



**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>

15<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## Newsletter 4

---

**Whole school attendance to date this year 96.2%**

---

**Our value this half-term  
is **peace**.**



*Seek peace and pursue it*

*We will make a peaceful school  
and world.*

*Psalm 34:14*

Dear Parents,  
We are most definitely feeling very autumnal here at school. As always at this time of year we think about some very important things as well as prepare for THE most important event in our calendar! Details of our busy Christmas itinerary will be sent in a separate e-mail so you can tick them off as you go.

Last Friday the whole school took part in a remembrance service. As

well as taking the time to join the Nation in the 2-minute silence, we listened to prayers, held our poppies and reflected on the significance of each part. As always, the children showed remarkable respect and reverence and we were able to mark this occasion fittingly. Later in the day, Miss Haydon took our year 2 leaders to visit the Newdigate war memorial to lay their crosses and a school wreath as a mark of respect. They were joined by Martin Gilpin.



Thank you for supporting our British Legion poppy collections; our donations have been sent off to support this worthy cause.



### **Open Morning**

Thank you to those who helped us tidy up before our **Open Morning** last week. We continue to offer the opportunity for families to come and visit us for the rest of this term (Monday-Thursday), so please encourage prospective families to come and look around; as we said in our last newsletter, you are our best advocates.

Families of children in year 2 will be looking ahead and thinking about their junior school choices. Please let us know if you plan on taking your child to view their next prospective school.

## Anti-Bullying Week



This week is Anti-Bullying Week. Although we have a year-round focus on ways to treat people

with respect and kindness, it is always good to raise awareness and know that children do fall out and have times when they struggle to resolve issues that may lead to more serious on-going problems including bullying. The theme this year is 'Reach Out' and we have linked this to our school value of peace. Our children have been thinking about being 'peace-makers' and reaching out to others when they need help, as well as making sure our actions and behaviours make peace around us.

## Children in Need



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November is Children in Need Day. We will be supporting this spectacular day by wearing something spotty and bringing in a donation for the cause.

## Parent Questionnaire

I mentioned at the beginning of term that we would be asking you to give us more information about our extended provision, including after school clubs. We would be really grateful if you could find the time to complete this short questionnaire so that we can better prepare for the rest of the school year.

<https://forms.office.com/r/WYsqXhRmUM>

## Attendance.

We now have a new attendance policy that is in line with other similar schools. It provides important information about attendance and our approach to improving this and managing any issues. It will be made available on our website and a copy will be sent to all parents separately.

## Volunteers

We have had a few kind offers from parents after our request for volunteers, but still want to expand our parent helper team and are looking for anyone who can spare us some time on a regular basis to **hear readers** in school.

Please speak to Mrs Priestley or Mrs Moon if you are able to volunteer.

We also have the start of a team to dismantle our playground boat, HMS Newdigate. A date will be confirmed and sent out before Xmas. If you can join the group just let us know and we will be able to get this sorted.

## Parent Information

I am attaching some information below that may be of use to some parents regarding local training and activities:

A graphic titled 'First steps to understanding my child (ADHD, Autism and Neurodivergent)'. It features a vertical bar on the left with colored segments (orange, green, purple, yellow, blue) and several hexagonal boxes containing questions: 'Have you wondered if your child might be autistic or showing signs of ADHD?', 'Does your child suffer with Social Anxiety?', 'Does your child struggle at School?', and 'Has your child developed distressed behaviors?'. A QR code is on the right, and a 'FREE COURSE' banner is at the top right. Contact information for SAL Family Learning is at the bottom.

**First steps to understanding my child (ADHD, Autism and Neurodivergent)**

This FREE Online three-week parenting course will be delivered in three 2 x hour sessions and will explain the terms and key features associated with a neurodivergent profile, we will consider how this might impact your child's behaviour and discuss how to approach health professionals and schools to ask for support.

**When?** Thursday 24/11/22 to 08/12/22  
Time: 7pm – 9pm  
Zoom Online  
Click on [link](#) or QR code for more details

Web: [www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/familylearning)  
Email: [family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk)  
Tel: 07800717806

There are many things on offer at the Mole Valley Family Centre. More information can be found on their website [Welcome to the Mole Valley Family Centre | Mole Valley Family Centre](#), this includes:

- **Early Days** – weekly friendly and supportive group for parents of non-mobile babies
- **Freedom programme** - an educational programme exploring the abusive tactics, controlling behaviours and belief systems of a perpetrator of domestic abuse and the effects on survivor's health and well-being.
- **Language and Learning** - interactive and engaging 10 week programme you will learn different ways to encourage your child's speech and language development through games, play and songs.
- **Lego club** - An after-school therapy group for children with Social Communication difficulties

(no diagnosis needed) aged 6-11. £40 for the 8 week course (with a break for half term), payable in advance

- **Parenting Puzzle** - Raising children can be puzzling at times, but puzzles have solutions – and the Parenting Puzzle provides them.
- **SEND group** - informal group meets monthly and is a chance to meet other parents who have children with additional needs for support and sharing our struggles and our successes. We will have lots of time for coffee and chat as well as advice and information about a number of issues.
- **Speech and Language stay and play** - A Stay and Play group for young children where there is a concern about development of speech and language skills (talking, listening, understanding and interacting). Parents attend the group with their child. Ideas and strategies to use at home with your child will be provided and the staff will be able to advise you about how to support speech and language development.
- **Time out for Dads** - Time out for Dads is a 5 week workshop and is suitable for Dads of children under 16 years old.
- **Baby Groups and massage** – info attached

Please find attached an updated list of diary dates for the rest of the year. We still need to confirm the date for school trips so they are not included.

