



Newsletter

Term: Summer 2022

Issue No: 14

Date: 22nd April

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

A warm welcome back to the start of the summer term - one which is usually incredibly busy but extremely good fun too.

This half term brings SATs for Years 2 and 6, our whole school Science Week, ending with Maypole Dancing on The Green. We are also reintroducing day trips and educational visits to the school calendar too, with Year 1 teachers currently planning a trip for Puffins and Penguins to the Hannah Perschar Sculpture Park in Okley. Year 6 have a day out at Chessington to look forward to - this trip has been funded with profits from the Stationery Shop which they have been running since September and links in with our Science week. As the trip takes place on the first day of our Science Week, the Year 6 children will have the opportunity to join a Science Workshop at Chessington based on 'Forces'. All we need to do now is hope that the sun shines for us on Thursday 26th May when the children from the Betchworth and Leigh sites join the Brockham based children for dancing on the village green. With all of the children and staff together on this day - we will have the perfect opportunity to hold our Jubilee celebrations too - as I have already said...incredibly busy but such good fun as well!

North Downs Primary School Glitter Ball Competition

During last term, Mrs Stowell organised a North Downs Primary School Glitter Ball Competition. As part of their indoor PE lessons classes chose a dance to learn.

The series of lessons included the children choreographing their own dances which were recorded and then voted on by the whole school - each pupil and adult having one vote each. The results for our first ever school **Strictly Glitter Ball Competition** were:

In 3rd Place are **OWLS** Samba with 44 votes, in 2nd place **KINGFISHERS** Samba with 46 votes and this year's Strictly winners were...

PARROTS Hip Hop with 79 votes!



Well done to everyone for some fantastic dances. The winning class was presented with a trophy which they will keep in their classroom until the next competition next year. If you would like to see the winning dance, please follow the link below.

Our videos are hosted by Microsoft Stream and are protected by an email address and a password.

To watch the video(s), please click the link below and use the email address and password to sign into Stream.

Video link: <https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/26c81d93-8349-4bef-abb1-3ed0f9eaa255>

Email Address: parents.stream@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Password: [Doh51964!](#)

Please do not forward this link, email address or password to anyone else. The school distributes this email with the video link, Stream email address and password accordingly to Data Protection and GDPR regulations along with school policies and procedures. Where a family has not received this email, please ask them to contact the school independently for our assistance.



Brockham Community Garden at North Downs School

As I am sure many of you will be aware, we have, for some time now, been looking at creating a Sensory Garden at our Brockham site. This plan has been to create this at in the gated grassed area at the front of the school, adjacent to the school hall and Wheelers Lane.

Mrs Ottaway, Ms Marshall-Bailey and our KUW Team have worked hard to bring this idea to fruition. Now we have been incredibly fortunate to have been offered the help and support of Sorbus Learning, which is a small not-for-profit community interest company based in Brockham that seeks to lead change for local communities by nurturing skills needed to create, restore, maintain and improve places for wildlife and people. They have been helping the Parish Council by sharing ideas about ecology, conservation and wildlife gardening.

As spring is bursting in our gardens and green spaces, we have exciting news to share. They have been awarded a grant by Surrey Downs Better Care Fund to help create a community garden for us. This is a year-long project to design, build and plant a garden that will provide social, educational, physical, mental and emotional well-being benefits for our community. The proposal is to create three gardens in one with a sensory garden for contemplation and quiet relaxation; an allotment garden for growing vegetables and herbs; and finally a natural garden that will provide a green place for wildlife.

Fundamental to the funding agreement with Surrey County Council is that as project leaders, they will work with sole traders, small businesses and volunteers from the local community. Sorbus have identified local contractors to lay the paving and other hard landscaping, as well as help to build innovative screens, fences, benches and other structures using reclaimed timber.

In addition, the team at Hope Nursery are going to help grow wildflowers for the garden, which will be vital for attracting a wide variety of wildlife and insects to the finished garden. **So how can you help?** We are looking for volunteers to get involved by collecting or growing flowering shrubs, herbs and perennial plants that they are willing to donate to the garden. For more information please follow the link on our school website.

<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Community+Garden&pid=662>

News from FONDS

Thank you so much for all of your wonderful book donations.

Don't forget our 'Books 4 Books' Sales at each of the school sites after school on Thursday 28th April.

All money raised will go towards new class readers



Mrs Bradby is very much looking forward to Saturday afternoon when she will be undertaking a volunteering role as an England Hockey "Hockey Maker". This will involve promoting the forthcoming International hockey matches which are taking place at Harlequins RFC's ground - The Stoop. During Saturday's match (Harlequins v Leicester Tigers) Mrs Bradby will be meeting and greeting supporters, promoting the June hockey fixtures. If you are there, look out for her, and let us know if you spot her!

Well done Jack!

Just before the Easter holidays, Jack completed a sponsored 'Keepy-uppy' Challenge to raise money for the Ukraine Crisis Appeal, completing 1000 accumulative 'keepy-uppies' over 20 days, raising just over £1000.

When Jack started he could do just 5 without dropping the ball, so that became the minimum amount that he had to complete to count towards the tally. By the end of the challenge he had achieved a personal best of 22 'keepy-uppies' in a row.

Even though he's completed the sponsored challenge, Jack is determined to keep going until he reaches the personal goal that he set himself; to achieve 30 'keepy-uppies' without dropping the ball; he's therefore still practicing on most days and hopes to raise more money for the appeal along the way.



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jackmay-mccallum>

A huge well done and thank you to everyone at school too. We collected £512.06 on our Mufti Day just before the Easter break.

Dates for the Diary

- Monday 2nd May - Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 10th May - Penguins trip to Hannah Perschar Sculpture Park
- Wednesday 11th May - Puffins trip to Hannah Perschar Sculpture Park
- Monday 16th May - Start of Whole School Science Week
- Monday 16th May - Year 6 trip to Chessington
- Thursday 26th May - Maypole on The Green
- Thursday 26th May - Children break up for half term
- Friday 27th May - INSET Day
- Monday 6th June - Children return to school
- Tuesday 14th June - Junior Sports Day
- Thursday 16th June - Infant Sports Day
- Monday 20th June - Year 6 trip to PGL

Wishing you all an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

J. Douglas

