



Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2014

Issue No: 08

Date: 7th November

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

We hope you had an enjoyable and restful half term. The children have returned to one of the busiest half terms in the school calendar, with preparations for Christmas soon in full swing. Please check the Diary Dates regularly for Autumn Term events - most are already published, but there are occasionally last minute additions or changes, so do keep looking.

Mrs Ewing will be attending a Parish Council meeting next week regarding the proposal to build a skate park at the top of Wheelers Lane. She would like to represent the children's views, so is asking that you encourage your children to let her have brief notes, with their name and class, by Thursday 13th if they have an opinion on this proposal. These views can be for or against. Similarly, if parents have thoughts they would like represented, please let Mrs Ewing have these in writing.

Shoe Box Appeal - reminder: Mrs Boyer would like to remind you that this is your last weekend to buy something for our **Operation Christmas Child** appeal. These shoeboxes are given to children who would otherwise receive nothing at Christmas, so a very worthwhile cause. The deadline to bring in your completed shoe box or a present for a class shoe box is **Thursday 13th November**. Please bring them to your classroom for collection. Thank you for your support.

Year R Dressing Up Clothes

Does anyone have dressing up clothes they could donate to our Caterpillars and Ladybirds? They are a much loved part of the Reception classroom but sadly we do not have enough to meet demand! We particularly need clothes for our taller children, so ages 6 to 8 would be great too please. Please see Miss Morgan or Miss Mackay if you are able to help. Thank you.

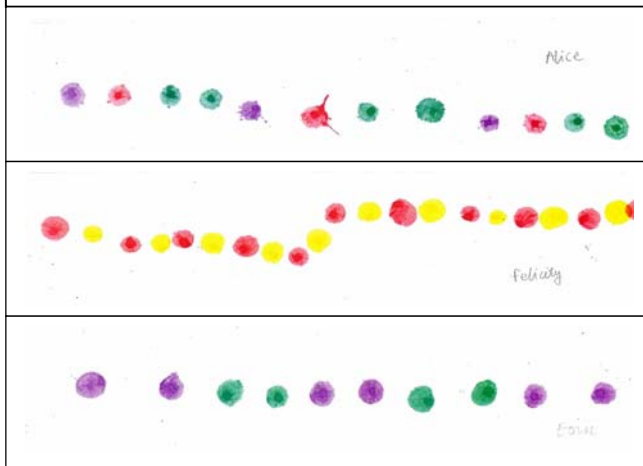
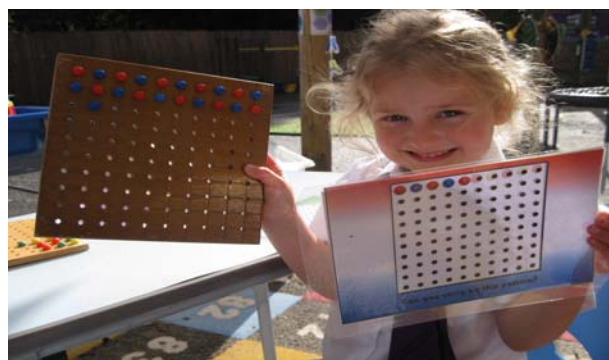
School Photographs - individual & sibling groups

Tempest will be at Brockham site on Fri 14th and Betchworth & Leigh on Tues 18th for children's photographs. Individual and same-site sibling groups will be taken during the day. If you do not want your child photographed, please let us know in writing. If you have siblings on more than one site (or pre-school siblings) you would like photographed together, you can come to Brockham from 8am on Fri 14th, where you will be able to have your children photographed on a first-come basis. No child will receive a late mark that day if due to being photographed.



Alice and Felicity enjoyed making repeated patterns in Caterpillars during a maths activity. They were both very proud of themselves as the photos show!

All Caterpillars tried their hands at a variety of different patterns - here's one of Eoin's too (bottom).



Children in Need - Thursday 13th November: our School Council has decided to choose Children in Need as their first fundraising event of the year. After some research they've decided to make this a mufti day, with a theme of SUPER HEROES! You are invited to **make up your own super hero**, and come to school on Thursday 13th dressed as that super hero. To come to school in your fantastic super hero outfit you will need to bring a donation of at least £1 please per child or £1.50 per family.

