

## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

So here we are, the final newsletter of the year - and whilst everyone is looking forward to their summer holiday, it is tinged with sadness that we are saying goodbye to many of our pupils and some staff too. We wish them all much happiness and success as they embark upon the next stage of their lives, be it secondary school or retirement! You will all be missed - and we hope will come back to see us sometimes.

For everyone returning in September, we remind you that whilst the first day of term is officially Tues 4<sup>th</sup> September, this and Wed 5<sup>th</sup> are INSET closures. We look forward to welcoming children in **Years 1 to 6 back on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September**. Our new Reception starters have their own staggered start timetable, commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September.

We break up at 1pm for R/KS1 & 1.15 for KS2 on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July. Have a great holiday!



Bakers of the future? Bread makers Warburtons® came into school to run sandwich-making workshops with both our Reception classes this week... an activity that was much enjoyed!

Having planted their potatoes in March, it was time for Outdoor Explorers to return to Squires to harvest them and turn them into chips! Off we went, tipping them out and digging through the earth to find them (with a surprise in one pot as ants had decided this was a great place to set up home). Every child had managed to grow some potatoes. All of them were weighed, with our best 'grower', Oliver (3WM), growing 2lb 6oz of potatoes (we wait to see if he grew more than Charlie Dimmock). Once harvested, the Squires kitchen made them into chips. There were lots, which the children (and adult!) thoroughly enjoyed eating - delicious!





## Summer Term Sports Round-Up

An extra newsletter page this issue, devoted to Mrs Ottaway's comprehensive round up of all the North Downs summer sporting events - so we leave you to bask in the reflected glory...

*The Year 5/6 Boys Kwik Cricket which took place on the Friday 4<sup>th</sup> May started off what is a very busy term sports-wise. It's held at Newdigate Cricket Club which always support us with this event and it's great to be able to use their facilities. The team played really well showing great teamwork, communication and determination meaning they ended up in second place.*

*Following on from the boys' competition a couple of weeks later it was the girls' turn. Again showing all the qualities we have come to expect from North Downs children at these events: fair play, team work and determination, in a very close fought competition (it came down to the runs scored) they came out as the winners so well done.*

*The next event was the swimming gala just before half term on the 21<sup>st</sup> May, an event that involves children across all of KS2. The children put in some great individual as well as team performances. Some of them won individual medals and thanks to this we ended up in 2<sup>nd</sup> position which we were really proud of. I would like to thank Emma Miller and Annabel Woodhams who helped choose the team and came along to support the children at the competition.*

*The week after half term meant two teams from Year 3 were off to Betchworth Golf Club, following on from sessions in school, to represent us in the Dorking Schools Tri-Golf competition. This is always a lovely event in great surroundings. They children again showing the values we encourage in sport at our school, they played really well and enjoyed the experience so well done all those involved.*

*A week after the golf, on 11<sup>th</sup> June it was the turn of the tennis teams made up of children from Year 3/4. We were lucky enough to have the opportunity to enter two teams who headed to Dorking Tennis Club to play the Competition. It was a hot day but despite the heat they both played exceptionally well. 'B' team put on a great display, were very enthusiastic encouraging each other at all times. 'A' team were the overall winners in a hard fought competition (they ended up ½ a point ahead of their nearest rivals). This means they have a county competition to go to on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July so we wish them luck with that. A big thank you to Claire Frewer who came in to do some coaching with those involved in the competition. Also involved in the tennis competition were our Year 5 Leaders and a couple of Year 6 children who were umpiring at the event. What a fantastic job they did. Many other adults commented on how good they were, which makes us very proud.*



*On 18<sup>th</sup> June we invited some children from Moon Hall to our school to take part in a girls' rounders match and boys' cricket match. This meant that any children who had not had a chance to represent the school at sports were able to do so. It was a great afternoon enjoyed by all those involved and we hope to organise more of these in the next school year therefore enabling a wide range of children to be able to represent the school in sport.*

*On the 26<sup>th</sup> July, a team from Year 4 and on the 2nd July, a Year 5/6 team, took part in the annual Rounders Tournaments. The teams played brilliantly together there was some super fielding and fantastic team work which resulted in some very close games, the teams should be proud of themselves.*

*Wow what a fantastic evening!! 5<sup>th</sup> July was hot but we were all ready and highly excited for the start of the Athletics competition at Pixham. Off went the first race and soon we were half way through. We already had lots of great individual performances and as the night went on this success continued, every single one of the team was rising to the occasion and we couldn't have been prouder, what wonderful team spirit. Finally the end came and we waited in anticipation for the results. As a team we were 3<sup>rd</sup> in girls track and relays, 2<sup>nd</sup> in jumping and throwing and 1<sup>st</sup> in boys track. Overall we ended up in second place. An amazing end to a wonderful night of competition. Well done all the team we are so proud of your efforts.*

*As you can see we have had a very busy but successful term!*

Mrs Ottaway

## OTHER NEWS

**North Downs Art Exhibition:** Miss Mackay's Art Clubs have their work on show in the Art Exhibition to be held in the Brockham Village Hall this weekend, during the Brockham Victorian Weekend. Do come along to see and support the children's efforts.

