



Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2015

Issue No: 06

Date: 16th October

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

With our children's well-being and safety of the highest importance at North Downs, we would like to explain an additional support we are providing...ELSA.

What is an ELSA?

ELSAs are **Emotional Literacy Support Assistants**. They are teaching assistants who have had special training from educational psychologists to support the emotional development of children and young people in school. ELSAs have regular professional supervision from educational psychologists to help them in their work.

What do they do?

ELSAs help children and young people learn to understand their emotions and respect the feelings of those around them. They provide the time and space for pupils to think about their personal circumstances and how they manage them over a programme of 6-8 weeks within school time.

What don't they do?

The ELSA role isn't behaviour management (ELSA time isn't meant for sorting out playground incidents or telling children off!). Pupils are helped to find their own solutions rather than the ELSA telling them what to do.

How does it work at North Downs Primary?

Our ELSA is Mrs Preston Heard (also known as Mrs P-H) who is based at Brockham, working two days as ELSA. If you feel there is an issue that you think Mrs P-H can work with, let us know. We do have a waiting list, so operate a referral system that prioritises cases. Your first point of contact is your child's class teacher or the SENCo (Annie Scott). Other TAs at Leigh are also trained in social skills support and work directly with targeted children after discussion with the parent and class teacher.



DT Club made wonderful homes for their animals, meeting their need for food, exercise, shelter and water!



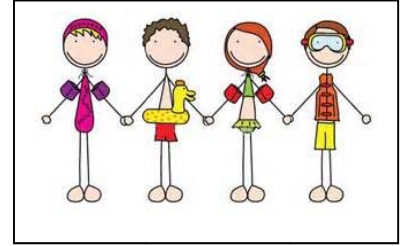
Good News: we are delighted to be able to share the lovely news that Mrs Hilston is expecting her third child in March and ask you to join us in sending many congratulations to her and her family. Meanwhile, we are recruiting and will keep you informed about arrangements for Mrs Hilston's maternity cover as soon as they are in place.

Reception Newspaper Photographs

Two of our local newspapers will be running **Reception Class Picture Supplements** shortly. Photographers from both papers have taken class photos of Caterpillars and Ladybirds since the start of term, to be included in a colour supplement of all the reception classes at schools in the Mole Valley area. This is an annual event. The Dorking Advertiser (also covers the Leatherhead Advertiser & Surrey Mirror) has been able to confirm that their supplement is to be published with the edition out w/c 19th October (next week); whilst the Surrey Advertiser's supplement will be published with their newspaper during the first two weeks of November, but they have not yet specified which week. These will be different photographs, so keep an eye out for both if you are interested.

Other News

Swimsense Half-Term Crash Course from 26th to 30th October: sessions are generally with smaller classes of 5/6 children and run for half an hour. The younger non-swimmers start first at 9.30am, with a second class for the improvers at 10am. Teachers will be in the water and both Annabel and Emma will be available on these days depending upon numbers. There will be an opportunity for all children to attempt distance badges (up to 50 metres only); and as well as the stroke practices, they will enjoy some more fun elements such as water skills and underwater activities. All children are challenged and this is an ideal environment for them to consolidate their swimming. We hope to see you there! Fees will be £7 per session and children can join for 3, 4 or 5 days. Siblings receive a discount to £6 per session. All bookings need to be made in advance via email at emma@emmamiller.demon.co.uk



Friends' Matters

Pumpkin Party: Friday 23rd October. See this week's ParentMail for details.

Bags2School: please return them to Betchworth & Leigh ON the morning of Wed 21st Oct; and to Brockham ON the morning of Thurs 22nd Oct. Extra bags are available!

Secondhand Uniform Sale: on Wednesday 21st October 3pm at Brockham Village site.

Quiz Night: Friday 13th November 7.30pm at Brockham Village site. Tickets on sale NOW - see last week's PM for your order slip.

