

# Clayton Hall Business and Language College

## NEWSletter **Commemorative Issue**

SUMMER TERM 2015

PART OF THE SOUTH NEWCASTLE FEDERATION

### Message from the Federation Executive Head At the end of an Era.



It is with a mixture of great pride and sadness I write to you in the final newsletter of the federation as it currently exists. The move to our two schools becoming academies is an evolution rather than a revolution. The change of names to the Clayton Hall Academy and Newcastle Academy is a significant step towards a future that will be both exciting and challenging in equal measure. Education is about the future and we spend all of our time planning to improve what we do, so our pupils can achieve more, and get the very best opportunities in life.

Yet at this juncture it is useful to look back on the history of both schools and acknowledge the excellent foundations provided for us by those who have gone before. Staff, parents and most of all the pupils of the current and past schools have established a solid reputation based on

hard work, commitment and a desire to serve our community with enthusiasm and pride.

Both schools have prepared their young people for an active and full life in society and have supported and nurtured pupils who have gone on to represent their district, county and even their country. Many pupils have experienced, for the first time, cultural events and activities, and developed a love and passion for these in later life. Learning a language and the opportunity to visit foreign shores has been a key feature of both schools.

The rich variety of activities available throughout a pupil's time at NCHS or Clayton has broadened their minds and shown them a glimpse of what they could achieve. But it is most probably the friendships forged every day in and out of the classroom that will be our biggest legacy. The experience gained while attending our schools, has ensured that generation after generation have grown up together protected and supported by staff who cared for them. The education offered was both genuine and heartfelt. It was both sincere and generous in its ambition to create a community that looked outward not inward, was dynamic rather than passive and had an ambition for itself and those in it.

As we prepare for the next exciting chapter it is only right we pause and pay tribute to the past. It is right that we recognise this commitment and energy, while taking both schools to the next stage. The opportunities we now have are only available due to the valiant work of our predecessors. The challenge, to provide an outstanding education for our pupils, is one we willingly accept, while at the same time recognising the achievements of those who have built the foundations.

To all, past and present, we can assure you that both academies will deliver the highest quality education and experiences available. At a time of great change and challenge when we look to the future it is necessary to know that our plea has been secured in the hearts and minds of the people we have served.

Enjoy a great summer holiday.

**Mark Heuston**



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# A Brief History of Education in Newcastle

**This brief account plots the progress of education within Newcastle-under-Lyme and illustrates how it has affected the development of our two schools.**

A Free School has existed in Newcastle since Elizabethan times. This was first housed in a building in St. Giles church yard. The first recorded bequest was from Thomas Clayton in his will of 1602 remembering his birthplace. He left a yearly rent of £10 "to pay for a master which shall teach and instruct in learning thirty poor children born within the said town of Newcastle-under-Lyme."

The Reverend Edward Orme left the greater part of his estate to fund a new "English School – the Orme Charity School" which was housed at the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century in the Presbyterian Meeting House. The school taught, free of charge, reading, writing and accounts to 40 poor boys and was closely associated with the Parish Church. In 1715 the Old Orme School House was built when the school had to evacuate the old Meeting House "on its being burnt down by rioters". Special pews were provided in St. Giles Church for the use of the "English Master and his pupils".

St Giles National School opened in 1826 and shortly after St. George's opened an infants school in a former malt house on Sunday Wells Street.



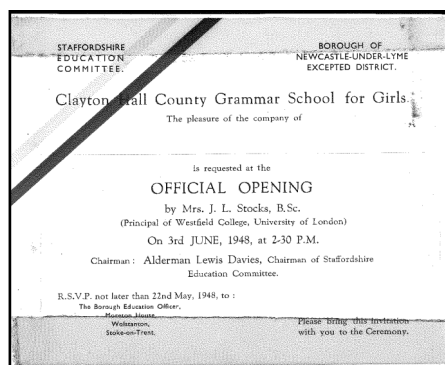
A watercolour by an unknown nineteenth century artist of the Orme Boys School. (still there on the corner of Orme Road in Newcastle). Courtesy of Borough Museum and Art Gallery, Newcastle under Lyme

In 1851 the Orme Charity School opened, housed in new buildings on the site of the former workhouse in the Higherland.

