

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

It was great to see everyone looking so fantastic in their 'spots and purple' last Friday. We are delighted to be able to report a really splendid amount of £824 raised, through multi-contributions, coffee afternoons and cake sales.

This wonderful sum of money will be divided equally between our joint charities:

Children-in-Need www.bbc.co.uk/corporate2/childreninneed
and Bliss www.bliss.org.uk/.

Thank you so much for your generosity!



Caterpillars & Ladybirds each have a 'Mud Kitchen' in their outdoor classroom (above, right & below). A very popular area - even if they often go home wearing some of it!

We have been very fortunate at North Downs to be chosen to receive a large quantity of reflective tabards donated by Specsavers.

These will help keep the children safe when they are out and about on local walks, etc.

Above are some Bees & Beetles from Leigh, modelling their new tabards!

A big 'thank you' to Specsavers and to Mrs Flynn (FONDS rep) who organised this for us.



REMINDERS AND DATES

Pupil Safety: we remind you of the need for vigilance when driving, manoeuvring or parking near our school sites following a 'near miss' at Brockham this week. A parent reports she had stopped her car to allow children to cross Wheelers Lane, when she was shocked to be overtaken by another parent's car which narrowly avoided hitting the crossing children.

KS2 Christmas Production: performance details and ticket order forms for our KS2/Junior Christmas Production have been sent electronically this week. Further to this mailing, may we ask that if you know of any reason why your child will be unable to return to school for either of their evening performances, you let their class teacher know immediately please. It wouldn't do to find we were missing a vital cast member minutes before they were due on stage!

Book Fair: we are holding a Scholastic Book Fair in the Brockham site School Hall on Friday 8th, Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th & Thursday 14th December after school from 3-3.45pm. Children and parents from all sites are warmly welcome.

Breakfast & Moles Club, Brockham Village site/ Early Birds Club, Betchworth & Leigh Village sites: advance notice that these clubs will recommence in the Spring Term on Monday 8th January 2018, following the Christmas school holiday.

Years 2-6 Reminder: the Surrey competition on Sumdog (www.sumdog.com) is this weekend. If successful they win coins to spend on buying pets, clothes and decorating their own house and garden. The more competitions they win the more games the school will access. Username and password are their usual ones and the school code is: **northdowns**.

OTHER NEWS

Woodwind Lessons: there are a couple of spaces for woodwind lessons (clarinet, saxophone and flute) currently available at North Downs. If your child might be interested, please contact **Surrey Arts** via the Surrey County Council website (follow the link to Surrey Arts/music lessons). Application forms are available from the Brockham office. Alternatively email debby.chapman@hotmail.com for more information. Debby (pictured right with Erinn and Ophelia playing a piece in assembly) is a woodwind teacher with Surrey Arts.



Dorking Town Christmas Light Switch-On: The Friends of Dorking are delighted to invite children and their families today, **Friday 24th November**, to this year's free fun event outside Dorking Halls. Entertainment commences at 4.15pm with the switch-on of the lovely new Christmas Lights at approximately 5.15pm. Festivities will be compered by DJ Matt, with 'Dorkers' and the cast of Sleeping Beauty there to entertain, as well as a local choir and a face painter.

Koral Reef Swimming Academy: you may be interested to know that we are holding swimming small-number (max 4) classes in the North Downs' swimming pool at Brockham Village site on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4pm to 6pm. Phone or email (see poster, right) for more details or to book a place.

Come Swim With Us!

KORAL REEF SWIMMING ACADEMY

A Local Swim School
Small Classes
(Max of 4 per class)

All Teachers have experience in
Special Needs & Disability Swimming

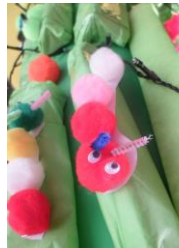
Our aim is to help everyone, regardless of age or ability to learn to swim in an appropriate environment. We are passionate about swimming and its many benefits. It is important to us that our swimmers enjoy their time in the pool, so they too can build a passion for a sport that one day could save their life.

07985 151245
hello@koralreefswimmingacademy.co.uk

Stagecoach Discovery Day: Stagecoach Reigate is holding a Free Discovery Day on **Wednesday 13th December** at Reigate School, 6pm to 7.30pm, for anyone who would like to see what Stagecoach is about. Children can take part in a twenty-minute session of dance, singing and drama, whilst parents watch and chat to the Principal and Teaching Team. To book, call 0800 007 5482 or email reigate@stagecoach.co.uk.



William (3WM) had the honour of being the Brockham Beavers' flag bearer at this year's Remembrance Parade. Well done William!



A selection of **Alternative Christmas Trees** will be on show at St Michael's, Betchworth this weekend - including North Downs', designed & made by Caterpillars this year (left).

