

Summer
2014

Newfield Express



Letter from the Newfield Express Editor.

Hello! I am Waseem and I am the editor for the newsletter this term. This term has been so busy and filled with loads of activities including the prom. This year the prom was based on the theme 'Stars'. Everyone came dressed up in lots of bright and sparkly outfits and lots of bling. Everyone had a fantastic time. We celebrated friendship week and lots of schools came to visit us and took part in a lot of different activities.

We also had the accreditation visits for Autism, IQM and RRSA! We held a Planning for the Future event where Blackburn College and other organisations came into school to discuss the students futures and some parents came too. Some of the students have taken part in a Boccia tournament and younger pupils held a showcase for their parents to enjoy. It's been very, very busy! I would just like to say have a happy holiday and we will see you in September.

Celebration of Achievement
 Summer trips RRSA level 2
 RE Week Sports Days
 Inscape music @ The Lowry
 Boccia Champions IQM
 Friendship week
 Prom Autism Accreditation
 2-11 Showcase
 Ramadhan



Believe it or not, this is our 21st edition of the Newfield Express! We've come a long way from our first copy, back in Autumn 2007 - and we've joined the space age, with our website - www.newfield.org.uk - which contains every issue - check back to see some very young looking pupils and staff - the newsletter has aged better than some of us!



NEWFIELD
SCHOOL



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Flagship School



Good bye and Good Luck to all of our leavers

سکول چھوڑنے والے طلباء کو خُدا حافظ۔

The time has come again for our oldest friends to leave - this year we are losing twelve of our friends!

शाळा छोडता विद्यार्थ्यांने सुभमय विदाय

We will miss you all and hope that you keep in touch.



Thaybah Tariq, Shannon Ryan, Kulsum Mulla, Ahmad Patel, Fahima Bharruchi, Nicole Curwen, Rafal Makse, Zahid Khalig, Mohsin Hussain, David Molyneux, Zulkarnine Hussain and Becky Kelly.



Martyn Berry

Lindsey Towers

Donna Cook



Louise Walsh

Mark McKay



Ayesha Lohan



Will Cuff



Val Cotton

We are also saying goodbye to some staff members this year - Sheila and Val retire after many years at Newfield (and before that at Blackmoor and Dame Evelyn Fox schools). We would like to wish them a long and happy retirement and a big, big thank you for their hard work and support for so many years! Thanks and good luck to the rest in their new jobs in new places. We will miss you all - Please keep in touch and come back to visit!

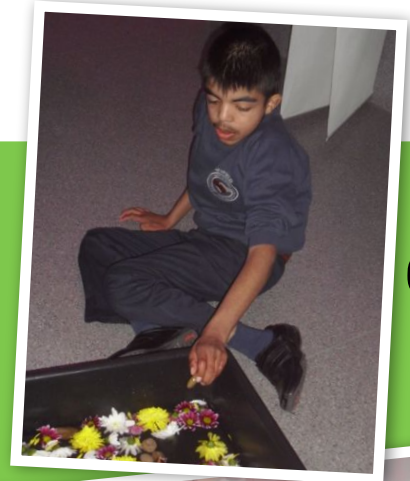


Sheila Peers



Friendship Week

In May, we held our annual Friendship Week. This is when each morning one of our link schools come in for a tour of the school including the pool and the studio and to spend time with their friends who have been visiting their school all year. They worked in the studio on a beach theme, played outside and had refreshments in the Atrium. Our pupils love their friends coming in and everyone had a great time!



RE Week



During RE week, we enjoyed lots of activities about Christianity, Buddhism and Sikhism. On Christianity day, we were joined by Rachel Boyes from the Salvation Army, who helped us to find out about the festival of Pentecost. Some pupils also had the opportunity to visit a local church where they experienced a baptism. On Buddhism day, we learned all about the festival of Wesak and were joined by some visitors from the Blackburn Buddhist Centre. On Sikhism day, our guest for the day, Baldeep Kaur Hungin worked with us to learn about the festival of Vaisakhi. Our thanks go to all the visitors who joined us and helped to make RE week such a great experience for our pupils.