By 1895 St Giles and St George's combined to open a new school to cater for pupils of all ages.

In 1928 a new Grammar School for Boys was opened in Wolstanton, thus leaving the Orme School on the Higherland to cater for other pupils.

**It was in 1948 that a girls' grammar school was formally opened at Clayton Hall. Thus providing free grammar school education for girls within Newcastle, some 20 years after this was achieved for the boys of the Borough.**



In 1965 a new school was opened in Ashfields New Road, called Newcastle Church of England Secondary School and this resulted in the secondary aged pupils from St. Giles and St. George's being housed in the new school. St Giles and St. George's school remained for primary aged children.

**In 1968 The Edward Orme County Secondary School opened on land between Gallowstree Lane and Ostend Place as a replacement school for the old Orme Boys School and Westlands Girls School.**

In 1980 Trinity Church of England High School opened as a split site school with the amalgamation of Newcastle Church of England Secondary School and Knutton Secondary School. This was part of the reorganization of Secondary Education in the Newcastle area to comprehensive education. It was at this time that Clayton Hall also became a comprehensive school

as it amalgamated with Seabridge Secondary School.

1985 saw further changes with the creation of Sneyd High School as a split site school following the amalgamation of Trinity Church of England High School and Edward Orme High School. This was part of further reorganisation of education within the Newcastle area. The Knutton site closed in 1987.

The name of Sneyd High School was changed in 1997 to become Newcastle Community High School, a name which it was felt better described what the school stood for.

**Clayton Hall achieved the distinction of Specialist School status in 2004 and the name was changed to reflect this. The school became known as Clayton Hall Business and Language College.**

**In 2008 Newcastle Community High School achieved Specialist School Status and changed to become NCHS The Science College.**

A federation was formed in 2009 between Clayton and NCHS to enable closer working between the two schools, each being a part of the South Newcastle Federation.

In 2013 the two schools became Foundation Schools with a Trust board and new governing body. This followed discussions and advice from the Church of England's Lichfield Diocesan Director of Education. The Trust Board includes members representing Keele University, Newcastle under Lyme College and Aspire Housing.

In order to ensure further progress is maintained within the current educational climate, the governors decided in 2015 to apply for Academy status, which has been approved and will be effective in September 2015. This will ensure our future as we continue our journey towards excellence.

by David Leech.

# Photos from 1947-1950s



Girls in the gym when the school opened 1947



First Prize Day 1949



Decorating for Harvest Festival 1950



Girls with Puppets 1950



← Tree planting for the coronation 1953

↓ One of the first official engagements of the first woman to hold office as Mayor of Newcastle, tree planting in 1954



