

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

It's a bumper edition for this week's Newsletter which reflects the level of activity both in and out of school over the last two weeks. This has included World Book Day, various sporting events, the Year 6 Junior Citizen activities, parent teacher consultations, village walks for Year 1 and our Year 4 residential trip to High Ashurst. We still have many more events to come before the end of term, including our Comic Relief Superhero Day next Friday 18th March. Children are invited to dress up for a suggested donation of £1 or more via our online payment system. Maybe their superhero is Batman or Spiderman, or maybe someone closer to home such as an NHS hero or maybe even an author or sports person.



World Book Day

Thank you so much to all the wonderful children and staff who helped make World Book Day so joyful. Thank you also to Mrs Cummins for coordinating the day for us.

Can you guess who everyone was dressed up as?

During next term, we will be holding a whole school Science Week...look out for more information from Ms Marshall-Bailey about this after Easter!



Music News from Mrs Mitchell

CHOIR

Our school choir, comprising children from Years 4-6 is now back in action and meeting every week in preparation for the Dorking Halls Music Festival which takes place at the Halls on Wednesday 15th June 2022 at 7pm. This will be a ticketed event for parents/supporters to attend, as we will be joining several other schools to create a massed choir on the main stage. Our main work will be a musical revue called "My Planet, Your Planet" which raises questions about science, natural history, and the environmental challenges facing us all. More information will be sent to participants in due course but do please make a note of the date if your child is attending choir.

INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

We are currently offering instrumental lessons in piano/keyboard, guitar, brass and flute with some great success stories. Joe (Eagles) & Sammy (Parrots) are both working towards Grade 1 playing French Horn/Trombone whilst Lucian (Nightingales) is now at an incredible Grade 5 standard given that he only started playing in Year 3. Ian Stott, our brass teacher, is extremely keen to take on new pupils. The successes continue as Mary Thorneloe (piano/flute teacher) reports that the following children are preparing for Piano Grades: Alex (Kestrels) - prep test; Owen (Eagles), Lawrence (Parrots), Jack (Macaws) - Grade 1; Heidi (Kestrels) - Grade 2. To keep it in the family, Poppy (Flamingos) is preparing for Grade 1 Flute.

Guitar continues to be a popular choice but, again, our teachers are always looking out for new pupils. For further information about any instrumental tuition please visit the Surrey Arts website:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/culture-and-leisure/arts/music/lessons-for-children>

Or do contact Mrs Mitchell via the school office.

Easter Colouring Competition with Prizes at the Betchworth Village Shop & Café!

If you're looking for somewhere local to catch up with other school parents and friends, we have a fantastic café in the Betchworth Post Office. The cafe is well known for its amazing coffee, which is roasted right here in Betchworth. We also serve a full range of hot drinks, sandwiches, hot snacks and of course cake!

For parents with children at the Betchworth site, we are just a 300m walk along the footpath, just turn right out of the gate. For parents at Leigh and Brockham, we are on the Old Reigate Road, near the corner of Station Road. We are open Mon-Sat, 9am-3pm.

From Monday until Easter we will be running a children's Easter colouring competition with prizes at the Café, with the winners announced on Tuesday 19th April. The colouring sheets can be collected in the shop or café, from Monday 14th March and either taken home or completed in the café.

We hope to see you soon!

From the Team at Betchworth Village Shop & Cafe, Old Reigate Road, Betchworth, RH3 7D

Dorking Lawn Tennis & Squash Club (Roman Road)

Easter Tennis Camps 2022

MONDAY 4TH - THURSDAY 14TH APRIL
CHOOSE ANY DAYS

KIDS 4-11 Yrs Old

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS
9:30 - 12PM

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS
11-1:30PM

COST: MEMBERS £15 / NON MEMBERS £20

TEENAGERS 12-16 Yrs Old

WEDNESDAYS
2 - 4:30PM

COST: MEMBERS £15 / NON MEMBERS £20

Pay By BACS Account: Brian Love 74084211 Sort 09-01-28



TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT TRACEY:

DORKINGTENNIS@GMAIL.COM

**QUOTE: NAME, AGE, CONTACT NUMBER, MEDICAL INFO
OR CALL HEAD COACH BRIAN 07712 557076**



Thank You!

A huge thank you to Milners Carpets in Ashted for donating our set of fabulous carpet tiles - perfect for outdoor learning. Mrs Ottaway is thrilled!



Sporting Update from Mrs Stowell

The winter sports season is coming to a climax with a number of tournaments and competitions and our teams are doing extremely well!

Year 3/4/5/6 Dorking Schools Cross Country League

44 children from our Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in the 3rd Dorking League Cross Country race on Monday 28th February at The Big Field, Brockham (Dorking Rugby Club).

With over 240 competitors, our teams ran extremely well. The Year 3 & 4 girls finished 4th, the Year 3 & 4 boys 1st, the Year 5 & 6 girls 2nd and the Year 5 & 6 boys 1st.

In the individual event, Ollie came 1st in the Year 3 & 4 boys event and Joe came 1st in the Year 5 & 6 boys race. Congratulations to all our team members.

At present we are in 4th place in the Year 3 & 4 team competition, 1st place in the Year 5 & 6 and overall team competitions...BUT there is one race left! The last race takes place on 21st March at the Weald school. It would be lovely to have as many children as possible participating in this event. We are particularly short of year 3 & 4 girls so please encourage your children to run!

Year 5/6 Dorking Hockey Tournament

Our Year 5 and 6 girls and boys hockey teams have been training hard at hockey club to prepare for the Dorking Quicksticks Tournament held at St Johns school Dorking on Wednesday 2nd March. North Downs entered 2 teams in the events. Both teams played really well and their sportsmanship and behaviour was outstanding. The B Team finished in 6th position and the A Team finished 2nd winning all but one of their games 2-0, 4-0, 3-2, 2-0, 4-0 and losing 2-1 to the winners St Pauls with a goal in the last minute. Congratulations to all the children for their excellent performance and great hockey skills!

Year 6 Dorking Netball Tournament

On Monday the 7th March the Year 6 Girls took part in the Dorking Schools Netball Tournament held at the Priory School. Despite the very cold weather the standard of netball was high and the games very closely competed. Our North Downs team won 4 games and drew 2 finishing in fantastic 1st place and winners of the Dorking Schools Year 6 netball trophy. Congratulations to all the team and thank you to Kerri for her excellent coaching!



Polite reminder re. Parking

We do realise that parking outside or near any school is always a challenge and we seem to have had the added issue of roadworks, near the Brockham site in particular, for what feels like such a long time. However, could I please ask that parents refrain, if possible, from parking on The Smithers. This is partly in consideration to the residents who live there. It is also such a small area and cars are often forced to turn around in tight spaces, and as pedestrians also use it as a cut through, it is becoming increasingly more dangerous.

In addition, we ask that you be mindful not to park too close to the entrance to the Brockham staff car park - we have had a couple of near misses recently with little people on bikes or scooters who have been forced out into the road to avoid the parked vehicles there. Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. ☺

Wishing you all
an enjoyable
and relaxing
weekend.

JL Douglas