

THE FEDERATION OF THE DOWNS & NORTHBOURNE CEP SCHOOLS

Newsletter - Term Six June 2019

The summer is getting off to a slow start. We get glimpses of the warm weather to come and then we are reminded of the changeability of the season. Children do need to be prepared for all eventualities and so it is important children still have in school their jumper and a coat/lightweight jacket/waterproof to give that extra layer of protection when we wish to still be outside despite inclement weather – the field can be particularly chilly at times and light showers are still a possibility.

During half term two of the staff got married. Fortunately, they both had warm and dry days. Miss Hopper is now Mrs Osborn and Miss Bassett is now Mrs Storey. Congratulations to them both and apologies from me in advance as I will be the last to get their name right first time!

Our learning theme this term is ***“We are the Champions”***

Reception

In Reception we will be looking at how we can be healthy champions ready for sports day and champions of protecting our seas and oceans. We will be learning about how to keep our bodies healthy. We will look at the foods we eat and why exercise is good for us. In RE our focus is on World Faiths.

Year One

Year 1 will become champion detectives to explore the local habitats within The Enchanted Wood. We will be reading the children The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton. We will explore the vocabulary that she used to describe the wood and using this to write about our own imaginary land at the top of the tree. We will use our visit to Walmer Castle as a stimulus.

Year Two

In Year 2 we will be investigating if we are ‘champions’ of our local area. We will be writing poetry about the seaside before moving on to see if we can uncover the ‘Secret of Black Rock’ by Joe Todd Stanton. We will also compare the wildlife of England with the wildlife of Madagascar. In RE this term we will continue to look at the World Faith of Islam.

Year Three

We are going to become ‘Champions for Change’ and our learning will be based on our environment and the world in which we live. We will be reading the book ‘The Great Kapok Tree’ and exploring the effects of deforestation. In RE we are learning about Sikhism.

Year Four

We will study the different types of geographical water features of our local area, Britain and the wider world. We will investigate the water cycle and the importance of water for plants and animals. Our Literacy focus will be on poetry, looking at the works of William Wordsworth. We will also use this as a stimulus for our artwork plus a local trip to the beach.

Year Five

We will have a sports and fitness focus. We will learn all about the body and thinking about the brain. Our Science topic is animals, including humans and we will be having a baby photo competition! In RE, we will be learning about Islam, thinking about what it is like to be a Muslim today.

Sports Day – Friday 12th July

We are still finalising the details for our sports day but provisional timings are as follows:
9.15am - Years R, 1 and 2
10.45am - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6
Each event will be approximately one hour and children will return to class afterwards. Further details will be confirmed nearer the time.

Year Six

We are approaching this terms theme through a range of learning opportunities and applying the skills that been acquired over the past 5 terms. Our RE lessons will focus on The Kingdom of God; we will be exploring what kind of king is Jesus?
We will be preparing the children for secondary school transition through a range of activities that will support this process.



“What stories are special and why??”

Discuss together as a family....share your best examples with your class teacher

Supervision before school

Children in Years R-4 need to **wait with an adult** by classroom doors at the start of the day. Children should not play on the playground, field or adventure playgrounds at this time (nor the end of the day). Children in Years 5-6 should arrive in time to go straight into class at 8.45am if arriving on their own. This is for everyone's safety. We have had a few accidents during this time which can lead to a distressing start for the children.

Term Five Attendance Review

We would like to thank all parents for ensuring that their children are attending school and getting to school on time.

Our attendance from the beginning of September 2018 until 24th May 2019 is currently 95.9%.

RL	95.8%	2G	95.7%	4G	96.4%	6T	97.3%
RS	94.1%	2O	95.6%	4B	95.9%	6C	95.3%
1M	97.2%	3EU	96.2%	5T	96.0%	Whole school	95.9%
1P	94.6%	3B	96.0%	5A	96.5%		

Please remember to phone in and inform us of your child's absence. It is helpful if you can give their full name and class as well as a reason for absence.

MDS

Are you an enthusiastic and self-motivated person? Do you think you would be interested in being a midday supervisor? Our midday's work term time only, for 5 hours and 50 minutes per week and the position is subject to full DBS check, safeguarding procedures and a six month probationary period.

If you think you might be interested please contact the school office for an application form.

Closing date for applications Friday 21st June 2019

Notable Achievements

Children are invited to share with the whole school their achievements in after school activities.

Preston B Y3 Stage 3 swimming, Beavers Camp Survival, Bronze challenge and Sport Star awards – busy boy
Thomas B Y2 Kung Fu Medal
Annabel S Y5 Deal and Betteshanger New Player Award
Mia F Y1 Kung Fu black belt
Ruby T Y1 Level 3 swimming
Kieran A Y2 Obstacle Course Medal
Joshua T Y6 Bronze Music Award

Joe F Y6 Bold as Brass event – a 2 day music event where he was a “fabulous ambassador” for our school – the organisers words.

