



Newsletter

Term: SUMMER 2020

Issue No: 14

Date: 30th April

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Well, we are about to enter another week of lockdown (although I am sure we were all secretly hoping we would be back to 'normal' after the Easter holiday). However, as this period of isolation continues it remains our priority that families feel as supported as possible.

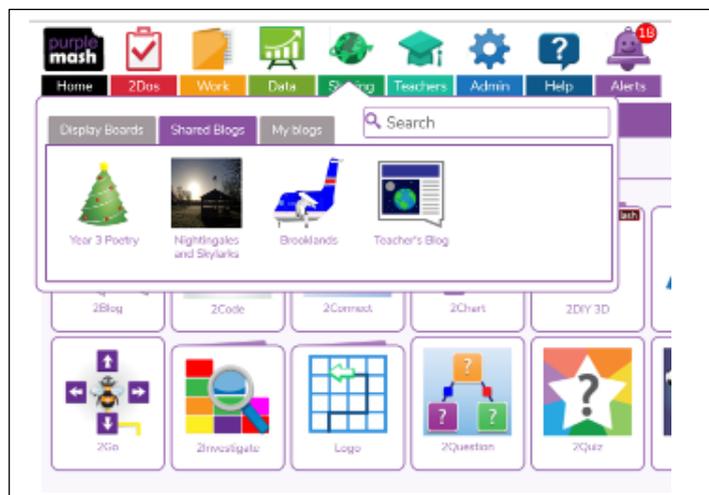
I have been in contact with many of you and have appreciated the feedback you have provided regarding the support, activities, resources and home learning information the school has provided. This is something we are constantly re-evaluating and our key aim is that we continue to take a balanced approach, whilst maintaining an awareness that families each have a different set of circumstances and needs. However, whilst we strive to put in place processes and resources to best support children's learning, it is important to remember that it is not possible for us all to replicate a school experience at home.

Our teachers have been working incredibly hard planning activities and providing resources for their classes. They have all loved receiving emails from parents and pupils, in which the children have been sharing their learning and achievements. Many of you have also contacted me to say how much you've appreciated the prompt and detailed responses the teachers have provided when you have asked them for help or clarification.

In order to ensure we are in direct contact with all of our families and, therefore, able to provide support when needed, we will continue with the strategies we currently have in place for 'setting' learning activities each week but we will also be introducing some additional support systems:

BLOGS: Just to remind you that each year group (excluding Reception) has a class blog. These can be found by logging onto Purple Mash. It should appear in the **Sharing** tab (your Purple Mash menu might look a bit different to ours!) but please do add your comments to it.

HOME LEARNING LETTERS: These will continue to be sent home each Friday, with resources to accompany them loaded into the year group folders in the Home Learning section under the Curriculum tab on the school website. The Home Learning pack will continue to include balance of activities which need technology in order to be able to access them and those which do not.



CONTACT: Over the next week, teachers will be contacting you directly, either via email or by phone. We are very aware that despite the work being set by their class teachers, it does not always have the same impact at home when our little people are being asked to complete a task by an adult other than the teacher themselves! If we can support with this in some way we will.

MS TEAMS: We are also in the process of setting up class groups so that the teachers can speak to their children about their learning, share stories etc. using MS Teams. You will be notified of these sessions via an email invitation. These can take place using a laptop, tablet or phone. Mrs Knapp, our IT Support Technician, and I will write to you next week with information on what to do...watch this space...

As mentioned previously, please do let us know if you are in any way concerned about the welfare and safety of any of pupils via the designated safeguarding lead email: dsl@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
It is a confidential email address.

In addition, please let me remind you of the staff email addresses. If you have any queries, particularly those learning related, please do contact us:

Mrs Douglass	head@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Deeks	deputy-ks1@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mr Wade	deputy-ks2@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs P-H	catherine.preston-heard@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Hitch	jo.hitch@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Cobbold	tracy.cobbold@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Ms Morgan	laura.morgan@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Ms Gahan	louise.gahan@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Tolan	katy.tolan@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Tubb	carol.tubb@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mr Smith	tim.smith@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Crowther	angela.crowther@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Ottaway	rona.ottaway@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mr Evenden	martin.evenden@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mr Skinner	rob.skinner@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Boyer	julie.boyer@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Ms Marshall-Bailey	lisa.marshall-bailey@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Mitchell	sue.mitchell@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Bradby	caroline.bradby@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Judd	teresa.judd@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
Mrs Cummins	geraldine.cummins@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

For the parents of any children who are on the SEN Register please do contact:
Mrs Scott senco@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

And Finally...More Happy News...



Nightingales Bake Off

On Thursday 23 April six of the girls in Nightingales had a 'Virtual bake off' via Zoom. They all had to bake either a Victoria Sponge or a Chocolate Victoria Sponge (recipes courtesy of Mary Berry), from scratch (no help allowed from parents), ice and decorate within 1.5 hours. William in Skylarks was the guest judge. It was difficult decision to choose a winner as they all did incredibly well, but in true bake off style there can only be one star baker! A difficult decision for William not only to watch all these delicious cakes being baked, but also not being able to taste them. But after much deliberation and consulting with his mum and brothers, he declared Chloe star baker due to the height and evenness of her bake! Well done to everyone!

5k Challenge

Thank you so much to everyone who has got involved in the 5k challenge so far. We have been blown away by how much we have raised....£1925!!!

Nessie is busy making scrubs and North Downs children have been mentioned and thanked on BBC Radio Surrey. We are keen to raise as much as possible so please do continue to share your challenges.

Link to donation page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/abbi-lampard-1>