



Newsletter

Term: **SPRING 2020**

Issue No: **8**

Date: **10th January**

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas break....and now we are back and rearing to go!

We have many events and activities already planned for this half term that include class assemblies for Flamingos, Kestrels and Skylarks, a visiting author for Years 3 - 6 (see below for more information), a visiting Olympic Athlete and a trip to the theatre for Owls and Robins.

In addition, we are undertaking a review of our school Behaviour Management and Anti-Bullying Policies. Mr Wade will be writing to you with further information next week, along with a link to an online survey, which we would be very grateful if you could spend a few moments completing. We also have a parent focus group, which has been incredibly helpful in the past i.e. when reviewing the end of year report to parents or the information we provide on progress at parent teacher consultations etc. We obviously hope this group will contribute to our consultation process so if any of you would like to become part of that focus group please do let me know: head@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

PARENT GOVERNOR UPDATE

Following the recent parent governor election I am delighted to inform you that Dr Hannah Crawforth has been voted in as Parent Governor. Thank you so much to Hannah and our other candidates who stood at the election. We very much appreciate your support and commitment to the school.

BABY NEWS

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Cox gave birth to a beautiful girl, Darcey, on 13th December. Mum reports she weighed in at 8lb 11oz...with very long legs! Congratulations and best wishes to both Mrs Cox and her husband, Dave.



Dr Hannah Crawforth

READINGZONE FESTIVAL - VISITING AUTHOR

This term, our junior children will have an opportunity to meet **Vashti Hardy** - author of the bestselling **Brightstorm** series (shortlisted for the Waterstones' Children's Book Award) - as part of the ReadingZone Festival, on 4th February. Vashti will talk about her new book, *Darkwhispers*, the second *Sky Ship Adventures* series, and about writing creatively. ReadingZone is able to offer discounted copies of Vashti's books for any students who would like to order an advance copy to have signed by the author on the day. An order form and book information will be sent home next week.

HEADTEACHER FOR THE DAY

Many thanks to FONDS for organising the children's raffle last term, with the prize being to undertake the role of Headteacher for the Day. Albert undertook his responsibilities admirably. Firstly, he met parents and children outside at the start of the day, he helped Mr Wade take assembly, rehearsed the Year 6 readers for the Carol Service, acted as fire marshal for our fire drill, carried out a Health and Safety inspection, observed a lesson in Year 3, and signed off several stock orders...including authorising a new quadbike for Mr Berwick!



DATES AND REMINDERS

Athlete Visit: Olympic Long Jumper Ezekiel Ewoluo is visiting North Downs on Tuesday 28th January. Information about this visit and sponsorship forms for this event were sent out last term. Please see the school website for more information.

Parent Teacher Consultations: will take place on Tuesday 11th February and Thursday 13th February. Timings for the evenings will be as follows:

Brockham: Tuesday 11th February 5.00 pm - 7.30 pm

Thursday 13th February 3.30 pm - 6.00 pm

Betchworth and Leigh Tuesday 11th February 3.30 pm - 6.00 pm

Thursday 13th February - 5.00 pm - 7.30 pm

Slots for the 10 minute appointments will be available for booking via Tucasi from Monday 27th January.

Clubs start: week beginning 20th January.

Nightingales undertaking some Maths outside...learning about place value.



FRIENDS' MATTERS

Happy New Year!

Thank you all so much again for all your support last term, £6k in one term is such a great achievement.

We are busy planning events for this term and will update you soon. A FONDS meeting will also be held at the end of January (date TBC) and we look forward to seeing you there.

Team FONDS!

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...

Thank you so much for your generous contributions at our Christmas performances. We collected just under £1000 to share between Save the Children and The Children's Society...amazing!

Spring Term 2020

<i>Fri 24th Jan</i>	<i>9.10am Flamingos Class Assembly</i>
<i>Tues 28th Jan</i>	<i>Ezekiel Ewoluo - Olympic Athlete Visit</i>
<i>Fri 31st Jan</i>	<i>9.10am Kestrels Class Assembly</i>
<i>Tues 4th Feb</i>	<i>Author Vahsti Hardy visiting Years 3 - 6</i>
<i>Thurs 6th Feb</i>	<i>Owls and Robins visit to The Hawth Theatre</i>
<i>Fri 7th Feb</i>	<i>9.10am Skylarks Class Assembly</i>
<i>Tues 11th Feb</i>	<i>Parent Teacher Consultations</i>
<i>Thurs 13th Feb</i>	<i>Parent Teacher Consultations</i>
<i>Fri 14th Feb</i>	<i>Break up for half term</i>
<i>Monday 25th Feb</i>	<i>INSET Day No. 3</i>
<i>Tues 26th Feb</i>	<i>Children return to school</i>

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