

Dear Parents,

The final newsletter of the year! (A slightly different format due to technical reasons!) I would like to start by thanking those families who came to join us on our 'Out & About' day clearing the pond and quiet area and much more! It was a roaring success and we have been using the pond ever since. What a pleasure it was to be part of this community event with a great team spirit. As it was so successful, we will be holding one every term, and the more the merrier. The next phase will include an orchard, more general gardening and perhaps a staging area (I sense another need for power tools to come out!) More details to follow.

### **Sports day**

Well what can I say? FAN...TASTIC!!!! I know that many of you were bowled over by the day; we were thrilled with the way the children gave their upmost, supported each other, worked as a team and just generally did us all proud. A huge thanks to Tom Stimpson for being our guest of honour. For those of you who do not know, Mr Stimpson (MBE) has served for 26 years in The Royal Air Force visiting Germany, Gibraltar, Bavaria, Brussels, Ascension Islands, Naples, The Falkland Islands, Iraq and Afghanistan. He is now a veteran and an Ambassador for Help for Heroes. He was selected for the United Kingdom **Invictus Games** in Orlando, Florida in May 2016, taking part against 14 other nations of wounded and injured Veterans and service personnel. Hosted by The First Lady Michelle Obama and HRH Prince Harry, approximately 500 athletes took part. It was such an honour and a privilege to have him join us and we want to say a huge thank you. I will leave you with his words that sum up the day!

*"Thank you for today, I really enjoyed it. What an inspirational school of children showing speed, agility, strength and even some injured still jumping throwing and running- true Invictus Spirit."*

### **Painshill**

It may have been 32 degrees, but your children were as cool as cucumbers and were just incredible despite these tropical temperatures. A great day was had by all, and as always we took great pride in coming together as a whole school to learn and enjoy ourselves. Thank you to the office staff for all their hard work.

### **Staffing.**

We are now in the position to inform you of the full teaching teams for the next academic year, our apologies for the late notice; recruitment timings have prevented us from letting you know earlier.

We are saying goodbye to 3 staff members this year. Mrs Kimberlee has made the decision to leave Newdigate Infant School and will therefore not be returning to her post. She has made this decision due to personal reasons. Mrs Kimberlee has asked me to say that she has enjoyed her 13 years at Newdigate Infant School, and will always remember the children, her colleagues and the community fondly.

The school would like to thank her for her contributions to our community as a class teacher and subject leader; she has provided invaluable help and support to many adults, children and families during that time and made a significant contribution to the high standards of teaching and learning in the school, including our outstanding PSCH programme. We wish her and her family well for the future.

Mrs Dixon will be retiring at the end of this year after more than 20 years of dedicated service. She has seen many changes here at Newdigate and made a significant contribution to the school, but has

decided that it is time to focus on her many hobbies. You may very well still see her walking purposefully around Newdigate and she will of course always be welcome back here for a catch-up. We would like to say a huge thank you to her for everything she has done and wish her well for the future.

In addition, after much deliberation, Mrs Read has decided to return to teach in the private sector. She has had a fabulous year and taught us so much in her short time, and she tells me the feeling is mutual! She leaves us on a very positive note saying that she has greatly enjoyed here time here at Newdigate and we have certainly enjoyed having her here. We wish her well in her new post.

Miss Jessica Patel will be joining us in Maple next year and we look forward to welcoming her to the team along with Mr Mick Smillie who is our new caretaker.

The teaching teams next year are as follows:

<b>Beech Class</b>	Mrs Priestley Mrs Martin	Mrs Bowhill Miss Stanford
<b>Cherry Class</b>	Mrs Denyssen Mrs Priestley	Mrs Davies Mrs Holt-Miller
<b>Maple Class</b>	Miss Patel Mrs Woolfson	Mrs Finn / Mrs Rogers Mrs McGinnis
<b>Willow Class</b>	Mrs Cleather Mrs Woolfson	Mrs Rennles Mrs Llewellyn

### Litter

I have been asked to mention the problem of litter at the new Newdigate playground as it seems to be causing a bit of a headache for those who are spending long hours daily clearing it up. Having celebrated the opening a few weeks ago, I know how appreciative many of you are that this has been completed and feel sure that we can quickly get it back on track. Please can you encourage your children to clear up any litter they create so that we can keep this amazing facility spic and span.

### More Farewells!

Well, we have reached the end of another year and it is time to say goodbye to another wonderful group of Year 2's. There will be tears shed, but we know they are ready to move on and will proudly represent Newdigate wherever they go. We have yet to experience the Leaver's Service, but having seen only glimpses I am certain it will be both entertaining and moving and they will rise to the occasion and show themselves to be the respectful and capable group we have already seen over the years. One more step along the world they go! Good luck to you all and thank you to you as families for all the support you have given us.

And finally, to reiterate my comments from the recent reports you received. The staff and governors at Newdigate are exceptional; I have never met a more committed, professional, caring group of individuals who work together for the good of the children. Thank you to each and every one of you.

Have a very restful summer.

Paula Bliss