Swedish Exchange Visit 1955



Pageant in the grounds 1956



Garden Party 1958 →

# The Swinging 1960s



Fashion show in 1961



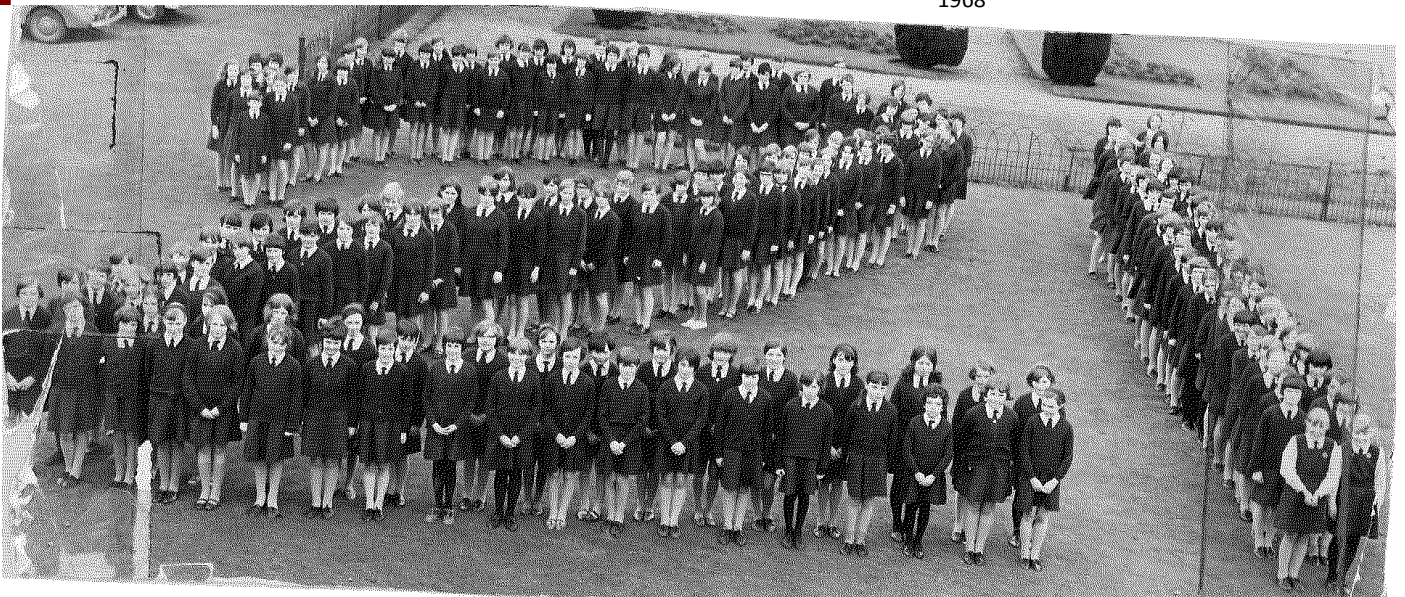
Coffee Morning 1964

On their way to Speech Day 1966



↑ Making and serving lunch to the Mayor and Mayoress 1967

↓ Marking the 21st Anniversary of the School 1968



# The 1970s

A formal Miss Farrar on Prize Day 1972



Informal shot of Miss Farrar on her retirement with head girl and deputy in 1974

# 1980s

By the 1980s life was in colour, boys were in school and Mr Dale had lots of hair!



Sample page from a Newsletter 1988



School production



School camp



Visit to Stoke City's Victoria Ground



Clayton High School, Newcastle, Staffs

NEWSLETTER

No. 13 SUMMER ISSUE 1988

*Since September 1985 more than £5000 has been raised for charities, plus huge quantities of food and toys. Please continue to help us in our work for the needy!*

**POLIO PLUS PLOD** - Over 40 pupils, mainly 1st & 2nd Yrs, took part in a six mile sponsored walk on Sunday 8th May. We expect them to raise over £400 for the campaign to eradicate Polio by vaccination throughout the world.

**STEPPING OUT FOR CHARITY!**

**PANCAKE RACE** - Our second annual Charity Pancake Race raised £160 with about 100 pupils taking part in fancy dress. The winners were Scott Hammond, Nicholas Duck and Danny Toole.

**FUN IN FANCY DRESS**

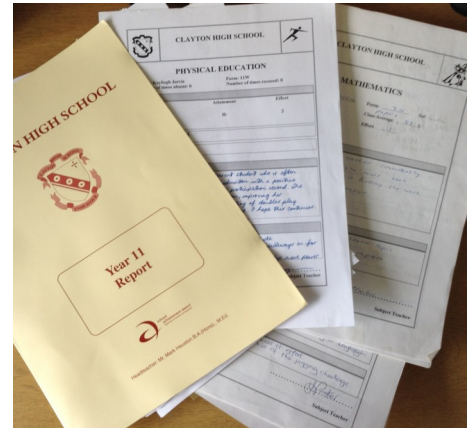
The race was watched by staff and children from the Kemball Special School to whom the money was presented. A bicycle has been purchased for use by the pupils.