Alternative Christmas Tree Festival

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Saturday 25th November 10am to 4pm
Sunday 26th November 12pm to 4pm
At St Michael's Church, Betchworth

Homemade cakes and coffee/tea will be available + a Tridecraft Gift Stall

FRIENDS' MATTERS

A few reminders for the fast approaching (next Friday!) Christmas Fair: Chocolate donations from all junior children were due in today, but it's not too late for any extra kind donations (in the infant kitchen please). On the day of the Fair the children can come in mufti in exchange for:

Reception - mince pies / Y1 & 2 - cakes / ALL junior classes - Jolly Jars
- thank you, we are very grateful!

At the Fair, children can visit Father Christmas (pre-booked tickets, now on sale), visit 'Elfridges' to shop for gifts for their parents/carers, and have a go at the many games available - make sure they bring some change! For the adults there will be lots of lovely shopping stalls, opportunities to win prizes in the fantastic raffle and kick off Christmas with the barrel of booze! Mulled wine, teas/coffees, cakes and pizza will be on sale too - bring your friends and family for a fabulous festive few hours, see you there!

Please be reminded that North Downs is a CASHLESS school; payments online or by cheque only.

Always remember to check the updated Diary Dates on the following page

(Note: dates in italics have been added or changed/updated this week)

Yours sincerely

J. Douglas

Finally

Have a great weekend...



Autumn Term 2017

w/c Mon 27 th Nov	Last week of NDPS Clubs	
Fri 1 st Dec	FONDS Christmas Fair (after school, Brockham Village site)	
Wed 6 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Performances 1.30pm & 6.30pm	
Thurs 7 th Dec	KS2 Christmas Performance 6.30pm	
Fri 8 th Dec	Scholastic Book Fair in Brockham School Hall 3-3.45pm	
Mon 11 th Dec	Scholastic Book Fair in Brockham School Hall 3-3.45pm	
Tues 12 th Dec	Scholastic Book Fair in Brockham School Hall 3-3.45pm	
Tues 12 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance - Brockham 5pm	
Thurs 14 th Dec	Scholastic Book Fair in Brockham School Hall 3-3.45pm	
Thurs 14 th Dec	KS1 Christmas Performance - Betchworth & Leigh 5pm	
Fri 15 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day with Christmas Lunch	
Tues 19 th Dec	North Downs Carol Service 7pm	
Wed 20 th Dec	Gold Star Assembly Leigh (by invitation)	
Thurs 21 st Dec	Gold Star Assembly Brockham (by invitation)	
Thurs 21 st Dec	Last Day of Term	Early Closure: R/KS1 - 1pm KS2 - 1.15pm

Spring Term 2018

Thurs 4 th Jan	First Day of Term	
Mon 8 th Jan	Breakfast and Moles Clubs recommence at Brockham	
Mon 8 th Jan	Early Birds Clubs recommence at Betchworth & Leigh	
Fri 12 th Jan	Class Assembly - 6C	
w/c Mon 15 th Jan	NDPS Clubs begin	
Thurs 18 th Jan	Class Assembly - Bees	
Fri 19 th Jan	Class Assembly - Dragonflies	
Fri 26 th Jan	Class Assembly - 5MB	
Thurs 1 st Feb	Class Assembly - Beetles	
Fri 2 nd Feb	Class Assembly - Butterflies	
Tues 6 th Feb	Parent Teacher Consultations	
Thurs 8 th Feb	Parent Teacher Consultations	
Fri 9 th Feb	Class Assembly 3WM	
w/c Mon 12 th Feb	HALF TERM WEEK	
Mon 19 th Feb	INSET 3 of 5	
Tues 20 th Feb	NDPS swimming begins	
Fri 2 nd Mar	Class Assembly - 5BM	
Fri 9 th Mar	Class Assembly - 3T	
Fri 16 th Mar	Class Assembly - 6J	
w/c Mon 19 th Mar	Last week of NDPS Clubs	
Mon 19 th Mar	In-house Swimming Gala for Years 3-6	
Wed 28 th Mar	Gold Star Assembly Leigh (by invitation)	
Thurs 29 th Mar	Gold Star Assembly Brockham (by invitation)	
Thurs 29 th Mar	Last Day of Term	Early Closure: R/KS1 - 1pm KS2 - 1.15pm

Term and Holiday Dates 2017/2018

....are available on Surrey County Council website <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-term-dates/add-school-term-dates-to-your-phone-or-calendar>

INSET DAYS: 1st) 04/09/2017; 2nd) 20/10/2017; 3rd) 19/02/2018; 4th) 25/05/2018; 5th) 23/07/2018

Term and Holiday Dates 2018/2019

....are available on Surrey County Council website <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-term-dates/add-school-term-dates-to-your-phone-or-calendar>