



NEWICK NEWS

www.newickschool.co.uk

May 2009



'Ne'er cast a clout.....'

Sun Cream

I begin this newsletter with a reminder to parents regarding sun cream (I know I am being optimistic!) but as several new parents to our school have asked, I thought I should clarify what the expectation is when the weather is sunny at this time of year. We ask that you put sun cream on your child before they come to school in the mornings. That should give them enough of a barrier. If you are at all concerned that they will need to reapply, particularly in hotter weather than we have experienced before now, then a small tube or 'pouch' of sun cream can be placed in your child's book bag or rucksack. I would urge you to not send in cream however, unless you feel it absolutely necessary. Staff do not have the time to put sun cream on every child, as I am sure you can appreciate. If your child comes into school with their own sun cream, please ensure they can apply it themselves. In addition, look at the ingredients to ensure there is no coconut oils or other nut products please as we have several children in school with nut allergies.



Breakfast Club

We began our new Breakfast Club just over two weeks ago and the current members are really enjoying it. We still need new members to join in order that this facility moves from a 'trial' to an established club. Please contact Mrs Fake or Mrs Newman in the office for more details.

The Cost of School Trips and Additional Contributions

We really do appreciate the support so many of you give us over contributions for trips. I know for some families, especially in the current economic climate, find it particularly challenging. We do try to keep the number of contributions to a minimum and many are subsidised. If families are in real financial difficulty, please do come and see me; there may be charitable funds that I can access. I know that swimming costs have been very contentious but we have to pay for a swimming coach as well as the pool hire and coach costs. If parents do not help with these costs, we cannot run the lessons. We are currently reviewing which year groups will go swimming from September and I am really keen to have your opinions on this. I shall be putting this as an item to be discussed at the next Think Tank meeting so if you would like to contribute to this discussion, please let your class rep know. The date for this is still to be confirmed but will be in Term 6 sometime.



Cycling and Scooting To School

All children are welcome to cycle or scoot to school. Only children who have passed their cycling proficiency test are allowed to cycle to school independently. Bikes and scooters can be left round the side by our existing cycle shed but all are left at the owners own risk. The school can not be held responsible for loss, theft or damage to bikes or scooters. Year 5 children will be undertaking their cycling proficiency training during the first week in July.



Mrs Woodham Returns!

We also welcome back Mrs Woodham from her maternity leave this week - I know the children are looking forward to her return as we all are! Thank you very much to Mrs Lovill who covered Mrs Woodham in her absence.

Sophie Thomas

Are you interested in helping us work towards renewing our Healthy Schools Award?

If so, we need your help with ideas and to be a member of our task group. Please get in touch with Miss Riggs by the end of term 5, Friday 22nd May. We anticipate the first meeting will take place early in June.

Prayer Group Meetings

The prayer group meeting times are as follows for the rest of the academic year:
Monday 1st June 7.30pm
Friday 3rd July 3.45pm.

News from SEALS!

In conjunction with Sussex University, Year 4 have developed a link with a Primary School in Africa. The school in Africa have been supplied with an Apple Mac laptop, an mp3 player/recorder, some sensor equipment and digital cameras (plus solar panels to power their equipment) by Sussex University who have been out to spend time in their school and village. We have been supplied with the same equipment also. Our first project involved us creating photo stories using a program called Comic Life which has been purchased through the university.

This shows our link school what a typical day is like in our school life - they are currently creating their own to share with us. Below is the link to show you their blog...

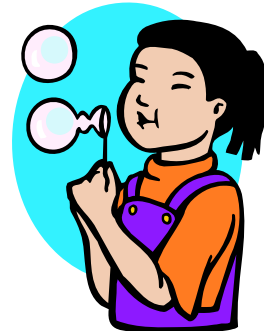
<http://silanga.blogspot.com/>

Our next project linked in with sustainable energy and the children designed and made mini wind turbines. We then tested these using a data logger and read how much energy each windmill produced. The children evaluated their windmills and we discussed chosen materials and shape.

Next term, we are getting involved with a new project using data loggers/sensors in the garden. We will be comparing our own soil and crops with the school in Africa. It is hoped that it will be a two-way learning process that both schools can benefit from.

Watch this space for more information from SEALS class in future newsletters!

Miss Riggs



Notice to all Parents

We have a new school nurse, Anna Rawson, affiliated to us here at Newick. She will be here the first Tuesday in every month for a 'drop in' session for you to air any concerns you may have or to provide advice about other local services. Anna will be able to offer advice and information about a variety of areas such as growth and development of your child through to hearing and vision, eating, behaviour and headlice to name but a few! Anna will be in school for her first drop in session on Tuesday 2nd June from 8.45 – 9.15am in the medical room. You can either wait to see her or book a slot with Mrs Fake in the office. Leaflets will be in your child's book bag in the next few weeks to give you more information.



