

# THE FEDERATION OF THE DOWNS & NORTHBOURNE CEP SCHOOLS

*"if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible."* (Matthew: 17 v20)

## Newsletter – End Term One October 2019

Term one has seen an exciting and very busy start to the new academic year. All our new children have settled in well and the reception children are confidently exploring the school environment and making new friends. Year 6 had a wonderful residential and showed great resilience throughout the very wet week.

Please can I remind you that when waiting on school premises at the start and end of the day please do ensure your children are supervised and waiting with you rather than using any school equipment or playing on the banks. This is for their safety as well as to preserve the equipment in good condition for our children to use during their learning time.

Parent consultations are taking place this final week of term. Please do try to attend as we do like to see all parents before the end of term. Consultations for years R-4 will be in your child's classroom. Years 5 and 6 will be in the hall.

We finish the term on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October at normal time and return to school at 8.45am on **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019**. Have a good half term break.

### Year 3 Bible Presentation

The congregations of the Parish of Walmer Churches, Walmer Baptist Church and Walmer Chapel raise money each year to provide Bibles for our Year 3 pupils.

These will be presented to the children in Year 3 on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 2.40pm in the school hall.

Parents are welcome and invited to attend.

### Staffing update

Mrs Osborn will start her maternity leave on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October and her position will be covered by Ms Emler who you will have seen in the office over the last couple of weeks.

Mrs Glanville will return from maternity leave this week and therefore, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Anderson who has been covering her role in upper school.

### Family and Individual Photos

The photographer will be here on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Between 8.15am and 9.00am the photographer will take any family photographs – this is for any children in school who have **pre-school younger** brothers or sisters to have photos taken together (and any **secondary age** brothers or sisters).

Children who only have brothers or sisters in this school will have their photo taken together during the school day after 9.00am so do not need to be here early.

The children will also be photographed individually. Any questions about this please do ring the school office.

### Sporting events

We have started the year well with a win at the QUAD year one and two multi-skills event hosted by St Margarets Primary School.

Our football team also returned back to school with the Northbourne Park primary schools competition trophy. At the time of writing the team are also through to the semi-finals of the McCarthy Cup.

All the children represented the school impeccably.

### Facebook - # *nothing is impossible*.

We launched "The Downs CEP" facebook page this term so if you have not liked the page yet, please do.

This does not replace our traditional ways of sharing information such as through newsletters, the website and texts.

However, it is a place to celebrate the achievements of our pupils and to share key information.

### Bags to School

Filling a bags to school bag, that will be sent home shortly, with quality second hand items (*e.g. clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, ties and soft toys*) will help to raise funds for the school PTA.

**Collection day Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**



### Who/What do you have faith in? Why do Christians have faith in Jesus?

*Discuss, with your family, what this means to you.....  
Share your best examples with your class teacher*

### Notable Achievements

#### A number of children have shared with the whole school their achievements in after school activities

Charlie R (Y2) – reading challenge certificate  
Sienna F (Y6) – walk for Parkinsons at Leeds Castle  
Heidi C (Y2) – South East Gymnastic medal  
Maisie A (Y3) – 5 mile challenge; 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a tournament  
Maisie R (Y3) – Bronze award for completing all Beaver challenges and a plaque for endeavour  
James P (Y5) – Player of the Festival award  
Callum, Logan and Jordan (Y5) – football trophy  
Curtis B (Y4) – Best angler 2019

*Amazing achievement – well done*

### Community Neighbours

Our school is situated in a residential area and as such we do need to respect the bylaws in relation to this.

Thank you to all our parents who do observe and recognise our neighbour's private property and driveways. However, I do ask that we all remember to not block driveways, drop litter, walk across private gardens, sit on private boundary walls or lean against fences and cars. Please do continue to observe the road markings around the school by not parking on pavements which block the children's safe passage.

Giving this consideration to our neighbours enhances the positive reputation of the school in the community.

### Midday Supervisor

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 to collect an application pack.

Applications close 7<sup>th</sup> November at midday.

**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](http://www.coolmilk.com)**

### Clubs – Term Two

Information about clubs for term two will be coming home this week. Clubs will start **week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> November** and run for 4 weeks.

**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.

### New Year R Admissions 2020

If you have a child who was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016 it is time to think about a school place for September 2020.

Apply to <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places> between **5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020**.

Phone the school office to make an appointment for a viewing

### Admission to Secondary School September 2020

All Kent parents of current year 6 children will be required to complete the authority's Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) online at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola).

You will be required to name up to FOUR secondary schools in order of preference. All forms have to be completed and submitted by **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019**.

### Uniform

**Winter uniform** will be in place from Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October. Year 3 – 6 will need white shirts (not tee-shirts) and ties.

Uniform information is under the uniform link on our website.

In particular note that hair accessories should be small and discrete in blue, grey or black. Trainers should not be worn unless for medical reasons.

**Earrings** have to be removed for all PE and swimming.

Please do also ensure that your child has a coat in school every day as we do aim to get outside every day.

### The Downs - NUT free

A reminder that we request parents to consider very carefully what they send into school for packed lunches or class treats. In particular we remind you that we are a nut free school and so **no nut** products are to be used in packed lunches. This includes peanut butter spread, Nutella, peanuts or peanut based biscuits.

**Dates for diary on the next page**

## DATES FOR DIARY

### Dates for the new academic year: 2019 - 2020

#### Term One 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Half term break 18<sup>th</sup> October – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2019

#### Term Two 28<sup>th</sup> October – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019

Christmas break 19<sup>th</sup> December – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020

#### Term Three 6<sup>th</sup> January – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Half term break 15<sup>th</sup> February – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

#### Term Four 24<sup>th</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020\*

Easter break 4<sup>th</sup> April – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020\*

#### Term Five 20<sup>th</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020

Half term break 23<sup>rd</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020

#### Term Six 1<sup>st</sup> June – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020

### Staff Development Days when school is closed to children

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020

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

### Term One September 2019

Tues 15<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Oct Parents evening 3.30pm-6.30pm  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October Last day of term – normal finish time

### Term Two

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October School closed to children – training day  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October Children return to school  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October Contented Child Positive Behaviour Workshop for parents  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October Lower School celebration assembly – by invite  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October Flu Vaccinations Years 1-6  
Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October Upper school celebration assembly – by invite  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November Year 3 swimming starts  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November Middle school celebration assembly – by invite  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November Year 4 forest school starts  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November Individual photos  
Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November Music for Schools Presentation to parents 6pm  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November Bags to School collection day  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November Children in Need – details to follow  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November Choir at St Mary's Church Christmas Fair 5.30pm  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November Year 3 Bible Presentation 2.40pm – parents welcome  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December Open Afternoon and Christmas Fair TBC  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December Year One play for parents – pm time TBC  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December Christmas dinner and jumper day  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December Last day of term two – children can be collected from 1.30pm.

### Term Three

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January Children return to school  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January Year 3 swimming starts  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January Year 5 forest school starts  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February Reports home  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February last day of term three – normal finish

### Term Four

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February School closed to children – training day  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February Children return to school