



# The Nodehill Newsletter

Friday, 11th September. Autumn Term 2009

Issue: 432

Dear Parents,

This week, we completed our two year project in providing every pupil in years seven and eight with their own **PERSONAL LAPTOP COMPUTER**. Nodehill is the only secondary school on the Island and one of the very few schools nationally that offers such 'state of the art' technology to key stage three pupils. Our key stage two pupils, meanwhile, are able to access computers via one of our four computer suites or many resource areas – all of which are housed in 'permanent' buildings!

## NOMINATIONS FOR PARENT GOVERNORS

The chair of governors has asked me to advise you that there are two vacancies on the governing body for parent representatives. If you are interested in taking on this responsibility, do please ask someone to nominate and second you. The nomination form at the end of this newsletter should be returned to the school office by no later than 12 noon on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> September. Voting papers will then be circulated should a ballot be necessary. The role of governor has taken on increased importance in recent years and I hope very much that you will seriously consider making yourself available to be part of the very active governing body at Nodehill. Should you wish further information about the role of governor and the commitment required, we do have a number of information leaflets available from the school office.

## NO. & BUS

I have been advised by the Council's School Transport Section that the No. 7 bus will not depart until all 30+ children arrive at the bus station and all Southern Vectis drivers have been advised of this arrangement. Therefore, it will no longer be necessary for children to leave their lessons before the end of the school day at 3.20 pm.

## LANDS AND TO JOHN O'GROATS

Mr. Lashley gave a presentation at afternoon assembly today of his recent cycle ride from Lands End to John O'Groats. It really was quite an achievement and we congratulate Mr. Lashley and his son Dan. We now need to collect all of his sponsorship so do please forward your contributions to the school office so that we can arrange a presentation to the Beaulieu House hospice.

## RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL JOURNEYS

Thank you for your deposits for our residential school journeys and further details will follow from the journey leaders in due course. Waiting lists are available if you missed the September 11th deadline.

As far as future payments are concerned, we ask that parents either pay by instalments OR pay the total amount in advance. We can then satisfy the demands of our creditors.

Year 5 – East Dene	Year 6 – PGL Superchoice	Year 7 - London	Year 8 - Brittany
September 11 <sup>th</sup> - £50 deposit	September 11 <sup>th</sup> - £40 deposit	September 11 <sup>th</sup> - £55 deposit	September 11 <sup>th</sup> - £55 deposit
September 18 <sup>th</sup> - £40	October 23 <sup>rd</sup> - £40	October 23 <sup>rd</sup> - £25	October 23 <sup>rd</sup> - £40
September 25 <sup>th</sup> - £40	November 27 <sup>th</sup> - £40	November 27 <sup>th</sup> - £25	November 27 <sup>th</sup> - £40
		December 11 <sup>th</sup> - £25	December 11 <sup>th</sup> - £40
		January 29 <sup>th</sup> - £25	January 29 <sup>th</sup> - £40
			February 26 <sup>th</sup> - £40
			March 26 <sup>th</sup> - £45
(TOTAL £130)	(TOTAL £120)	(TOTAL £155)	(TOTAL £300)

## PTA agm

The PTA will be holding its annual general meeting next Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, in our school library, off Upper St. James' Street. We look forward to seeing you!

## **MORRISONS LET'S GROW VOUCHERS**

Morrisons are, once again, offering vouchers for the 'Let's Grow' scheme, for school gardening projects. Last year we were able to claim lots of really useful kit for the gardening club. You receive one voucher for every £10 spent in store, but in addition some special products have extra vouchers printed on the packaging (such as breakfast cereals). Even some till receipts have extra vouchers on them. Please send all vouchers to the school office by no later than November 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **CRICKET ROUND UP**

With the summer season coming to an end we can reflect upon a very enjoyable and successful cricket season.

- The under 13 boys reached the Island finals but lost out to Solent in the final by 49 runs. The under 13 girls also reached their Island final but lost to Lake by 52 runs.
- The under 12 boys team, however, became Island champions after beating Christ the King in the final.
- The under 11 team were beaten in their final by Ryde School and the under 11 girls played some good cricket but just missed out on reaching the finals.
- The under 10 team reached the Island final and then qualified for the South West regional finals in Taunton.

So all in all, a very successful season! Not bad for a school with no playing field!

## **HPV VACCINATIONS**

HPV vaccinations to prevent cervical cancer will be administered to year 8 girls on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> September with a 'catch up' session on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> October. Further details will be circulated in due course.

## **UNIFORM**

Could I respectfully remind parents of our expectations with regard to uniform.

- Way out hairstyles, artificial hair colourings, hair products, make up or nail varnish are not considered suitable for school.
- One stud in the lower ear lobe of each ear or either ear may be worn, but no other jewellery apart from wrist watches is permitted.
- Facial piercing is most definitely unacceptable.
- Shoes must be worn during the normal school day. However, children may change into trainers for use on the playground at lunchtime.
- Socks can be plain grey, black, blue or white. No other colour is acceptable.
- Girls are asked to wear skirts of a sensible length.

