

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

We have a number of year group trips planned this term. Relevant years will have received electronic mailings with specific details for their group's outing, but dates and sites (where appropriate) have been added to this week's Diary Dates too.

Please help us by ensuring you have returned your child's signed permission form (and made your voluntary contribution towards the cost of the trip - no child will be excluded from a visit, but without sufficient contributions trips will not be able to go ahead) by deadline dates. Thank you.



Owls are loving their topic on Transport this term. This week the focus has been on planes, comparing old and new and even building our own aircrafts from construction materials.

The children worked together to build a plane and even used the wheelbarrow to serve drinks and snacks to the customers! We looked at the globe and talked about places we had been. We have done lots of writing too. Enjoy the pictures.



North Downs Music News

Junior Choir: has already started as we are now preparing for a concert at **Dorking Halls on Monday 29th April**. Children from Years 4 to 6 will be learning a variety of well-known songs based on gospel, pop and musical theatre. Please put the date in your diaries so that all the choir members are able to participate! It should be a fun evening!

Instrumental Lessons: we have an increasing number of children learning musical instruments which is very encouraging. At present we offer piano/keyboard, drums and woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone), with an expanding group of children learning a variety of brass instruments. In addition, and for the first time at North Downs, we have children learning the cello.

Mr Stott, the brass teacher, is very keen to promote brass instruments in our school and has places available for any interested pupils.

Please do contact Mrs Mitchell if you are interested in obtaining further information about any music instrumental lessons.



REMINDERS AND DATES

We ask that you ensure your child brings gloves, scarf and hat as well as their coat each day - all clearly named please.

OTHER NEWS

Valentine's Disco: Brockham Green Nursery are holding a **Valentine's Disco** for their nursery children on **Saturday 9th February** and they are extending an invitation to any North Downs Year R pupils in reception who previously attended Brockham Green Nursery to join them. The disco will be held in the Church Hall with refreshments, music, party games and of course cakes!

Half Term Soccer: **Dorking Wanderers Soccer Club** are running half term soccer schools at Meadowbank Football Ground for ages 5 to 11. These will be on **18th, 19th & 20th February** 10am - 4pm daily, £92.50 for all three days or £32.50 daily - lunch included. For enquiries or to book contact Jordan Clark on jordan.clark@dorkingwanderers.com or 07739 363650.

Ultimate Activity Holiday Camps: activity day camps for 4 to 14 year olds this Easter, weekdays from **Monday 8th to Thursday 18th April** are to be held at two local schools, **Reigate St. Mary's & Chinthurst, Tadworth**. With amazing school facilities and over 40 activities for ages 4-5; 6-7; 8-9; and 10+ you can try something new every day. Book by the day (£40) or week (£169). Day camps run Monday to Friday: drop off 08.30 to 09.30 / collection 16.30 to 17.15 (or for an additional £5 a day have an Extended Day Pass with drop off at 08.00 and collection 18.00). Early Booking Offer - book by Tuesday 12th March 2019 and save up to £40 per week. Bookings taken now (and more details) at www.ultimateactivity.co.uk or phone 0330 111 7077.



Puffins have been learning about seasonal changes in nature. We painted deciduous trees in the autumn and these sketches show what they look like now! We know the leaves have died and fallen off, then new leaves grow in spring time.



FRIENDS' MATTERS

Although it feels a while ago now we are pleased to confirm a total of £4,900 was raised from the Christmas fair and sale of Christmas trees. Thanks to Rebecca Thornett for managing the Christmas tree sales and to Tracey Bartley and Mel Woodhead whose employers matched funds raised on their stalls, adding an impressive £800 to the amount raised. If you think your company may have a matched fundraising scheme please do check it out as it makes such a difference.

The funds have been used to buy a set of iPads for reception classes to trial, in addition to two further touchscreens for the year 1 classes. Now we turn our attention to the next aim which is to raise £5,000 for reading books!

Bingo tickets for **25th January** are still available via pta-events.co.uk/fonds, only £2.50 to include entry and 4 bingo cards. A food stall will be available selling burgers/hot dogs and we will have prosecco available too. Children's raffle and lots of prizes to be won!

We will finish the half term with a **Valentine's Disco** on **Friday 15th February** (if we get enough helpers to run it!) - details coming soon.

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

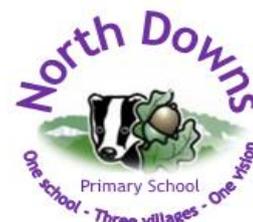
(Note: dates in italics have been added or changed/updated this week)

Yours sincerely



Finally

Have a happy weekend



Spring Term 2019

Fri 25 th Jan	Class Assembly - Nightingales
Fri 25 th Jan	FONDS Bingo
Fri 8 th Feb	Class Assembly - Kestrels
Mon 11 th Feb	<i>Year 1 trip - Discovery Centre (all Year 1 to Brockham)</i>
Tues 12 th Feb	Parent Consultation Evening
Thurs 14 th Feb	Parent Consultation Evening
18 th - 22 nd Feb	HALF TERM WEEK
Mon 25 th Feb	School closed - INSET 4 of 5
Tues 26 th Feb	School swimming begins
Tues 5 th Mar	<i>Year 3 trip - Ashdown Forest</i>
Fri 8 th Mar	Class Assembly - Eagles
Wed 20 th Mar	<i>Reception trip - Hawth Theatre (All Year R to Betchworth)</i>
Fri 22 nd Mar	Class Assembly - Toucans
w/c Mon 25 th Mar	Last week of NDPS clubs
Mon 25 th Mar	Swimming Gala
Fri 29 th Mar	Class Assembly - Skylarks
Thurs 4 th Apr	Gold Star Assembly Leigh (by invitation)
Fri 5 th Apr	Gold Star Assembly Brockham (by invitation)
Fri 5 th Apr	LAST DAY OF TERM
	Early Closure: R/KS1 - 1pm KS2 - 1.15pm

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>

1st) 04/09/2018; 2nd) 05/09/2018; 3rd) 19/10/2018; 4th) 25/02/2019; 5th) 24/05/2019

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