



Newsletter

Term: Autumn 2017

Issue No: 07

Date: 8th December

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Christmas planning for school staff begins so early in the Autumn Term that when the time itself arrives, it's almost a surprise!

Here we are halfway through our Christmas events already, with FONDS Fair on 1st December providing a fitting and very enjoyable start to the festivities. Our huge thanks go to Claire, Hazel, Christine and their team for organising this, their first fundraising and social occasion, so successfully.

KS2 Christmas performances this week, will be followed by our Early Years/KS1 next week, as well as Christmas Lunch (and Christmas Jumper Day) on Friday 15th. Finally we round everything off with the North Downs Carol Concert in Christ Church, Brockham during the last week of term. So lots of pleasure had, with plenty more to come.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Our local village representatives of the Royal British Legion have asked us to pass on their thanks for your donations to this year's Poppy Appeal. A total of £266.96 was raised across our three sites for the three villages.



Caterpillars have loved learning about The Gruffalo and linked lots of their learning to the story.

Two teams of Year 5/6 (bottom right) recently went to St John's School to participate in the annual **Dorking Primary Schools Quick Sticks Hockey Tournament**. It was a wonderful tournament with 11 teams taking part. Our B Team won two of their four matches, never giving up, showing great spirit and determination in every match. Our A Team made it to the semi-final after winning all their matches. They played some brilliant hockey: passing the ball accurately, using the whole team and communicating exceptionally well with each other. They were unlucky not to win their semi-final which was a tightly-fought game, however they did win the play-off for 3rd place. Well done to everyone who played; it was a fantastic afternoon of sport and we are very proud of you all.

Kaydn made Gruffalo Crumble in the mud kitchen with a stick topping; Thomas, Ruairidh, Dan Dan and William enjoyed building a Gruffalo with cones and crates (complete with orange eyes!); - and can you see who is behind the masks they enjoyed making?



Our A & B Teams (minus Ronnie - sadly away for the photo!)

REMINDERS AND DATES

KS2 School Meal Payment: a reminder that payment is due by the first day of term at the latest please. The cost for next term is a total of £123.75, of which £60.75 is the first half term and £63.00 the second half term (this includes a deduction for our February inset). Please pay online via Tucasi (link on website) or by cheque (NO CASH payment can be accepted).

After-School Swimming Club: the pool will be remaining open throughout the Spring Term, so this popular Thursday club will continue to be run for ALL AGES at 3.20pm for the beginners, 3.50pm for Advanced Beginners and 4.20pm for Improvers; the classes are taught by Annabel Woodham who will be in the water with the swimmers. Club will start w/c 15th January and run for 9 weeks. A booking form will go out nearer the end of term, please return it before we break up if possible. We hope to see you there.

OTHER NEWS

Carols on the Green: Friday 22nd December. All are welcome to join us in the garden of **Christ Church Brockham** from 5.30pm 'til 6.30pm. Sing a selection of favourite carols in a beautiful setting, with an ensemble of musicians, refreshments and festive decorations. Any profits will be distributed to local village charities. Bring a torch and your best carol-singing voices! **Singers and musicians:** we will have a pop-up ensemble of musicians and singers to accompany the carols. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch with carolsonthegreen@gmail.com.

Dandelion Theatre Arts: invites all children to a **FREE OPEN WEEK** Monday 8th to Saturday 13th January 2018. Drama and dance classes are being run in Epsom and Leatherhead after school and on Saturday morning; children can try one or many! Get in touch to book a space or with any questions - www.dandeliontheatrearts.co.uk / 01306 886243 / jennai@dandeliontheatrearts.co.uk.

Sisters n Sport: are hosting a weekly **Netball Skills School** starting in January in the Reigate & Banstead area for girls aged 6-11 years - beginners to school/club player standard. Taster sessions available. For further information or to book a place (or if you are looking for a netball coach/assistance in an upcoming sports events) contact 07391 455543 or jen@sistersnsport.com.



Ladybirds joined Caterpillars at St Michael's Church in Betchworth this week, for a **Christingle Service** led by Rev Canon Carol Coslett. It was a lovely occasion - and the children also enjoyed the opportunity of seeing the **Alternative Christmas Tree** display, including North Downs contribution (below), which we are told was very popular with voters!



FRIENDS' MATTERS

Thank you so much for all your donations and help, both in the run up to and on the day of the fair. We couldn't have had such a successful fair without it! Thanks too to the many local businesses who donated to the event, with a special mention to Seymours Dorking Sales & Lettings for their generous sponsorship. We'll let you know soon how much was raised. **We will be having a sale of Elfridges gifts and Christmas playdoh after school today at Brockham site for those children who would like to buy gifts but didn't have a chance to on the day of the fair.**

Finally, we have a few spaces left for the **Wreath Making** workshop on **Monday 11th December** - add your name to the sign-up sheet at your site quickly if you want to join this lovely festive evening.

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

JWonglass

Finally

This is our last newsletter of 2017, so from everyone at North Downs have a very

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



Autumn Term 2017

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
w/c Mon 15 th Jan	<i>After School Swim Club begins</i>
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	<i>Safer Internet Day</i>
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
Fri 23 rd Mar	Sports Relief
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>