To contact FONDS directly, please email - fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Reminders / Dates

Always remember to check the updated Diary Dates on the following page

(Note: dates in italics have been added or changed this week)

Brockham Parking: you are reminded that at no time should a parked car obstruct the entrance to Anthony West House. This is a home for the elderly; blocking access/exit causes them distress and would result in an unacceptable delay for an ambulance, doctor's vehicle etc..

KS2 School Dinner Money: next half term's payment due for Years 3 to 6 is £75.25. Please pay in advance via Tucasi (or cheque made payable to Surrey County Council)

Data Collection Sheets: surnames...

F-G home last week; due back Monday 19th Oct

H-L home this week; due back Monday 2nd Nov (after half term)

Please give these data sheets your immediate attention. The dates above are the very *latest date* by which your child's Data Sheet should be returned to your school office, but we ask that you check, correct (if necessary), sign and return your form as soon as possible please.

We ask also that overdue sheets for children with surnames beginning A to E are returned to school on Monday 19th, to enable our admin team to ensure all pupil information updating is on schedule. Thank you.

Term Dates 2016-2017: for your convenience, we attach a copy of next year's Surrey Term Dates to this issue's ParentMail.

Yours sincerely

JL Douglas

Finally

Have a great weekend



Autumn Term 2015

w/c Mon 19 th Oct	Last week of swimming
Wed 21 st Oct	Parents Consultation (no children): Betchworth & Leigh 3.30-6pm Brockham 5-7.30pm
Thurs 22 nd Oct	Parents Consultation (no children): Brockham 3.30-6pm Betchworth & Leigh 5-7.30pm
Thurs 22 nd Oct	FONDS Bags2School
Fri 23 rd Oct	General Mufti Day
Fri 23 rd Oct	6C Class Assembly
Fri 23 rd Oct	FONDS Disco
w/c Mon 26 th Oct	Half Term Week
Tues 3 rd Nov	Leigh parents invited to tour Brockham Village site
Wed 4 th Nov	Brockham Open Morning
Thurs 5 th Nov	Betchworth Open Morning
Fri 6 th Nov	KS1 Curriculum Day (all Year 1 at Brockham / all Year 2 at Leigh) - letter to follow
Fri 6 th Nov	Year 4 Assembly (High Ashurst)
Tues 10 th Nov	Brockham individual photos (am) - Tempest
Tues 17 th Nov	Betchworth & Leigh individual photos (am) - Tempest
Fri 20 th Nov	3MB Class Assembly
w/c Mon 30 th Nov	Last week of NDPS Clubs
Mon 30 th Nov	Brockham Christingle Assembly 10.15am (children only)
Wed 2 nd Dec	Betchworth Christingle Assembly 2pm (children only)
Thurs 3 rd Dec	Leigh Christingle Assembly 10.15am (children only)
Fri 4 th Dec	FONDS Christmas Fair
Wed 9 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Performance 1.30pm & 6.30pm
Thurs 10 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Performance 6pm
Mon 14 th Dec	Caterpillars Christmas Performance Betchworth 9.15am & 2.15pm
Tues 15 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance: Leigh 9.15am + Gold Star Assembly Brockham 2pm
Wed 16 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance: Brockham 9.15am) Leigh 2pm
Wed 16 th Dec	KS2 Carol Service at Christ Church Brockham 7pm
Thurs 17 th Dec	Ladybirds Christmas Performance Brockham 9.15am & 2.15pm
Fri 18 th Dec	Brockham KS1 & KS2 Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Fri 18 th Dec	Last Day of Term Early closure: Years R-2 1pm Years 3-6 1.15pm

Term and Holiday Dates 2015/2016

....are available on the school website www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
and on the Surrey County Council website www.surreycc.gov.uk

INSET DAYS: 1st) 02/09/2015; 2nd) 05/01/2016; 3rd) 22/02/2016; 4th) 06/06/2016; 5th) 22/07/2016

Term and Holiday Dates 2016/2017

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