



NEWSTEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter.

September 2026

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to all the pupils, parents and staff. We hope you had a good summer.

I would also like to say a warm welcome to all our new families that have joined us.

The children returned to school yesterday incredibly well and over the next few days will settle into their new classes and new routines.

Uniform

The children looked very smart today in their new uniforms.

Thank you for ensuring the uniform is in line with what we expect the children to wear when they come to school. Could you please ensure your child's name is in all uniform please so if things do get lost, we can get them back to the right child.

Thank you.

Meal Charges

Following the letter, we sent out at the beginning of July, please note that a school meal now costs £2.95 a day, which equates to £14.75 per week.

Autumn Term Diary Dates

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2 September 2026 - School re-opens to children at 9.00am

10 September 2026 - Swimming begins for Year 4 and some Year 5 / 6 children Group A. (further details below)

1 October 2026 - NSPCC Workshops for Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6

WB 5 October 2026 - Parents Evening Week

14 October 2026 - PTA Halloween Disco - 4:00-5:30pm

16 October 2026 - Children Break-Up for Half-Term

HALF-TERM

2 November 2026 - INSET DAY

3 November 2026 - School re-opens to children at 9.00am

13 November 2026 - Children In Need Day

WC 16 November 2026- Odd Socks Day - Anti-Bullying Week

25 November 2026 - Nasal Flu Immunisations

2 December 2026 - PTA Christmas Fair 3:45-6:00pm

9 December 2026- Christmas Dinner Day / Christmas Jumper Day

9 December 2026 - Willow and Acorn Christmas Nativity - 9:30am.

10 December 2024- Elm Christmas Nativity - 9:30am and 5:00pm.

14 December 2026 - Attendance certificates assembly.

16 December 2026 - Christmas Party Day

17 December 2026 - Pine, Maple and Oak Christmas Church Concert - 2:00pm and 5:00pm

18 December 2025 - Break-Up for the Christmas Holidays

4 Jan 2027 - School re-opens to children

INSET DAYS 2026-2027

Monday 2nd November 2026

Friday 12th February 2027

Monday 12th April 2027

Monday 7th June 2027

Leave of absence during term time - I would please ask that if leave of absences are to be taken during term time you consider using the INSET days to make your holiday more cost effective and reduce the amount of days children are absent from school. Please note: 3 days of absence within a 6 week period puts children within the persistent absence category with Nottinghamshire County Council (illness or holidays)

Children in Willow and Elm classes all receive a school meal under the Universal School Meal initiative. If you are in receipt of benefits (see the back page of the newsletter for specific details) you are also entitled to apply for Free School Meals.

Eligibility for Free School Meals has been expanded. Many people who were previously not eligible now are. Please check if you are in receipt of any of the qualifying benefits and apply online here:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk>

Ofsted - July 2026

As you all know we had an Ofsted inspection in July 2026. We were all very pleased with the results of the inspection and the children who the inspectors spoke to made us proud. The purpose of the inspection is to celebrate all the successes of our school but also to highlight some areas we could improve in. One of those areas is attendance. Overall attendance percentages are below national averages as are persistent absence percentages. This will of course mean that more stringent measures will need to be put in place as we have been given a 2-year timescale to improve this aspect of our school.

Our Ofsted Report Card can be found on our school website www.newstead.notts.sch.uk.

This link will also take you to a copy of the report. <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/21/122658>

Home-time

Can I take this opportunity just to remind you about who can take your child home if you are unavailable. If you need someone else to collect your child from school, **you must** call the school office during the day or inform your child's class teacher in the morning. Other parents cannot just arrive to collect children without us knowing. We will question this and make a phone call to you to check as this falls under a school's safeguarding duties. If older siblings are collecting children from school, they need to be at least 15 years old in this circumstance.

Yr6 children - Walking home alone.

All children up to Year 6 require someone to collect them from school. At Year 6 we do allow children to walk home on their own. There is a permission form that will need to be filled in if this is something you would like your Year 6 child to do.

Attendance.

Attendance is a much higher priority due to the findings from our Ofsted Inspection. Our overall absence rate is below national as is our persistent absence levels. There is also particular focus on the Year 6 cohort, children identified as SEND children and children in receipt of free school meals. All these groups have attendance which falls below national averages.

Good attendance is classed as a percentage of 96% or more.

You will know your own child's attendance from last academic year by

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

looking at their annual report from July 2026. Absence will reset attendance this week, so you can keep up to date with your child's percentage.

As you are aware, children who do not regularly attend school are at risk of falling behind in their education, not having consistent friendships, being anxious about coming back to class as they have missed lessons, the reasons are far reaching.

Our current policy is under review as systems for monitoring and accountability of parents need to become more stringent moving forward, once the review is complete you will all receive a copy of the policy.

Leave of absence

Can I just remind you that leave of absences are not encouraged during term time as it impacts your child's education and children can fall into the persistent category for this reason.

I have put in links to the school's website calendar and the Nottinghamshire County Council school holiday calendar is at the back of this newsletter, so you are aware when the school holidays are.

If you do take a leave of absence during term time, we still require a form to be filled in. These can be obtained from the school office.

School Organiser / Reading Diary

The children will be given their new organiser this week. This organiser is for the academic year and has resources within it they will need to learn over the course of the year.

The organiser also includes the children's reading diary.

You will see within the reading diary pages there is a column for parents to sign, this is to show that you have been reading with your child at home.

We would like all children to be reading **at least 4 times a week at home.**

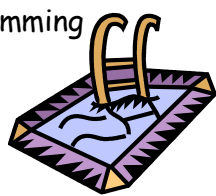
Reading at home to practice the skills that have been taught in school is essential to your child's reading development and progress.

