will be available on the Open Evening 17<sup>th</sup> July, 6 – 8pm.

Once the decision has been made, I will of course inform you all and send home revised uniform lists. May I remind parents and carers that black shoes are part of school uniform and no sandals please.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

I have tried to give you as many relevant dates as possible for the rest of the school year.  
Please be mindful that some dates may change and there will certainly be additions.

<b>July</b>	w/b 7 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Bowles Residential
	10 <sup>th</sup>	Turtles class assembly
	11 <sup>th</sup>	Achievement assembly 9.05am
		Dress Down Day – Sporting Heroes (raising money for school sports kit.)
	12 <sup>th</sup>	NSA Summer Fair
		Y5/6 Parade 12.30pm Uckfield
	13 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Grand Prix – Uckfield
	14 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Sports Week
	w/b 14 <sup>th</sup>	Y5 Cycling Proficiency all week – 3.30 – 5pm
		Norman Baker visits school 10.30am
	16 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day
	17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Open Evening for parents (6-8pm)</b>
	18 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Week achievement assembly 9.05am
		Prayer Group – 3.30pm
21 <sup>st</sup>	Cycling Proficiency Test 9.30 – 11am	
	Y6 Leavers Party 6 – 8pm	
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Leavers Service 9.30am in Church. All parents welcome	
	Final assembly 2pm All parents welcome	
<b>September</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	INSET – school closure
	4 <sup>th</sup>	Term Begins

### **TEACHER TRAINING DAYS**

The following dates have been set as INSET Days.

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2008**

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> July 2009**

**Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009**

