



# Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2014

Issue No: 13

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> December

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Our Christmas Fair last Friday was a very enjoyable start to two weeks of festive activities and events at North Downs, and huge thanks go to all of FONDS for their considerable hard work organising and setting up such a successful occasion. An especial thank you is said to Estelle and Kerri, who have lived, breathed and dreamt all things Christmas Fair for weeks! We hope they were able to take a well-earned rest at the weekend.

This week saw our Key Stage 2 Christmas performances, which we hope you enjoyed as much as we did, followed by the whole school Christmas Lunch today - complete with crackers and party hats!



Reception parents were invited to share their child's Learning Journey with them in class this week. We were pleased to see many attend.



This term, three areas of the Year 6 curriculum have direct links to London.

In Geography we have been looking at London as a settlement, with specific reference to changes in transportation.

In Art we have ventured into the area of Architecture with a special interest in the iconic buildings of London.

In English we have been studying William Shakespeare, focussing on Romeo and Juliet.

As a result, we organised a combined visit to the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden, followed by a tour of The Globe Theatre and a drama workshop centred on Romeo and Juliet.

The children had the marvellous experience of performing on the stage at The Globe.

## Primary School Applications

You are reminded that the closing date for Reception applications for September 2015 entry is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2015**.

Surrey Admissions especially welcomes online applications, however parents can also request a paper application form or seek impartial help in completing an application via the Surrey Schools & Childcare Service (0300 200 1004). Full information is available on Surrey's website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions).

Applications received after the closing date without good reason will be treated as late and will not be considered until all on-time applications have been processed. This may jeopardise the chance of a parent being offered one of their preferred schools for their child.



## Other News

Once again we are very pleased to have the opportunity to share some of our pupils' extra-curricular achievements with you, as Caterpillars are very proud of two members of their class...

Archie took part in a fun-run dressed as Santa to raise vital funds for the YMCA. Here he is showing off his medal.

Leon was presented with a white and red belt at his karate grading at the weekend. Here he is showing off his belt and certificate.

Please join us in congratulating them both - well done boys!



## Friends' Matters

A massive thank you to everyone who donated for, helped at, and came to our Christmas Fair; we couldn't have done it without you! We hope you and your children enjoyed it!! We will let you know the total figure we raised soon. Meanwhile, the final event for FONDS this year is the **School Disco next Thursday**. Please see ParentMail for details.

If you wish to contact FONDS directly, please use the following email address - [fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](mailto: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)*

**Breakfast, Early Bird & After-School Clubs:** you are reminded that payment for attendance at any of the clubs held before or after school at any of our three sites **must be paid for in advance**, via your Tucasi account. Please note that we are unable to permit attendance where there is an outstanding debt. If there is any reason why you have a problem making an advance payment, please speak to your school office.

**Free School Meals eligibility:** from September 2014 all Reception/KS1 children have been eligible to receive universal free school meal (UFSM). However parents of children in all years (including those now having the UFSM) who are in receipt of certain benefits might also be eligible to receive Pupil Premium for their child. Pupil Premium is an additional funding received by a school for every child eligible to receive free school meals, even if they choose not to have a school meal and bring a packed lunch instead. If you think you may be eligible please ask for an application form from your School Office, complete and return it - and if you are eligible, a member of the office staff will contact you. **All applications are treated in confidence.**

**Paid School Meals:** please give this reminder, for parents of pupils having a daily paid school meal (Years 3 to 6), your attention. Surrey Commercial Services (our caterers) require us to advise them of the exact number of pupils having a school meal each day, and cook to that day's number. If a meal has been ordered for your child, but they unexpectedly leave after 11am (due to illness etc.), please be aware that this is too late to cancel the meal, and it will be charged to your child's account.

**A final reminder that North Downs closes for the Christmas break next week, on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, at 3-3.15pm for Infants and 3.15pm for Juniors.**

Yours sincerely

*A.J. Ewing*

Finally

**Have a good weekend**

### Autumn Term 2014

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Betchworth Year R Nativity & Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Betchworth Year R Nativity 2.15pm
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Leigh KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity & Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Brockham KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Brockham KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 9.15am
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Leigh KS1 (Years 1 & 2) Nativity 2pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Carol Service, Christ Church Brockham 7pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Brockham Year R Nativity 9.15am
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Brockham Year R Nativity 2.15pm
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup>	Brockham Gold Star Assembly 9.15am
Friday Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Last Day of Term - school finishes at usual time (no early closure)</b>

### Spring Term 2015

Monday Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INSET 3 of 5 - School closed to children</b>
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Pupils return to school
Monday Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	NDPS clubs begin
Tuesday Jan 20 <sup>th</sup>	Yr5/6 Ashcombe - Athletics - Sports Hall 2-4pm
Friday Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dragonflies Assembly
Friday Jan 30 <sup>th</sup>	5MS Assembly
Friday Feb 6 <sup>th</sup>	3M Assembly
Friday Feb 6 <sup>th</sup>	MUFTI for British Heart Foundation (wear something RED)
Friday Feb 6 <sup>th</sup>	Yr3/4 Key Steps Gym competition 9.30 - 12
Friday Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	4HW Assembly
Friday Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Valentine's Disco: KS1 3.15 - 4pm / Years 3&4 4.15 - 5pm / Years 4&5 5.15 - 6.15pm
Monday Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Swimming starts
Friday Feb 27 <sup>th</sup>	4MS Assembly
Thursday March 5 <sup>th</sup>	KS1 Bedtime Story 6pm to 7pm at all three sites
w/c Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Book Week
Friday March 6 <sup>th</sup>	3MB Assembly
Friday March 6 <sup>th</sup>	End of Book Week - dressing up as book character
Friday March 13 <sup>th</sup>	5S Assembly
Week of March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Last week of NDPS clubs
Friday March 20 <sup>th</sup>	6J Assembly
Friday March 20 <sup>th</sup>	FONDS Quiz Night 7.30pm
Friday March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Pupil Reports go home
Tuesday March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations ( <b>pupils present</b> ) Brockham: 5 - 7.30pm Leigh and Betchworth: 3.30 - 6pm
Thurs March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations ( <b>pupils present</b> ) Brockham: 3.30 - 6pm Leigh and Betchworth: 5 - 7.30pm
Tuesday March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Gold Star Assembly - Betchworth 9.15am - by invitation
Thursday March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Gold Star Assembly - Leigh 9.15am - by invitation
Friday March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Gold Star Assembly - Brockham 9.15am - by invitation
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Last Day of Term - school finishes at usual time (no early closure)</b>

### Term and Holiday Dates 2014/2015

....are available on the school website [www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk)  
and on the Surrey County Council website [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

**INSET DAYS:** 1<sup>st</sup>) 02/09/2014 2<sup>nd</sup>) 03/09/2014 3<sup>rd</sup>) 05/01/2015 4<sup>th</sup>) 20/07/2015 5<sup>th</sup>) 21/07/2015

### Term and Holiday Dates 2015/2016

....are available on the school website [www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk)  
and on the Surrey County Council website [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)