

“Quality education brings confidence and independence”

Governors Newsletter Norwood School

Issue 2
July 2007

This summer term must be a unique occasion, as the school will be saying goodbye and good luck to four of its longest serving members of staff: Mr Viv Evans, Headteacher, Mrs Audrey Shaw, Deputy Headteacher and Year 6 teacher, Mrs Di Olive, Year 3 teacher and Mrs Jan James, Year 3 teacher.

The governing body would like to pay tribute to all four members of staff and to thank them for their dedication to Norwood School and all the pupils they have helped whilst at Norwood School.

“A teacher affects eternity: he can never tell where his influence stops.”

- Henry Adams



Mr Viv Evans Headteacher

Mr Viv Evans was born in Swansea in South Wales. Looking back on his childhood, Viv remembers a sense of freedom, and of there being lots of open spaces and parks where as a child he was able to play. In his early teens his family moved within Swansea to an area nearer the sea, and from there he enjoyed the Gower coast.

From his youngest days Viv has always had a keen interest in sport, both as a participant and a spectator. His interest in Swansea City F.C. began from the age of 9, when his father took him to matches at the Vetch Field. At the end of the road where he later lived was the Swansea Cricket and Rugby ground (St. Helen's), which hosted County and international matches. Viv played there for Swansea at cricket and was able to watch many big games in both sports.

Viv was first guided towards teaching by one of his Grammar School teachers, and whilst at College he met his future wife, Lesley. Viv first taught in London, but soon moved to Peterborough where Lesley was teaching. Viv has taught in four schools in Peterborough: St. Thomas More, Eyrescroft, Farcet (as Deputy Head) and Norwood. He started at Norwood in 1991, initially to cover for a year, but was subsequently appointed on a permanent basis. Viv's enjoyment of sports has been passed on to pupils throughout his career, running clubs and teams for football, cricket, athletics and swimming.

Viv and Lesley have two daughters and a son, and have always enjoyed caravanning, particularly in France. In his retirement Viv is looking forward to spending more time with his family and having more time to enjoy his many interests, but particularly plenty of sport (mainly watching!).



Mrs Audrey Shaw –
Deputy Headteacher
and Year 6 Teacher.

Mrs Audrey Shaw was born at Thorpe Hall in Peterborough. On leaving school her first career was in research engineering but after a break to raise her son and daughter Audrey decided to retrain as a teacher. She studied mathematics as her main subject at college, taking a further, and specialist qualification to teach infants.

Her first teaching post was at Dogsthorpe Infant School, which was still under the guidance of the same Headteacher as when Audrey herself was a pupil at that school. She later moved to take the post of Head of the Infant Department at Welland Primary School and later became Head of the Junior Department. In April 1995 was appointed to the post of Deputy Headteacher of Norwood School. At Norwood she has taught Year 5 and Year 3 and for the last 10 years has taught Year 6.

Audrey particularly enjoys seeing the older pupils mature and grow in confidence before their transfer to secondary school. By the time they are ready to leave she acknowledges she is often one of the smallest people in the classroom. Each year she has taken her class to Scarborough, which for many children has been the highlight of the year.

Audrey’s hobbies and interests include walking, swimming and reading. She is a great believer in life long learning. Several years ago she learned to play the guitar, and played for a while in a folk group. She is currently trying to learn the treble recorder. She believes that being a learner herself helps her emphasise with pupils who are having difficulty mastering new concepts.

Audrey’s husband is retiring at the same time and they are looking forward to the opportunity to travel where and when they like.



Mrs Jan James
Year 3 Teacher.



Mrs Di Olive
Year 3 Teacher

Mrs Jan James was born in London where she spent her early youth living in Teddington before going to college in Brighton. Jan secured her first post in a middle school in Egham, Surrey as the successful applicant out of 200 people. After a few years she got a posting at an RAF school in Germany where she worked for 3 years and used the opportunity to travel widely in Europe and even learned to ski! It was in Germany that she met her future husband. On her return to England Jan taught in a school near Kew Gardens where she stayed until she left teaching to start a family and moved up to Lincoln.

