



Newsletter

Term: Spring 2021

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Be the best you can be, every day

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

I am sure the announcement from the Prime Minister yesterday, regarding the earliest possible date for a return to school, has left many of you feeling disappointed. I know we all long for a return to those wonderful days of 'normality'...and it will come. We just have to remind ourselves that at present, the priority is to keep everyone safe and that is what we must do.

Yesterday also brought an unexpected drama to the Brockham site when the school network went down. There was a distinct panic when staff became aware of the situation. However, a feeling of calm quickly descended amongst us all when we received the message 'Mr Cross is in the building'. As you know Mr Cross is part of our IT Team and thankfully he and Mrs Knapp worked their magic to restore the system for today. It has been necessary to disconnect the Wi-Fi unfortunately, but this has allowed the network to return to normal....needless to say our Wi-Fi replacement begins next week. Speaking with parents this morning on the gate, many opted for a day away from the screens and all reported how much they had enjoyed it...it is very important to take some time away from it all.

We appreciate how hard children and parents are working right now but, as we have said before, you can only do what you can do. Please do try not to put yourselves under too much pressure. If I could give 'Mrs Douglass says WELL DONE' stickers to you all I would!



Rapid Testing for Staff

I am sure you are aware that on 15th December, the Secretary of State for Education announced plans to introduce asymptomatic testing in schools and colleges, starting with secondary and further education colleges and rolling-out to primary schools in January.

It was further announced on 13th January that the next stage in the Government programme, to roll this out to staff in primary schools, was going to begin. This means that as of today staff will be undertaking home COVID testing themselves twice a week. Should any staff show a positive test result this would obviously impact on a key worker bubble in school. It could also result in some potential disruption to remote learning, should the member of staff become ill. We will obviously inform parents immediately should we be faced with either of these scenarios and we thank you in advance for your support and understanding with this.

FONDS Fundraising Event

FONDS are running a fundraising event in line with "Children's Mental Health" week (1st-8th February) to raise money to fund PSHE books to accompany the new Jigsaw programme.

Our "THIS IS ME" posters will be personalised in either **PINK** or **BLUE** and emailed to you in PDF format.



A little gift for our amazing children to help them remember just how brilliant they are.

Your support with this cause would be hugely appreciated.

https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fonds/index.cfm?event=products#.YA_yXmT7SLs

Stay safe and well...

J. Douglass

Message from Mr Webber...

I hope you're well during these difficult circumstances.

With children missing out on vital PE and exercise at school I thought it would be useful to send out some weekly ideas for your children to engage in. Below are a variety of activities suitable for all ages. The more exercise our children do the more benefits it will have on their health and mental wellbeing during these challenging circumstances.

Please try, where possible, to encourage your child to participate in any exercise and share anything that they complete. You can contact me with any new PE ideas your child has that they may wish to share with their peers during lockdown.

Also, if you wish to email me directly with any questions or to discuss ways in which to keep your child/children active please do not hesitate to do so at richard.webber@northdowns@surrey.sch.uk

Physi-fun activities suitable for KS1 children

These activities are suitable for KS1 children with a fun element added into them. Ideal for start of the Home-learning day or in-between learning as brain breaks.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHNgNkrvuoxQWHYiF7DZeTxur_EQ-TkTA

KS1/2 Variety of Fun and challenging activities

This is ideal for all ages with a variety of different skill, creative and fitness games, including fundamental and tactical ideas for those wishing to be more challenged.

<https://www.getset4pe.co.uk/ResourceBank/ResourceCategory/1002>

KS2 Energy busters

Ideal for those in KS2 needing to release energy during the day to enhance focus during lessons. You can also tune into PE with Joe Wicks every morning by following his YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/results?sp=mAEB&search_query=5+Minute+Move

Family Fun exercise activities

This is a great idea to include all family members and encourage everyone to be active.

<https://www.sports-active.co.uk/physical-activity-at-home/challenge-cards/active-monopoly/>

Many thanks

Mr R Webber