



Newsletter

Term: Spring 2024

Issue No: 8

Date: 5th January

Dear Parents, Carers and Children

A Happy New Year to you all. I hope you managed to enjoy a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. Although it was lovely to have some time before Christmas it does seem to have been a quick return back to school this week! Nevertheless, it has been lovely to see everybody back to what is always quite a short half term...however, as usual, there is much to fit in! We currently have vacancies on the Governing Board for Parent Governors at school. Information below outlines the process we need to go through to fill these posts and accompanying the newsletter is a nomination form. If you are interested or would like to discuss the role, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Information about the role and our school governors can also be found on the school website.

<https://www.northdowns.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=Governors&pid=8>

GOVERNING BODY OF NORTH DOWNS SCHOOL - PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCIES

We are seeking nominations for parents to stand for election as parent governors of North Downs Primary School. The school currently has two vacancies for a Parent Governor on its Governing Body. Nominations for Parent Governor Vacancies are made by parents of pupils registered at the school. Parent Governors serve for a term of four years irrespective of how long their child remains as a registered pupil of the school.

Parents are invited to submit nominations to the school using the attached nomination form. Each nominee must be proposed and seconded by parents of registered pupils presently attending the school and the nominee must also be a parent and signify his or her willingness to stand for election. Should there be more nominations than vacancies, a secret ballot will be held. **However, please do not let this discourage you from considering this role. If it becomes apparent that a ballot is necessary we will notify you to see if you are willing to continue with the process.**

Please note - a person is disqualified from election or appointment as a parent governor of a school if they are an elected member of the Local Authority or if they work at the school for more than 500 hours (i.e. for more than one-third of the hours of a full-time equivalent) in a school year (at the time of election or appointment).

The nomination form should be printed and the completed form must be returned to the Clerk to the Governors by noon on **Friday 19th January 2024**. No nomination will be accepted after that date/time. Those nominated to stand for election may enclose with their nomination form a short personal statement about themselves, of not more than 100 words. Statements will be circulated to parents should a ballot prove necessary. If the number of nominations received is less than the number of vacancies, the person nominated will be appointed without a ballot. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies a secret ballot will be held (after confirmation that all candidates wish to enter the ballot). Details of the secret ballot will be forwarded to all parents.

Friday 5th January
Noon on Friday 19th January
Wednesday 24th January
Wednesday 7th February
Thursday 8th February

Letter with nomination form sent to parents
Last day/time for completed nominations to Clerk
Issue of ballot papers **(if required)**
Closing date for ballot papers
Count of ballot papers

Nominations must be submitted to Mrs Amy Currier, Clerk to the Governing Body, c/o North Downs School by noon on Friday 19th January 2024.

Swimsense Swimming Club

Swimsense after school swimming clubs on both Mondays and Thursdays, will be restarting as soon as the pool is opened, hopefully from Monday 8th January. Please find a booking form below if you are interested. We cater for all children from North Downs sites, as well as children at other schools. Children are split into ability groups and sessions start at 3.20 p.m. on Mondays (beginner session is full) then 3.50 pm for improvers and 4.20 pm. for intermediates. Thursday starts at 3.15 for Brockham beginners, 3.45 for all sites beginners and 4.15 pm. for improvers.

There are sessions for private lessons also. Please use the booking form link below to book your place.

<https://forms.gle/9XCAz6NhuKhTBS9q7>

Congratulations Ruby and Mabel!

Sisters Ruby & Mabel, both took part in a gymnastics competition, with their club AC Elite, on December 10th, at Dorking Sports Centre. The girls did so well, earning a gold medal, 2 bronze medals and a 6th place ribbon between them!

They were also presented with 'The Clifton Cup', a trophy given once a year, for a gymnast who has particularly impressed over the year. This year, it was presented jointly to Ruby & Mabel for their determination, enthusiasm and improvement. Amazing girls, well done ☺



Diary Dates

Spring Term

Monday 5th February - Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 6th February - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 6th February - Parent Teacher Consultations

Thursday 8th February - Parent Teacher Consultations

Friday 9th February - Break up for Half Term

Monday 19th February - Children return to school

Thursday 7th March - World Book Day

Friday 8th March - Book Character Dressing Up Day

Friday 22nd March - World Maths Day

Thursday 28th March - Children break up for Easter

Infants at 1.00pm & Juniors 1.15pm

Summer Term

Monday 15th April - Children return to school

Monday 6th May - Bank Holiday

Thursday 23rd May - Maypole on The Green

Thursday 23rd May - Children break up for Half Term

Friday 24th May - INSET Day

Monday 3rd June - Children return to school

Tuesday 11th June - Junior Sports Day

Thursday 13th June - Infant Sports Day

Friday 19th July - Children break up - Infants at 1.00pm & Juniors 1.15pm

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July - INSET Days

**New dates added are in italics.*

Message from FONDS

We all hope you and your families enjoyed the festivities and are looking forward to the start of a New Year and new term. We are thrilled to let you all know that thanks to you, the FONDS Winter Fair raised in the region of **£5K** which we are thrilled with!

FONDS would like to thank everybody involved, with special mention to the Year 6 pupils and School Council for helping run the stalls - they all did an amazing job and the fair would not have been able to run without them! It was a great way to end the school year and we are so pleased you all had a wonderful time.

We are busy organising the events for the spring term and will send our communications out nearer the time so please do keep any eye out!

Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.

JL Douglas