



Newsletter

Term: AUTUMN 2019

Issue No: 04

Date: 18th October

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Well another busy week is coming to an end, as our Year 4 children return from their residential trip to High Ashurst.

Polite reminders for next week and the week after...

- We have Parent Teacher Consultations next week (*appointments bookable via Tucasi*).
- Next Friday, 25th October is an INSET Day for staff so **the last day for children is Thursday 24th October**, normal finish time.
- Children return on Monday 4th November with Open Mornings for prospective parents on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th November (*please see box below for more information*).

The following week, 11th November, is National Anti-Bullying Week and this year the theme is: **Change Starts With Us**

The National Anti-Bullying Alliance has produced many resources and activities for schools to undertake during the week. These will focus on the theme aims which are as follows: Small change/Big difference

- Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life.
- By making small, simple changes, we can create a safe environment for everyone.
- Because together, we can challenge bullying.
- Change starts with a conversation - it starts with checking in - it starts with working together.



REMINDERS AND DATES

North Downs Open Mornings: will be held at Brockham on Wednesday 6th November and Betchworth on Thursday 7th November, with arrival for the Headteacher's talk at 9.30am. If you are aware of anyone looking for Reception or Year 3 places in September 2020, please invite them to our open mornings - no booking necessary.

Pupil Data Check: we are holding our annual data check across the autumn term. As such, please keep an eye on the newsletter for notification of when your child/children's **Data Collection Sheet** will be coming home in their school bag. This form should be checked carefully, then signed and returned within two weeks, with any changes made to the form as necessary please. Due to numbers of pupils involved, distribution is staggered alphabetically in batches. Data Collection Sheets for surnames A to G are coming home today (in the case of siblings, with the eldest). **Please note you should return your form SIGNED irrespective of changes or not.**

Sickness Absence: a reminder that if your child experiences vomiting or diarrhoea, it is a Public Health requirement that they be absent for a full 48 hours after the last bout of illness. Please note that it is not possible to make any exception to this rule, the 48 hour exclusion is irrespective of the reason for the sickness.

Coats: please ensure your child has a coat every day (and as the season progresses, hat and gloves too please). The playgrounds can be chilly and wet places even if the day starts sunny...and the infants, especially Reception, frequently spend as much time outdoors as they do inside. You are reminded of the need for all uniform to be clearly name labelled please.

Swimsense Swimming Lessons - Tuesdays and Wednesdays at The Priory School, Dorking: all swimming abilities are catered for from 3 plus beginners, through to older children wanting to improve their strokes. All classes run every half hour from 4.00-6.00 p.m. on Tuesdays and from 4.00 to 5.30 on Wednesdays. Beginners are maximum 5 in a class. More advanced swimmers swim for 45 minutes and the most advanced swimmers for 1 hour. **ALL NEW SWIMMERS ARE INVITED FOR A FREE TRIAL. BOOKINGS and enquiries are made to Emma Miller on emiller5253@gmail.com**

School Sensory Garden:

We are delighted that we have an exciting garden design for our Sensory Garden, kindly designed by Renée Canter (thegirlwhogardens.co.uk), who has been able to incorporate all the children's winning ideas into the plan. We are now looking for someone who has experience of landscape gardening, who will be able to help us effectively implement the design. If you are able to help us, please contact Ms Marshall-Bailey or Mrs Ottaway.



Above are a few more photos from our hugely successful Maths Week

OTHER NEWS

Sports Crew: On September 23rd a group of Year 5 children were selected to attend the Sports Crew training at the Priory School in Dorking. This involved the children taking part in team games and skills with the aim to learn how to assist with KS1 learning through lunchtime activities and other events. They learnt the importance of the 6 Key Values we as a school instil in our children - Teamwork, Self-Belief, Honesty, Passion, Respect and Determination.

Cross Country: The first cross country meet of the season took place at The Weald on Monday 9th October. North Downs was strongly represented and incredibly successful with both the girl and boy squads performing amazingly. The highest places achieved for a North Downs pupil in each race were 6th for the Year 3 & 4 girls, a 1st for the Year 3 & 4 boys, 4th for the Year 5 & 6 girls and another 1st for the Year 5 & 6 boys. North Downs currently sits third overall in the competition so far. Our next meet is on Monday 21st October on the big field in Brockham. Good luck team!

Year 6 Football: On Tuesday 8th October our Year 6 football team took part in the Dorking and District Schools Football Tournament winning 6 games and drawing 1, resulting in being the overall winners. North Downs will now represent the district in the County Final.

Year 5 Football: Year 5 took part in the Dorking and District Schools Football Tournament on Tuesday 15th October and deservedly won the competition winning all 7 games scoring 14 goals and only conceding 1. They demonstrated some outstanding individual talent but mainly showed excellent team work. Special mention to Elliott (Year 4) who played in goal and made some breath-taking saves which explains only conceding one goal! Well done to all the squad!

Table Tennis Tables: We have been incredibly fortunate to have been gifted two brand new outdoor table tennis tables bought with money donated by The Poland Trust, Brockham Table Tennis Club and Brockham Bonfire Committee. Clive and Laura Marret from the Table Tennis Club have been in to run sessions with our sports crew and Year 6 children. A huge thank you to everyone for their help and kindness.



FRIENDS' MATTERS

Coin Challenge - Don't forget that the coin challenge is still running until Thursday 24th October. At the halfway point the classes in the lead are Owls (Betchworth) for KS1 and Parrots (Yr4) for KS2. Remember there will be classroom prizes for the winners!

Date for the diary - FONDS has a brand new event this term. Our Christmas Shopping Evening will be on Thursday 21st November from 6.45-9pm at the Brockham Site. A chance for you to start some Christmas Shopping and catch up with friends over a glass of prosecco and a mince pie! Please spread the word amongst family and friends.

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

JW Douglas

Finally...

Have a lovely weekend everybody...

Autumn Term 2019

Tues 22 nd Oct	Parent Teacher Consultations
Wed 23 rd Oct	Reception Autumn Curriculum Day - All Reception Children at Brockham
Thur 24 th Oct	Parent Teacher Consultations
Thur 24 th Oct	Last day of the half term for children - finish normal time
Fri 25 th Oct	INSET 2 of 5 - school closed to pupils
w/c Mon 28 th Oct	HALF TERM WEEK
Wed 6 th Nov	<i>Open Morning 9.30am at the Brockham site</i>
Thur 7 th Nov	<i>Open Morning 9.30am at the Betchworth site</i>
Mon 11 th Nov	<i>Anti-Bullying Week</i>
Fri 15 th Nov	Children in Need (School Council) <i>More information to follow</i>
Fri 29 th Nov	Nasal Flu Immunisation - whole school
Fri 20 th Dec	LAST DAY OF TERM Early Closure: R/KS1 - 1pm KS2 - 1.15pm

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