Newingate ISSUE 12 18/07/2025 School NEWSLETTER

DOFE - DONE AND DUSTED!







After working hard on their sections throughout the year followed by expedition training which included first aid, navigation and camp craft, four of our participants were ready to take to the Kentish footpaths with their packs.

Their resilience was tested by rising temperatures throughout the first day. Each participant took it in turns leading the group through different legs. Day 1 took started at Hoath church and meandered through fields, country roads and woodland paths finishing walking along the Byson trail to Rosswood campsite. A great team effort was seen when putting up their tents. This was followed by cooking their evening meals using Trangias. The meals were chosen on the calorific value in order to get them through day 2.

Day 2 proved to be even hotter, once awake and packed down they set off out along the Byson trail out through Blean woods finishing on Tyler Hill. The log made it halfway Iron man training in progress.

All four members of the group qualified as Bronze Award Holders.

Well done team and see you in September for presentations and your silver journey.

Key Dates - Term 1

1st September 2nd September 3rd September 4th October 16th October

School Closed School Closed **Students Return** 1st October ADHD Awareness Day World Space Week **Pumpkin Picking** 17th October Last Day of Term





MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

As we bring Term 6 to a close, it's a wonderful moment to reflect on the achievements and experiences that have defined this final part of our school year here at Newingate.

First, I'd like to say a huge well done to our 6th form pupils for their hard work and determination during exam season. The effort and resilience shown have been outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of all that has been accomplished. We look forward to celebrating some fantastic results in the autumn.

This term has also been packed with memorable enrichment activities. From tackling the mud and teamwork challenges at Boonies Obstacle Course to enjoying the sunshine and sea air at end of term whole school visit to Joss Bay Beach, it's been brilliant to see our pupils having fun and finishing the year on a high.

A special mention must go to the students who took part in our first Duke of Edinburgh expedition, completing their trek and overnight camp in the summer heat. Their grit, determination, and teamwork were exceptional, and we are incredibly proud of their achievement.

We were also delighted to see our pupils representing the school in a series of football matches against local schools. These competitive fixtures brought great energy and sportsmanship, and we're excited to build on this momentum with even more sporting opportunities in the new academic year. As we head into the summer break, I'd like to share an important leadership update. Dave, our Headteacher, will be stepping back from day-to-day responsibilities, though he will continue to lead and support the strategic development of the school in a director capacity. I am honoured to be taking the helm as Headteacher from September and look forward to continuing the fantastic work that Dave has led, in collaboration with our brilliant staff, students,

Thank you all-families, staff, and pupils-for your ongoing support and commitment throughout the year. Wishing everyone a safe, restful, and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming you back in September for another exciting chapter.

Warmest regards, Michele Smith, Head of School



and wider school community.

We are excited to share our school art Instagram page with you!

Come check out the amazing creativity and talent of our students!

https://www.instagram.com/newingateschoolart



Out of Hours School Contact Number

We have a dedicated telephone number for any safeguarding, welfare or urgent issues during the school holidays:

07944 183737

Alternatively, you can email: michele.smith@newingateschool.co.uk









I cannot believe that we have reached the end of this academic year!

I have enjoyed getting to know all the Year 7s in Deal class, I know they will not be far away, but I will miss the fun and laughter they have brought this year. I am happy to know that Zara will be their teacher, and Louise will be moving up with them as they take this next step.

I want to reflect on what an amazing job the class have done. Working together, becoming friends and growing in their own ways. They have surpassed my expectation and made the whole team proud.

Maths

Students have been following a range of individualised goals this term, they have studied the translation of shapes and explored all the vocabulary that surrounds this, Students have noted the difference in reflection and rotation of shapes and have dived into the world of coordinates. They have also been developing their number skills through games and activities across the curriculum.

English

This term in English, students have been studies Pre-14th century writing. They have explored the works of many authors including Arthur Cohen Doyal, Mary Shelley and Lewis Carroll.

They have created their own nonsense words and developed poems based on 'The jabberwocky'. Students have also explored Frankenstein, and we have had meaningful discussions about the definition of a monster.

Science

This term we have focused on gas exchange with students. They have explored the breathing system and created a breathing model with stuff in the classroom. Students have increased their awareness of the lungs and looked into how smoking, asthma and other conditions can affect breathing. Finally, they have explored how healthy eating can affect their overall health.

PSHE

PSHE has been full of information about banking this term, students have explored bank statements and different methods of payment. They have also looked at how different careers provide different incomes and the amount of money they might need to pay to live independently. Students had a good knowledge of how to keep their money safe and ensure they were not tricked into sharing fund with others.