When her two daughters were growing up Jan decided to return to teaching and came to Norwood as a supply teacher.

When a full time post was advertised at the school Jan applied for a part time teaching role

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Mrs Di Olive was born in Grantham where she lived until she went to college in Birmingham to study music. Her first teaching post was at Waltham Comprehensive. Di later applied for a job in Wakefield as Head of Music – a post that was advertised as requiring a ‘male’ teacher. Nevertheless her application was successful.

Di subsequently moved to Peterborough and her two sons both attended Norwood school. Di first helped at Norwood as a parent helper, she was soon asked to help with music and was then asked to cover supply teaching. Di has also worked at Paston, Gunthorpe, Abbotsmede and for CIMA. As a parent Di started fundraising from which the NSA evolved and later she became a parent governor. Di also started the cycling proficiency at Norwood.

Under Di’s guidance music at Norwood has flourished. She has introduced children to music competitions and when the school was invited to

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Mrs Di Olive (whose eldest son had been taught by Jan) also applied for a part time teaching role and they were both offered the post to work together in a job share. Jan has taught years 3, 4 and 6 and is the longest serving teacher at Norwood.

In her spare time Jan likes walking, cycling and going to the gym and scuba diving (in warmer climates!). Jan has travelled extensively having visited Australia, Canada and America as well as many parts of Europe. One of her ambitions is to visit New Zealand. Jan also plays in a recorder ensemble with Mrs Olive, who gave Jan her first recorder. Hopefully they will be playing at many more gigs and who knows, maybe they'll become famous!!

compose a millennium song Norwood pupils won the regional competition and they were invited to sing at the cathedral at Bury St Edmunds. The Voices of Promise plaque is a permanent memento. The recorder group has also been very successful having won the Peterborough Music Festival every year since it entered and also winning the regional heat in the National Festival for Youth resulting in the children performing at the Sir Adrian Boult Hall in Birmingham.

In her spare time Di likes to cycle - up to 40 miles at a time - and enjoys walking. Di is hoping to have more time to sing and pursue her interest in music and the many instruments she plays. Di has also organised a recorder group, which plays in stately homes and gardens as part of the National Open Gardens scheme and at other charitable events.

??? ??? ??? Some questions asked by parents to governors ??? ??? ???

Q. Are our children allowed to watch PG rated films at school?

A. PG films are not usually watched at Norwood School. If it is ever deemed necessary to watch a PG film parents/careers will be given prior notice in writing.

Q. Would it be a good idea to have a "governor question" book on the reception desk to make it easier for parents/careers to ask questions?

A. The governors of Norwood now send out a termly newsletter and details of how to contact us are contained within this. Some governors are also in the playground on a daily basis and are happy to speak to anyone about school matters at any time. We are very keen for you to have the opportunity to speak to us and ask us any questions or raise any concerns you may have. We will always make every effort to respond to you and will update the whole of the school via this newsletter on a termly basis.

Q. Is the school having a bike shelter built to encourage parents, careers and children to cycle to school?

A. We have recently applied for and been granted a subsidy towards our school travel plans. This will be used to help us to build a bike shelter for use by children, parents and careers (further details to follow). We are hopeful that work will commence between Autumn 2007 and Spring 2008.

Q. Why did Norwood School not take part in Red Nose Day?

A. Norwood supports many causes throughout the year but it is impossible to support them all. It was felt that there were plenty of opportunities outside school for children to support Red Nose Day.

Governors: -

We hope that you have found this newsletter informative and interesting. If you have any comments/suggestions please send them via email to tricia@triciapengellywanadoo.co.uk or via the school office.

Norwood School Governors

Community Governor
Reg Miller
Bethan Charles

Headteacher
Viv Evans

Teacher Governor
Sue Scott

Parent Governor
Sarah Betambeau
Warren Fenwick
Paul Osker
Nigel Smith

Staff Governor
Sharon Spillett

LEA Governor
Nicola Brooks
Tricia Pengelly