



Newsletter

Term: SUMMER 2015

Issue No: 30

Date: 15th May

Dear Parents, carers and Children

As you already know, this year's Maypole Dancing will be held on Brockham Green next Friday 22nd May.

Children from all the village sites will spend all day at Brockham on 22nd, with fun activities in the morning, followed by a picnic lunch (for which you should have returned a preference slip) and rounding off an enjoyable day with maypole and country dancing.

Although children would usually wear their own clothing for Maypole Day, Friday 22nd May is also the day of the 'whole school photograph' - our first as North Downs Primary! For this reason, **pupils should come to school in smart school uniform please** (and remember sweatshirts/cardigans, even if it is a hot sunny day). Please be sure to apply suncream and supply a sunhat should the weather require them - and alternatively, a coat if it is looking less favourable.

Children who usually attend Early Birds Club at Betchworth or Leigh on a Friday, are welcome to bring their packed breakfast as usual to Brockham - or alternatively may have breakfast provided at Brockham for an additional cost of £1.50 on top of their Early Birds fee (please make payment on Tucasi as usual).

Otherwise, please bring your child to the Brockham site at the usual time (8.40-9am), taking them to the playground where Teaching Assistants will be waiting to meet them and point them in the right direction.

In the afternoon, family, friends and neighbours are invited to join us on Brockham Green from 1.30pm to watch the Maypole festivities.

At the end of the day please collect your child from the Brockham playground (as per drop-off) between 3-3.15pm as usual. Please do not ask to take your child from the Green; you will understand the need for strict safeguarding.

Those who attended last year's dancing will remember that much of it was in the wet - but enjoyed by all despite the rain! However, in the event of very inclement weather on the day, we refer you to the school's website for further information. In the unlikely event of having to cancel the dancing completely, a ParentMail text will be sent with as much notice as possible (please ensure you have a mobile number logged to your ParentMail account). Were this to occur, collection would still be as above.

Fingers are firmly crossed for a dry, warm and very enjoyable day!

Parents are reminded that their pre-school children may not play on the adventure trail or any other playground equipment at any time.

School facilities and equipment may only be used by North Downs pupils, and only when they are being supervised by school staff during school hours (pupils may not use these facilities outside school hours).

Please be aware that North Downs cannot accept liability for accidents or injuries that might occur in these circumstances.



On Monday the Environmental Club visited Hammond's Copse in Newdigate. We had lots of fun and learnt a lot about woodland wildlife in the spring. We made minibeast shelters and birds' nests, we listened to birdsong; and we enjoyed the beautiful bluebells - and of course stopped for some much needed refreshment!



Other News

Swimming Gala: on 29th April, sixteen North Downs pupils from across KS2 took part in the Dorking Primary Schools Sports Association Swimming Gala. This was a fantastic event and everyone taking part was very enthusiastic. There were lots of wonderful performances, with many of the children winning individual medals.

This all contributed to a wonderful team performance - resulting in 1st place after a very tight competition! Well done everyone, we are very proud of you.

A big thank you goes to Paula Morgan, who organised swimming trials for the children and selected the team - we are really appreciative of all the hard work involved. Thank you also to those parents who helped with transportation and were there to support us too.



Friends' Matters

Tickets are now on sale for our **Midsummers Night's Ball** on Saturday 20th June. Places are limited, so get yours whilst you can! When filling out your meal selection, please note clearly the name of person and their meal choice - it helps for smooth running on the night, thank you.

Secondhand Uniform Sale: our next sale will be on Wednesday 20th May at 3pm in the Brockham playground.

If you wish to contact FONDS directly, please use the following email address -
fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Reminders / Dates

Always remember to check the updated Diary Dates on the following page

(Note: dates in italics have been added or changed this week)

IMPORTANT - Cash Free School: for security reasons we no longer accept cash payments in any of our school offices. All parents have been sent Tucasi registration codes and all payments should now be made online. If you require another code please contact your school office. In the event of not being able to make a payment online, cheques would be acceptable. The only regular exception to this policy is for mufti/charity collection days. Any parent who has a particular difficulty with making a specific payment online or by cheque should see Mrs Ewing in confidence.

Parental Contributions: further to our recent item about parental contributions towards educational trips or events, once again we ask that if payment is a problem, you speak to Mrs Ewing in confidence as soon as you are aware of the issue. Please do not ignore the difficulty: it may be possible to work out a payment scheme (partial or perhaps by instalment) that is manageable for you. No child would ever be excluded for non-payment, but a partial contribution might make the difference between an educational visit going ahead or having to be cancelled. Occasionally, we are aware that non-payment may simply be due to busy lives and forgetfulness. If you cannot remember if you have paid for a trip or event yet, please see a member of our admin team who will be able to check for you! Thank you for your attention to and cooperation with this matter.

Year R visit to Goring: Caterpillars and Ladybirds are looking forward to this trip on Tuesday 9th June, which will enhance their seaside topic learning. If you have not yet returned your permission slip and payment for this educational visit, please be reminded that it is due by next Friday at the latest.

Future events: further details will follow next term for Sports Day, Induction Day and Parent Consultation Evenings, please look out for these and save the dates in your diary.

Yours sincerely

A.J. Ewing

Finally

Have a lovely weekend



Summer Term 2015

Tuesday 19 th May	Year 1 - visit to Bocketts Farm
Tuesday 19 th May	Caterpillars (Year R Betchworth) to Leigh Village site all day for familiarisation visit
Wednesday 20 th May	Year 5 - Hampton Court visit
Friday May 22 nd	Maypole - <u>all</u> pupils at Brockham. Also whole school photograph (pupils in uniform)
w/c June 1 st	Yr 6 Bikeability - a.m. (all week)
w/c June 8 th	Yr 6 at Windmill Hill (PGL)
Tuesday 9 th June	Caterpillars & Ladybirds - seaside visit to Goring
Tuesday 16 th June	Beetles Assembly 9.15am
Friday June 19 th	3M Assembly 9.15am
Tuesday June 23 rd	EYFS / KS1 Sports Day - all at Brockham all day
Wednesday June 24 th	New Reception Parents' Meeting - 7pm
Thursday June 25 th	KS2 Sports Day
Friday June 26 th	5MS Assembly 9.15am
Tuesday June 30 th	Induction Day for all pupils (incl. transferring to new schools)
Friday July 3 rd	Dragonflies Assembly 9.15am Dorking Halls Music Concert
Week of July 6 th	Last week of NDPS clubs
Thursday 9 th July	Caterpillars Assembly 9.15am
Thursday 9 th July	Year 2 - visit to Brooklands
Friday July 10 th	Ladybirds Assembly 9.15am School reports sent home
Week of July 13 th	Last week of swimming
Tuesday July 14 th	Betchworth Gold Stars 9.15am
Wednesday July 15 th	Parents Consultation (plus children) Leigh / Betchworth 3.30 - 6pm. Brockham 5 - 7.30pm
Thursday July 16 th	Parents Consultation (plus children) Leigh / Betchworth 5 - 7.30pm Brockham 3.30 - 6pm
Thursday July 16 th	Leigh Gold Stars 9.15am
Friday July 17 th	Brockham Gold Stars 9.15am
Friday July 17 th	Yr6 Leavers' celebration and BBQ 5pm
Monday July 20 th	INSET: school closed
Tuesday July 21 st	INSET: school closed

Term and Holiday Dates 2014/2015

....are available on the school website www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

and on the Surrey County Council website www.surreycc.gov.uk

INSET DAYS: 1st) 02/09/2014 2nd) 03/09/2014 3rd) 05/01/2015 4th) 20/07/2015 5th) 21/07/2015

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