



Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2014

Issue No: 05

Date: 10th October

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Please give the following information and advice your close attention...

Online Safety

In the ever changing world of technology we feel that educating the children about the potential dangers of being on the internet is crucial for their safety and wellbeing. At the beginning of each term at North Downs every class discusses and learns about how to stay safe online as well as using computers and other equipment correctly. We begin this in Reception by making sure that the children stop and ask an adult when they see anything on the screen that they are unsure of, we also make them aware of safety by using cartoons and videos to illustrate and reinforce this teaching. During Key Stage 1 we also show video clips and have discussions as well as using role play so that the children can see that 'stranger danger' is as important online as it is speaking to someone they don't know in the street or park.

At Key Stage 2 the children are beginning to spend a lot of time online and may face risks such as cyberbullying or being exposed to inappropriate content. Whether you're unsure about what happens online or are familiar with new technology, it's important that you talk to your child about staying safe. It may feel daunting, but you don't need to be an expert on the internet. Understanding what children do online and the risks they face will help you keep your child safe online.

What do children do online and through social networking?

Children and young people go online to connect with friends, and make new ones, to browse the internet for information, chat with others and play games. They may:

- search for information or content on search engines like Google and Bing
- share images and watch videos through websites or mobile apps like Instagram, Pinterest, Vine and YouTube
- use social networking websites like Facebook and Twitter
- write or reply to messages on forums and message boards
- play games alone or with others through websites, apps or game consoles
- chat with other people through online games, BBM (Blackberry Messenger), games consoles, webcams, social networks and tools like Whatsapp

At North Downs the teachers regularly use content, ideas and videos from this website created by The Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP) <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> The website has an excellent area for parents and carers.

If you have any concerns regarding any of this information please do not hesitate to speak with your child's teacher, our Computing Coordinator Miss R Winslade (Year 2 teacher) or Mrs Karen Blumire (Computing teacher). You can read our full parent tips and E-safety Policy within the parent's area on our website.

During the autumn term we will be running two parent workshops in the evenings and look forward to your support at these events. Please keep an eye on the diary for the upcoming dates.



Dragonflies had fun learning about symmetry by painting one side of the butterfly and then squashing the sheet in half to replicate their pattern.



Bottom right Online Safety photos, clockwise:

People aren't always who they say they are; Year 2 role play; Lily and Eva listening about E-safety; Year 2 learning about staying safe online.

Other News

Leigh Year 2 Parents (only) invitation: in advance of your children's transition from the Leigh Village site into Year 3 at Brockham next September, **parents of Year 2 pupils at Leigh** are invited to Brockham Village site at 9.15am on Tuesday 4th November, for an opportunity to visit the site and speak with Mrs Ewing & Mr Wade.



Governors' Matters

As we mentioned in an earlier newsletter, we will be keeping you abreast of the recruitment process for our new Headteacher in September 2015. If your child comes home next Tuesday to tell you of visitors around the school, this is because they have seen or met the candidates coming for interview. We will keep you informed of developments.

If you wish to contact the governors directly, please use the following email address - chairofgovernors@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Friends' Matters

Bags 2 School: time for an autumn clear out?! Next week your child will bring home a Bags 2 School bag, which can be filled with unwanted clothes. Please return this to school **on the morning** of Monday 20th October.

Frock Swop: tickets are now on sale via FONDS!

If you wish to contact FONDS directly, please use the following email address - 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)

Elasticated School Ties: we now stock elastically school ties for sale at all our site offices, at a cost of £4.00 each. Our preferred method of payment is in advance via your Tucasi (ScoPay) account - you can then collect your purchase from any school office. Cheques (made payable to North Downs Primary School) or cash (**exact money only**) are also accepted.

Data Sheet Collection: we are commencing the annual process of sending home Data Sheets this week, on a rolling alphabetical programme, starting with **pupils whose surname begins with A-B**.

To remind/advise you.....North Downs sends a 'Data Sheet' home with every pupil annually, containing relevant information and contacts for that child as held on the school's database.

These sheets must be signed by someone with legal Parental Responsibility for the child and returned to school, to confirm that data held is accurate. If when the sheet is checked any changes or additions are required, please note these directly and then sign and return the corrected sheet to school.

Every year our admin team has to chase a surprisingly large number of parents for the return of their Data Sheet. This is a very important part of our safeguarding process, ensuring that data for every pupil at North Downs is current - so that, for example, in the event of an emergency or sickness, there is no delay resulting from out-of-date information.

We ask you to look out for your child's sheet in their book bag over the coming weeks and to give it your immediate attention. The sheet should be returned by the Friday of the week following its distribution at the latest please.

Please be aware that in the event of a sheet never being returned (after reminders), we take that as your tacit agreement that data held on the school's system for your child is accurate at the date of sending the sheet home.

Finally, we remind you of the importance of advising your school office, **in writing**, of any changes that occur during the year, as they occur - address/telephone/email, changes to emergency contacts, medical requirements etc.

Yours sincerely

Finally

Have a great weekend



Autumn Term 2014

Wed-Fri Oct 15 th - 17 th	Year 4 Gaveston Hall trip
Tuesday Oct 21 st	Parents Evening: Leigh / Betchworth 3.30 - 6pm (no children) Brockham 5 - 7.30pm (no children)
Wednesday Oct 22 nd	Parents Evening: Leigh / Betchworth 5 - 7.30pm (no children) Brockham 3.30 - 6pm (no children)
w/c Monday Oct 27 th	Half Term
Wednesday Nov 5 th	Brockham Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30am
Thursday Nov 6 th	Betchworth Open Morning for prospective parents 9.30am
Thursday 13 th Nov	Children in Need (day early due school photos on Fri 14 th)
Friday 14 th Nov	Individual School Photos - Brockham
Tuesday 18 th Nov	Individual School Photos - Betchworth & Leigh
Friday 21 st Nov	Year 6 LT Museum & Globe Theatre trip
Friday Nov 21 st	Butterflies (Yr2) Assembly 9.15am
Friday Nov 28 th	5S Assembly 9.15am
w/c Dec 1 st	Last week of NDPS clubs
Friday Dec 5 th	6C Assembly 9.15am
Wednesday 10 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Concert 1.30pm Brockham
Thursday 11 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Concert 6pm Brockham
Friday 12 th Dec	Whole School Christmas Lunch - (pupils and staff)
Monday 15 th Dec	Betchworth Year R Nativity & Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Monday 15 th Dec	Betchworth Year R Nativity 2.15pm
Tuesday 16 th Dec	Leigh KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity & Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Tuesday 16 th Dec	Brockham KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity & Gold Star Assembly 2pm
Wednesday 17 th Dec	Brockham KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 9.15am
Wednesday 17 th Dec	Leigh KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Wednesday 17 th Dec	Carol Service, Christ Church Brockham 7pm
Thursday 18 th Dec	Brockham Year R Nativity 9.15am
Thursday 18 th Dec	Brockham Year R Nativity 2.15pm
Thursday 18 th Dec	Christmas Discos - all at Brockham site: 3.15pm - 4pm Year R & 1 & 2 4.15pm - 5pm Year 3 & 4 5.15pm - 6.15pm Year 5 & 6 Tickets £2 to include a drink
Friday Dec 19 th	Brockham Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Friday Dec 19 th	Last Day of Term - school finishes at usual time (no early closure)

Term and Holiday Dates 2014/2015

...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) 02/09/2014 2nd) 03/09/2014 3rd) 05/01/2015 4th) 20/07/2015 5th) 21/07/2015

Term and Holiday Dates 2015/2016

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