



NEWARK ORCHARD SCHOOL

Together we thrive

End of Year Newsletter 2025-2026

A message from the Headteacher 

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another school year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a fantastic year for Newark Orchard School.

When I look back on the last eleven months, what stands out most is the incredible progress our pupils have made. Whether that progress has been academic, social, emotional or in growing independence, there is so much to celebrate.

This year our students have once again shown remarkable resilience, determination and kindness. We have seen children achieve things that perhaps once felt impossible, and that is always the greatest success of all.

Highlights from the year



Hagg Farm Residential

Our annual residential at Hagg Farm was once again a huge success, providing opportunities for adventure, teamwork and confidence-building. Many pupils challenged themselves to try activities they had never experienced before and returned with lasting memories.



Post-16 Butlins Visit

Some of our Post-16 students travelled independently to Butlins for their residential visit. Watching our young people demonstrate such independence, responsibility and confidence was a proud moment for staff and families alike and highlighted just how well prepared they are becoming for adult life.



Inside Out Performance

We were delighted to stage our Inside Out performance, which showcased the creativity, talent and confidence of our pupils. It was wonderful to see so many students shining both on and behind the stage.



Community Contributions

Across the school, pupils have continued to contribute positively to the local community. Students have helped maintain Devon Park, developed their own allotment areas, and taken pride in projects that help them understand their role as active citizens.

More celebrations and news on the next page... 



Supporting our wider community

Newark Orchard's impact extends beyond our own school.

This year we have continued to work closely with mainstream colleagues by establishing a SENDCO clinic, whilst also hosting skills exchange opportunities for teaching assistants and nursery staff from local schools. It has been a privilege to share expertise and strengthen specialist SEND practice across our local area.



Friends of Newark Orchard

Our Friends of Newark Orchard events have gone from strength to strength.

Over
£2,500
raised!

This year we held three record-breaking fundraising events, raising over £2,500 for the school. These events not only raised valuable funds but also brought together families, staff, governors and members of our wider community.

Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated raffle prizes or offered support. Your generosity makes a real difference to our pupils.



An exciting future

This year has also been significant for Newark Orchard School as an organisation.

I was delighted to confirm that Newark Orchard has taken on leadership of Dean Hole Caunton Primary School and that the site will now become a satellite provision of Newark Orchard School.

This development will allow us to support more children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans who desperately need access to specialist provision. We know that many families are waiting far too long for appropriate placements, and we are proud to be part of the solution.



Looking ahead to next year

Whilst we are proud of everything we have achieved this year, we are already excited about what comes next.

Working alongside our colleagues across Community Inclusive Trust, pupils will have opportunities to participate in new trust-wide events including the CIT Olympics and CIT's Got Talent. We know these will create fantastic opportunities for friendship, teamwork, competition and celebration.

We are also looking forward to continuing to develop our curriculum, enrichment opportunities and wider provision as we strive to give every pupil the very best experience possible.



Thank you

Finally, I would like to thank our incredible staff team for their dedication, commitment and care throughout the year.

I would also like to extend a thank you to our families. Your support, encouragement and partnership help make Newark Orchard such a special place. Together we continue to achieve great things for our children and young people.

I wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Warm regards,

Matt Joyce
Headteacher

Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn 1	3rd September – 16th October
Autumn 2	3rd November – 18th December
Spring 1	4th January – 12th February
Spring 2	22nd February – 25th March
Summer 1	12th April – 27th May
Summer 2	7th June – 28th July