Global Studies

Students have been studying the black death, looking into the history of the great plague and understanding the reasons for the transmission of the disease. They have looked at reasons for it spread but also how it was treated by doctors at the time. They have considered how this related to modern day society and what provisions we have now that were not available at the time. They have been excellent at questioning the methods of the clinicians of the time, finally they explored how the disease came to an end, recognising the increase in hygiene.

Personal Development

This term we have been focused on our preparation for the new year. Exploring our friendships, building relationships and looking at how we meet and greet new people in their environment. Students have shown they are kind and friendly to others, they have been polite in different environments and built strong relationships with staff at the local stables as well as staff within the school.

Some students have also been developing their creativity taking part in STEM challenges within the classroom. They have shown their ability to adapt and change in different situations as well showing their perseverance with some challenging tasks.







It has been an unusual term for Rye class as we carry out our daily activities knowing that soon we will no longer be 'Rye' but transitioning into 'Hastings' class.

English

In English, we have been preparing for the study of poetry at GCSE, by examining the work of 'war poets' such as Wilfred Owen, Ted Hughes and Simon Armitage. We have discussed the importance of context to a poem and also the effect of poetic devices when establishing a poem's meaning.

Global Studies

A study of the Holocaust was the central focus of our work in Global Studies, but students also had the opportunity to follow their own historic interests, completing research into topics including 'The History of the Universe' and 'The Suffragette Movement'.

ASDAN

Our work for ASDAN took an interesting turn when students were faced with the task of adapting a scene from Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet to make it more approachable to a younger, contemporary audience. The work students produced – adapting it to Minecraft – would have surprised and pleased even 'The Bard' himself!

Science

In Science, Rye class have explored breathing and respiration, where they made model lungs using plastic bottles and balloons. We observed fermentation using yeast and sugar as part of understanding anaerobic respiration. We have learned what photosynthesis is and tested leaves for starch using iodine and looking at what limits the rate of photosynthesis. Finishing off the year, we will be preparing are own microscope slides.

Maths

This term in Maths, Rye Class have been putting their brainpower to the test! They've been busy mastering percentages of amounts and diving into the world of transformations—exploring how objects can rotate, shift position, grow bigger, or shrink. It's been hands-on, visual, and full of fascinating discoveries.

ICT

Meanwhile in ICT, things have been getting seriously techy. Students have been coding their own interactive projects using Scratch, building loops, composing digital tunes, and even programming Microbits. They experimented with sensors like the accelerometer to change the device's function depending on how it moves—blending code and creativity in one brilliant package.

Art

In Art, students have been exploring 'Futurism' and have created reduction lino prints inspired by the work of Eadweard Muybridge, one of the pioneering artists of the Futurism art movement, with links to photography and showcasing motion (animation).

Julie Hatfield. Class Teacher



SAND/CLASS

What a long and eventful term we've had, packed full of exciting activities and learning experiences!

This term, pupils have taken part in a wide range of enriching activities. Some enjoyed peaceful days fishing, while others took on the challenge of Boonies' mud obstacle course. We celebrated International Picnic Day by sharing lunch on picnic blankets in the playground. For World Music Day, everyone joined in an exciting African drumming workshop. We ended the term with a fun-filled day of beach-based adventure!

All pupils also took part in forest and beach school sessions, building teamwork, independence, and a strong connection with nature. Some pupils also participated in a beach clean-up for Environment Day, helping to care for our local environment.

English

We studied Blood Brothers by Willy Russell and explored the differences between plays and novels, including discussions around the nature vs. nurture debate.

Mathematics

We explored the language of probability, learning about outcomes, probability calculations, experimental probability, and comparing probabilities.

Global Studies

Pupils continued their learning about the Industrial Revolution and how it changed Britain, socially, economically, technologically, and geographically.

Science

This term's topic was Materials & Recycling. We looked at limited resources, how recycling works, the reactivity series, extracting metals, and the properties of ceramics, polymers, and composites.

PE

Some students attended swimming sessions, while others focused on local area walks to develop confidence, independence, and navigation skills. Some of our pupils have also been taking part in individual sessions, including sensory circuits and working with the Reading Doctor to support their learning and wellbeing. These valuable sessions will continue next term. We are already looking forward to the final term, which promises some exciting opportunities – including fishing and skateboard building!

We've built such great relationships this year, and I'm proud of everything the pupils have achieved. Although they're moving on to new classes with new teachers, I'll still be around so they can always pop in and say hello! I wish all the pupils the very best in their new class and hope you have a wonderful, restful summer.