**Have a wonderful weekend,  
Mrs Paula Bliss**

## Newdigate C of E Endowed Infant School

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

Telephone 01306 631353

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

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Bliss



**Mole Valley Family Centre**

**PARENTING PUZZLE**

**HOME START East Surrey**

A 10 week programme starting Wednesday February 23rd  
(with a 2 week break for Easter)

7.30 - 9.30 pm  
Mole Valley Family Centre, Goodwyns Road, Dorking RH4 2LR

Raising children can be puzzling at times, but puzzles have solutions – and the Parenting Puzzle provides them

The Parenting Puzzle is a 10 week course run by the Mole Valley Family Centre, Dorking Schools Partnership and Homestart East Surrey that encourages parents to enjoy bringing up their child and get the best out of family life. It is fun and informal.

**£25**

Payable before the start of the course  
Course manual and refreshments are provided

To book a place on this course please call 01306 740095 or email:  
[familycentre@dorking.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:familycentre@dorking.surrey.sch.uk)

**Dorking Schools Partnership**  
Creating opportunities and providing care for our young people

### Diary Dates Autumn 2022

01.09.22	INSET DAY
02.09.22	INSET DAY
05.09.22	Back to School (Yr 1 and Yr 2)
22.09.22	8.50 a.m. Reading café – whole school
28.09.22	6.00 p.m. Curriculum Evening (Whole School) (possible FONS AGM, tbc)
30.9.22	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon 3.10 p.m. School Hall
05.10.22	Individual school photos.

18.10.22	Fantastic Fred Experience a.m. Whole School - travelling NHS funded show about mental health
20.10.22	2.00 p.m. Harvest Festival Service in St. Peter's Church (tbc)
<b>21.10.22</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>24.10.22</b>	<b>Half Term Week</b>
31.10.22	Back to school
09.11.22	Meet the Teacher: Parent Consultations (3.30 p.m.- 6.00 p.m.)
16.11.22	Meet the Teacher: Parent Consultations (5.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m)
25.11.22	Hoops to go home
02.12.22	Hoops up in Hall
03.12.22	School Xmas Fayre (tbc)
05.12.22	Dress rehearsal for Christmas Performance
06.12.22	10.00 a.m. Christmas performance in school hall
07.12.22	10.00 a.m. Christmas performance in school hall
09.12.22	Nasal Flu immunisation
09.12.22	Christmas Jumper Day
15.12.22	6.00 p.m School Christingle Family Service at St. Peter's Church, everybody welcome (tbc)
16.12.22	Last day of school, break up for Christmas, 2.00 p.m. finish

### DATES – SPRING TERM 2023

Term dates – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023– Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Half term dates – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

### Diary Dates for Spring Term

<b>03.01.23</b>	<b>Back to School</b>
10.02.23	Break up for half term
20.02.23	Back to School
23.02.23	SATS talk via zoom (@ 5pm)
02.03.23	World Book Day – Children dress as their favourite book character
08.03.23	Late Parents' Evening (5.30-8.00pm)
15.03.23	Early Parents' Evening (3.30-6.00pm)
17.03.23	Mothers' Day Tea Party for YrR 9am in School Hall
30.03.23	Easter Service - 2pm, all parents welcome (TBC)
31.03.23	Easter Bonnet Parade directly after bell, parents to Hall. Wear your hats!
31.03.23	Last Day of Term – Break up at 2pm
17.04.23	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>18.04.23</b>	<b>Back to School – Summer Term</b>



*In God's Hands We Learn and Grow*

## DATES – SUMMER TERM 2023

Term dates – Monday 17th April – Friday, 21 July

May Bank Holiday – Monday 1 May

Half term dates – Monday, 29 May – Friday 2 June

INSET days – Monday 17 April & Friday 21 July

MONTH OF MAY – KS1 Tests – NO HOLIDAY FOR YEAR 2 WILL BE AUTHORISED

### Diary Dates for Summer Term

17.04.23	INSET DAY
18.04.23	Back to School
May 2023	KS1 tests for Yr2 commence ( see above note re: holidays)
<b>01.05.23</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
<b>08.05.23</b>	<b>Bank Holiday – King Charles III Coronation</b>
26.05.23	Break up for half term
12 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics testing
05.06.23	Back to School
14.06.23	Welcome Meeting for Parents of September intake 7.00pm
01.07.23	May Queen (11.15am for 11.30am start) TBC
03.07.23	Story session for new intake 2.15-2.45pm
05.07.23	Sports Day 1.30pm
06.07.23	Teddy Bears Picnic (Yr R and Pre-school)
10.07.23	Story session for new intake 2.15-2.45pm
w/c 10.07.23	Reports to go out (all years)
12.07.23	Rescheduled Sports Day (in case of bad weather) pm
19.07.23	Yr2 Leavers' Service in the School Hall 2pm followed by Yr2 Leavers' Party
<b>20.07.23</b>	<b>Break Up for Summer Holidays (2.00pm)</b>
<b>21.07.23</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>



*In God's Hands We Learn and Grow*