

NEWDIGATE CofE INFANT SCHOOL

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Newsletter 14

Dear Parents,

Without question I must begin by gushing about the joyous occasion of the crowning of the May Queen and the following Rectory Fete.



I was totally bowled over by the whole event; watching over 100 infant children conducting themselves with such poise, grace and co-ordination was an absolute delight to witness. We are proud of each and every one of you. A huge thank you must go to the members of the Church community that made the Fete so enjoyable.

Whenever possible I will aim to let the children's voices do the talking, so here is a short report from **Olivia Sargent**, our May Queen:

It was a glorious Saturday morning at the May Queen ceremony and the crowd waited with anticipation for the wonderful children. A few minutes later children came gracefully through the arch. Last, but not least, Thomas Irvine and Milly Piazza walked through (they were the best attendants) followed by Harvey Whitelock and Olivia Sargent as the amazing escort and May Queen. Rev. Coe gave them their Good News bibles and Harvey announced, "I crown you Queen of the May."

Parent Views.

Families are an integral part of our school community and we **want to hear your views**. In an earlier newsletter I mentioned a **Parent Forum** that will be held at the end of the term. This time we will be focussing on reviewing our school rules (the bee), the

impact of collective worship (assembly) and what will be on our website. This will be held on **Friday 3rd July @ 2.00 p.m. in the Annexe**, I hope to see you there. We will also be sending out the **annual parent questionnaire** shortly. I am told Newdigate parents are particularly good at taking the time to complete these, so no need to nag, hurrah!

Keeping active.

What a healthy active lot we are! All children are now taking part in swimming lessons and year 1 and 2 children are enjoying weekly cricket sessions. It is such a luxury to be able to use an on-site facility for swimming, combined with the enthusiasm and expertise of Mrs Chaplin and the value for money; we really are lucky. We still have a group of parents who have not returned their payment. If that is you, please can you make sure you let us have it soon so that we can settle the books.

*You may have noticed an entrepreneurial group of Year 2s selling their wares at a fete stall last week. **Toby, Maxim (and his brother Ruslan), Elliot, Ryan and Olivia** made bands and crystal creations and raised a total of £45. They have donated £15 to the school and are deciding what the wisest thing to spend it on is. Whatever their choice, we are very grateful and pleased to see children giving to others. **Thank You.***

Toy Sale

With a little help from their friends the school council (thank you to everybody who donated and helped on the day) managed to raise an impressive **£55** in May and because of this we are now forging ahead with our '**Praise Postcards**' initiative. Year 2 have had a class competition to design the postcards and we are currently voting to choose the top group that will all be printed. Hopefully a few lucky parents will have them drop onto their doormats before the end of term! (Mrs Priestley loaded the left-over toys into her car and took them to the Oxfam shop as the children thought they would be useful in supporting families who had suffered from the earthquake.)

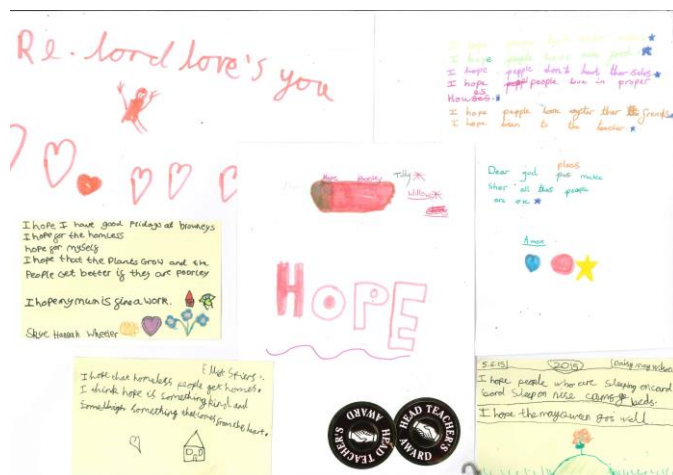
Parking

Following a trial period we are planning to continue to keep the gate from the graveyard closed, which means that families will need to continue to use the main access route along Village Street. Mrs Moon will of course be ready and waiting to cross you safely, and we are in contact with the County Council to have the hedges trimmed so that there is a wider pathway for you to use. Once again, thank you for your co-operation and support. As we continue to watch children spill out onto the previously unused outside spaces of the school we are constantly reminded about the value of this change.

Finally, we are very pleased to inform you that in September **Mrs Donna Read** will be joining the Newdigate team. Donna is an experienced teacher and a known face in the Newdigate community. She is very much looking forward to becoming part of the teaching team and we are looking forward to welcoming her.

Have a lovely weekend with your children.

Paula Bliss, Headteacher



Value: Hope

The children are constantly reflecting on our school values and finding ways to show us how they affect them, the people around them and in the wider world. Here are just a few examples about our value this term, Hope. We will be displaying more on our values board in the Hall in the next few weeks. Feel free to come and have a look.