Zara Ines, Class Teacher







108tin CLASS

Science

In ELC science we have carried out a beach clean in aid of environment day. The theme was plastic pollution.

This was followed up by a poster presentation about the dangers of the plastics we found on the beach. We have also explored polymers and their uses and moved on to energy stores and transfers.

In GCSE Biology we have studied the brain and ways we can map out the brain. We looked at the structure of the eye. We have now moved on to Homeostasis. In GCSE Chemistry we have explored graphene and fullerenes and studied nanoparticles and nanoscience.



Hastings Class have been getting hands-on with geometry this term, bringing their Maths lessons to life-literally! Students explored the world of 3D shapes, building impressive models from nets and diving into discussions about the properties that make each shape unique.

But the highlight? A challenge worthy of an engineering team—designing and crafting a container strong (and clever) enough to protect a single crisp through the perils of the postal system. It's been a brilliant blend of mathematical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving… plus a bit of snack-based suspense!

Enalish

In English, Hastings class have been developing their skills in identifying context and poetic analysis through the study of war poetry featuring the work of poets such as Wilfred Owen, Simon Armitage and Ted Hughes.

Art

In Art students continue to develop GCSE coursework and work on their Arts Award. Students are developing work based on their own personal themes. Some excellent Art news to share! Two students have completed, passed and have been awarded their Bronze Arts Award! A big congratulations to these two students. In Term 1 we will be visiting an art exhibition and students are currently deciding what they would like to see.

Duke of Edinburgh

Students have continued with their Duke of Edinburgh training. We have visited our site and practiced putting up tents before completing our very first expedition!

This term, instead of their usual ICT lessons, pupils have been taking part in a Social Skills Intervention—and it's been a game changer! The focus has shifted to building strong communication habits: learning how to listen actively, express themselves clearly, and collaborate kindly.

Through role play, group tasks, and everyday conversations, students have been encouraged to reflect on how they interact with one another. The results? A noticeable improvement in confidence, empathy, and teamwork across the board.

It's been heart-warming to see relationships strengthen and smiles widen as these important life skills take root.

Lucy Johnstone, Class Teacher







Folkestages

Another really busy term for Folkestone class. Exams are now complete, but coursework deadlines are still on!

CXK careers meetings started this term; students were able to meet with a careers advisor to discuss future options and make plans. Each student was given a personal plan and meetings have been arranged with experts to discuss job roles in which the students have shown an interest. We visited the University for the Creative Arts to see the end of year degree show; students were able to interact with the work on show and see the working environment including studio spaces. This was very helpful for students to gain an understanding of creative courses at degree level.

Students visited Kearsney Abbey for one of their end of term trips. Students were able to take photographs to assist their art projects and experience a new environment that neither student had visited before. Students in Folkestone class continued to prepare for the DofE Award. Students went shopping to Go Outdoors to purchase walking boots, sleeping bags, walking sticks amongst other necessary items. Due to the hot weather, the first expedition was postponed and rescheduled.

PSHE and ASDAN

We have been exploring health choices and safety and in ASDAN we have been exploring the world of work.

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Students have been working between completions of their essays and the practical aspect of their coursework. Painting has been a real focus for one student and the outcome is simply outstanding! So much has been learnt through the process. Clay, sewing and mixed media has also been explored this term. Examples of the outstanding outcomes can be seen!

SCIENCE

In Science the GCSE exams have come to an end. A Levels continue and we have been looking at the digestive system in mammals, blood circulation in mammals and haemoglobin.

UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES

We have been working on our expedition unit and skills in Uniform Protective Services.

MATHS

In Maths, Folkestone class have been diving deep into some essential mathematical thinking! They've been revisiting and reinforcing previously taught concepts to strengthen their confidence and fluency. On top of that, students have been exploring pie charts, both creating them and learning to interpret the stories data can tell through clever slices of information. They've also tackled averages—mean, median, and mode—and put their geometry hats on again with a look at transformations. It's been a term full of number crunching, data decoding, and shape shifting!

ENGLISH

In English we have been studying Charlotte Perkins Gilman's novella 'The Yellow Wallpaper'. This has involved the study of Victorian patriarchal society and its attitudes towards women's mental health. We are also about to start revising 'Macbeth' in preparation for exams next summer.

Students have successfully passed their driving theory tests this term – congratulations! Such an amazing achievement!

We wish everyone a lovely summer break!























This term, our Year 7, 8, and 9 students have been attending PE sessions at Dover Leisure Centre, where they've taken part in a range of physical activities. Year 10 enjoyed four weeks of kayaking, followed by some well-earned time in the sun during the final two weeks of term.

