



Be the best you can be, every day.

# Newsletter

Respect, Compassion, Responsibility, Courage

Term: Summer 2026

Issue No: 16

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> June

## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

This is obviously the first newsletter since Maypole - and wasn't it a glorious afternoon? I am sure you agree the children were magnificent - thank you to everyone who helped making it such a successful afternoon. This last term of the year rapidly flies by and there is still much to squeeze in! Following their rather soggy trip to Chessington World of Adventures on Tuesday (a trip fully funded through their fundraising from the School Stationery Shop) Year 6 are preparing for their residential to Bowles in Tunbridge Wells on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June. Following this, they will have the opportunity to visit their new Secondary Schools, on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July. We will therefore, take this opportunity for the children who will be remaining at North Downs to spend the day in their new classrooms with their teachers for September 2026.

These visits will also take place on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July** when we ask that children are dropped off at their new site/classrooms to spend the day with classmates and staff in readiness for the new school year. We will be offering information evenings for the parents of those children who are changing sites on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June. In readiness,

## School Year 2026/27

Year Group	Class/Site	Teacher(s)
Reception	Owls - Betchworth	Ms Morgan
	Robins - Brockham	Mrs Cobbold
Year 1	Puffins - Leigh	Mr Crosbie
	Penguins - Brockham	Mrs Tolan and Mrs Ottaway
Year 2	Woodpeckers - Leigh	Miss Westwood
	Kingfishers - Brockham	Ms Gahan
Year 3	Flamingos	Miss Chinery
	Toucans	Miss Tennent
Year 4	Parrots	Miss Whitcher
	Macaws	Mrs Chase
Year 5	Skylarks	Mrs Boyer
	Nightingales	Ms Mumford
Year 6	Kestrels	Mrs Goodwin
	Eagles	Mr Smith

You will notice some changes to the list of staff above. Both Mrs Tolan and Mrs Ottaway are returning to Year 1 (at the Brockham site) - Mrs Ottaway will be in class two days per week, so will continue to run her forest school sessions and nurture groups on the other days. We also welcome a new member of staff to the North Downs team - Ms Julia Mumford. Ms Mumford is joining us from Burstow Primary School, which coincidentally, is another school within the Everychild Partnership Trust. She will be working alongside Mrs Boyer in Year 5. We very much look forward to welcoming her to North Downs.

These changes have come about due to the departure of two of our long standing and very much valued members of the North Downs family. Mr Evenden is retiring after thirty nine years in education. I first had the pleasure of working with Martin at our previous school back in 2002, so it will be very strange not to see him 'at the end of the corridor'. We will very much miss his kindness and gentle humour. Mrs Tubb has also decided to move on to new adventures - we will also miss her hugely and greatly appreciate all the work she has undertaken at North Downs as class teacher and Assistant Head. Her 'Future Fridays' legacy will continue but we will miss her contributions and impact - We wish them both all the very best as they embark on their respective new journeys.

Finally, Mrs Stowell has decided to hang up her running shoes and retire. I don't need to try to find the words to say how much she will be missed at North Downs - you will all be feeling the same I am sure...our trophy cabinet has never been so full! I know the children will miss her expertise, coaching and encouragement...thank you for all the opportunities you have given the children. Good luck Mrs Stowell ☺

## Meet the Teacher Sessions

YEAR	CLASS	VENUE
Year 4	Parrots	Macaws Classroom
	Macaws	
Year 5	Skylarks	Skylarks Classroom
	Nightingales	
Year 1	Puffins	Puffins Classroom
	Penguins	Penguins Classroom
Year 6	Eagles	Eagles Classroom
	Kestrels	
Year 3	Toucans	Flamingos Classroom
	Flamingos	
Year 2	Kingfishers	Kingfishers Classroom
	Woodpeckers	Woodpeckers Classroom

As in previous, we are holding our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions on the same day as 'move up day', after school on 1<sup>st</sup> July instead.

These will take place in one of the year group classrooms. We appreciate that some of you may have multiple meetings to attend, so each meeting will be run twice - once at 3.30 and then again at 4.15pm.

## Diary Dates

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Morning - Yrs 3 - 6  
 Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June - Sports Morning - Yrs R - 2  
 Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Year 6 residential trip to Bowles  
 Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July - 'Move Up' Day  
 Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July - Year 3 Camp Night  
 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July - End of Year Reports sent home  
 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> - Year 6 performances of 'Alice in Wonderland'  
*(more info to follow)*  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July - Year 6 Leavers Disco  
 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly  
 Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July - Break up for summer holidays

## 2026/27

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September - INSET Day  
 Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September - Children return to school  
 Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October - Children break up for half term (a two week half term this year)  
 Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Children return to school  
 Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December - Children break up for Christmas  
 Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January - INSET Day  
 Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Children return to school  
 Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Break up for half term  
 Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February - Children return to school  
 Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Children break up for Easter  
 Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April - Children return to school  
 Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Children break up for half term  
 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June - Children return to school  
 Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - Children break up for the summer  
 Monday 26<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July - all INSET Days

## Sports Morning Next Week

Sports Days are scheduled to take place next week at the Brockham site. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Sports Day will take place on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June - starting 9.15am and finishing at approximately 11.30am.**

Year R, 1 and 2 Sports Day will take place on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June starting at 9.15 and finishing at approximately 11.15am.** All Year R, 1 and 2 children should be dropped off at the Brockham site in the morning for registration and will remain there all day. We warmly welcome parents /carers to come and join us to cheer on and support the children.

