



# Newsletter

Term: Spring 2024

Issue No: 11

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## Dear Parents, Carers and Children

Well it hasn't been the most spring like start to the half term but the mood in school has been bright and sunny. It was lovely to see so many children in their Guiding or Scouting uniforms, celebrating World Thinking or Founders Day. It's a busy half term for costumes and dressing up as we are inviting children to come dressed as a book character on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March** for World Book Day.

## World Maths Day 2024

In addition, to mark World Maths Day 2024, we are having a TT Rock Stars relaunch assembly on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March. Children are invited to come in to school dressed as their rock star character from TT Rockstars, if they wish to. There is no charge for this! It is purely for fun and to get children excited about using TT Rockstars! We have attached to this newsletter, an information leaflet for parents which explains what the different games are that the children can play on TT Rockstars. Hopefully you will find this useful! Your child can use their usual school login details (please contact class teachers if they do not know it).

Having a secure knowledge of the times tables is vitally important for the children, as it helps them to work efficiently when calculating in all areas of maths. Children are expected to be secure in the 2, 5 and 10 x tables by the end of Year 2, and in all tables up to the 12 x tables by the end of Year 4. We would encourage all children to practise their tables as much as they can at home, whether on TT Rockstars or any other way! If you need any support with this, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Thank you very much for your support.  
Carol Tubb  
Maths lead (and aspiring Rockstar!!)



**THE BIG  
PLASTIC  
COUNT  
11-17 MARCH**

## School Council News from Mrs Boyer...

Greenpeace are co-ordinating a **Big Plastic Count** next month 11<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> March. Nearly **100 billion pieces** of plastic packaging are thrown away by UK households every year, and just **12%** is recycled in the UK. North Downs would like to support this initiative by organising a 'Whole School Homework' week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> March. School Councillors will tally their class results and update the Greenpeace website. Please can you help support this important initiative and Greenpeace can continue to campaign for action against plastic waste.

We are supporting Comic Relief on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March by designing our own red noses and wearing them to school, in uniform, along with Crazy Hair! Donations to Comic Relief can be made on Tucasi. Thanks very much for helping us to improve lives across the globe.



## Surrey Schools County Cross Country Championships

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March, eight of our top Year 5 and 6 runners took part in the Surrey County Cross Country Championships at Reigate Priory. Children from schools from all over Surrey were running, with the top 20 children in each race qualifying for the Surrey squad training and the top 3 for the Surrey team. Well done to all our runners who competed well on a hard and muddy course. A special congratulations to Thomas who came 11<sup>th</sup> and qualified for the Surrey training squad and Ollie who came 1<sup>st</sup>. A fantastic achievement!



## Surrey Sportshall Athletics

On the Sunday Thomas and Ollie continued their winning streak representing Surrey in the U11's Sportshall Regional Finals. The Surrey Team competed against 7 counties from the South East and came 1<sup>st</sup>!



## FONDS Uniform Sale

FONDS are organising a second hand uniform sale on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, after school at the Brockham site.

## Diary Dates

### Spring Term

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day & Book Character Dressing Up Day

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March - Comic Relief - Crazy Hair Day

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March - World Maths Day

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

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Maypole on The Green

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

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June - Junior Sports Day

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June - Infant Sports Day

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

## New Parent Governors

Following our recent ballot for two new parent governors:

**Mr Ed Airey &  
Mr Dan Fisher**

have been elected to the Governing Board at North Downs. Thank you so much to the other candidates - we really appreciate the support you have for our lovely school. Thank you to all of the parents who voted as well.

*Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend.*

*J. Douglas*