SEN and Pastoral Team Newsletter - February 2023



SENCO - Annie Scott

senco@northdowns.surrev.sch.uk

ELSAs - Jo Hitch & Cathy Preston-Heard elsa@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Home School Liaison Worker - Jo Hitch hslw@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk

Welcome to the SEN/Pastoral Team newsletter from Mrs Scott, Mrs Hitch, Mrs Preston-Heard and Mrs Douglass.

This newsletter is circulated to all parents. We want to be able to share any workshops, networks, resources and events that we hope will be of relevance to any parent, whether their child is on the SEN register or not. We will still include dates for any updates for those who are on the SEN register e.g. when SEN passports are due to be sent home. Mindworks is running a free event in March for all families to access - Spring Wellbeing Festival - please see details and a QR code to register on page 2.

SEN Passports Spring term

If your child is on the SEN register they have a 2022-23 SEN Passport. This lists the strategies and support your child is having in school.

The next review of the passport will be completed in March and 2 copies will be sent home by **Friday 24 March**.

Please let your child's class teacher or Mrs Scott know if you do not receive your copies or have any queries about the content.

The two boxes at the top of the page are to reflect the child's voice and can include your own discussion with your child about what they feel helps them most in school - please write on one copy and return to class teacher/Mrs Scott if you want to add any information.





Accessing ELSA support in school

ELSA support is in place to support children with social, emotional and pastoral support. This may be provided in small groups or 1:1.

We are running a triage system to manage the number of children and may occasionally have a waiting list.

If you would like to contact the ELSAs to request support, please use the ELSA email. elsa@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk





Therapy Dog - Lulu - and her helpful owner, Norma, come to us from Pets as Therapy, a charity organisation helping children engage with learning - in our school supporting reading. We are still a dog-free site but give Lulu special permission to come in. You may see her with her yellow coat. She has started working with a number of our children on a Tuesday afternoon. If your child is suggested for this intervention, we will check with you first to ensure they are not fearful of dogs.



13 - 19 March, 2023 https://www.neurodiversityweek.com/

Information shared by a parent - Use the link above to find out more about talks and events that may be of interest if you are in the process of understanding your child's neurodiversity needs. All events are free of charge and open to all. You can attend as many events as you like.





Useful web links for parents of children with additional needs



Family Voice Surrey champions the needs and rights of SEND families in Surrey. For information on advice and events https://www.familyvoicesurrey.org/fvs-events



Information, impartial advice and support to parents, carers and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25 years. Helpline available 9.30-5 Mon-Fri. https://www.sendadvicesurrey.org.uk/



Links and information for events, activities and workshops for children with additional needs https://www.surrevlocaloffer.org.uk/parents-and-carers



Charity organisation offering on-line and in person events and groups for autistic girls in Surrey age 7+ https://www.appeer.org.uk/



NAS Surrey Out of Hours Advice Line: Call 0300 222 5755 from 5pm – 11pm 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Advice and information www.nassurreybranch.org



Details of where families in Surrey can find out what is available locally and where to receive help and support including childcare and parenting courses www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/