**Local Arts Programme:** get involved in **Surrey Unearthed**, an innovative arts programme in your area. Whether it's an artist-led local walk, a paper-making workshop or visiting 'The Travelling Reading Room' at the Surrey Unearthed exhibition this weekend, there's something for all the family - and it's free. Visit [www.surreyunearthed.org/events](http://www.surreyunearthed.org/events).

**Polesden Lacey Holiday Events:** Giant Games 21<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August daily; Craft Activities 23<sup>rd</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> August 11-2 daily, £2 per craft; Family Adventures 8<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> August Wed to Sun. Visit [www.nationaltrust.ork.uk/polesden-lacey](http://www.nationaltrust.ork.uk/polesden-lacey).

**Holiday Technology Camp:** on 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> August at **North Downs, Brockham site**. The camp is for ages 7 to 12, at a cost of £95 for the two days. For further details contact [info@nextthing.education](mailto:info@nextthing.education) or call 01442 873150; or to register your child please go to: [www.nextthing.education/hc](http://www.nextthing.education/hc).

**Swimsense Summer Crash Course:** 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> July at **North Downs, Brockham site**, in half hour sessions for children aged 3+. Choose to attend for three or more days of this five day course at a cost of £8 per session. Booking required please, to [emiller5253@gmail.com](mailto:emiller5253@gmail.com).

**Summer Cricket Coaching Week:** at Newdigate Cricket Club 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> August for ages 5+. £30 per day/£130 for five days. For more information or to book contact: Andrew Major on 07808 590356 or at [Andrew@seaspace-int.com](mailto:Andrew@seaspace-int.com).

**Summer Netball Camps:** 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> August at Reigate Grammar School. Day courses for different age groups 7 to 16. To book [www.visionarysportsacademy.co.uk](http://www.visionarysportsacademy.co.uk) or contact [netball@visionarysportsacademy.co.uk](mailto:netball@visionarysportsacademy.co.uk).

**Mole Valley Girls FC:** Year 3-6 girls are invited to try out for 'Mole Valley Girls', one of the premier girls-only football clubs in Surrey. We are holding open sessions and would love to see you so come along and give us a go! Fridays 5-6pm at KGV Playing Grounds, Chart Downs, Dorking. Contact Dean Spurden 07989 475082 or [dean.spurden@gmail.com](mailto:dean.spurden@gmail.com).



**Hawker Hurricane Display:** to commemorate 100 years of the RAF, a 1:3 scale Hawker Hurricane is to be displayed by Sci-Hi Education at the Victorian Fair all Saturday afternoon (1pm-5pm) with craft activities and talks. Sci-Hi Education is the brainchild of former Imperial War Museum STEM Education Officer, Chris Jefferson, and this visit has been enabled by the sponsorship of Chris Tizzard Architectural.



Many congratulations to Caitlin, Stephanie & Andrea (Year 3), who have been participating in the Surrey Youth Games Football for ages 7-9, and are now proud possessors of a Bronze medal, their team having taken third place in a recent match.

Last Thursday Year 3 went to the Priory School in Dorking to take part in a morning of singing songs in other languages, appropriately name 'The Big Sing'. You will not be surprised to hear that our North Downs pupils behaved brilliantly and sang our French song very well on the stage to at least 400 children!

## FRIENDS' MATTERS

A HUGE thank you and congratulations to everyone that contributed towards the Leigh Charity Plant Sale, with special mention going to Sam Wilkins and Helen Stevens for all their help. We made a whopping £460, our best year to date - a fantastic effort all round!!!

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

Have a lovely weekend - and a super summer break.



**Summer Term 2018**

Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Gold Star Assembly Leigh (by invitation)	
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Gold Star Assembly Brockham (by invitation)	
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly	
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Children's last day	Early Closure: R/KS1 - 1pm KS2 - 1.15pm
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul	INSET 5 of 5	

**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>

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

**Term and Holiday Dates 2018/2019**

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1<sup>st</sup>) 04/09/2018; 2<sup>nd</sup>) 05/09/2018; 3<sup>rd</sup>) 19/10/2018; 4<sup>th</sup>) 11/02/2019; 5<sup>th</sup>) 24/05/2019

**Term and Holiday Dates 2019/2020**

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