

NEWSTEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter.

November 2024

Welcome Back

Welcome back. Hope you all had a lovely October half-term. This half-term is the busiest in the school year so please keep up to date with what is happening, especially leading up to Christmas by looking at the dates opposite or using the calendar section on the school website.

www.newstead.notts.sch.uk

A copy of this newsletter can also be found on the homepage.

Please ensure you read the information further on in the newsletter regarding attendance.

Sports competitions.

As you know from the September newsletter, this year we are part of GHD Active Games which allows our children to represent the school in various sports competitions. Last half term some children took part in quicksticks hockey and futsal competitions.

Autumn Term Diary Dates

- 4 November 2024 - School re-opens to children at 9.00am
- 6 November 2024 - Flu immunisations.
- 7 November 2024 - Foundation Open Evening 4-5pm
- 13 November 2024 - Foundation Open afternoon 2-3pm
- 15 November 2024 - Children In Need Day
- 25 November 2024 - Willersley Castle Yr5/6 residential meeting at 3:40pm
- 2 December 2024 - Elm Class Trip to Newstead Abbey - Victorian Christmas.
- 4 December 2024 - PTA Christmas Fair 3:45-6:00pm
- 11 December 2024- Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day
- 11 December 2024 - Willow and Acorn Christmas Nativity - 9:30am.
- 12 December 2024- Elm Christmas Nativity - 9:30am and 5:00pm.
- 17 December 2024 - Attendance certificates assembly.
- 18 December 2024 - Christmas Party Day for all classes.
- 19 December 2024 - Pine, Maple and Oak Christmas Church Concert - 2:00pm and 5:00pm
- 20 December 2024 - Break-Up for the Christmas Holidays

Spring Term Diary Dates

- 6 January 2025 - School re-opens to children
- 17 January 2025 - Pine Class Trip to Creswell Crags
- 27 January to 29 January - Yr5 and 6, 2 night residential to Willersley Castle in Cromford.
- 6 February - SCARF Workshops (part of PSHRE curriculum)
- 12 February 2025 - Maple Class Trip to Mansfield Museum
- 13 February 2025 - Children break-up for half-term
- 14 February 2025- INSET DAY.
- 24 February 2025 - School re-opens.

INSET DAYS 2024-2025

Friday 14th February 2025

Friday 4th April 2025

Monday 23rd May 2025

Leave of absence during term time - I would please ask that if any holidays 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: 5 days of absence within a 10 week period puts children within the persistent absence category.

This half term the competitions are:

- KS1 indoor athletics competition,
- Yr3/4 indoor athletics competition
- KS2 indoor dodgeball competition.

Some of the children will be chosen to represent the school and letters will be sent out to those children who are selected.

T and S Heating

The school has made a link with T and S heating through the schools PTA.

T and S heating have very kindly donated sports kits for the children so when

they do represent the school in a sports competition, they will all have the same

kit. They have donated t-shirts, shorts, socks, hoodies, tracksuit bottoms and high visibility vests.

We would like to thank them for their very generous donation and we hope the children take pride in wearing them when they go to sports competitions.



1st Admission Open Days

Is your child, or do you know of any children that are due to start full-time school in September 2025? We have two open day events planned. There is no need to book, just come and have a look at the times stated below.

EYFS Open Day

Thursday 7th November 4pm-5pm

Wednesday 13th November 2pm-3pm

Children in Need

Children in Need is back for 2024 on Friday 15th November. As we do every year we will be supporting this charity. The theme continues to be SPOTacular. On this day the children can come dressed in fancy dress if they wish to or in non-school uniform. Fancy dress may be any 'spotty' outfit, pyjamas or any fancy dress the children may have.

We are asking for a £1 donation for fancy dress or non-school uniform. We will be selling toast and juice on this day, 20p per slice of toast and 10p for juice.



Attendance - Willow Class

Congratulations to WILLOW Class who are the best attending class in the school. Every Friday in the Aim High assembly we announce the best attending class of the week. Willow Class have amazingly won this 5 weeks out of the 6 weeks that this was awarded last half term. More amazingly this has also been 100% attendance each time. Well done Willow Class - keep it up!!!



We also have 42 out of the 104 children in the school that currently have 100% attendance - well done to all of you.

Attendance Reward Assembly

At the end of this term, we will be holding an attendance assembly, where we will be celebrating those children who have achieved good attendance this term. Children will receive a certificate for 'good' attendance if their attendance is 96% or above. Children who have 100% attendance at the end of the term will also receive a certificate. If they continue to achieve 100% attendance for the whole school year they will also receive a bowling trip in July 2025.



