



Be the best you can be, every day.

Newsletter

Respect, Compassion, Responsibility, Courage

Term: Summer 2026

Issue No: 19

Date: 17th July

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Welcome to the last Newsletter at the end of a very busy, and rather hot, few weeks at school. This week has brought much excitement with our Year 6 production of Alice, the Musical. This morning we embark upon our termly Gold Star Assemblies and, not forgetting, our Year 6 Leavers events. A huge well done to the children - all of the children involved had such a fabulous time and did themselves proud with many, many standout performances. An enormous thank you to Miss Tennent and her wonderful team who worked so hard rehearsing with the children bringing the production together.



This week we embarked upon our termly Gold Star Assemblies and our Year 6 Leavers events take place next week. It's always a particularly emotional time, as we will also be saying goodbye to some of our families, who have certainly been part of the North Downs community throughout my time here, at least. Please do keep in touch - we would love to hear all about the children's future successes.

As you know Mrs Tubb, Mrs Stowell and Mr Evenden are all leaving next week - we are also going to be bidding a sad farewell to Miss Coles, Teaching Assistant in Year 1, Mrs Baker, HLTA in Year 6 and Mrs Lambert in the Brockham office who is retiring next week after a working career at the school which began in 1990! Thank you Mrs Lambert and enjoy your very well earned retirement! We are going to miss them all immensely, wish them luck in their new adventures and thank them all for their contributions to our lovely school.

🍦 A huge THANK YOU for your support for the ice-cream sales this year! 🍦

A cool £4,400 raised! (just over 4400 ice creams!)

This money has not only paid for ALL the ice creams each week, it has funded the leavers' yearbooks, all the fun activities and surprises planned for the leavers' party on Tues 21st July. Despite working with rising costs and wishing to maintain the £1 selling price, we worked hard to ensure there was enough profit left after paying for all the above, to continue with the legacy gift back to the school on behalf of the children, which we are thrilled to say Mrs Douglass plans to put to good use.

For those who like to know - the top faves were toffee cones (792), strawberry cones (642) and Calippo (350). Not forgetting, of course, Oreos (when we could get them at a great price 😊 378).

We hope you enjoyed a Friday treat and knowing the Year 6 children will enjoy a great end of term, and their time, at North Downs as a result. None of this would be possible without the support of the school, parents, all the children who sold/bought ice-creams. A special mention to those who signed up to sell!

So a huge thanks to everyone who gave up their time, money and energy to make the sale such a positive success, and send the Year 6 children on to the next chapter of their journey.

Thank You from the Year 6 Leavers Committee 🍦❤

July Sports Report from Mrs Stowell

District Athletics

On Thursday 2nd July, our Year 5 and 6 athletics team took part in the Dorking District Athletics Competition at Pixham. North Downs were outstanding, delivering fantastic performances across both track and field events. They achieved a clean sweep, winning **every single category**:

- Girls' track
- Boys' track
- Jumping
- Throwing
- Relay
- **Overall winners' trophy**

Final Scores: 1st - North Downs: 216 points 2nd - St Martins: 193 points 3rd - St Paul's: 163 points

A huge well done to all our amazing athletes for such an exceptional achievement!



Year 5 and 6 Boys County Cricket Final



After winning the Year 5 and 6 Boys Cricket Tournament, the team travelled to Sunbury Cricket Club on Monday 7th July to compete against the top schools in the county. The team won one of our two group matches, progressing to the Plate Competition. There, we beat Reigate Priory 104-84 and narrowly lost to Ravenscote 82-74. Although we were level on points, we topped the group based on runs scored – a brilliant result for the team. To make the day even more exciting, Surrey County talent scouts were in attendance, and George B. was invited to county trials. A fantastic personal achievement and a proud moment for the whole school. Congratulations to the entire team for their hard work, determination, and impressive performances!

Year 4 Tri Golf

After three weeks of free coaching from the coach at Betchworth Golf Club – and a postponed festival – our two teams finally took part in the Tri Golf Festival on Monday 6th July. It was a fun and energetic morning, with the children rotating through eight activities where they had to putt and drive the ball to score points. Their enthusiasm, teamwork, and growing skills were a pleasure to watch.

Final Results: 1st - North Downs A: 905 points 2nd - St Martins: 865 points 3rd - St John's: 781 points 4th - St Paul's: 772 points 5th - North Downs B: 755 points 6th - Powell Corderoy: 744 points 7th - The Weald: 720 points. A huge well done to both North Downs teams for their brilliant effort and impressive performances. They represented the school superbly and should be very proud of their achievements.



Intra-House Competitions

North Downs House Swimming Gala

Key Stage 2 children took part in our Inter-House Swimming Gala this week. It was wonderful to see how confident and capable they were in the water, and how much they enjoyed taking part.

Final Results: 1st - Windsor: 239 points 2nd - Arundel: 211 points 3rd - Hever: 209 points 4th - Bodiam: 196 points. A fantastic effort from all swimmers.

Strictly Glitter Ball Competition

This week, children have been voting for their favourite class dance. Each class submitted a routine from their PE lessons into our Strictly Glitter Ball Competition. Children watched all the entries and voted for the dance they enjoyed the most. Votes will be counted on Friday, and trophies will be awarded on Monday to both the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 winners. Good luck to all the classes involved.

Surrey Cricket Coaching

We rounded off our sporting year with specialist coaching from Surrey Cricket. Every class from Year 1 to Year 6 enjoyed expert tuition, developing their skills and confidence in the sport.

Sports Awards

Year 6 Sports Awards will be presented on Tuesday at the Leavers' Service, recognising our outstanding sportspeople and the dedication of our Sports Crew.

Well done to all our children on another fantastic year of sport. What a brilliant way to finish the term – and a wonderful end to my teaching career.

Thank you to all the children for their amazing effort, enthusiasm, and joy for sport. Watching them grow in confidence, teamwork, and resilience has been one of the greatest privileges of my time at North Downs. This year 71% of the children in Years 3 - 6 have represented the school in various tournaments and competitions. I could not be prouder of all they have achieved. Keep believing in yourselves, keep trying new things, and keep enjoying every moment you spend being active and taking part in sport.

What a perfect way to finish!

Carolyn Stowell

PE Lead

Diary Dates

2026/27

Tuesday 1st September - INSET Day

Wednesday 2nd September - Children return to school

Friday 16th October - Children break up for half term (a two week half term this year)

Monday 2nd November - Children return to school

Friday 18th December - Children break up for Christmas

Monday 4th January - INSET Day

Tuesday 5th January - Children return to school

Friday 12th February - Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February - Children return to school

Thursday 25th March - Children break up for Easter

Monday 12th April - Children return to school

Friday 28th May - Children break up for half term

Monday 7th June - Children return to school

Friday 23rd July - Children break up for the summer

Monday 26th, Tuesday 27th & Wednesday 28th July - all INSET Days

Wishing you all a fabulous summer break - and we look forward to welcoming you back for the start of term on 2nd September 2026.