



# Newsletter

Term: SUMMER TERM

Issue No: 38

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

The end of a school year is always a bittersweet time. The pleasure of looking forward to the long summer break is tempered by the sadness of saying goodbye to some of our pupils and staff.

We wish our Year 6 children great happiness and success as they go on to their secondary schools; we know they have bright futures ahead of them and will do themselves, and North Downs, proud. You will be missed Year 6 - come back and see us.

Sadly this brings us to another leaver this year, Mrs Ewing...

Angela valiantly stepped out of retirement and into the breach for one term in the spring of 2012.....and was then - very fortunately for North Downs - persuaded to take the helm for a further nine terms, guiding us through the next three exciting and successful years. She leaves us with a 'Good' Ofsted and an almost full school to return to her interrupted retirement!

We know how very much Mrs Ewing is valued by you, the parents and pupils of North Downs, and how very much she will be missed, not least by her colleagues, so please join us in thanking Angela for everything she has done for North Downs and in wishing her a happy and fulfilling retirement. Three cheers for Mrs Ewing.

Have a lovely summer break, and see everyone else in September!



On Monday Caterpillars were invited to play in Lady Hamilton's garden at Betchworth House. We enjoyed looking at the different leaves and plants. We got to climb in the tree and play football on the lawn. We finished the afternoon with a drink and biscuit. Here we are with Lady Hamilton.



Caterpillars enjoyed their beach day complete with palm trees, a pool and cocktails! As you can see from the pictures the children had a wonderful day despite the weather...it's always sunny in Betchworth!







Year 2 had an exciting visit to the Brooklands Museum last week.

They came back to school with lots of stories to tell of the things they'd seen and done!



4MS took Ladybirds on a tour round their own sculpture garden (below left & right). The children have studied Barbara Hepworth's work and made their own versions of her style in miniature using papier mache. They explained their creative ideas and shapes to a willing audience.



**WHAT A CAKE SUCCESS!** Thanks to all who baked and/or bought cakes at our school council's cake sale. We raised £152.63 at Brockham, £137.70 at Leigh and £75.70 at Betchworth. Many thanks for the brilliant support.

From NDPS School Council

### Other News

**The Betchworth & Buckland Family Activities Group:** has three fun events planned for the summer. Call Catriona Martin for more details on 07710 298591.

**Leigh Cottage Garden Show: Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July.** 'Bikes Revived' has a stall and are offering a free bike check-up! See [www.bikesrevived.org.uk](http://www.bikesrevived.org.uk)



### Friends' Matters

FONDS would like to thank you all for all your help and support this year. Have an enjoyable holiday - and return ready for Teas on the Green, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September!!

If you wish to contact FONDS directly, please use the following email address -

[fonds@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](mailto: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)*

A reminder that school is closed Monday 20<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July for INSETS 4 & 5 of 5

Yours sincerely

*A.J. Ewing*

Finally

Have a great summer!



*Autumn Term 2015*

<i>Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept</i>	<i>SCHOOL CLOSED for INSET 1 of 5 (Surrey term start date)</i>
<i>Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept</i>	<i>First Day of Term for pupils Years 1-6</i>
<i>Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>Year R/Reception Starter Group 1 only in for morning starter visit</i>
<i>Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>Year R/Reception Starter Group 2 only in for morning starter visit</i>
<i>Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>Year R/Reception Starter Group 3 only in for morning starter visit</i>
<i>Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>Reception children all day</i>
<i>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>FONDS Nearly New Sale - after school at Brockham Village site</i>
<i>Sun 27<sup>th</sup> Sept</i>	<i>FONDS Teas on the Green</i>
<i>Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct</i>	<i>FONDS Bags2School</i>
<i>w/c Mon 26<sup>th</sup> Oct</i>	<i>Half Term Week</i>
<i>Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec</i>	<i>Last Day of Term</i>

**Term and Holiday Dates 2015/2016**

....are available on the school website [www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk)

and on the Surrey County Council website [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)

**INSET DAYS: 1<sup>st</sup>) 02/09/2015**