



Newsletter

Term: Spring 2021

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Be the best you can be, every day

Dear Parents and Carers

Over the past couple of weeks we seem to have been teased with a few glimmers of spring like weather and have therefore wasted no time in undertaking as much learning outside the classroom as possible. As you may be aware, North Downs has previously been awarded the Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) Bronze Award...and now we turn our sights to applying for Silver status. To that end Mrs Ottaway is currently working with Mrs Blumire to develop the LOtC area on the school website. We will be adding photos and additional curriculum information as we go along but please do take the time to look. LOtC very much underpins our whole curriculum and we are blessed to have such wonderful grounds and resources at each site in order to undertake this. We have developed an outdoor activity passport which will be issued to every child and is linked to the topics and themes covered in each year group. It will list all of the outdoor learning experiences the children will have the opportunity to undertake each year as they move up through the school. Mrs Ottaway will be leading an assembly next term to launch it with the children...more information to follow! In the meantime here are a few of our LOtC photos from Year 5.



LOtC Mark (Bronze)



News from FONDS...

FONDS UNIFORM EXCHANGE

Our new facebook page is up and running with lots of uniform already being exchanged between parents/carers. If you have any uniform you are looking to donate or are in need of something new - check out <https://www.facebook.com/groups/747171216162966>

All donations can be made via Scopay. Thanks so much as always for your support. **Team FONDS**

Primary School Travel Survey

Surrey County Council are undertaking a Primary School Travel Survey. As part of the Travel Demand Management research this will help build a fuller picture of travel patterns across the county and show the County Council where they can help schools encourage active and sustainable travel to school. The launch date for the survey was Monday 15th March on 'Surrey Says'. The closing date for the survey is 11.59pm on Friday 16th April.

Please do take part in the survey by following the link. <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/iai/41377978>

PSHE Update from Mrs Boyer

Following on from our communications with you all last school year, here is a brief overview of progress made in light of the government statutory changes to Relationships Health Sex Education implemented by Summer 21. Please refer to the updated policy on our website.

History

With FONDS generous investment, we have taught Personal Social Health Education (PSHE)/Relationships Health Sex Education (RHSE) using JIGSAW since January 2020. After a period of consultation with parents, staff and governors, the overwhelming feedback was to embrace JIGSAW and teach sex education as part of PSHE.

What is JIGSAW?

JIGSAW is a spiral, comprehensive programme building on children's emotional literacy, self-esteem and knowledge of who they are and how they relate to each other and the world in a positive, healthy way. There are 6 topics to JIGSAW (outlined below) which change every half term. Each lesson consists of different elements such as mindfulness, games, group work and discussion.

- Being Me in My World
- Celebrating Difference
- Dreams and Goals
- Healthy Me
- Relationships
- Changing Me

JIGSAW amply covers the statutory parts of RHSE such as puberty and relationships taught in the summer term. There are a couple of lessons on sex education in the summer term affecting Y4, 5 and 6 within the 'Changing Me' unit. We will let you know in advance when these lessons take place and if you think you may not want your child to participate in these lessons, please contact your class teacher.

RSHE Meeting

If you would be interested in attending a TEAMS meeting after school to find out more about the JIGSAW programme, I have organised a meeting on TEAMS for Monday 29th March at 3.45pm. If you would like to attend please email me at PSHE@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk confirming your attendance and I can send you an invitation.

The link below will take you to the RSHE Guide for Parents and Carers which is on our school website.
<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=6184&type=pdf>

Mrs Boyer (PSHE Lead)

Easter Holiday Opportunities

This year, Mole Valley District Council put together a range of fun virtual activities including dance, yoga and bodyweight training as well as putting together fun activities families can do outdoors such as walking trails, sports activities and general fun things to do outdoors like our park bingo. For more information on these activities, you should visit - <https://molevalley.gov.uk/holidayactivities>.

