



Newsletter

Term: Autumn 2021

Issue No: 2

Date: 17th September

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

It's been lovely to see the return of some sunshine over the past two weeks so we have taken the opportunity to do as much learning and activity outside as possible. The children have settled in so well since the start of term, including our new Reception children who, after a couple of weeks of induction, begin full-time next week.

The Reception children will enter school through the main gates, with Years 1, 2 and 4 so I would just like to take this opportunity to say thank you to parents for continuing to 'drop and go' at the start of the day. However, may I also just remind parents that the pavements outside school at both the Leigh and Brockham sites are not wide and to try to avoid congestion whilst waiting for the children to enter school. The gates will not be opened until 8.35am at the earliest so we advise parents **not to arrive before this time**.

Despite the opportunity to reinstate systems which were in place pre COVID, we are mindful of the fact that we must continue to remain vigilant. I would like to remind you that:

- *Anyone with symptoms should get a PCR test as soon as possible and isolate. <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>. Please also inform the school office here at North Downs of any positive result.*
- *Under 18's and those that are fully vaccinated (2 weeks after second jab) no longer need to isolate as a close contact of a case but are strongly encouraged to have a PCR test.*

Kind and Generous Donation to the School

A massive thank you to Jade Reading and **Willmott Dixon Construction Limited** for their generous donation of 10 refurbished laptops and cases as a gift to the school. This will make a huge difference to the teachers and children in helping to provide access to online learning resources which have become so important for home-based learning.



Great North Run Success

Last weekend Mr Webber and his dad both completed the Great North Run in aid of 'Niamh Next Step', a charity very close to their hearts. Mr Webber took just 1 hour and 34 minutes to complete the race, with Mr Webber Snr close behind, taking just 2 hours and 2 minutes. If you would like to support Mr Webber in his fundraiser endeavours please see the link below. A huge well done to the Webbers!

<https://justgiving.com/fundraising/richard-webber2021>

Update from Mr Wade regarding our Anti-Bullying Policy

Our updated Anti-Bullying policy is now on the school website, where you will also find other policies including our updated Safeguarding and Child Protection and Online Safety Policies.

<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Policies&pid=279>

This Anti-Bullying Policy follows in the wake of our Behaviour Policy that was updated last academic year. A big thank you to the teachers and pupils who contributed to its development as well as members of the parent focus group who came into school to give some useful feedback. The policy is also in line with Surrey's guidelines and was introduced to the children as part of 'Courtesy Week' this week.

Message from FONDS

We hope everyone had a lovely summer break.

Firstly, welcome to all our new Reception children and their families - we look forward to meeting you all! Due to the ongoing restrictions, sadly we are not able to run many of our physical events this term. HOWEVER do not worry...we are busy planning some great new events and will also be bringing back some old favourites. Keep an eye out for some exciting event announcements over the coming weeks!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Our **FONDS AGM** will be on **Thursday 14th October at 8pm** in the Brockham School Hall. It would be great to see as many of you as possible as we are keen to add to our FONDS team and always welcome new faces and ideas.
- **BAGS 2 SCHOOL** - collection date is Thursday 4th November. Bags will be coming home before half term.
- **THANK YOU** - We are pleased to share with you that thanks to your contributions to all of our fundraising efforts we have been able to recently purchase new rainbow benches for the reception classes at Brockham and Betchworth sites. We also bought the bell tents last term for all sites to enrich the children's outdoor learning.



We look forward to lots more successful fundraising this term! **TEAM FONDS**

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 7th & Friday 8th October - Individual Photos
Wednesday 20th October - Year 5 to High Ashurst
Thursday 21st October - Break up for Half Term
Monday 1st November - INSET Day
Friday 17th December - Break up for Christmas
Tuesday 4th January - Children return to school
Friday 11th February - Break up for Half Term
Monday 21st February - INSET Day
Tuesday 22nd February - Children return to school
Friday 1st April - Children break up for Easter
Tuesday 19th April - Children return to school
Thursday 26th May - Children break up for Half Term
Friday 27th May - INSET Day
Monday 6th June - Children return to school
Thursday 21st July - Children break up for the summer
Friday 22nd July - INSET Day

Updated information: Pierced Ears and PE

Please be aware that the latest information regarding PE lessons and jewellery, is that earrings cannot be worn during PE or swimming, nor can they be taped over. Please ensure your child's earrings are removed before coming into school on PE days. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

JWongliss