Silanga School, Kenya

**STOP PRESS!
NSA SUMMER BALL
Saturday 27th June 2009**

First release of tickets (100+) have now all been sold. A final release of 30 tickets are now available and will be on sale until Friday 15th May. Contact Denise, Jane, Kirsten or Paula to buy tickets.

Thank you all for supporting the ball and the NSA.



Newick School Walking Bus Needs You!

By now, you've seen our fantastic banner so how about joining in?

If you normally drive to school, drive instead to either of the start points and discover how easy it is to park and how much better YOUR day starts with a short walk!

Once you've tried it, we're sure you'll realise how easy it is and want to become regulars. Some parents become helpers – we have to organise CRB clearance, but once that's done, it is really useful for getting involved in all sorts of other school activities. Helping is also a great way to get to know children and parents from different year groups. Other parents leave their children to walk to school with us.

It is a great way for children to put into action the road safety skills they learn at school and a good stepping stone for older children who are eager for a bit more independence and eventually walk to school by themselves.

Keeping cars away from the school itself and limiting the manoeuvres around the junction of South Rough and Allington Road, helps to improve the safety of all the children around school and will hopefully encourage more to walk or cycle to school.

The route from the Village Hall (on Tuesdays and Thursdays) meanders up through the twitten to Newlands Park and Paynters Way, turns left onto Newick Drive, then through the second twitten to South Rough and School. It takes less than 10 minutes.

The route from the Crown Inn (Wednesdays) starts from the car park in Church Road and simply strolls up Allington Road. It's an even shorter route!

Both routes currently set off at 8.35am to try and help working parents but we can change if a later start time would encourage more users.

Interested? Please contact Hilary Blackburn (mother of Rory Y6, Todd Y4)

Or

Sarah Eynon (mother of Issy Y4, Tom Y1)

Hilary Blackburn



Eco Update

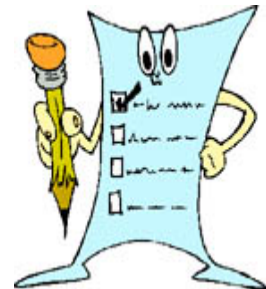


We are having a real drive towards being more energy efficient by raising awareness of how we currently use electricity, gas and water. Discussions are due to take place in class councils to make everyone in school more 'Eco Aware' by ensuring that lights are turned off in rooms not being used, taps turned off etc. We look forward to hearing the children's suggestions how we could reduce our consumption of utilities in school.

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.

May	11th	Year 6 SATs Week: Monday – Friday	
	19th	Penguins class assembly 9.05am	
	20th	Y6 Safety in Action – Newhaven Fort	
	21st	NSA film show in Hall 3.30 – 5.00pm	
	22nd	Achievement assembly 9.05am – parents welcome <i>Half term – End of Term 5</i>	
June	1st	Children return back to school – <i>start of Term 6</i> Prayer Group Meeting 7.30pm	
	4th	Year 2 class assembly 9.05am – parents welcome	
	9th	Seals class assembly 9.05am – parents welcome	
	12th	Achievement assembly	
	16th	Whales class assembly	
	22nd	Junior Production Week	
	23rd	New Reception parent afternoon 3.30 – 4.30pm.	
	26th	Achievement assembly 9.05 – parents welcome NSA Dress Down Day – bring in items for raffle and tombola for Summer Fayre	
	27th	NSA Summer Ball	
	29th	Sports and Healthy Living Week Yr 6 induction day at Chailey	
	30th	Dolphins class assembly 9.05am – parents welcome Yr 6 induction day at Chailey	
	July	1st	Leaver's Service for Year 6 at Crowborough – parents welcome 1.15pm
2nd		Sports Day 1.30pm	
3rd		Sports Week Achievement assembly 9.05am – parents welcome Prayer Group meeting 3.45pm	
4th		Summer Fair (time tbc)	
6th		Bowles Residential for Year 6 (Monday – Friday)	
7th		Otters class assembly 9.05am – parents welcome	
11th		Uckfield Parade	
14th		Turtles class assembly 9.05am – parents welcome Open Evening 5 – 7pm	
15th		Leavers Service in Church (9.30am) All parents welcome.	
16th		Achievement assembly 9.05am – parents welcome Y6 Leavers BBQ 6 – 8pm	
17th		Leavers assembly in school 2.30pm (All parents welcome) <i>Summer holidays – End of Term 6</i>	
Sept		2nd	INSET
		3rd	Children return to school



TEACHER TRAINING DAYS

The following dates have been set as INSET Days:

Monday 20th July 2009, Tuesday 21st July 2009, Wednesday 22nd July 2009