NEWHALL NEWS

24.07.26

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another school year draws to a close, it is wonderful to reflect on all that our school community has achieved together. Before we begin our summer break, I would like to thank our pupils, staff, governors and families for their continued support, encouragement and commitment to Newhall.

This year has been filled with learning, laughter and unforgettable memories. From exciting school trips and inspiring lessons to Sports Day and brilliant performances, our pupils have demonstrated our Newhall values of resilience, respect, reciprocity, resourcefulness, responsibility and reflection every step of the way. They have embraced new experiences, overcome challenges and achieved so much, both in and beyond the classroom.

The final half term has been particularly busy and rewarding, with Arts Week, music concerts, celebration events and National School Sports Week. Activities led by West End in Schools, Ninja Warrior and local sports clubs provided memorable opportunities for our children to develop confidence, teamwork and determination.

I would also like to thank our dedicated staff team and supportive families, whose commitment and partnership help make Newhall such a positive and successful school community.

As we prepare to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils, we do so with enormous pride. They have made a significant contribution to school life, and we wish them every success and happiness as they move on to the next stage of their education.

I hope that the summer break brings time to relax, recharge and make special memories with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back in September, refreshed and ready for another exciting year of learning, growth and achievement.

On behalf of everyone at Newhall, thank you for being part of such a supportive and caring school community. Have a wonderful summer.

Mrs C Weaver

Head of School



[News - Newhall Junior School]

Year Three

This term in Year 3, our geography topic has been all about coasts. We explored the different features of UK coastlines and discovered how the sea shapes the land around us. Throughout the topic, the children created informative posters, wrote explanations, and even made their own postcards to showcase their knowledge and understanding. We finished the year with a fantastic beach picnic celebration, where parents were invited to join us and celebrate the children's achievements. Thank you to everyone who came along and helped make it such a wonderful day. As well as having a bit of fun to end the year, this was also a fantastic opportunity for the children to share some of their excellent writing, artwork and proudly showcase the impressive castle structures that they designed and built in DT. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved this year!



Year Four

Throughout the year, our Year 4 children have worked incredibly hard in their music lessons, developing their skills in playing the clarinet, learning about rhythm and beat, singing, and reading musical notation.
All of their dedication culminated in a fantastic performance at **Derby Arena**, where they took part in the **"Count Me In With the Orchestra"** concert.
Performing alongside other schools, they showcased their talents through clarinet playing and singing in a massed choir, with music inspired by popular films including *Wallace & Gromit*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *The Greatest Showman*.

To round off this wonderful musical journey, the children also performed for their parents, giving them the opportunity to share all they had learned and achieved throughout the year. They were then an amazing audience, showing great respect and encouragement as they listened to our instrumentalists and choir perform.
We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, perseverance and confidence. It has been a truly memorable musical experience and a wonderful celebration of their hard work and progress. 🎶👏

If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument, please contact the school office for further information about lessons available.

Year Five

It has been a very busy final half term for Year 5. We have been squeezing lots of additional experiences around the curriculum. We enjoyed a sunny day at Cedars Academy when we were invited to the Lionheart Fringe Festival. We cheered for the Newhall choir, visited the stalls, snacked on a free hotdog and held tight on the fairground ride. This term's sporting highlights included excellent participation on Sports Day, displays of resilience during our Ninja Warrior experience and some enthusiastic engagement in a kickboxing demo. Shout out to Miss Simons for organising all of these activities!

We have seen some excellent descriptions this half term in our fiction and letter writing unit based on The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe. What did children find on the other side of that magical wardrobe? Well... it's *Narnia* business! We have been pleased with the pupils' engagement with our *Holes* book study, tracking the unfolding story through different time periods and noticing the links and clues throughout. Well done everybody! We really *dig* it!

Finally, we are very proud of all of our Year 5s who have participated in the choir events this half term and those children who have taken part in Newhall's Got Talent. We have decided that you can have six weeks off to rest! 😳







Staff Leaving and Joining Newhall Juniors

As we come to the end of the school year, we say goodbye to **Mr Roper**. During his time at Newhall, he has inspired countless children and made a significant contribution to school life. Whether taking on the Ninja Warrior challenge or bravely volunteering for *Soak the Teacher* at the Summer Fair, he has always thrown himself into school events alongside the children with enthusiasm and good humour.

We are incredibly grateful for his work in developing our reading curriculum and library, introducing Little Wandle, and for the support he has provided to both staff and pupils over the years. We thank Mr Roper for everything he has done for our school community and wish him every success and happiness as he begins his next adventure.

This term, we have also been delighted to welcome two new members of our office team, **Mrs Long**, who many of you will already know from her previous role as a Learning Support Assistant, and **Mrs Nafir**, who has quickly become part of the Newhall team. We are also pleased to be welcoming **two new Teaching Assistants** in September and look forward to them joining our school community.

