



Newsletter

Term: SPRING 2015

Issue No: 17

Date: 23rd January

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Over the last months, our IT Team has been working very hard behind the scenes to create a brand new website for North Downs Primary School.

We know from past feedback that parents have found our school website useful and enjoyable, but with an increased amount of information available to share online - for existing parents, prospective parents and the wider community - it was felt it was time to update our school website, to provide this in a clear and professional format for all our website visitors.

We are delighted to tell you that we have 'gone live' this week. The website uses the same address - www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk - so if you have this saved to your phone or pc, the same link will now take you to our new site. Please take time to have a look around. There is a lot to see - and more to follow. As always, our newsletter will be uploaded weekly and all other information/photos etc. will be refreshed regularly, so frequent visits will be in order.

Please let us know what you think. Is there anything that would be useful, not already provided? We will be happy to consider every suggestion - although cannot guarantee to meet them all!

Our thanks to Mole Valley District Council and Surrey County Council for their swift response and efficient assistance, following last week's flooding due to the heavy rain overnight....also to BERT (Brockham Emergency Response Team), who worked tirelessly - and provided assistance in more ways than one, as can be seen from Miss Winslade being given a helping hand across the floods to buy her lunch at the Spar!



Road Closure - West Street, Dorking

Please be aware of the following road closure if your route to school takes you down West Street, Dorking...

SCC has advised that the widening and resurfacing of footpaths along West Street in Dorking require the road to be closed from Monday 26th January. The closure is expected to be in place for approximately 6 weeks and will be daytime 7am 'til 6pm (although once the closure has been set up on Monday 26th the road will remain completely shut until the end of work on Tuesday 27th). The closure times will apply weekdays, but be lifted at the weekends unless there are specific circumstances requiring work during a weekend. When closed, pedestrians and cyclists will be allowed through the closure; all other traffic will be diverted down Ashcombe Road, onto the A24.

Other News

Monday Café: parents Liz Taylor and Claire Frewer are re-opening the Monday Café in the Church Hall in Brockham from next Monday, 26th January from 2 to 4.30pm. This is being run as a community facility by the church, as a means of bringing people together. Homemade cakes, teas, coffees, squash and other treats will be available - and there will be free cake with your drink on 26th, to celebrate the opening day. All refreshments will be served at very low prices, and all ages are welcome.



Friends' Matters

FONDS Meeting: please note a change of date for our next meeting - which will now be held on Wednesday 4th February at The Plough, Leigh - 7.30pm start.

Valentine's Day Discos: look out for our disco letter on ParentMail today and return your application as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Hamper Baskets: if you were one of the lucky hamper winners at our Christmas Fair, we remind you to please return the empty basket to the Brockham site office.

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

Reminders / Dates

Always remember to check the updated Diary Dates on the following page

(Note: dates in italics have been added or changed this week)

Snow & Bad Weather Policy: you will be in receipt of a copy of the school's policy, sent via ParentMail last Friday. **We take this opportunity to reiterate that to be able to receive the school's ParentMail emergency text messages parents must have registered a mobile number to their personal ParentMail account themselves.** Providing your mobile number as a contact for your child's data in school does not result in receipt of ParentMail text messages. Please take the time over the coming weekend to access and update your account as necessary (*using the email address and password used to set up the registration - please note these are case sensitive*).

ParentMail Issues: further to the above, a recent ParentMail system check highlighted that some parents have not registered their child/created an account at all; or, in a few cases, have not verified this account's details. It may be that you have been receiving some of the ParentMail emails sent, due to a transfer of data at the start of this academic year, but please be aware that without your child's registration these email communications cannot be guaranteed. Over the coming weeks we will be identifying and contacting parents who are found not have a ParentMail account, but meanwhile if you know this applies to you, or just suspect it might, please see a member of the admin team. Where appropriate, we will issue a revised ParentMail Registration Code, for you to be able to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

Named Uniform: another reminder that all school uniform must be named, ideally with a label sewn into the garment, but with a permanent marker pen at the least (regularly refreshed after washing) please. Following a recent P.E. lesson, almost 50% of a reception class were found to have at least one item of unnamed uniform/P.E. kit! This can be the cause of unnecessary anxiety for a child....and does cause considerable extra work for teaching staff. We ask for your prompt attention in this matter please.

Tubs4Tablets: if you have any Flora/Stork tokens for their Tubs4Tablets collection, please remember to bring them into school. The scheme finishes on 30th January, so if we could have your tokens as soon after as possible, that would be great. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

A.J. Ewing

Finally

Have a lovely weekend



Spring Term 2015

Friday Jan 30 th	5MS Assembly
Friday Feb 6 th	3M Assembly
Friday Feb 6 th	MUFTI for British Heart Foundation (wear something RED)
Friday Feb 6 th	Yr3/4 Key Steps Gym competition 9.30 - 12
Tuesday 10 th February	Safer Internet Day
Friday Feb 13 th	4HW Assembly
Friday Feb 13 th	Valentine's Disco: KS1 3.15 - 4pm / Years 3&4 4.15 - 5pm / Years 4&5 5.15 - 6pm
Monday Feb 23 rd	Swimming starts
Friday Feb 27 th	4MS Assembly
Thursday March 5 th	KS1 Bedtime Story 6pm to 7pm at all three sites
w/c Monday 2 nd March	Book Week
Friday March 6 th	3MB Assembly
Friday March 6 th	End of Book Week - dressing up as book character
Friday March 13 th	5S Assembly
Week of March 16 th	Last week of NDPS clubs
Friday March 20 th	6J Assembly
Friday March 20 th	FONDS Quiz Night 7.30pm
Tuesday March 24 th	Parent Consultations (pupils present) Brockham: 5 - 7.30pm Leigh and Betchworth: 3.30 - 6pm
Thurs March 26 th	Parent Consultations (pupils present) Brockham: 3.30 - 6pm Leigh and Betchworth: 5 - 7.30pm
Tuesday March 24 th	Gold Star Assembly - Betchworth 9.15am - by invitation
Thursday March 26 th	Gold Star Assembly - Leigh 9.15am - by invitation
Friday March 27 th	Gold Star Assembly - Brockham 9.15am - by invitation
Friday 27 th March	Last Day of Term - early finish: 1pm Infants 1.15pm Juniors

Term and Holiday Dates 2014/2015

....are available on the school website www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk
and on the Surrey County Council website www.surreycc.gov.uk

INSET DAYS: 1st) 02/09/2014 2nd) 03/09/2014 3rd) 05/01/2015 4th) 20/07/2015 5th) 21/07/2015

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