**THE PANCAKE RACE**

# Late 80s, 90s and into the new millennium

demonstrating the latest computerised telephone system.

Apparently, 'technology' was invented by 1988, but hand written reports were still being used up to 2002, and silly faces have always been in fashion!



In 1992/3 the old Fleet Air Arm buildings and swimming pool were demolished, and in 1995 the new sports hall was erected. In 1996 a £60,000 grant was obtained from the National Heritage lottery fund to rebuild and repair the ornamental garden walls.

## The N-V-L Reporter - May '97 School grant

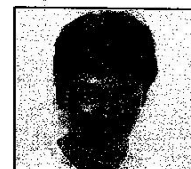
WORK is finishing on a scheme to restore a historic feature in the grounds of Clayton High School.

The project to rebuild and repair ornamental garden walls has been carried out with the aid of £60,000 in money from the National Heritage lottery fund together with a grant of up to \$6,000 from the Borough Council's Conservation and Heritage Fund.

The rest of the £90,000-plus work has been found by Staffordshire County Council and the school.

"Clayton Hall is a Grade II listed building which has played an important role in the history of the Borough," said ward councillor Cynthia Taylor.

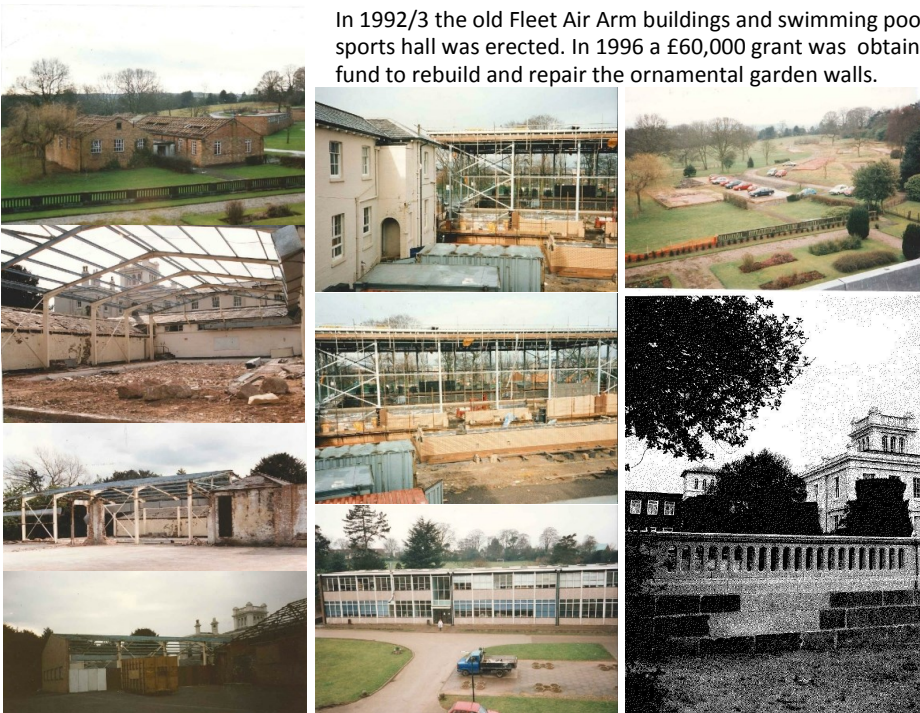
"The ornamental wall makes an impressive contribution to the setting of the building," she added.



Cynthia Taylor, 27 Audley Place, Westlands, ST5 3RS. Tel. 618948.



Vincent Byatt, 54 Buckmaster Avenue, Clayton, ST5 4JA. Tel. 662252.



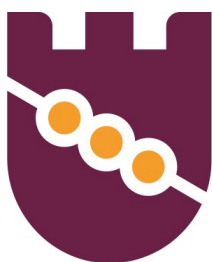
# And the future?