The School Council has come up with some ideas for super heroes, such as: Cardboard Boy/Girl; Super Skater; Captain Underpants; Girl/Boy of Colour; Fairy Girl; Magical Man; Nature Boy/Girl; Cleaning Machine (*a particular favourite of the staff!*); Wonder Wise Women/Man; Glitter Girl; Hashtag Man (*definitely 21st Century!*); Monster Munch Man; and Invisigo....so let your imagination run wild and see what you can think of.

Some useful costume ideas they came up with include: using scrap materials to create outfits. Old sheets and towels can be used as a cape. Make a mask, or just an eye mask. Maybe your hero wears a headdress! How about using a pair of colourful pants to go over a pair of tights? Then think what super power or special feature your super hero has. Make a badge to go on the front or back of your costume. How inventive can you be?

See www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/herohub/fundraising/fancydress for further information.

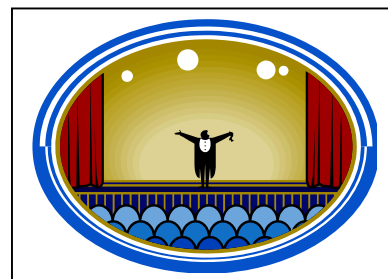
Other News

We include some local events that may be of interest...

Betchworth Operatic and Dramatic Society: are performing *The Beggar's Opera* on Wed 12th to Sat 15th November in Betchworth Village Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. Tickets are £12 (£10 seniors/£6 children) from 01737 844632. See www.bodsweb.com for further details.

Christmas Market: St Mary's Church, Reigate on **Saturday 22nd November** 2pm-6.30pm. German-style Christmas market in the church itself; lots of stalls and a festive crafts area for children of all ages. Also a Christmas Café with wood fired pizza, crepes, hot chocolate, mulled wine and mince pies. Come and enjoy the start of the festive season.

Christmas Fair: to be held on **Saturday 29th November** in Betchworth Village Memorial Hall. Handmade crafts and gifts, festive cake stall, mulled wine and raffle. Support local craftsmen and help raise funds for St Michael's Church Lady Chapel Fund.



Governors' Matters

Dear Pupils, Staff and Governors

Thank you very much for your good wishes on my retirement as a Governor of the School.

I have seen many changes since I became a governor of The Acorns School (Betchworth and Leigh) and am now so pleased that North Downs Primary School is judged by Ofsted to be a 'good' School. Ofsted may not be perfect but we have to adhere to its requirements and at the same time be bold enough to do more. I look forward and wish you all well in reading that North Downs has moved to 'outstanding' at the next inspection in a few years' time.

The School has many good features and one of these is having a base in the three villages and thus the ability to offer a diverse size of school for infants. We are all individuals and what suits one child or family is not necessarily suitable for all. There must always be variety in everything we do.

In recent years there have been Gold Star Awards for the children and I have always enjoyed attending the assemblies and hearing what the children have achieved and given to others. A most important aspect of life.

With best wishes,
Paul Rietchel

Friends' Matters

Frock Swap: Friday 14th November at Brockham Village site. This is your last reminder to buy a ticket. The price of £10 plus a donation of 5 items of new/nearly new clothing, bags, footwear, jewellery or accessories includes a free glass of bubbles whilst you pick whatever you want to walk away with on the night! See reps for tickets.

Look out for today's **FONDS Christmas ParentMail**, with more info on our forthcoming events.

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)

Reception Class Photographs: for your information, Caterpillars and Ladybirds photographs will be appearing in the Surrey Advertiser's supplement 'Class of 2014' which is published today if you would like to buy a copy.

Data Collection Sheets: the next 'batch' of Data Sheets will be coming home in bookbags today. These will be for children whose surname begins with letters L to P. Please look out tonight and complete, sign and return your child's sheet by next Friday 14th at the latest. Any child with a surname beginning A to K whose Data Sheet has not yet been returned should have this with their school office on Monday 10th November please.

Yours sincerely

A.J. Ewing

Finally

Enjoy the Bonfire!



Autumn Term 2014

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
Friday 5 th Dec	FONDS Christmas Fair - after school, Brockham Village site
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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