

## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

As you know from our 'secret squirrel' mailing last term, Mrs Hayward has very sadly retired after 22 years sterling service to the school, originally The Acorns, latterly North Downs, but always based at the Leigh site. Hundreds of children have passed through her kind hands and benefitted from her calmness, gentleness and caring and she holds a place of affection in theirs, their parents' and her colleagues' hearts. We were all so very sorry to say goodbye, but thanks to your generosity were able to send her on her way with some lovely gifts and everyone's good wishes.

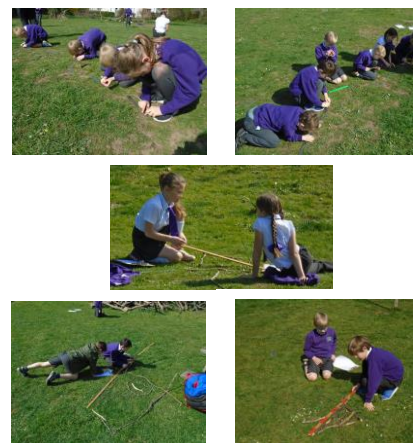
We are fortunate and delighted to be able to welcome Mrs Jackie Tyrrell to the staff of North Downs, where she will be working in our Leigh office Wednesday to Friday. Mrs Tyrrell is an ex-parent, so already knows the school well, but please join us in welcoming Jackie to her new role and wishing her a long and happy future at North Downs (...22 years Jackie?)



51 children from Years 4-6 delighted a packed audience at a recent primary schools' music concert at Dorking Halls. Choir members sang a variety of gospel songs, show tunes and Abba hits alongside a number of other local schools. All participants should be congratulated for their immaculate behaviour and their enthusiastic singing throughout the evening. Mrs Mitchell would like to pay extra special thanks to the Year 6 children as many have been committed choir members over a number of years.

Arundel House (below), winners of the KS2 swimming gala - a very close event, with Arundel House winning by one point!

Toucans (below) engaged in and enjoying outdoor maths last term...



Our community takes a very dim view of **selfish parking and dropping off** on Wheelers Lane and The Smithers. Please show respect to Brockham residents and consideration for our children's safety by not parking or dropping off:

- Outside the school gate or opposite school
- On the zig zag markings
- Near the church bend
- At the junction with Middle Street
- In The Smithers



Extracts from The Highway Code ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

**Rule 243, DO NOT stop or park:**

- near a school entrance
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, except in an authorized parking space on a bend

**Rule 244:** You MUST NOT park partially or wholly on the pavement in London, and should not do so elsewhere unless signs permit it. Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs.

**We would urge you** in the strongest terms, to park slightly further from the school please, and to avoid driving on Wheelers Lane or The Smithers altogether during peak times.

North Downs Primary School  Brockham Parish Council 

## REMINDERS AND DATES

We return to the vexed matter of parking around our school premises. Brockham Parish Council and North Downs Primary School have worked together to jointly produce a parking flier (see above left). The aim of this flier is to empower those parents and residents who are frustrated by persistently inconsiderate parking around The Smithers and the northern end of Wheelers Lane, during school drop off and collection times. It is hoped that the flier allows the message about unacceptable parking and dropping off to be communicated without the need for heated discussion on the pavement.

The flier can be handed out or placed under windscreen wipers, so the recipient can read extracts from the Highway Code and hopefully adopt safer, more considerate parking practices.

The fliers will be offered to those who live very close to the school, and a stock will also be kept in the school office, should you need to pop in to pick one up. Please feel free to contact me on [gill.venables@brockham.org](mailto:gill.venables@brockham.org)

**North Downs Bring & Buy Sale:** on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May, after school, Brockham site playground. This sale is being organised by pupils in Year 3 in aid of FONDS, Reverse Rett UK & Royal Marsden Hospital. Cakes and biscuits will also be on sale. If you would like to donate good quality books; toys or games please bring up to 3 items per child in the morning and Dawn Cook (Year 3 parent) will collect them in the playground. Any unsold items will be donated to charities.

## OTHER NEWS

Apologies for the late notice but the following only came to our attention in time for this week's newsletter. A recent visit by some of our children to **Squires Garden Centre** was covered by the **Surrey Mirror**. The article, including photos, was published in last week's edition of the newspaper (page 32) on sale until 1<sup>st</sup> May. Hopefully this is not too late for you to obtain a copy if you wish, if not from a retailer then perhaps from Surrey Mirror themselves.

**Box Hill School:** has sent details for the attention of **current Year 5 pupils**, regarding the first Open Events being offered ahead of secondary application for 2020-2021. This term there will be a **School at Work Day** on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May** 11.00am - 12.15pm & an **Open Evening** on **Tuesday 11th June** 6.15pm - 8.00pm. To book onto one of the events, or for details of others later this year/early next year, visit [www.boxhillschool.com](http://www.boxhillschool.com) - or for more information, or to make an alternative appointment E: [admissions@boxhillschool.com](mailto:admissions@boxhillschool.com); T: 01372 384240.

**2<sup>nd</sup> 'STEM Returners' Programme for returning Electrical Engineers with BT in Surrey:** we have been sent the following which may be of interest...

*"This may be of interest to you if you have taken a career break from an engineering or a technical sector and wish to return; or have an engineering or technical degree that you aren't using. This could be the opportunity for you. After the success of our first programme (100% of returners were offered permanent roles), STEM Returners are sourcing candidates for the 2<sup>nd</sup> BT 'STEM Returners' programme - a 13 week, fully paid and supported return to work programme starting in **June 2019** in Surrey. All candidates will also have the opportunity to obtain a permanent role at the end of the programme. For more information please visit [www.stemreturners.com](http://www.stemreturners.com) or email [hello@stemreturners.com](mailto:hello@stemreturners.com)."*



Well done Daisy (Puffins)! Participating in her club's recent Gymnastics Competition, Daisy (Puffins) won medals in every category including best overall. She was placed 1st in year 1 vault, 1st in year 1 trampette and 2nd in year 1 floor - achieving 1st place 'overall winner' for year 1.



Very many congratulations to Cameron (Flamingos) who was recently signed for Fulham FC Academy. We await further exciting installments...!

## FRIENDS' MATTERS

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

Finally

**Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend!**

## Summer Term 2019

<b>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>School closed - May Bank Holiday</b>
w/c Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> May	NDPS Clubs begin
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> May	<i>Class Photographs at Brockham</i>
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> May	<i>Class Photographs at Betchworth &amp; Leigh</i>
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Class Assembly - Flamingos
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Maypole Day - all pupils at Brockham all day
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Maypole & Country Dancing on Brockham Green 1.30pm - family & friends invited
<b>Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>School closed - INSET 5 of 5</b>
<b>27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>HALF TERM WEEK</b>
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> Jun	KS2 Sports Day
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> Jun	EYFS/KS1 Sports Day (at Brockham - all pupils all day)
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 6 residential visit to Windmill Hill
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Class Assembly - Woodpeckers
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Class Assembly - Kingfishers
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 6 return from Windmill Hill
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	Whole School Induction Day
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Class Assembly - Puffins
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Class Assembly - Penguins
w/c Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Last week of NDPS clubs
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Jul	End of Year Reports home
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Parent Consultation Evening
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	Gold Star Assembly Leigh (by invitation)
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul	Gold Star Assembly Brockham (by invitation)
Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jul	Parent Consultation Evening
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
<b>Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Jul</b>	<b>LAST DAY OF TERM</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Early Closure: R/KS1 - 1pm KS2 - 1.15pm</b></span>

### 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>

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>) 25/02/2019; 5<sup>th</sup>) 24/05/2019

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