

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 – Term Two November 2019

We return to a change in weather and the children should now all be in their winter uniform. This means that years 3-6 need to be wearing ties and shirts. They also require a coat in school every day and as always all items of clothing and personal possessions need to be named. The children should also have a small class bottle, filled only with water, available in class every day.

Term Two leads into our busy Christian Festival of Christmas and details of our many Christmas activities will be with you shortly – some dates are already noted on the diary dates page below. We look forward to seeing you in school or at Church over the coming weeks.

During the week of Monday 4th November to Friday 8th November the children will have the opportunity to acquire a poppy for a small donation. We will be holding our 2 minute silence in school on Monday 11th November.

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 25th November at 2.40pm in the school hall.

Parents are welcome and invited to attend.

Staffing update

Mrs Osborn did not get the rest she was hoping for as her baby daughter made an early arrival at the start of this week. All are doing well. Congratulations.

Year 5 Dictionary Presentation

The Rotary Club provide dictionaries for all year 5 pupils in Deal.

These will be presented to the children in Year 5 on Thursday 21st November at 2.40pm in the school hall.

Parents are welcome and invited to attend.

Family and Individual Photos

The photographer will be here on Monday 4th 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.

Children in Need –15th November

On Friday 15th November we will be raising money for both Children in Need and World Diabetes Day.

Break up to four rules for a £1.00 donation.

Rules that can be broken: don't wear a tie, have crazy/colourful hair, don't wear school shoes, wear funky tights/socks.

See flyer with this newsletter.

Bags to School

Filling a "bag to school bag" 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. Please send in your bags by the date below.

Collection day Tuesday 12th November

Home Learning – online software

We are currently updating our Downs.Me (*accessible through the pupil zone tab on our school website*).

Here you will be able to find links to programmes that we use in school to support additional learning.

Do access these resources alongside the home learning tasks.



If life is a puzzle, does it need to be completed?

*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

Ben F, Harrison S, Dennis K, Joshua D, Oliver W, Leland W, Keir T and Ryan P – McCarthy Cup Finalists
Freya Y - Gymnastics proficiency Badge 6
Maisie A - Deal Town Rangers Football in goal

Amazing achievement – well done

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 **5th November 2019 and 15th January 2020**.

Phone the school office to make an appointment for a viewing

Term One 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 until 18th October 2019 is currently 95.7%. **We aim for 96%**.

RS	95.9%	2G	97.6%	4G	96.6%	6T	96.8%
RST	95.1%	2O	97.5%	4B	94.8%	6C	97.4%
1P	91.2%	3M	96.3%	5T	96.4%	Whole school	95.7%
1H	92.7%	3E	95.7%	5AU	95.6%		

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.

WANTED – NEW GOVERNORS!

We are currently looking for two new governors and would be delighted to hear from anyone who has an interest in supporting our two schools (The Downs and Northbourne CEP Schools).

The Governing Body plays a key role in questioning and challenging, monitoring targets, agreeing policy and strategy and much more! We would be particularly interested in hearing from anyone with experience and knowledge of Health and Safety, Buildings and Project Management, or Marketing and Bid-writing.

If you are interested or know someone else who would be, please contact the school including a brief description about yourself and what you could bring to the governing body.

1970-2020 50th Anniversary of The Downs CEP School

Did you attend the old Canada Road School and then move to this site in September 1970? Do you know someone who did? Are you an ex-pupil from the 1970's? We would be interested to hear from anyone who can share their memories of the early days of this school with our current pupils. Please get in touch with the school office this term and leave your contact details.

Parental Conduct

All of our parents and families are welcome on site at the beginning and end of the school day but it is our expectation that all adults attending the site will act in an appropriate manner and show respect and consideration for our pupils, parents and staff. In particular I expect that no adult on our school site will

- Use threatening or abusive behaviour
- Will act in a manner that is intimidating or threatening to any person
- Discuss other children or their families in a manner intended to be intimidating or abusive.

Action will be taken in these circumstances which could lead to a temporary or permanent ban from the school site and/or involve the police.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

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.

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 Two

Clubs will start **week beginning 4th 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.

Dates for diary on the next page

DATES FOR DIARY

Dates for the new academic year: 2019 - 2020

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

Staff Development Days when school is closed to children

Monday 2nd September 2019

Monday 28th October 2019

Monday 24th February 2020

Friday 26th June 2020

Monday 29th 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 Two

Monday 4 th November	Year 4 forest school starts
Monday 4 th November	Individual photos
Monday 4 th November	Music for Schools Presentation to parents of children in Years 3-6 (6pm hall)
Wednesday 6 th November	Primary Schools Choir event at Goodwin Academy
Friday 8 th November	Kingswood Assembly for Year 6 parents
Tuesday 12 th November	Bags to School collection day
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need – flyer with newsletter
Friday 15 th November	Choir at St Mary's Church Christmas Fair 5.30pm
Thursday 21 st November	Year 5 Dictionary presentation 2.40pm – parents welcome
Monday 25 th November	Year 3 Bible Presentation 2.40pm – parents welcome
Wednesday 4 th December	Lower School Christmas Service at Walmer Baptist Church
Friday 13 th December	Open Afternoon and Christmas Fair TBC
Monday 16 th December	Year One play for parents – pm time TBC
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas dinner and jumper day
Wednesday 18 th December	Last day of term two – children can be collected from 1.30pm.

Term Three

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

Term Four

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