

**Wroxham Way  
Felpham, Bognor Regis  
West Sussex PO22 8ER  
Tel: 01243 820511  
Fax: 01243 833549**

**Email: [office@downview.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@downview.w-sussex.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.downviewprimary.co.uk](http://www.downviewprimary.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Mrs Mandy Williams**

6<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents

Welcome back to all our families, new children in Reception, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. The children are settling in to their new classrooms exceptionally well, we are looking forward to an exciting term ahead.

#### **Dates for the term**

Individual School Photographs - 14<sup>th</sup> October

Half Term - 24<sup>th</sup> October to 28<sup>th</sup> October

First Day back - 31<sup>st</sup> October

Parents Evening, Year R to 6 - 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 3.30 until 8pm

Parents Evening, Years R to 6 - 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 3.30 until 6pm

Last day of term - 16<sup>th</sup> December

Inset Day - 3<sup>rd</sup> January

First day back - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

#### **Inset Days**

3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017

5<sup>th</sup> June 2017

One further date to be set

#### **Collecting at 3.20pm.**

All children in years R, 1, 2 and 3 must be collected by an adult at 3.20p.m. from their classroom door. If a child-minder collects your child (ren) please ensure they know where the classroom is. Please wait in the playground areas not too close to the building to ease congestion at the classroom doorway.

Only in occasional and exceptional circumstances should children be collected from our main Reception. This area becomes very busy at the end of the day and uncollected children cannot be accommodated.

Blackbirds Fun for Kids is available onsite for before and after school childcare. Contact details are 01243 824049 or 07961 824049.

We would request that in order to avoid confusion with children attending Blackbirds and especially when our outdoor clubs start we would appreciate if the children did not play in the school grounds and/or use the school equipment.

The play trail must not be used before or after school. Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring the safety of your children at the end of the school day.

#### **Reception and Year 1 Outdoor areas**

Please may we ask parents not use the Reception outdoor area (the blue fenced area) or the year 1 outdoor area as a thoroughfare nor allow the children to play with the equipment in these areas particularly before school as these will have been set up for the children's learning for the day.

#### **Water Bottles**

Please will you send in a named water bottle with your child on a daily basis for them to drink throughout the day.



### **Lunchtimes**

If your child has a hot meal at lunchtime they may bring in a carton of juice or squash to drink with their meal should they wish to. Milk and water will of course always be available as an alternative. May we also remind you not to send in any sweets or chocolate in your child's lunchbox or any products containing nuts as we have children in school with severe nut allergies.

**If you book a hot meal with Chartwells please update your child's/children's class for the new academic year.**

### **Absence line reminder**

If your child is unwell and absent from school please will you either telephone the school to let us know or text the Absence line on **07845 999637** on the first day of absence. It is the policy of the education department that all absences must be covered by a note from the parent/guardian as soon as their child returns to school.

### **Secondary Transfer**

For our parents with children in Year 6, you can apply for a place at secondary school for September 2017 from now until Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October. It is recommended to complete your application online where possible. Free Internet access will be available at all West Sussex libraries for parents who do not have access to a computer at home.

### **Parentmail**

If you haven't yet done so and wish to register with ParentMail, application forms may be obtained from the office. Parents are able to now pay online using the 'ParentMail App' to pay for school trips, theatre visits etc. Please check your e-mails regularly for any messages that have been sent from school also regularly checking your junk and spam folders as sometimes e-mails may appear in here.

### **Uniform and P.E. kit**

We would be grateful if you could ensure your child wears the preferable school uniform including footwear at all times. Please also note that weather permitting all children participate in outdoor P.E. It is therefore essential they have warm clothing during the colder months, including jogging bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers. Your child should also have their named Book bag and water bottle with them in school. Would you please ensure that all children bring their P.E kits into school on a Monday morning, to be taken home on a Friday afternoon.

### **Cycling to School**

If your child/children cycle to school then please ensure they wear a cycle helmet. We have been advised recently of children riding their bicycles without them. "It's so important to **wear your bike helmet**. Wearing one doesn't mean you can be reckless, but a helmet will provide some protection for your face, head, and brain in case you fall down".

### **British Patron Saints Days**

30<sup>th</sup> November - St Andrew's Day

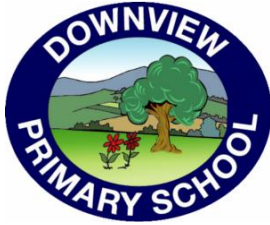
1<sup>st</sup> March - St David's Day

17<sup>th</sup> March - St Patrick's Day

23<sup>rd</sup> April - St George's Day

To mark these special Patron Saints days in the British Calendar children belonging to the following associations may wear their club uniform to school for the Day on these dates.

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Sea Scouts, Air Scouts, St John Ambulance Badgers and Cadets



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### **Year 3 WWT visit**

Year 3 recently visited the Wildfowl and Wetlands Centre at Arundel. The children had a really great time and were especially impressed to see a family of swans which included the grey cygnets they had discussed in their Ugly Duckling story writing. They also enjoyed observing and sketching garden birds in the hide and of course playing in the adventure play areas! On our return to school they have produced some outstanding work creating bird posters which are on display in the classrooms.

### **European Language Day**

A big thank you to all the parents/carers who gave their time last Friday to come in to help make gateaux for KS1 French Day.

### **FCC-DISCOVer Learning!**

FCC have made a short video about their school which was launched on YouTube this week.

Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjhrNke4w74>

*'FCC is often asked, 'What is the essence of your school?'*

*Whilst we were delighted that this was reflected in our good OFSTED report this year not everyone wants to read these.*

*So we decided to make a little video and see if we could capture FCC in 90 seconds!*

*Thank you to the Felpham school community, A level media students and HERO for what you are about to see. If you like it, please share it!*

**House Points** - Congratulations to the following children who were awarded their badges recently:

**Red Star;** Archie Searle, George Vigneault, Blake Anderson, Lewis Daymond and Caitlin Jones

**Blue Star;** Remie Doran

**Gold Star;** Raghavi Pakirathan-Kandasamy

Mrs M Williams  
Headteacher

