



The Nodehill Newsletter

Friday, 21st September. Autumn Term 2007

Issue: 355

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to inform you that our term is now well underway and we are busy preparing for our **OPEN EVENING** on Wednesday, October 3rd between 5.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. We hope that you will join us for the annual event when the children and staff really do enjoy sharing their achievements with our community.

WINTER UNIFORM

We are now into the autumn term and it is time to return to winter uniform. ALL pupils are expected to wear their royal blue sweat shirts and cropped trousers are no longer suitable. We do ask parents to support us over matters of school uniform.

YEAR 5 ABILITY SETS

We have now completed a range of base line assessments with all children in year five and, as from Monday, they will be placed into seven ability sets for their daily mathematics and English lessons. At the forthcoming parents evening, the staff will be pleased to discuss these placements.

HOMEWORK DIARIES

If you have not yet had the opportunity to discuss the contents of your child's homework diary do please find the time to do so as it contains very useful information about the school and advice for you and your children. The green and blue pages are particularly useful!

OFFICE HOURS

Our school office is open daily between 8.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. every day, except on Friday when it closes at 3.30 p.m. Outside office hours our answering machine will be in operation.

THE ECO SCHOOLS PROJECT

After nearly three years of hard work by pupils, governors and staff, we have applied for the ultimate environmental award offered by the Encams Eco Schools project, the Green Flag. The project encourages schools to become increasingly sustainable in their approach to daily school life and we have made a number of improvements in our pursuit of the award.

A full list of all our work can be found on the eco schools blog page on the Nodehill website but among our major achievements we can list:

- a number of projects to improve the aesthetics and biodiversity of the school grounds including murals, a wild garden, bird and bat boxes, insect nests, hanging baskets and flowerbeds;
- new covered cycle racks to encourage pupils to cycle to school at parents' discretion with regular cycle training courses to provide pupils with the skills needed to cycle safely;
- an energy audit of the whole school to develop a series of action points to save money, reduce energy usage and therefore our carbon footprint;

- fitted all toilets with ‘save a flush’ bags reducing water consumption (if you would like a free one please ask at reception);
- we continue to run a number of recycling schemes in school – we collect aluminium cans and also old mobile phones and printer cartridges for recycling;
- we have ensured that most subjects in the school have some component which relates to the environment and living more sustainable lives.

We would love to know what you think about our efforts so far s please leave a comment on the blog or drop us a line. We would also love you to get interactive with the project in whatever way you think you can. We have an Eco suggestions box in reception for your ideas or you can write to the Eco Schools committee by way of Mr. Peace.

SPECTACLE COLLECTION

In addition to many links with schools worldwide, we have just made an exciting new link with a school in The Gambia, Africa. This has been made possible by the grandparents of one of our pupils currently in school, who are frequent visitors to The Gambia.

One of the many things needed in this school and community of limited resources, is spectacles. If you have any spectacles that are not being used anymore, could you please send them in to school where we can arrange for them to be taken directly to those in need.

If you are interested in learning more about the school and the community and other ways of helping, please look at the website: gambiandreams.co.uk or gambiandreams-online.com

FOOTBALL NEWS

The sixth year teams were unable to match the winning ways of the seventh year team who became the Island 6 a’ side champions last week.

Two of our teams from year six entered the annual 7 a’ side competition and the A team reached the quarter finals. Alas, a single goal in extra time defeated the Nodehill boys but both teams played some excellent football in the fiercely contested competition.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go this week to the following pupils:

- **UK Alliance for Drama: Introductory Award** – Sam Sheasby. Sam is a member of PJ’s Theatre School and has earnt a splendid certificate and trophy for his efforts. Well done Sam!
- **100% Attendance in the 2006/07 Academic Year** – Naomi Moakes.
- **Headmaster’s Commendations**

Red	-	Robyn Knight
Orange	-	Luke Headey
Green	-	Joshua Lawton and Astra Rugg
Double red	-	Eleanor Foxwell
Double orange	-	Alfred Harwood

- **Special Mention Certificates**

Loton Leggett – for his outstanding effort to learn tables’ facts.

Eleanor Foxwell, Luke Headey and Beth Craig – for their assistance in the technology workshop.

Rowan Tweedy – for her fabulous final piece of Art.

Reece McLinden – for his excellent effort in multiplication and division.

Robyn Knight, Rebecca Busby, Astra Rugg, Jimmy Saunders, Calli Sharp, Alfred Harwood, Katy Vanson, Joshua Lawton, Ellis Ridett, Sarah Shahpesandy, Rosie Peacey, Sophie Baker, Megan Baker, Sarah Wren, Amanda Perry, Naomi Appleton, Bridie Glen, David Sumpter, Chloe Hodges and Jack Taylor – for their excellent posters advertising RE at Nodehill.

- **House Points Certificates and Badges**

25	75 BRONZE	100	125
Harrison Grant Harry Mowle	Sophie King Tanera McHardy-Ord Charlie Richardson Rhys Catling	Liam Humber Joseph Guest Joe French Stephanie Rainbird	Jordan Scutt Beatrice Sturgess Jim Cooke Sam Hart Helen Barter Katie Minns Poppy Bushell Sam Edwards
150 SILVER	175	200	225 GOLD
Peter Cragg Rhian Penney Connor Smith Katy Vanson Azaria Woods	Daniel Hayward Jack Attrill Sam Coulter Thea Leman Crystal Marriott Zoe Winchester Jason Hayles	Liam Humber George Turner Sophie Morris	Becky Busby Catherine Sellers Shane O’Hanlon
250	275	300 SHIELD	350
Lisa Potts	Jenna Williams Arron Hammond Freddie Green Becky Smith Tom Dudhill	Jack Hunt Natasha Buckler	Robert Hammond

FINALLY

We look forward to meeting you at our first parents evening of the term next Monday.

Yours sincerely,

D. R. MORRIS
Headmaster