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# Newsletter

Respect, Compassion, Responsibility, Courage

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## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

A huge thank you to all of those parents who have offered to be part of our parent focus groups, we do very much appreciate it...Mrs Deeks, Mrs Boyer or I will be in touch very soon! This Newsletter is another bumper edition as there is much to share and celebrate!

## Sports Report from Mrs Stowell

This is a very busy term for sporting events and our children have achieved some outstanding results:

### Panathlon Challenge

Seven children from Year 4 to 6 took part in a Panathlon Festival at Priory School on 26<sup>th</sup> February. The children took part in eight different multi-skills activities including curling, skittles and basketball, scoring points for each activity. The children achieved the highest score winning gold medals and going on to the county finals on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at Guildford Spectrum. Congratulations for a great achievement!



### Quick sticks Hockey

Two teams, chosen from children attending the school hockey club, were selected to represent North Downs in the Dorking Schools Competition on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February. The teams played six games in a round robin tournament. Our 'B team won two games and lost four finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and our 'A' team won all six games to finish as overall champions. Congratulations to both teams for their excellent sportsmanship and skills.



### Dorking Schools Netball Tournaments

Our Year 5 and Year 6 Netball Teams took part in the Dorking schools tournaments on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> March at The Weald School. They demonstrated excellent netball skills. The Year 5 team won three and drew one game to finish in 1<sup>st</sup> place. The Year 6 'A' team won all their four games to win their competition with the 'B' team finishing 5<sup>th</sup>. Well done to all the teams and thank you to Jess Hillson for all your encouragement and coaching.



### **Dorking Schools Cross Country League Years 3/4/5/6**

On Monday, 53 children from North Downs competed in the final race in the Dorking Schools Cross-Country Competition at The Weald School. In this race, our Year 3 and 4 girls finished 4<sup>th</sup>, Year 3 and 4 boys 1<sup>st</sup>, Year 5 and 6 girls 1<sup>st</sup> and Year 5 and 6 boys 1<sup>st</sup>. In the individual races, Raya was 5<sup>th</sup> in the Year 3 and 4 girls race, Imogen came 5<sup>th</sup> and Grace N 7<sup>th</sup> in Year 5 and 6 girls race, George W came 2<sup>nd</sup> Seb came 4<sup>th</sup>, Jenson 6<sup>th</sup> and George C 7<sup>th</sup> in the Year 3 and 4 boys race and James S came 1<sup>st</sup>, James K 3<sup>rd</sup>, Monty 5<sup>th</sup>, James W 8<sup>th</sup> in the Year 5 and 6 boys race. In the final League results (combined totals from both races) our Year 3 and 4 girls and boys teams were 2<sup>nd</sup>, our Year 5 and 6 boys and girls teams were 1<sup>st</sup> and North Downs were 1<sup>st</sup> overall. In the individual results, Reya won bronze, George W silver, Jenson Bronze, Imogen silver, James K gold and James S bronze. Well done to all the children who have attended the club training and to all who have represented the school in the races. A fantastic achievement.



### **Surrey Primary Singing Festival**

Last Monday, the school choir took part in the Surrey Primary Singing Festival at Dorking Halls. We were so proud of how well they performed the different songs and the effort they put in to learn the various actions, parts, harmonies, and words to folk songs from around the world. Not only this, but the children learnt British Sign Language, Swahili, Malay, Latin, and Spanish for some of the pieces! The choir were a credit to the school, with comments from Surrey Arts commending their behaviour and performance throughout the evening. A huge well done to the children and a massive thank you to Miss Tennent for all her hard work too.

### **Class Photographs**

We have booked the school photographer for our class photographs on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April at Brockham and Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April at Betchworth and Leigh.

## Futures Fridays Update

We have had some important dates to note in our assemblies since we last reported to you.

- 6<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Assembly preceding our hugely successful visit from the Breck foundation
- 12<sup>th</sup> February - School Council assembly to mark Children's Mental Health Week
- 6<sup>th</sup> March - Fantastic assembly to celebrate World Book Day and admire everyone's huge efforts dressing up and to meet Barry the Badger!
- 27<sup>th</sup> February we had a visitor from the Rivers Trust - Ollie, who was inventive with our hall space and actually made a river running down the middle of the hall! The children were taught about how important rivers are to our ecosystem and the part they can play to keep them tidy and clean for the huge amount of wildlife that rely on rivers. They also learned about the River Mole where its source is, Faygate West Sussex, and the journey it takes before eventually flowing into the River Thames at Moseley. Ollie will back in the Summer Term to work with Year 4 who will be learning more as part of their Rivers topic.



## World Book Day

World Book Day last Friday filled the school with colour, excitement, a few Dalmatians and a wonderful buzz for reading. Thank you for your support with the costumes and for helping to make the day feel so special. During the afternoon, each class chose to listen to a story read by a different adult, giving children the chance to hear new voices and discover new books in different areas of the school. The children also enjoyed a variety of book-themed activities, including sharing books with other classes. A highlight of the day came during assembly, when the children met a brand-new member of the North Downs team: Barry the Badger. Barry set the whole school an exciting mission – to write a story about him, one section at a time, before passing it onto another class to continue.

Already, Barry has visited Betchworth, Leigh and Brockham. The children have been delighted to read along as his adventure unfolds.



Norma and Lulu, our Therapy Dog, joined in with the dressing up fun too!

In the recent:

**South East England regional Sportshall Athletics finals,**

Surrey under 11 boys and girls won gold! James was competing in standing long jump, javelin and hurdles relay - he was brilliant!



## Diary Dates

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March - Easter Pantomime at 7pm

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Easter Pantomime at 2pm & 6.30pm

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - Break up for Easter: Infants finish at 1.00 & Juniors finish at 1.15pm

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - Children return to school

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Class photos at Brockham

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April - Class photos at Betchworth and Leigh

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Maypole on The Green at Brockham

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May - Break up for Half Term

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - INSET Day

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - INSET Day

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June - Children return to school