



Be the best you can be, every day.

# Newsletter

Respect, Compassion, Responsibility, Courage

Term: Summer 2026

Issue No: 17

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> June

## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Well, the weather was in our favour again this week with another round of very successful Sports Mornings. A huge thank you to Mrs Stowell and the staff for organising such super events, and to our Year 6 pupils for helping with the Infant Sports yesterday morning.

A reminder that it's move up day on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Thank you to those parents who joined Mrs Deeks or me for the first round of parent information evenings for our current Betchworth children and those joining Year 3 at Brockham. Next week we have the meeting for our new Reception parents before 'Move Up Day' on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Not only do the children have the opportunity to meet their new classes and teachers, but you do too! Meet the Teachers sessions take place after school on Wednesday, as below. Each meeting will be run twice - once at 3.30 and then again at 4.15pm.

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

In addition to sharing curriculum and year group information, teachers will also remind you of our 'Handshake' and Behaviour Blueprint. As mentioned in previous Newsletters, these support a **relational** and **restorative** approach to managing behaviour. Our Behaviour Blueprint summarises the expectations and strategies, which are used across the school and can be found on our school website.

<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Relational+and+Restorative+Practice&pid=167>

If you would like a copy please do let us know.

Alongside this, we have our 'Handshake' - a Home School Agreement type document illustrating what you as parents should expect from school, and what we ask of you. The statements on the Handshake include a reminder that 'we want to help, and are here to listen' but that all members of the school community should be treated with compassion and respect. Next week we will share this information with new parents, whose children are joining North Downs in September, along with a request regarding the use of WhatsApp groups:

## We ask all parents to uphold the following points about the use of WhatsApp groups.

In line with our school 'Values and Handshake', we believe the WhatsApp groups help us to:

- Work in partnership with parents to support their child's learning
- Create a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for pupils, staff and parents
- Model appropriate behaviour for our pupils at all times
- The group should never be used as a platform to air views/grievances regarding a teacher, child or parent in the class or school
- Approach the right member of school staff to help resolve any issues of concern Please remember that we are all here because we want the very best for our families and young people.

We are incredibly blessed at North Downs, to have the hardest working and dedicated staff, along with a wonderfully supportive parent group. I hope that we can all continue to work together respectfully and compassionately as we come to the end of one school year and move on to the next. Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

## Diary Dates

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

## Year 6 Business Enterprise

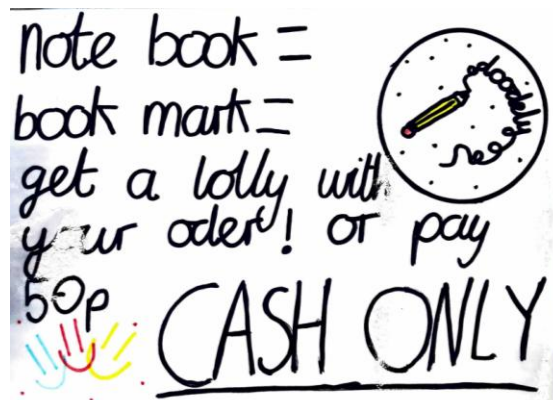
Through June and July, our Year 6 pupils are taking part in an exciting *Business Enterprise* project. During this time, they have been exploring financial literacy, the world of work, marketing and advertising, and how money is used in real-life contexts.

Working in teams, they have designed and created products, which they will be selling at school, in the playground, on:

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June & Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 3.15 at our Brockham site.**

The project culminates in a "Dragon's Den"-style presentation, where each team presents the results of their teamwork to "Dragons" (Mrs Douglass & Mark Rivers, our Trust Director of Education)!



We would be very grateful if you could spare some time (and perhaps a little money) to support their sales on 30<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> July



**Polite Reminder...** We have been rather disappointed to see an increasing number of parents/carers pulling up along the pavement to 'drop off' their children along Wheelers Lane. School staff are out at the beginning and end of each school day to help the children cross the roads safely. This is made incredibly challenging when parents pull up, or park close to, the school entrances and exits. PLEASE be mindful of the safety of everyone - especially our pupils. In addition, we have had some very close near misses, when parents have been pulling into or out of the Old Forge on Wheelers Lane. Please be vigilant and avoid reversing back out onto Wheelers Lane. Thank you for your support.


Dorking Museum presents at Dorking Library

## Dorking's Historic Street Football Game



Dorking Library Saturday 20th June.  
11.30am - 2pm

GO ALL IN.



### Well Done Ben!

On Saturday 13th June, Ben in Year 6, together with members of his Scout group, completed an impressive 43 mile cycle ride from Redhill to Brighton. The journey took around 9 hours, including 5½ hours of cycling and several well-earned refreshment stops along the way. It is a fantastic achievement, and Ben thoroughly enjoyed every minute of the challenge.



### Summer Forest Camp

Bookings are now open for the Re-Betchworth Summer Forest Camp on Wednesday 29th July and Wednesday 12th August.

Forest Camp offers a wonderful opportunity to explore and play while learning about the natural world in our magical, private woodland - running through the wild meadows, organised and free-range activities including bushcraft, stream-dipping, camp-fire cooking, den-building clay-modelling, whittling and much, much more.

There are three sessions across each day, Spaces are strictly limited, book early to avoid disappointment:

- **All-day Junior Rangers camp**  
09:30 to 16:30: for unaccompanied 5-10 year olds - (bring a packed lunch)
- **Morning Pre-schooler camp**  
10:00 to 12:00: for pre-schoolers, accompanied by a parent
- **Junior Rangers Afternoon-only camp**  
14:00 to 16:30: for unaccompanied 5-10 year olds

Rain or shine, a full day of fun activities planned. Go to [www.re-betchworth.org](http://www.re-betchworth.org) for full details and booking form.