



Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2014

Issue No: 06

Date: 17th September

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

This Christmas we are supporting 'Operation Christmas Child', a charity which aims to give gifts of filled and wrapped shoeboxes to children who would not otherwise receive anything at Christmas.

Over the last two weeks all the children have attended a Shoebox Assembly taken by a representative from 'Operation Christmas Child', and they will be bringing a leaflet home today with details of how they can participate if they wish.

Please also look out for a ParentMail today from Mrs Boyer, who is coordinating the shoebox collection at North Downs, with further information.

A reminder that **Parent Consultation Evenings** are next week on Tuesday and Wednesday, so if you have not yet signed up for an appointment, please be sure to do so on Monday.

Our Year 4 children are due back from their 3-day visit to **Gaveston Hall** today. We hope they have enjoyed themselves and look forward to hearing all about it - and to sharing some photographs with you in future newsletters!

Finally, we would like to say a big thank you to Mr Mayne (father of William in Ladybirds), who has generously donated a large number of computer monitors to the school. These are to be put to immediate use in our IT suite at Brockham, and will greatly enhance the children's teaching and learning environment.

We are always very grateful for the parental support shown at North Downs: through FONDS; from classroom helpers and volunteers; and individual gestures such as Mr Mayne's....thank you.



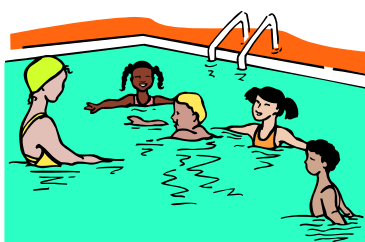
Caterpillars have been creative this week. Oliver made a carrier for his octopus; he even added water to make him feel at home! Sophie, Nara and Lavender sculpted a lady from conkers....



... and Jack, Oscar and Logan made patterns in the sand, using some of our new classroom tools.



Hand Hygiene: with the onset of the 'colds and coughs season', we ask that you reinforce the importance of proper hand hygiene with your child. Observing the children around school it can be seen that this is often forgotten, so please remind them about the need to put their hand to their mouth when coughing or sneezing and the need to wash their hands regularly - and always after using the lavatory!



Half Term Swimming in Brockham site pool: Swimsense will be running a crash course during half term 27th - 31st October. Children are able to join for either 3 days or 5 days and Swimsense can be flexible about the days. Classes normally start at 09.30 and are split into ability groups, with beginners swimming first. Younger siblings are welcome as long as they are happy to be in the pool without parents. No child can attend the classes without an adult supervising them. Testing is done at the end of the week. Prices start at £18 for 3 days (£30 for 5 days). All bookings should be made via email to Emma Miller and payment is due at the first session: emma@emmamiller.demon.co.uk.

Other News

School Council: the children of North Downs have voted for this year's School Council members to represent them. Their reps aim to make the school a better place and can't wait to raise lots of money for the school and for some charities.

The first event is **Children in Need**, which will be celebrated on the 13th of **November**. More details to follow soon, watch this space!

The **Leigh site School Council** reps are Isla and Iwan (Year 1) and Stanley and Chloe (Year 2).

The **Brockham site School Council** reps are: Lily and Max (Year 2); Eve, Ophelia, Jarrod and Fred (Year 3); Robbie, Greta, Jake and Jack (Year 4); Katie, Liberty, Jessica and Isaac (Year 5); and Dan, Sapphire, Africa and Felix (Year 6).



Christmas Market: St Mary's Church, Reigate on **Saturday 22nd November** 2pm-6.30pm. A German style Christmas market in the church itself, with more than 30 stalls selling Christmas treats, jewellery, and 'one of a kind' Christmas presents. Also a festive crafts area for children of all ages - activities 'by donation' so every child can get involved. Across the road in our new church and community centre will be a Christmas Café with wood fired pizza, crepes, hot chocolate, mulled wine and mince pies. Come and enjoy the start of the festive season at our Christmas market.

Half Term Rugby Master Class: run by Elite Rugby Coaching at Reigate Grammar School on Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th October 10am-3pm, with star player appearances. Cost: £35 for 1 day / £65 for 2 days. Email Doug Cooper: doc@reigategrammar.org to book or for further details.



Friends' Matters

Frock Swap: tickets are on sale now from your FONDS' rep, price £10.

Bags 2 School: your bag will be coming home with your child this week. Please have a good sort out over the weekend, and return your bag (hopefully full, we are paid by weight!) on the **morning** of Monday 20th October.

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)

School Meals: payment due for the next half term (3rd Nov to 19th Dec) will be:

Years 3 & 4 & 5 = £73.50

Year 6 = £71.40 (incl. deduction for November school trip)

Please make your payment before Monday 3rd November via your Tucasi/ScoPay account (easiest access is via the Tucasi link on our website Home Page at www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk). **Prior to payment**, please check your dinner money account balance. If in credit, please deduct this amount from your total payment. Notification of a meal change from school meals to packed lunches or vice versa must be in writing before 24th October.

Yours sincerely

A.J. Ewing

Finally

Have a super weekend...



Autumn Term 2014

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
Tuesday 4 th Nov	Beetles parents invited to Brockham site 9.15am
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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