The format will be as last year with all children beginning by taking part in their classes in a circuit of activities. Parents will be able to spectate and follow their children around the activities. This will be followed by track events where children will sit in their classes in the school's area and parents will be able to spectate from the parents' area - **PLEASE remain in the spectator areas and do not join the children under the gazebos where the pupils' area is located.**

All children should arrive at school on the day in their PE kit with a coloured t-shirt of their designated house (apart from Owls and Robins), trainers, purple shorts, hats, sun cream already applied and with named water bottles. Children will remain in their PE kit all day so there is no need to bring in school uniform. The house team colours are: Hever - **YELLOW**, Arundel - **GREEN**, Windsor - **RED**, Bodiam - **BLUE**. If you are unsure which house your child is in, please ask their teacher.

**We do not have permission for all children to have their photographs taken whilst in school. For this reason, PLEASE only take photographs of your own child.**

If we need to reschedule due to the weather, we will let you know as soon as possible.

## Jigsaw - Changing Me

This term, we are teaching the final PSHE JIGSAW topic called 'Changing Me'. It covers age-appropriate teaching on puberty and sex education. Please read the knowledge organisers for each year group, which outline the key vocabulary relevant to each year group and give you the opportunity to discuss at home.

There are specific lessons taught in Y5 - Y6 which you have the right to withdraw your child from. These are highlighted in red below. Have a chat with your teacher if you would like to see any teaching materials beforehand.

Y5 lesson 4, conception

Y6 lesson 3 conception and birth

### Puberty and Human Reproduction in Jigsaw 3 - 11

Reception	Growing Up	How we have changed since we were babies
Year 1	My changing body	Understanding that growing and changing is natural and happens to everybody at different rates.
	Boys' and girls' bodies	Appreciating the parts of the bodies that make us different and using the correct names for them.
Year 2	The changing me	Where I am on the journey from young to old, and what changes I can be proud of?
	Boys and girls	Differences between boys and girls - how do we feel about them? Which parts of me are private?
Year 3	Outside body changes	How our bodies need to change so they can make babies when we grow up - outside changes and how we feel about them.
	Inside body changes	How our bodies need to change so they can make babies when we grow up - inside changes and how we feel about them.
	Personal hygiene	How our bodies change at puberty and keeping clean and healthy.
Year 4	Puberty and menstruation	How a girl's body changes so that she can have a baby when she's an adult - including menstruation.
	Emotions during puberty	Coping strategies to deal with physical and emotional changes during puberty
Year 5	Puberty for girls	Physical changes and feels about them - importance of looking after yourself (animations used - the Female Reproductive System)
	Puberty for boys	Developing understanding of changes for both sexes - reassurance and exploring feelings (animations used - the Male Reproductive System)
	Conception <b>Human Reproduction</b>	<b>Understanding the place of sexual intercourse in a relationship and how it can lead to conception and the wonder of a new life (animations used - the Female and Male Reproductive Systems)</b>
Year 6	Puberty	Consolidating understanding of physical and emotional during puberty.
	Babies Conception to birth <b>Human Reproduction</b>	<b>How a baby develops from conception, pregnancy stages to birth and how it is born. Reflect on how personal feelings regarding development and birth of a baby.</b>

If you have any feedback or would like to discuss further, please email Mrs Boyer, our PSHE Lead, via: [PSHE@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:PSHE@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk)

## Update from Mrs Stowell

### Dorking Schools Girls Cricket Tournament

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May our Year 5 and 6 girls Cricket Team took part in the Dorking Schools Cricket Tournament at Newdigate Cricket Club. They bowled, fielded and batted really well to win five of their six games and finish joint first on points with St Johns and St Martins. The final placings were awarded on runs scored and we came 2<sup>nd</sup> with St Johns overall winners. Well done to all the girls for our best ever performance in cricket!



### Tennis Coaching for Years 1, 2 and 3

Children in Years 1, 2 and 3 recently enjoyed fun tennis taster sessions with the coaching team from Reigate Tennis Academy. The children learnt and improved their skills through expert coaching and demonstrations. They were inspired to continue to practise at break and lunch times. Thank you to all the coaches!

Each child has received a special invitation leaflet entitling them to a **free** half-day holiday tennis camp at Reigate LTC on Manor Road in Reigate. Sessions are designed for all abilities and are a great way for children to stay active, build confidence and enjoy tennis in a fun and welcoming environment.

*Wishing you an  
enjoyable and relaxing weekend.*