## **YEAR 8 COASTAL VISITS**

Please find attached to this newsletter, arrangements for the forthcoming year eight visits to the Coastal Visitors Centre in Ventnor.

## **ANNUAL CONSENT FORMS**

The Isle of Wight Council has instructed us to ensure that the parent of every pupil completes the consent form attached to this newsletter in order for their children to take part in off site activities. We ask that this is completed and returned to your child's form teacher as a matter of urgency.

## **SCHOOL SESSION TIMES**

Please note that the school day begins at 8.30 am and staff are on duty from 8.20 am. All pupils should be on our premises by no later than 8.29 am and do please note that lateness, except in exceptional circumstances, is unacceptable. Children who are persistently late for school with no genuine reason for late arrival, will be expected to make up lost time during their break and lunch times. Similarly, please do not allow your child arrive at school before 8.00 am.

## **SECURITY**

Could I respectfully remind parents that access to the building before, during or at the end of the school day is **ONLY** via the main reception office area on Upper St. James' Street. Just recently, some parents, particularly at the end of the school day, have attempted to enter the building uninvited which is of course unacceptable and compromises our security policy. Teachers are available for consultation either at the regular parents evening or by prior appointment at the school office.

**We also ask that parents do not enter the junior playground before the start of the school day.**

## MOBILE CLASSROOMS

Could I once again remind parents that entry to either of the mobile classrooms on the Orchard Street playground is strictly forbidden. Furthermore, could we please ask parents who bring siblings to the junior playground at the end of the day ensure that they remain standing with you near the gate. Just recently, a number of young children have been disturbing our lessons both in the mobile classrooms and in the main building.

## SCHOOL OFFICE

Our school office is open daily between 8.00 am and 4.00 pm (3.30 pm on Fridays). Outside office hours, our answering machine will be in operation.

## ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Should your child be unwell and unable to attend school, please telephone the school office before 10.00 am. Needless to say, it is important that we ensure all of our pupils are safe and secure every day. On return to school, parents are required to forward a note to the form teachers to explain the absence which can then be authorised.

## BREAKFASTS

Could I respectfully suggest to parents that their children have a **breakfast at home**. A significant number of children are visiting the shops in Nodehill before the start of the school day to purchase confectionery, crisps and fizzy drinks. These items are not a substitute for breakfast and not surprisingly the intake of e numbers from these products will not help your child's concentration. We also believe that some children are spending their dinner monies in the shops rather than using our canteen that offers a wide range of high quality and healthy food both at morning break and lunchtimes. A **breakfast at home** should eliminate the need for a visit to the local shops before the start of the school day.

## SCHOOL DINNERS

Our school canteen provides an excellent range of school meals. However, it must be stressed that all meals must be paid for each day. Neither the school nor our catering contractors, Pabulum, lend money or offer credit facilities. **Therefore, no cash, no meal!** It is absolutely essential that parents ensure their children leave home each morning with either a packed lunch or dinner money.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go this week to the following pupils:

- **Bethan and Alice Smith** who will be appearing on the BBC2 programme Blastlab on Saturday morning. Bethan and Alice will be part of the yellow team.
- **Kristian Nobbs** for achieving his Rapid Reading Programme certificate.
- **House and Games Captains**

### OSBORNE

HOUSE	ABBIE PEARSON
HOUSE	BRENDAN WILSON
GAMES	SAMANTHA HOPE
GAMES	CALLUM HIGGINS

### YARMOUTH

HOUSE	DAISY WOODLEY
HOUSE	ROBBIE CLOSE
GAMES	ABBEY WESTMORE
GAMES	KIERAN PHILLIPS

### CARISBROOKE

HOUSE	LEAH BRUCE
HOUSE	ROBERT MCKENZIE
GAMES	DANA COULING
GAMES	CONNOR SMITH

### NORRIS

HOUSE	SOPHIE EGAN
HOUSE	SEAN BURTON
GAMES	SHANNON SPEED
GAMES	HARRISON SMITH

- **Headmaster's Commendations**

#### Headmaster's Commendation (Orange)

Sasha Williams

#### Headmaster's Commendation (Green)

Charlie Collins

#### Headmaster's Commendation (Blue)

Reece Williams

#### Headmaster's Commendation (Violet)

Jennifer Healey

• **Special Mention Certificates**

- Reece Williams (7NW) for his great temple produced for his history homework.
- Charlie Collins for his outstanding project on the habitat of a pond.
- Sasha Williams, Jennifer Healey, Joe French, Emily Dare and April Jones for their excellent art work.

• **House points certificates and badges**

**25**

Melissa Barrington

**50**

Katya Woodward

**100**

Imogen Dixon

Isobel Humber

**175**

Conor Bailey

Ashley Leppard

Sacha Simpson

Grace Burch

**250**

Jarvis Stevenson

**325**

Sam Hope

Yours sincerely

Mr. D.R. Morris

**Headmaster**

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**NODEHILL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**NOMINATION FOR PARENT GOVERNOR**

**PLEASE RETURN TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY 12 NOON ON Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

Name and signature of candidate.....

Name(s) and tutor group(s) of child(ren) at Nodehill.....

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Name and signature of proposer.....

Name and signature of seconder.....