Amazing achievement – well done

Contact with school

Mr Turner works with families who have outside agency involvement and is available to support all our families by signposting them to services for family support that may be available to them. His role **is not** educational or behaviour. If you have concerns about your child in these areas your first port of call is the class teacher.

The office can get very busy in the mornings and at the end of the school. Many of the messages that the office are given, to pass on to the teacher, could be written in the contact book. Please do use this as your first point of contact with class teachers rather than the office.

Monies for trips and school dinners should be placed in envelopes and given to class teachers. Visits to the office should be for the delivery of medicines (and to complete medicine administration consent forms), collecting of children with prior arrangement and for appointments with staff.

To summarise a flow chart is sent with this newsletter.

Milk – Children can have milk at morning break:

- Free milk for children under the age of five
- Free milk for children who are currently a free school meal child
- £1.10 a week for children aged five or older and not a free school meal child.
- If your child is a pupil premium child contact school if you would like milk for your child at no cost to you

For more information contact the school office or register at www.coolmilk.com

Clubs – Term Six

R, 1, 2 – Football with PACE, Film and Drawing

Y3, 4, 5 and 6 – Football with PACE, rounders, art/craft, Late night library, outdoor learning, cookery (Y6), Sunshine and French

Payment and consent forms - Please do ensure that if your child is offered a club that the payment and consent form are returned before the first night. Please do remember to collect from clubs on time – 4pm for clubs run by school staff and 4.15pm for clubs run by outside providers such as PACE.

Clubs do need to have 10 or more children to run. *This term we do have good numbers but that is not always the case. Currently, we are operating clubs at a loss – this means that the school is subsidising the clubs from our main budget. This cannot continue and we may have to review our provision and our costings.*

Dates for diary on the next page

DATES FOR DIARY

Dates for the new academic year: 2018 - 2019

Term One 3rd September 2018 – 18th October 2018

Half term break 19th October – 28th October 2018

Term Two 29th October – 19th December 2018

Christmas break 20th December – 2nd January 2019

Term Three 3rd January – 14th February 2019

Half term break 15th February – 24th February 2019

Term Four 25th February – 5th April 2019

Easter break 6th April – 22nd April 2019

Term Five 23rd April – 24th May 2019

Half term break 25th May – 2nd June 2019

Term Six 3rd June – 23rd July 2019

Staff Development Days when school is closed to children

Friday 19th October 2018
Monday 26th November 2018
Friday 15th February 2019
Friday 21st June 2019
Monday 24th June 2019

Term Six

Monday 3rd June

Children return to school

Monday 3rd June

Year 6 forest school starts

Friday 7th June

Year 6 swimming (3 more sessions)

Monday 10th June

Walmer in Bloom assembly – 9.00am (invitation only)

WB Monday 10th June

Year 1 Phonics assessment week

Year 4 Multiplication tests

Friday 21st June

Training day – school closed to children

Sunday 23rd June

Burning the Boats production (choir and actors from The Downs CEP)

Monday 24th June

Training day – school closed to children

Saturday 29th June

Dover Fire Station Open Day, 11:00---16:00, Ladywell, Dover

Saturday 29th June

White Cliffs Wind Band at St George's Church from 12pm. A free event and families are welcome to bring a picnic

Wednesday 3rd July

Applications to enter Kent Test close today (current year 5 pupils)

Thursday 4th July

Transition day – year 6 to new schools

Tuesday 9th July

DLA Summer Cup

Thursday 11th July

Reports Home

Friday 12th July

Sports Day *

Monday 15th July

Reserve Sports Day *

Monday 22nd July

Year 6 Leavers Service TBC

Tuesday 23rd July

Last day of term - children can be collected from 1.30pm

**Provisionally, we are aiming to hold a key stage one (Years R-2) and a key stage two (Years 3-6) sports event, during the morning, across two sessions. The children will remain in school afterwards. More details to follow shortly.*

Dates for the new academic year: 2019 - 20120

Term One 2nd September 2019 – 18th October 2019

Half term break 18th October – 27th October 2019

Term Two 28th October – 18th December 2019

Christmas break 19th December – 5th January 2020

Term Three 6th January – 14th February 2020

Half term break 15th February – 23rd February 2020

Term Four 24th February – 3rd April 2020*

*Easter break 4th April – 19th April 2020**

Term Five 20th April – 22nd May 2020

Half term break 23rd May – 31st May 2020

Term Six 1st June – 22nd July 2020

Please note the date for the Federation Easter break is different to the published Kent Term dates by two days either side.

The 2019 2020 staff training days, when school is closed to the children, will be published shortly.