Looking ahead to next term, we're delighted to welcome CJ as our new PE and Music teacher. CJ will be leading PE sessions, starting with dodgeball and football in Term 1.

Traceylyn Treeby - PE coordinator





The progress in ability, confidence and self esteem has been outstanding this term. In Year 7, we have continued our work on learning some Samba rhythms, and re-capping on our African drumming.

In Year 8, we have been continuing our work on the ukulele, where we have learnt many new and complex chords and challenging songs. The students have shown resilience and determination and have excelled all expectations!

In their individual music lessons with me, the student's standard and self-esteem have continued to grow, so much so, six of our students entered a Talent Show in Birchington, along with other schools, and blew us away with their performance and confidence. A massive well done to Lacie who performed on ukulele and djembe, Eva, on guitar, ukulele and djembe, Grace, on guitar, Ethan, on guitar, Jack, on djembe and Finley on djembe and vocals. We are so proud. This is an amazing achievement, in such a short space of time.

Keep up the great work Newingate, and thank you for all your passion and commitment.

CJ, Music Teacher

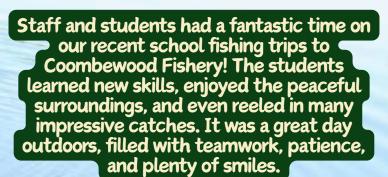




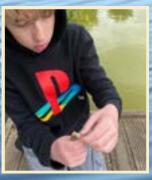
FISHING!



















Excitement is buzzing in the hallways of Newingate School as students put pedal to metal—not in theory, but in practice—thanks to the school's brand-new STEM Hub. The initiative, launched earlier this term, has quickly become the nerve centre of innovation, attracting budding engineers, tech enthusiasts, and creative thinkers eager to turn bold ideas into real-world inventions.

At the heart of the hub's inaugural project: the design and construction of an electric go-kart. Drawing on disciplines such as physics, engineering, computer science, and environmental studies, students have collaborated to bring the high-torque, zero-emission vehicle to life. The go-kart project is just the beginning. The STEM Hub aims to be a launchpad for a variety of student-led ventures, from robotics to renewable energy solutions.

"It's not just about building machines," said STEM coordinator Matthew. "It's about building confidence, critical thinking, and a future-ready mindset."

As the first project crosses the finish line, one thing is clear: this STEM Hub is already driving change and inspiring a new generation of innovators.











What a year our boys Mufasa and Scar have had. Prepared and presented by Eva we have won their section classes as rexoid pets at the first show in November. Scar won his breed class (he is a Swiss) at Canterbury and Coast Cavy Club show in April. Eva was awarded 2nd best young exhibitor at Worthing and Eastergate Cavy Club show. The most recent show on the 1st June, Scar won third best overall junior owned pet, Eva was second best novice exhibitor and best fancy dress 'day at the races' exhibit. What a great end to our show season. Roll on September. Watch out for new show pigs in the spotlight with

Mufasa waiting patiently for his turn to be judged by Kaye at Kent Cavy Club Show.

Scar in the best pet line up. Eva and Scar also won 2nd best Novice exhibitor. A team effort with Eva. Mufasa and Scar then went on to win best junior fancy dress exhibit.

Eva (in fancy dress for a day at the races theme) receiving her rosette from Sophie the club secretary.







Hello everyone!

My name is Kayleigh, and I'm delighted to have joined the team as a new Pupil Support Manager.

I have been lucky enough to spend my first term popping in and out of classes, getting to know the children and staff and seeing what an amazing school it is!

My role as a Pupil Support Manager is all about helping the students to feel supported, listened to, and encouraged throughout their time at school. Along with the amazing work that the teachers and staff already do!

Whether it's lending a helping hand during tough moments, offering advice, or simply being someone, students can talk to when they need to, I will be there to support everyone in the process.

I'm truly passionate about the student's wellbeing and building a positive school community where everyone is seen, heard, and valued.

I look forward to continually developing relationships with the students, parents, staff, and hope that we can all thrive to deliver the best outcomes for everyone.

I hope you all have a lovely summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in Term 1.

PARENTS Please feel free to drop me an email or a phone call if you have any questions/queries you would like to talk about.

Kayleigh, Pupil Support Manager



Teaching Assistant



Bibi-Bliss Bromley wildman Teaching Assistant





Speech and Language The Language

As I approach my second year here at school, it's a great time to reflect on just how much has happened, changed, and developed within the Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) service. During this time, we've worked hard to build a service that is inclusive, creative, and responsive to the needs of our students, and there is still so much more to be done!

