



Be the best you can be, every day

Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2019

Issue No: 01

Date: 6th September

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Firstly, welcome back to all our returning pupils and a very warm welcome to all those joining us this academic year.

Following on, we have assorted information for you at the start of the new school year...

Meet the Teacher: as always, we start the year with your opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and hear about their planned learning this year. Meetings for Year 1 to 6 are after school next week; please go to your child's classroom after signing-in at the school office:

Years 1 & 2 - Tuesday 10th September

Years 3 & 4 - Monday 9th September

Year 5 - Wed 11th September

Year 6 - Thurs 13th September

Meetings for our new Reception classes will be held shortly, with details to follow.

Pupil Medication: a reminder that if your child requires medication to be taken at school, this should be brought to the office and the relevant ND medical forms completed. All medication must be in its original container, as dispensed by the pharmacist and clearly labelled. Please ensure you check the expiry date of any medication/inhalers before bringing them in to school.

Swimming: begins on Tuesday 17th September for Year 3 and Year 6 children - more information to follow next week.

Moles: was set up in response to growing need for wrap around care in schools and we do very much appreciate how crucial it is for many of our families. It was set up some years ago to help our North Downs families; however, there is absolutely no requirement for schools to provide before school or after school child-care provision. When Moles began, the school was able to provide places for all of the families who needed it. However, in the last couple of years the demand for places has grown rapidly, hence us finding ourselves in the situation we have today. The Moles team, school leadership team and governors have looked into short term and long term solutions to the problem; unfortunately, we are unable to find a 'quick fix'. We do have a long-term solution, which involves fundraising for a new building. I will update you with further information through the year, along with ways that you can help us achieve this goal. In the meantime staffing for Moles remains an issue for us. If you know of anyone who would be interested in working within the Moles team, please do speak with either Mrs P-H or Mrs Douglass.



We are delighted to welcome our newest class teacher, Mrs Cobbold, who was introduced to you in a newsletter last term. Tracy will be taking up the reins of Robins, our Reception class at Brockham.

In addition, we are pleased to introduce Mrs Goodwin and Mrs Lucas (left). Emma and Tamera are joining us as Teaching Assistants, based at our Brockham site. Do join us in making them feel very welcome when you see them about.

OTHER NEWS

1st Brockham Green Rainbows: is up and running after the summer break, with a new leader, Amelia Hulbert, who says, "I am very excited to take over Rainbows. I started Brockham Rainbows when I was 5 and my mum ran the pack and after continuing on through Brockham Brownies, Guides, Young Leaders and then being a leader at Brockham Guides I am now so pleased I get to give back the fun I was given." Rainbows meet in the Brockham Church Hall on Thursdays from 4.15pm - 5.15pm. They are open to all girls aged 5 to 7 and have places available to join this September. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch. They are also looking for adults who would like to get involved in guiding. For more information contact Amelia Hulbert at Amelia.brockham.rainbows@gmail.com or phone 07739 346233.

After-School Camera Club: children in Years 1-6 are invited to enter a competition being run by the after-school camera club held at Brockham. The winner gets a free place at the club for a term.

N.B. if your photo has people in, a parent/carer needs to submit it, confirming they are happy for the photograph to be entered and viewed.



FRIENDS' MATTERS

A couple of early dates for your diaries...

North Downs Teas on the Green: will be held on Sunday 22nd September

FONDS AGM: on Thursday 26th September at 8pm in the School Hall, Brockham.

Look out for posters on school noticeboards with further details.

If you wish to contact FONDS directly, please use the following email address - fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can keep up-to-date by 'friend requesting' on **Facebook: Friends of North Downs School**

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

JL Douglas

Finally

Have a lovely weekend



Autumn Term 2019

Wed 4th Sept	FIRST DAY OF TERM
Wed 4th Sept	INSET 1 of 5 - school closed to pupils
Thurs 5th Sept	Children return to school (except new Reception starters)
Mon 9th Sept	Reception children start school - staggered entry, Group 1 ONLY
Tues 10th Sept	Reception children start school - staggered entry, Group 2 ONLY
Fri 25th Oct	INSET 2 of 5 - school closed to pupils
w/c Mon 28th Oct	HALF TERM WEEK

Term and Holiday Dates 2019/2020
 (updated to reflect the changed May Bank holiday 2020)
 ...are available on Surrey County Council website

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-term-dates>
 1st) 04/09/2019; 2) 25/10/2019; 3) 24/02/2020; 4) 22/05/2020; 5) 22/07/2020