New Attendance Policy

Please find a link below to the new attendance policy below.

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/newstead-primary-school/UploadedDocument/778a68a7-61bf-49dc-8225-dbcca4cbad59/19-attendance-policy.pdf>

There are certain aspects that have changed this year in line with new Dfe policy and legislation, the points I would like to draw your attention to are below:

- Attendance Contract Meetings.

A pupil is defined by the Department for Education as where an absence escalates and pupils miss 10% or more of school for any reason (ie below 90% attendance). This can be both authorised and

unauthorised absence. Absence at this level will cause considerable gaps in a child's education. Schools are expected to put in place targeted support plan to support improved attendance. Parents will be invited to attend a formal meeting called an 'Attendance Contract Meeting' as a support method to improve attendance.

- **Severe Absence**

This is defined as pupils missing 50% or more of school. In these circumstances the attendance will need a more intensive approach with support from outside agencies, such as an Early Help referral.

- **Fixed Penalty Notices**

The Department for Education has issued a new threshold of 10 sessions (5 days) of **unauthorised** absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks. The Local Authority may pursue cases of poor attendance through the courts or the school could trigger a fixed penalty notice. This is why it is so important you let us know the reasons for any absence as if you don't the absence is recorded as an unauthorised absence.

PTA Annual General Meeting

The PTA annual general meeting (AGM) is to be held on Wednesday 27th November 2024 at 1:30pm. Anyone is invited to join the PTA at this meeting and hear about what has been achieved during the last year. Please come along and support the PTA and if you have any fundraising ideas this is a good opportunity to put your ideas forward.



PTA Christmas Fair

The PTA are busy organising the Christmas Fair that will be held on Wednesday 4th December 2024. More details will follow closer to the time. We will be having a raffle and a tombola stall, so if you would like to donate anything towards these you can begin donating now.

Willersley Castle - Yr 5 and 6 residential.

All the Yr 5 and 6 children who wish to go on the residential trip to Willersley Castle have secured a place. Just a reminder that the next installment of £50 is due by Friday 8th November 2024 and the remaining balance of £50 is due by the 13th December 2024.

Willersley Castle Residential meeting

A meeting has been arranged for Monday 25th November from 3:40pm.

This will be a chance to hear what activities the children will be experiencing whilst on the residential. We will also talk you through the kit list and what the children can and cannot take with them. If you cannot attend, we will send you all the information after the meeting has taken place.



Year 6 SATs 2025

SATs for the current Year 6's will commence during the week of May 12th 2025. These are statutory tests and children **MUST BE IN** school to take them. Please do not book any **HOLIDAYS** or any other events during this week.

Lost Property

We have lots of uniform left over again at the end of the half-term with no names in them.


PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE ensure every clothing item that your child has, including the separate items in PE Kits, are named. If clothing is not named in **permanent marker** we struggle to find the owner! If it is named, we generally manage to get it back to you.

30 Hours Childcare Provision

Newstead Primary School now offer up to 30 hours free childcare provision. If you, or you know someone who may require childcare for 3-year-olds please ensure you either contact the school office or look on our website for the information. We currently have spaces for anyone in or out of the catchment area to access this provision.

<https://www.newstead.notts.sch.uk/nursery-admissions-15-and-30-hours-childcare/>

School office - 01623 753681



**NEWSTEAD PRIMARY
AND NURSERY SCHOOL**

**FREE 30 HOUR CHILDCARE
FOR 3 AND 4 YEAR OLDS.**

Call: 01623 753681. E-mail: office@newstead.notts.sch.uk
Visit: www.newstead.notts.sch.uk

Wraparound Childcare

If you require wraparound childcare before or after school, school link with Little Chicks Early start club and after school Craft Club based at the Acacia Centre in Annesley. The provider is able to drop children off at school and pick them up. Please click on the link below for further information and the contact details of the provider.

<https://www.newstead.notts.sch.uk/wraparound-childcare/>

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.

We currently have two parent vacancies on our governing body. If you think this is something that you might be interested in, you can always pop in and have a chat about what this role entails. I can put you in touch with some serving parent governors for you to talk to and you could even come and observe a governors meeting before committing to the role.



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 simply done, over the phone, on the following number (0300 500 80 80) if you receive one of the following benefits. Parents of children in Oak, Maple and Pine class can also apply for free school meals using the same number.

Benefits:

- Income support
- Jobseekers allowance
- Employment support allowance
- Child tax credit, provided you are not entitled to working tax credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of state pension credit.
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year.



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.

SCHOOL DINNERS - Pine, Maple and Oak Class

School dinners cost £2.70 and MUST be paid for in advance or on the days itself.

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