



## NEWDIGATE CofE INFANT SCHOOL

Village Street, Newdigate, Dorking, Surrey, RH5 5DJ

Telephone 01306 631353 Fax 01306 631821

e-mail: [info@newdigate.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@newdigate.surrey.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Bliss

<http://www.newdigate.surrey.sch.uk>



### Newsletter 2

30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents,

As promised here is your fortnightly newsletter letting you know about everything that is happening at Newdigate.

We are most certainly being tested at the moment, as well as managing the pandemic

we now have petrol shortages and new roadworks to think about!

As always, we will be applying our value of compassion to any family that finds themselves in a

pickle with petrol or gets stuck in traffic because of queues or roadworks, but our focus remains on our

core business of providing the very best for children. We know that children are

more ready for learning if their day starts calmly and

positively and on time, so we would urge you to keep doing all that you can to get to school promptly even if it takes that extra effort!

We do however appreciate that some things are out of your control. Authorisation of any absence related to petrol is at the discretion of the school, so please give us a call so that we can better understand your circumstances.

**High attendance** will continue to be an expectation and we will remain accountable to governors and Ofsted for our attendance figures. Last year we had an overall school attendance rate of **95.24%**, and **96.59%** for Key Stage 1. We are keen to improve this, particularly for our early years class. Parents of children in Hedgehogs, please be aware that we will apply the same approaches to our early years children as we do for other years as guided by our school inclusion officer.

#### Assemblies/Worships

For our **Harvest celebration** this year at the school we will be collecting for Crawley Open House and have been lucky enough to have a visit from their representative on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Our theme this year is **'Scattered**

**'but Connected'** and we want our children to understand that food is not always freely available to everyone, and that we can help to 'scatter' the food that we have to others in need. If you are able to support this cause, please can you bring an item of non-perishable food to school on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October** so we can collect it together and hand it to Ian Wilkins, who will be joining us that day.



#### Birthday Presents

Birthdays are of course times to celebrate and we are keen to make sure children get opportunities to do this here at Newdigate, but we have been thinking! As reading continues to be a major focus for improvement in all schools, we would like to adopt an initiative that other schools are using to help us prepare for some of our new ideas. Rather than bring in sweets for a birthday treat we will be asking parents to make a donation of a book that we will place in our book collection for children to take home as a 'book you read to me.'

The book can be from home (but in good condition) or a newly purchased book from a charity or book shop. Our aim is to increase our collection of high-quality books that all children will have access to that will develop their language and comprehension. We will place a personalised donation sticker inside each so that whoever reads it will be able to see who was generous enough to make the donation for years to come!

#### Macmillan Coffee Morning 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

We cannot thank you enough for your amazing support. The grand total of **£170.00** was raised, which is quite incredible for our small school. As always, thanks go to Mrs McGinnis and the other staff for their hard work.

Love & Peace

Trust & Thankfulness

Forgiveness & Hope

Don't forget



16<sup>th</sup> October 2021, 10-12

It has been a while since we have been able to do this, but our outdoor environment is in need of some TLC. This is a chance for families to come together and have fun at the same time. Come dressed for muddy work and if you are able to bring gardening tools (put your name on them!) and gloves with you that would be a great help. Children of all ages are always welcome. We will be stopping for a well-earned cuppa/hot chocolate and a slice of cake midway through the morning.

### Open mornings

This year we will be holding our open mornings on our INSET day and the following day so we can make sure our prospective parents are able to see the school building as well as the outside area. Please can you promote the school and tell anybody looking for places about us; you are our best marketing tool!

***Remember to recommend us to your friends and families!***

***Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021 (10-11 and 11.-12 a.m.)***

***and***

***Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021 (10-11 and 11.-12 a.m.)***

We will also be holding a ***'Meet the Teacher-Information about learning and the curriculum'*** on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 6-7. We know that this can be difficult for parents to make arrangements to attend meetings after school, but we would urge you to put this in your diary. Getting the very best outcomes for your child depends upon us working together to overcome any learning gaps

or problems they have. We will be holding separate year group sessions, but will also set-up a range of learning resources and curriculum displays that we hope will provide you with more information. Join us for drinks and nibbles and a chance to find out about what is happening in your child's classroom.

### Teas on the Green

Please don't forget Teas on the Green in Brockham Green Church Hall on Sunday, 2.30pm-5.00pm. Do come along and help to support the school and Pre-School.

**Stay well and safe.**

**Paula Bliss**

## DATES – AUTUMN TERM 2021

Term dates – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> December

Half term dates – Monday, 25 October – Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> October

INSET days – Wednesday 1 Sept, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 4 January

### Diary Dates for Autumn Term

04.10.21 – 08.10.21	Feeling Good Week
05.10.21	#Hello Yellow Day – Supporting Young Minds
06.10.21	Meet the Teachers – information about learning and the curriculum – 6-7pm
11.10.21	FONS AGM 7.30pm – school hall
16.10.21	Out and About Morning – 10am – 12noon.
19.10.21	School Photos - Individuals
21.10.21	Harvest Festival @ 2pm – School
22.10.21	Open Morning 10-12 (INSET DAY)
23.10.21	Open Morning 10-12
10.11.21	Meet the Teacher – 3.30 - 6pm
17.11.21	Meet the Teacher – 5.30 – 8pm
26.11.21	Hoops Up
TBC	<i>Christmas Fair</i>
07.12.21	Christmas Performance – 10am
08.12.21	Christmas Performance – 10am
10.12.21	Christmas Jumper Day – School date.
15.12.21	Pied Piper Theatre company
16.12.21	Christingle @ 6pm -St Peters Church
17.12.21	Last day of term – Break up at 2pm

## DATES – SPRING TERM 2020

Term dates – Tuesday 4 January 2021 – Friday 1 April 2021

Half term dates – Monday 14 – Friday 18 February 2021

INSET Day – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021

### Diary Dates for Spring Term

04.01.22	INSET Day
<b>05.01.22</b>	<b>Back to School</b>
11.02.22	Break up for half term
21.02.22	Inset Day
<b>22.02.22</b>	<b>Back to School</b>
01.04.22	Last Day of Term – Break up at 2pm
<b>19.04.22</b>	<b>Back to School – Summer Term</b>

