



Newsletter

Respect, Compassion, Responsibility, Courage

Term: Autumn 2025

Issue No: 2

Date: 19th September

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

As I sit here writing this Newsletter, there is much activity outside preparing for Camp Night, which Year 4 are no doubt looking forward to this evening. This is always such a fantastic evening and a great way to prepare for their two night residential trip to High Ashurst later this half term. Postponed from last term, due to the excessively hot weather, I think we have been given the perfect day/evening for it today! A massive thank you to the wonderful group of parents who came to in help Miss Tennent and Mrs Ottaway put all of the tents up this morning...



Thank you!

Over the last few months, we have been working on the development of our new school website, which we hope will be 'going live' over the next week or so. The organisation of our school, across our beautiful villages, is quite unique and is something we very much wanted to reinforce through our new website; the fact that North Downs is very much 'One School, Three Villages' One Vision'. When visiting the new website, from the homepage, there will be a link to a virtual tour which celebrates all that North Downs offers our young people; the opportunities and experiences they all benefit from really shines through. The development of our new website and virtual tour has been made possible due to the support we now receive from Everychild Partnership Trust. This week two of the Trustees visited the three sites - they were blown away, not only by the grounds and outside learning spaces, but by the way we utilise these resources to enrich the curriculum and to support and enhance the learning of our pupils. We are very lucky.

Launching our website now is an ideal time for any families who are looking for Reception places for September 2026. Our Open Mornings for Prospective Parents are scheduled for **Thursday 6th and Friday 7th November 2025**. For further details, please contact Mrs Harrison, our Admissions Officer via email: admissions@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk Alternatively, please call the school office on 01737 843384.

Parent Teacher Consultations

This term's Parent Teacher Consultations are planned for Tuesday 21st October from 4.30pm - 7.00pm and Thursday 23rd October from 3.30pm - 6.00pm. Appointments will be bookable online, via Scopay, as usual and instructions will be sent out nearer the time. However, we are introducing a change to the format of the meetings by holding them all at the Brockham site - we are hopeful this will be more convenient for parents. The opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their class teacher(s) remains, but the organisation for the evenings will be as follows:

- Parents are asked to arrive before their appointment time and enter by the main gate (near the Brockham Office).
- Teachers will be available to meet with parents in the school hall at the designated appointment time.
- A bell will ring every 10 minutes to mark the end of one appointment and the start of the next. **Please keep to your allocated times and be kind to the next set of parents by leaving promptly when the bell rings for the next appointment.**
- Please note these meetings are for parents only.

Later in the term, we will invite parents to visit classrooms at each site to look at children's work.

Dorking Wanderers

Year 4 were treated to a sports partnership visit from Mr Webber, Head of Youth Development at Dorking Wanderers, along with players from the Academy plus two first team players, for their PE lesson last week...thank you Mr Webber for organising such a fantastic session!



Year 6 Stationery Shop

The Year 6 Stationery Shop opens its doors for trading next week! On Monday, goods will be available for pupils from Years 3 to 6 to purchase at morning break. Many thanks to Mrs Clark and the Stationery Shop Team for organising.

FONDS Social Evening

On Tuesday 30th September at 7:00pm, FONDS would like to welcome new and existing members to a social evening at the Arkle Manor in Betchworth. It will be a very informal gathering where anybody is welcome to come, meet the team, and learn more about what we do. We look forward to seeing you there!



Dates for the Diary

Thursday 9th October - Year 5 trip to Wisley
Wednesday 15th October - Year 4 Residential to High Ashurst
Friday 17th October - Year 4 Return from High Ashurst
Monday 20th October - Individual Photos at Brockham
Tuesday 21st October - Individual Photos Leigh and Betchworth
Tuesday 21st October - Parent Teacher Consultations
Thursday 23rd October - Parent Teacher Consultations
Friday 24th October - Break up for Half Term
Monday 3rd November - INSET Day
Tuesday 4th November - Children return to school
Tuesday 9th December - Year 2 Nativity
Wednesday 10th December - Junior Christmas Carol Evening
Thursday 11th December - Year 1 Nativity
Friday 12th December - Year R Nativity
Wednesday 17th December - School Christmas Lunch
Friday 19th December - Break up for Christmas
Monday 5th January - Children return to school
Friday 13th February - Break up for Half Term
Monday 23rd February - Children return to school
Friday 27th March - Children break up for Easter
Monday 13th April - Children return to school
Thursday 21st May - Children break up for Half Term
Friday 22nd May - INSET Day
Monday 1st June - INSET Day
Tuesday 2nd June - Children return to school.
Tuesday 21st July - Children break up

Parking

As we return to school, I would just like to offer a polite reminder regarding parking outside each of our school sites:

- Parents should not be parking or 'dropping off' on the zigzags at any time.
- Please be respectful to residents and mindful not to block their drives or access.
- The parking spaces on The Smithers, off Wheelers Lane, are for residents only. This is also a very busy cut through for children and parents walking to school. Please do not park on or block pavements.

Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

J. Douglas