After School Club

This term pupils in the 16-19 department have had the opportunity to join an exciting new after school club, delivered in partnership with Blackburn Youth Zone. This has been a real success with pupils regularly staying after school on Tuesdays to join in activities such as pizza making, outdoor games, Nintendo Wii sports and Boccia. They have also planted their very own herb garden! Everyone has enjoyed spending time with their friends in a relaxed environment outside of the normal school day.



Ramadhan - Preparing for Eid

Eid will fall during the summer holidays this year and many of our pupils and staff have been taking part in Ramadhan during the end of this term. Some are fasting, and each Friday, we have been holding a prayer group for staff and pupils where they listen to the Azan, the call to prayer, in silence and then join in with some familiar nasheeds/naats (Islamic poems), or hear a story. At the end of each session, they pray to thank Allah for all the things they have. Shabaash (well done) to those who took part - and we wish 'Eid Mubarak' to all of our families celebrating over the summer.



Message from the Head...

Hi Everyone!

Well it's the end of another academic year and we have once again managed to pack each term with lots of exciting challenges and achievements not only for the pupils, but also as a whole school. By the time you read this we should have achieved our Level 2 of the Rights Respecting School Award, continued accreditation with the Inclusion Quality Mark as a 'flagship' school and also achieved another endorsement of our autism provision through the National Autistic Society accreditation.

I would like to thank all the pupils, parents/carers and staff for all their contributions to our continued success as an excellent school. As the 'Newfield Family', we make a great team and a real difference to our children's lives as we inspire, support and achieve together.

Over the Summer we are having a bit of a 'makeover'....so you will need to wait until Autumn for the grand reveal! Have a great Summer holiday!

Geoff Fitzpatrick

Sports Days

11-19 had teams who each played 7 games; Rollerball, Rope Zigzag, Parachute, Pass the Bean Bag, Curling, Beat the Goalie and Fishing, which were all run by the pupils from TG7. Everyone had fun moving around to complete the challenges to earn points before the time ran out. They later had a ceremony with medals for all to celebrate the sporting achievements and they held a 'staff off' challenge to decide the winning team. After lots of excitement and a surprise late entry, the winners were announced as the host Australian team of TG7!



2-11 had lots of fun, with a range of games in the morning, lots of walking practise and some water based play activities. They were in the halls but also outside as it was such a lovely, sunny day. In the afternoon, they took part in action songs and a parachute game, before having their own awards ceremony - everyone went home very happy but exhausted!



Pupils in the ARC had a great day with traditional games - races like the egg and spoon race, magnetic fishing, hoopla and hockey. There was also some dancing and sensory activities inside with the swings and trampettes.





On Friday 27th June, R6 went on their class trip. Firstly, we went to Witton Country Park. We took a walk around the nature trail and then went on the adventure playground. We had a picnic before setting off to Chorley to taste the famous Frederick's Ice-Cream at their parlour. We all had a good time and enjoyed the ice-cream.

TG5 had a wonderful day out in Lytham St. Annes. The weather was kind to us and we didn't get wet. We walked along the Promenade; through the lovely garden areas and went shopping. It doesn't get better than that! We had a lovely picnic and ice cream by the Pier and spent some time (and money) in the Arcade.



Class 3 enjoyed a very exciting, energetic and sunny day out at Worden Park in Leyland for their summer trip. They spend the morning enjoying all the different swings, slides, sensory music tubes and zip lines while on the park before having a walk across the fields to have a picnic lunch all together. They then spent the afternoon 'trying' to find their way to the middle of the maze, with only Erin and Sara succeeding at this! All the children and staff had a brilliant day out and it was the perfect way to end the fantastic year that they have all had together.



R1 started the day off at Boomerang Multisensory play centre. We had a lovely breakfast in the café and had a great time playing on the slide, trampoline and in the ball pool. We also enjoyed the light room with all the different coloured lights and relaxing music. After Boomerang we went to McDonalds for our dinner. Then to Heaton Park in Prestwich where we looked at lots of different animals in the farm and then played. We really liked the big slide in the park! We were also very lucky to have lots of lovely sunshine! We all had a lovely day and burnt of lots of energy. It was fantastic!



SUMMER TRIPS 2014



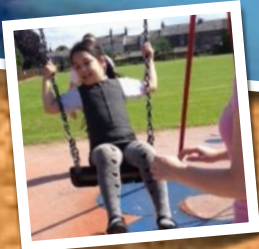
TG3 have had a wonderful day at Illuminasia in Blackpool. It is an all year round exhibition of the world famous illuminations and it is inside in case it is raining! The displays were amazing and every one was transfixed on the laser light show and glowbot dancers!