Whether through direct one-to-one sessions, small group work, or indirect support such as staff training and classroom strategies, every student has been supported in some way. Our aim has always been to help students communicate more confidently, understand others more clearly, and feel empowered in their learning and social environments.

Over the past year, the SaLT service has embraced a wide range of creative and inclusive approaches to support our students' communication and social development. Here are some of the highlights:

CREATIVE INTERVENTIONS

Our sessions have gone beyond traditional therapy models to include innovative, student-led activities that make communication development both meaningful and enjoyable:

BINARY CODE EMOTION DECODING, USING
NUMBERS TO HELP STUDENTS DENTIFY AND
EXPRESS COMPLEX FEELINGS IN A
STRUCTURED WAY

SENSORY AND MESSY PLAY TO SUPPORT EXPRESSIVE LANGUAGE SKILLS

MINECRAFT-BASED SOCIAL
SCENARIOS, ENCOURAGING
TEAMWORK, PROBLEM-SOLVING,
AND COMMUNICATION IN A
FAMILIAR DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT









WORD CATEGORY EXPLORATION, HELPING STUDENTS ORGANISE AND RETRIEVE VOCABULARY MORE EFFECTIVELY. INCLUDING EMOTIONS AND FEELINGS. SEASONAL THEMES. AND WEATHER





BOOKS AND FILMS TO BOOST INFERENCING SKILLS AND HELP STUDENTS INTERPRET EMOTIONS, INTENTIONS, AND SOCIAL CUES.

STAFF TRAINING

A key part of our work has been equipping staff with the tools and confidence to support communication across the school day. This year, staff have received training in: Reflective practice, Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) & Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN), Blank Level Questioning, Social Stories and Comic Strip Conversations.

These sessions have helped embed communication-friendly strategies into everyday teaching and support, creating a more inclusive environment for all learners.

STUDENT GROWTH

We've seen fantastic progress in students' confidence, social interaction, and ability to express themselves, both in structured sessions and in everyday school life. It's been a joy to see students using their voices, ideas, and strategies more independently.

COMING SOON...

You can look forward to more in upcoming newsletters about the continued development of the service, along with helpful information around speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN). Whether you're interested in specific strategies, terminology, or how SaLT fits into everyday school life, we aim to keep you informed and involved.

If there's anything you'd like to know more about, or if you have suggestions for what you'd like to, please don't hesitate to get in touch!



OUR FIRST FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL ADVENTURES!





What a game! Despite a narrow 6-5 loss, our players lit up the pitch. Romani scored a hat-trick with celebrations to match, Dylan created magic with a peach of a goal and three assists, and Billie-Joe pulled off a David Beckham-style free kick straight from halfway. Henry stood strong at the back, Eva never stopped running, and Jack kept the team driving forward. The result didn't go our way, but the pride and passion were unforgettable.

Match Two - Canterbury Cullum Centre

Next up came a powerhouse performance and a brilliant 7-2 win. Romani struck twice with style, Captain Dylan led with a superb hat-trick, and Billie-Joe put on a goalkeeping masterclass – even scoring herself! Harvey announced himself with a thunderbolt goal, Kodi was a defensive rock, and Finlay came off the bench like a super sub, crashing into every challenge.

Two matches in, and it's clear these teams are full of heart, skill, and determination. We can't wait to see what next season brings – watch this space!



TERM DATES

2025-2026

Term 1	Monday 1st September 2025		Friday 17 th October 2025
		Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September 2025	Staff Training Days School Closed to Students
Term 2	Monday 3 rd November 2025		Friday 19 th December 2025
	Friday 19 th December 2025		Staff Training Day
Term 3	Monday 5th January 2026		Friday 13 th February 2026
	Monday 5th January 2026		Staff Training Day
Term 4	Monday 23 rd February 2026		Thursday 2 nd April 2026
	Friday 20 th March 2026		Staff Training Day
Term 5	Tuesday 20th April 2026		Friday 22 nd May 2026
	Monday 4th May 2026		School Closed - Bank Holiday
Term 6	Monday 1 st June 2026		Friday 17 th July 2026
	Friday 26 th June 2026		Staff Training Day
INSET DAYS Staff Training & Development	1	Monday 1st September 2025	School Closed to Students
	2	Tuesday 2nd September 2025	School Closed to Students
	3	Friday 19 th December 2025	School Closed to Students
	4	Monday 5 th January 2026	School Closed to Students
	5	Friday 20th March 2026	School Closed to Students
	6	Friday 26th June 2026	School Closed to Students

PLEASE NOTE:

In addition to the above, Newingate School may be closed on certain days to undertake essential Staff Development and Training. We will notify you in advance of these days to minimise disruption.