If the organiser happens to get lost there will be a £3.00 replacement charge.



Year 4, 5 and Year 6 Swimming.

From Thursday 10th September 2026 to the 11th February 2027 our Year 4 and some Year 5 and Year 6 children will be going swimming. This year the children will be organised into two groups due to higher pupil numbers. You have already received a letter explaining which group your child is in with the specified dates your child will go swimming. Swimming lessons will be at Hucknall Leisure Centre on a Thursday afternoon. The children will swim from 2:15pm until 3:00pm so will be back just in time for home time. They will be transported to the leisure centre using the school mini-bus. All children will require the appropriate swim wear. They will need a towel. Girls require a swimming



costume (no bikinis or tankinis). Boys need fitted swimming trunks/tight shorts (they are not allowed to wear loose fitting shorts with pockets). If your child needs to wear goggles to swim a letter needs to be signed and returned to school. Goggle letters can be collected from the school office. Long hair needs to be tied up or a swimming cap must be worn.

Nasal Flu Immunisations.

You will receive information shortly regarding the Nasal Flu Immunisation process leading up to the immunisations being administered on Wednesday 25th November 2026. As a parent you will need to register that you wish your child to have the immunisation on the NHS system, as a school we cannot help you with this, so please ensure you register as soon as you receive the information.

Willersley Castle Residential - Year 5 and 6

Children in Year 5 and 6 have the opportunity to take part in the residential visit. The residential is planned for Wednesday 27th January to Friday 29th January 2027. All children in Year 5 and 6 have already received a letter about the visit. If your child wishes to go on the residential, deposits need to be paid by the 5th October 2026. Please note, the deposit is NON-REFUNDABLE so please ensure your child does wish to attend.



Together as One Collaboration.

Newstead Primary School is proud to be working with a formal collaboration of schools in the local community known as 'Together As One'. We are a group of five schools growing together with a commitment to professional learning that enables life-transforming educational opportunities for our pupils. The other schools within the collaboration are:

- Abbey Gates Primary
- Annesley Primary School
- Morven Park Primary School
- Orchard Primary School

Our strategic plan is centred on three key priorities:

Priority 1: *Children who are confident and resilient learners, prepared for the future.*

Priority 2: *Staff who are valued and supported with opportunities for growth.*

Priority 3: *Together we are aspirational, nurturing and forward looking.*



Parent Governors.

Keep a look out next week for parent governor nomination forms being sent home with the children. If you think this is something that would interest you, you can always pop in and have a chat about what this role entails. We have two parent vacancies currently.

August

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

 School Holidays  Public Holidays  Administration Day

Autumn Term

1 September - 16 October **6 weeks 4 days**
2 November - 18 December **7 weeks**

Spring Term

4 January - 12 February **6 weeks**
22 February - 25 March **4 weeks 4 days**

Summer Term

12 April - 28 May **6 weeks 4 days**
7 June - 28 July **7 weeks 3 days**

INSET DAYS 2026 – 2027

Monday 2nd November 2026
Friday 12th February 2027
Monday 12th April 2027
Monday 7th June 2027

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox

Until all spots
have crusted
over

Conjunctivitis

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

48 hours from
last episode

Glandular Fever

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Hand, foot & mouth

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Impetigo

Until lesions are
crusted & healed or
48 Hours after
commencing
antibiotics

Measles or German Measles

4 days from
onset of rash

Mumps

5 days from
onset of swelling

Scabies

Until after first
treatment

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after
commencing
antibiotics

Slapped Cheek

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Whooping Cough

48 Hours after
commencing
antibiotics

Flu

Until
recovered

Head Lice

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Threadworms

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Tonsillitis

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

UNIFORM

All the children look really smart in their new uniforms at the beginning of this term.

HOODIES / SPORTS TOPS

Hoodies and sports tops are NOT part of our school uniform. If the children come to school in these they will be asked to hang them up in the cloakroom, they are not to be worn in the classroom. Navy blue jumpers and cardigans are available from the school office or local supermarkets.

PE KITS

The children are required to wear 'school colours as part of their PE Kit (Navy or black shorts and a plain white t-shirt). Any brightly coloured kits are not allowed. PE kits are available to purchase from the school office.

JEWELLERY

Necklaces and rings are not appropriate for the children to wear in school.

If your child wears earrings, they must be small studs.

Your child must be able to remove their own earrings for PE or plasters must be worn over the top. Plasters must be provided from home.

Children can wear a watch.

DO YOU QUALIFY FOR FREE SCHOOL DINNERS?

The government provides extra funding to schools for each child who qualifies for free school meals. If your child is entitled to Universal Free School Meals (Willow and Elm Classes) this DOES NOT automatically trigger this funding it needs to be applied for. This is done, online here:

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk>

or over the phone (0300 500 80 80).

Parents of children in Oak, Maple and Pine class can also apply for free school meals if you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit.

Qualifying benefits:

- Universal Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income related Employment and Support allowance
- Receive the guarantee element of Pension Credit.
- Meet criteria set out in separate guidance for families with no resource to public funds



SCHOOL DINNERS - Pine, Maple and Oak Class

School dinners cost £2.95 a day (£14.75 a week) and MUST be paid for in advance or on the days itself.

UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS.

All children in Willow and Elm Class are entitled to a FREE school lunch under the governments Universal Free School Meal Scheme.

MILK

You must register online at www.coolmilk.com for your child to receive milk. If your child is under 5 they will receive free milk but you must still register them.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please feel free to contact school with any queries or questions and we will be happy to help.

Telephone - 01623 753681

Email - office@newstead.notts.sch.uk