This summer we have a major refurbishment programme planned for the school including a complete redecoration of all internal communal spaces, and the Old Hall will be repaired and decorated externally, to bring it back to its former glory.

Photo below shows how the ivy and wisteria have been removed prior to painting.



The library is currently being stripped in readiness for a complete redesign to enhance the flexibility and functionality of this beautiful space.



**CLAYTON HALL**  
ACADEMY

New logos and signage will be erected around the site, new uniform badges will be introduced, and all paperwork will change to include our new name.

We are looking forward to this new era for the school and an exciting future within the South Newcastle Trust. We will welcome our students back into a transformed environment to continue their learning this September.

# STAFF PROFILE

At least four current members of staff are photographed here. One is obvious, but who are the others?



2002



1996



2005

## School Terms and Holiday Dates 2015/16

**Summer Holiday:** Monday 21 July – Friday 4 September (35 days)

### Autumn Term 2015

**Staff:** Monday 7 September - Friday 23 October  
**Students:** Tuesday 8 September - Friday 23 October (33 days)  
**Staff:** INSET DAY Friday 9 October  
**Half Term Holiday:** Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October  
**Staff & Students:** Monday 2 November - Friday 18 December  
**Christmas Holiday:** Monday 21 December - Friday 1 January

### Spring Term 2016:

**Staff & Students:** Monday 4 January - Friday 12 February  
**Half Term Holiday:** Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February  
**Staff & Students:** Monday 22 February - Thursday 24 March  
**Easter Holiday:** Fri 25 March - Friday 8 April (Easter Sunday 27 March)  
**Staff:** INSET DAYS Thurs 7 & Friday 8 April

### Summer Term 2016

**Staff & Students:** Monday 11 April - Friday 27 May  
**Bank Holiday:** Monday 2 May  
**Half Term Holiday:** Monday 30 May - Friday 3 June  
**Staff & Students:** Monday 6 June - Friday 22 July  
**Staff:** INSET DAY Monday 20 June  
**Summer Holiday:** Monday 25 July - Friday 2 September

Staff Total: 195 days Pupil Total: 190 days

## Get the App!

Free to download and available from most app stores, search for "Clayton Hall" and allow 'push notifications' so you get a notice every time we add news. You can filter for relevant categories.

## ONLINE PAYMENTS Did you know?

The school has introduced 'Online Payments' to enable parents/carers the option to pay by credit or debit card for school trips. Payments are made through **Worldpay** so they are secure and reliable. For further information, please contact the Finance Office.

## USING PARENTMAIL



To receive all your important notifications by email, please make sure you have signed up.

Simply email:

[Claytonparentmail@SNFederation.co.uk](mailto:Claytonparentmail@SNFederation.co.uk)

and provide the following information:

Student's name/Year Group & Your Email  
 This information will not be passed to any other parties or used for any other marketing purposes.

## AND WE'RE ON

Link in via the website or on your mobile, and keep up to date with the latest action at @ClaytonHall4094

## Student Absence Line

Don't forget, if your child is ill or going to be late due to an appointment, the number you need is:

**01782 297566**



This line is available 24 hrs a day. Just listen to the short message then leave your child's details and reason for their absence.

## Clayton Hall

Business & Language College  
 Clayton Lane  
 Newcastle-under-Lyme  
 Staffordshire  
 ST5 3DN  
 T: 01782 297570

E: [office.clayton@snfederation.co.uk](mailto:office.clayton@snfederation.co.uk)  
 W: [www.claytonhall.org.uk](http://www.claytonhall.org.uk)

**Report student absence:**  
 01782 297566

**Headteacher**  
 Mr Julian Morgan BA (Hons), MA, NPQH

**Executive Headteacher**  
**South Newcastle Federation**  
 Mr Mark Heuston B.A. (Hons), M.Ed.

**Chair of Governors:** Mr A White