

# Newsletter

Term: Autumn 2023

Issue No: 6

Date: 24th November

### Dear Parents, Carers and Children

The weather has taken a decidedly chilly turn in the last few days - definitely more of a wintry feel in the air - but that just adds to the thrill and excitement of our Christmas preparations. The children are busy practising for their performances, for which we would like to invite two adults per child to come along; younger siblings are welcome to attend also. Information regarding arrival times, along with reminders for other end of term events were sent out earlier in the week in separate mailings. These letters have been saved on the website, for your reference.

https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Letters+to+Parents&pid=240

Information sent out regarding Christmas lunch on 13<sup>th</sup> December, which this year is again being offered to every pupil in the school, can also be found on the website. If you would like to order your child a lunch, please note the closing date for doing so is Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

#### Reminders from FONDS...

Wednesday 13th December will be a day full of festive events!

Not only is it Christmas lunch day, as mentioned above, but it is also a day for coming into school wearing **Christmas jumpers**. In addition, FONDS are organising an **'Elf Run'**. We are raising money for the school as well as the amazing <u>The Children's Trust</u> charity.

To make the event a bit more competitive - we are having a "Battle of the Stages". KS1 vs KS2 and the stage that raises the most will receive a prize!

Please give what you can and spread the word amongst family and friends...the links to donate can be found below.

KS1 (years R to 2) - justgiving.com/campaign/ks1elfrun

KS2 (years 3 to 6) - <u>justgiving.com/campaign/ks2elfrun</u>

Finally, don't forget our 'Winter Wonderland' Christmas Fair on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, at the Brockham site from 1.15pm onwards!

Breakfast Club and Moles - January 2024

Please note...next term
Early Birds, Breakfast Club and Moles will recommence on
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

# Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) Award

As you know, at North Downs we believe that all children have the right to experience the unique and special nature of being outdoors. We feel that it is important to enable children to use the outside environment as a context for learning as much as possible and have undertaken much work developing our curriculum to enable this to happen.

We were very proud to have been awarded with a Bronze Award from the 'Council for Learning Outside the Classroom'. However, after an assessment visit from the Awards Manager earlier this half term, I am delighted to share with you that we have now been awarded the Silver Mark. The feedback we spoke highly of:

"...the great opportunities your school are offering its students.

An enormous thank you to everyone, for their hard work which has gone towards achieving this - but particular Mrs Ottaway - **Congratulations!** 



Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

## Sports Round Up from Mrs Stowell

#### **Dorking Schools Football Tournaments**

Our Year 5 boys took part in the Dorking Schools Football Competition on 9<sup>th</sup> November at St Martins. In a very closely contested competition our team finished in joint 1st position on 12 points and equal on goal difference with St Pauls but won overall as they had beaten St Pauls in their match. Congratulations everyone.



The Year 4/5/6 girls football tournament took place at Meadowbank Stadium on 10<sup>th</sup> November.

The girls played incredibly well, working hard as a team and never giving up. They won four matches, drew one and lost two to finish in 3rd, bronze medal position. Well done.

# **Diary Dates**

#### **Autumn Term**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Year 2 Nativity Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Junior Christmas Carol Evening

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Year 1 Nativity Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December - Year R Nativity

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - School Christmas Lunch, Elf Run and Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December - Break up for Christmas Infants at 1.00pm & Juniors 1.15pm

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December - FONDS Winter Wonderland Christmas Fair - 1.15pm

# **Spring Term**

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - Children return to school Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February - Break up for Half Term Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February - Children return to school Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March - Children break up for Easter Infants at 1.00pm & Juniors 1.15pm

#### **Summer Term**

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April - Children return to school Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Children break up for Half Term Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May - INSET Day

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Children return to school

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July - Children break up - Infants at 1.00pm & Juniors 1.15pm

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July - INSET Days