Pupils and staff of TG2 made a fun seaside trip to Southport. On the menu for the day was; sunshine, penny arcades, pier walks, chips, ice cream and even some souvenir rock to take home. A fantastic day was had by all.



R2 and R3 enjoyed a lovely trip out to Ribchester Park and McDonalds in Preston. They enjoyed playing on all of the equipment at the park including a giant see saw, slides, swings and climbing frames. Some pupils also spent time walking around the field, playing football and sitting in the shade. For lunch they went on the mini bus to McDonalds at the Docks in Preston; the pupils were able to spend some time in the soft play area after eating their meals. Lots of fun was had by everyone!



R5 had a great day out. They started with a trampolining session in Preston, which everyone enjoyed. They went to Tesco café for a snack before heading to Worden Park in Leyland. Everyone enjoyed a walk around the park, including exploring the maze. They then had a picnic before exploring the play area and playing cricket. Finally it was time for an ice cream before returning to school.



SUMMER TRIPS 2014

INSCAPE Music Festival @ The Lowry Theatre

In July, our fabulous singing and signing choir performed at the Lowry theatre in Salford, taking part in the morning performance at the 12th annual INSCAPE Music festival. The concert showcased a selection of songs including 'We've all got something to give' a specially composed song by Peter Adamson, former Music Coordinator at Inscape House School and dad of our ARC teacher Katrina!

Our choir sang the 80's classic 'True Colours' and also 'Let it go' - the song from the film 'Frozen' and as always they were absolutely brilliant!

The concert provides the ideal opportunity for our students to showcase their musical talents along with special schools from across Manchester and Cheshire. Well done to all the pupils & staff who performed.



Boccia Champs

The Newfield Boccia Team took part in several Boccia tournaments. They competed against pupils from many other special schools and displayed true sportsmanship and excellent skills and tactics! We were very pleased that that one of our teams finished in first place in their heat at St Bede's RC High School. Our Boccia Team also competed in the Lancashire Youth Games at Blackpool. They played against other Lancashire Boroughs including Pendle, Hyndburn and South Ribble. It was a fantastic game and our team came 4th overall out of 10 teams. The students were a credit to school and themselves – Well done Boccia Champs!



Prom 2014 - A Night of Stars



On 26th June we had our leavers' Prom for the class of 2014. The theme this year was 'Stars and Glitter' and there was certainly lots of sparkle around! The hall was decorated with stars, sequins, lights and glitter and all looked very glamorous! We had lots of dancing, a lovely buffet prepared by our amazing kitchen staff, a presentation of our leavers' hoodies, a fantastic film of leavers and friends saying farewell - all followed by a classic Newfield disco! Everyone looked fantastic, had a great time and went home on a high!

Thanks to everyone involved in planning, organising and making the prom happen and thanks to the young people, families and staff who made it another great success!



Celebration of Achievement 2014



On Tuesday 15th July, we ended the school year with our annual Celebration of Achievement Assembly. This year our special guests were Sally McIvor, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's Executive Director for People & Dot Thomson, who has been our School Improvement Officer for many years and who has now retired. It is always a highlight of our calendar, a moment to reflect on a year's work and celebrate the achievements of our wonderful children and young people. The choir sang & signed beautifully and many parents and friends joined us to celebrate as Sally presented some pupils with awards for outstanding achievements, courage and effort. All of our leavers received their portfolios from Dot and they collected them to their own, personally chosen sound track - it felt like the Oscars! Both Sally and Dot said what an honour it is to take part in such a special event. Afterwards, there were a few tears as families of leavers said goodbye for the last time, as well as lots of tea and chatter! Well done to everyone & thank you again to our families and guests for making the occasion so special.