Year Six

As we reach the end of Year 6, we want to say how incredibly proud we are of every single child. They have approached their SATs with maturity, resilience and determination, and their hard work has been reflected not only in their achievements but throughout every area of the curriculum. They have truly excelled this year and have been fantastic role models for the rest of the school. The children enjoyed a wonderful end to their time with us with a memorable leavers' trip to the Adventure Farm, where they had the opportunity to pet the animals, enjoy a tractor ride and make the most of the indoor soft play and outdoor attractions, including the bouncy pillows, go-karts and crazy golf. It was also fantastic to see so many children attend the Leavers' Prom, celebrating their success together with friends and families. The sporting carousel and water fight afternoon provided plenty of fun, laughter and lasting memories, before everything was rounded off with a superb performance of Cinderella and Rockerfella, showcasing the confidence, talent and teamwork that have defined this exceptional year group. Year 6 have been a tremendous cohort who have contributed so much to our school community, and they will be sorely missed. We wish them every success and happiness as they embark on their next adventure.





House Points – Keep earning those points! 🐝

Well done to all pupils for their fantastic effort with their Beehive points. We are delighted to announce that the **Yellow Team** are the End of Year winners! 🎉

Summer 2 totals
Green - 1369
Red - 1418
Blue - 1309
Yellow - 1403

Sports Day totals
Green – 445
Red – 498
Blue – 401
Yellow - 493

Year to date totals
Green – 5634
Red – 6007
Blue – 5294
Yellow - 6124

Great British Summer Savings – Save Money This Summer!

Families can enjoy a range of discounted activities and days out this summer through the Government's **Great British Summer Savings** scheme.

From **25 June to 1 September 2026**, families can benefit from:

- **Reduced VAT (5% instead of 20%)** on:
  - Children's meals in restaurants
  - Children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions
  - Admission to a wide range of attractions
- **Free bus travel throughout August** for children aged **5–15** in England.

These savings are designed to help families make the most of the summer holidays while enjoying cultural, educational and recreational experiences together.

To help families find participating venues and attractions, the Government has launched an **Attraction Finder** website. Simply enter your postcode to discover local offers and discounted activities:

🔗 **www.summersavings.gov.uk**

The scheme forms part of a wider package of support for families, alongside measures such as expanded free school meals, free **breakfast** clubs and childcare support.

We encourage all families to explore the offers available and make the most of the savings this summer. 🌞

National Trust – Free Acorn Pass

Your child will have brought home a National Trust Acorn Pass. This pass gives free entry for up to two adults and six children to participating National Trust places until **31 August**.

Some venues require visitors to book in advance, so please check before travelling. At locations where booking is necessary, entry cannot be guaranteed without a reservation. To find out whether you need to book, visit **nationaltrust.org.uk/the-acorn-pass**.

We would love to see photographs from your family adventures, so please send any pictures into school in September to share with us.

Coffee Morning

Thank you to those who attended our Coffee Morning on 10th July. It was great to hear from **Umbrella** and **Claire Goulding (ISAS)** about the support available for our children and families. Mrs Insley also shared a useful overview of the apps we use to support learning both at home and in school.

We hope to hold a similar event in September and look forward to seeing you there.



Uniform Reminder for September

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we would like to remind families about our school uniform expectations. **Stevensons** is now our uniform supplier; however, families are welcome to purchase non-branded uniform items from local supermarkets, provided they are the correct colour and meet our uniform requirements.

School Uniform

- Red jumper or cardigan
- Red or white polo shirt, blouse or shirt
- Black or grey skirt, trousers or shorts *(leggings and black jeans are not permitted)*
- Red and white checked dress
- Black school shoes *(trainers are not part of the school uniform)*

PE Kit

- PE trainers
- White or red PE t-shirt
- Black or red PE jumper/hoodie
- Black shorts
- Black jogging bottoms

Please also ensure that clothing worn to school, including PE kit, does not feature large brand logos, slogans or fashion graphics, as these are not part of our school uniform. Thank you for your support in helping our pupils look smart and feel ready to learn.

You can find further information on our school website.

Attendance

A huge well done to all of the pupils who have made that extra effort with their attendance this year. We know that being in school every day, and arriving on time, makes a significant difference to children's learning, progress and wellbeing.

Throughout the year, we have spoken to the children about the importance of attending school regularly so that they do not miss valuable learning opportunities. At the same time, we understand that there are occasions when children are genuinely unwell and need time to rest, recover and prevent illness from spreading to others.

By May half term, our school attendance had reached **94.3%**, compared with the national average of **95%**. We are incredibly proud of this improvement and are getting closer and closer to our attendance target.

Our attendance rewards and incentives will continue next year, and we are looking forward to launching some exciting new challenges and opportunities for pupils to get involved in. Thank you to all of our families for working in partnership with us to make attendance a priority.

Diary Dates

7th September – School opens to pupils

9th September – Y3 Stone Age workshop

17th September – Y6 Rainforest Roadshow

25th September – School closed for staff training day

5th October – Flu Immunisations in School

13th October - Parents Evening

14th October – Parents Evening

16th October - Alex Foulkes Author Visit

26th October – Friday 30th Half term

30th November - School closed for staff training day

Have a wonderful summer 😊

We are keen to hear your views and suggestions: *(You can also use the suggestion box in the school reception)*