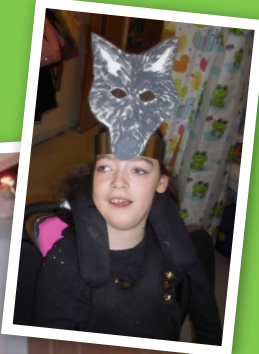
Planning for the Future Event

Newfield hosted a 'Planning for the Future' event, aimed at all BwD young people with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities from year 9 upwards, along with their families, to find out what is available for life after school. There were lots of familiar faces there from education, health and social care sectors, as well as Leisure, Connexions, Colleges, Respite providers and many other agencies. Dr Cathy Hamer, from the Council for Disabled Children, attended to give advice and support, as did Sue Hayward - BwD Commissioner for SEND and AP.

The students enjoyed serving refreshments and they liked all the freebies too - pens, badges, cakes, sweets - even bags and T-shirts!! The event was really well attended and provided not only a one-stop shop for young people and families to gather information, but also a good opportunity for professionals to network with colleagues and discuss the challenges and changes we all face to improve outcomes for young people and their families.



2-11 Showcase



At our Annual Primary Showcase we have had a fantastic time sharing all the wonderful work we have been doing this year with our families and friends. The pupils all did extremely well showing off their skills with the support of some very proud members of staff! We had lots of singing and dancing throughout the performances. Some pupils were able to show off their switch skills whilst others were able to show how much they had progressed with their walking and other mobility exercises. There were lots of happy smiling faces from all our performers and in the audience which was brilliant! Well done to all our pupils for their achievements this year and for putting on such a great show!!!



Autism Accreditation

This term saw a visit from the Autism Accreditation team. We were last inspected 3 years ago and this visit was to see if we had upheld the standards of care and education for our students who are on the autism spectrum. The inspection seemed to go well and the review team were very impressed by our lovely school building and how friendly and caring all our staff are! The evidence gathered by the team now goes to be presented to a panel in London so we are keeping our fingers crossed that we will be successful in being re-accredited! Hopefully we will be able to let you know the outcome before we break up for the summer holidays.



Rights Respecting School Award Level 2 accreditation visit

In June, UNICEF assessors, Pat Peaker and Martin Russell visited school to carry out our Rights Respecting School Award level 2 visit. During the visit they met with pupils, staff, parents and governors and following the visit, they write a report which goes to panel at UNICEF. They were extremely complimentary and positive about school & wished to pass on thanks, on behalf of UNICEF to every member of the Newfield family for the work we do to promote children's rights. They were particularly impressed with our pupils acting as ambassadors for UNICEF and promoting children's rights in schools throughout BwD - with Newfield pupils teaching other pupils about 'wants & needs' as part of this ambassador role. Newfield is the only school in Blackburn with Darwen to have the RRSA, and as we go to press we are thrilled to announce our successful accreditation at level 2 - the highest accolade from UNICEF. We are one of only 10 schools in the northwest of England to be awarded this and we are very proud of this achievement - proactively protecting and promoting Children's Rights.



Important Dates:

Summer Holiday

School Closes:

Wednesday 23rd July 2014

School re-opens to staff:

Thursday 4th September 2014

School re-opens to pupils:

Monday 8th September 2014

Autumn Half Term Holiday

School Closes:

Friday 24th October 2014

School re-opens:

Monday 3rd November 2014



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IQM - Flagship Status

On Wednesday 2nd July we had our annual appraisal for the Inclusion Quality Mark Flagship status. John Hill, who has been our assessor for the last 3 years, spent the day with us talking to staff and students and observing activities in the classroom. He continues to be very impressed by everything that we strive to do for our children, particularly our drive to ensure that every child has a voice and a personal means to communicate and our continued commitment to RRSA. He was particularly interested in our new activities such as Work Experience and Duke of Edinburgh. John spends a lot of time in special schools and assures us that we are right at the top for the service that we give our children and that we should be very proud of our commitment to ensuring that every child is included. We are delighted to be continuing to achieve flagship status at our school.

'Newfield School is committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults as its number one priority'

Full copies of Policies and Procedures related to all aspects of Safeguarding, and the Complaints Policy, are available on request from

Geoff Fitzpatrick, Head Teacher and Designated Senior Person for Safeguarding and Child Protection

Newfield School complies with the general and specific duties of the Equality Act (2010). In accordance with the duty we publish information that demonstrates that we have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, Advance equality of opportunity & Foster good relations. These specific duties have been considered in relation to all our policies and procedures in school. Our objectives will be reported on and published as part of the Governance public documents available for inspection under the Freedom of information Regulations and Data Protection duties.