

# NORTH HEATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## ERICA WAY HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX RH12 5XL



### NEWSLETTER 8

April 2025

Dear Parent/s and Carer/s,

Welcome back from Easter! The last term flew by and now, with weather hopefully improving daily, it is almost summer. We had a busy end of term with various class assemblies, trips and events but hopefully all the children have had a chance to relax over the Easter break and are set for the various planned learning opportunities, trips and school events this term.



#### Kindness



We have continued to focus heavily on the importance of kindness within a happy community, both in assemblies and in individual classrooms. Working with pupils to support them in developing a better understanding of how their words and actions affect others can only help make the school a more positive place for everyone. At the same time as helping pupils to recognise kindness and suggesting strategies for them to demonstrate their own good intentions, we are trying to reward as many of the small acts of kindness carried out each day as possible to reinforce the value we place on this quality. So far, we have given out hundreds of reward stickers so we are sure most pupils are experiencing kindness at North Heath each day! This is exactly what we would wish for so that every child feels safe and valued.

*Kindness is the way – every day ☺*



#### Absence and Lateness



A quick reminder that the school day starts at **8:45am**. Doors are open from 8:40am so pupils can get organised and settle to their learning. Timetables are tight as there is so much to squeeze into each day and pupils regularly arriving late are missing important elements as well as disturbing other pupils' learning. We know everyone is busy at the start of the day but being on time really does make a difference to your child's school experience.

It is also important that all parents know that we are unable to authorise absences for holidays. Although we fully understand that jobs, costs and balancing family demands play a part in parents' date selections, this cannot be taken into account. All pupils are entitled to 190 days of education each year and each of these days matters. So, schools have to make attendance a priority to best impact the life-chances of their pupils. Thank-you for your support with this.



#### Sports



We owe congratulations to both our Year 6 Tag Rugby Teams who played in the Horsham District Schools' Competition in the last week of term. North Heath A Team narrowly missed out on a place in the semi-finals but, when placed in the 'Shield' play-offs, won their games emphatically to become the 'Shield Play-Off' winners.



North Heath B had incredible success during the group stages and then won their semi-final match to earn a place in the finals. They fought impressively but were unfortunately beaten on the final whistle with a score of 7-6. They, therefore, were crowned 'Tournament Runners Up' after their superb efforts.



Also playing recently were our Year 5 and Year 6 netball teams who took part in several stages of competition over the last few months. Our Y5 team played well over the course of the competition but unfortunately were not placed within their league. However, they played against strong teams and developed a whole range of competitive skills for their matches next year which should stand them in good stead.

The Y6 team played fantastically well all season and won many matches! Although up on points within the league, they were narrowly defeated in a final match between the top 2 teams. As a result, they were placed second in the league.



As always, our players showed passion, self-belief, determination and teamwork and we are incredibly proud!

*Working together, we enjoy and achieve*

## Work Experience

Reception and Year 1 have recently supported pupils on work experience and Mrs Sherwood and Apple Class continue to support a Collyers student 2 days a week for her course. In addition, in Year 3 and Y4, we supported two Y12 pupils from a local school to give them a better idea about the world of work and what is involved in teaching – they were extremely impressed by the pupils at North Heath in terms of their capability and behaviour. This is always lovely, if unsurprising, to hear! It also provides an extra pair of hands in the classroom, meaning that we can provide even more varied learning experiences for our pupils. We look forward to hosting students from Millais, Forest and Bohunt before the end of this term.



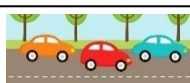
## Holiday Club



We have been delighted with the turn-out for Sports Stars holiday Club – it tells us that parents are interested in new options for holiday clubs as well as being a ringing endorsement from the children of the PE and sports teaching we provide at school. Sports Stars are keen to provide similar clubs during the May half-term and summer holidays so keep an eye out for information from them. Once dates are agreed, we will signpost the booking process for our parents. Be aware - you may need to book early to guarantee a space.



## Road Safety



Our roads are increasingly busy and keeping children safe around parked and moving cars is always a worry.

I recently received the following message from the Road Safety Officer for West Sussex who is trying to share messages that could support all our young people:

*With a lack of funding preventing us from delivering as much Road Safety as we would like to, we have had to find alternative methods to educate our residents and keep them informed with Road Safety-related topics.*

*One way we try to achieve this is via our Road Safety Facebook page, which has now been running for approximately 3 years. Unfortunately, our following remains low and therefore to increase the reach to our page, we need to promote it as far and wide in the county as possible. To assist us with this and keeping the children and their families in the community safe, here is a link to our Road Safety page -*

[https://www.facebook.com/RoadSafetyWSCC/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/RoadSafetyWSCC/?locale=en_GB)

*All ages can benefit from the information we post, which in turn could help to make children's journeys to and from school, safer, healthier, and overall easier for everyone.*



## Speech and Drama



We are always on the look-out for new experiences for our pupils and recently heard from a company offering public speaking teaching for LAMDA exams. Pupils would have 1:1 lessons, in the same way as they do for piano, and these would be during the school day. Because of this, it comes at a cost but I have agreed to offer the sessions to parents to see if there is an appetite for this provision at North Heath. Confidence in speaking and presenting to an audience is a useful skill that can support pupils in many ways as they get older. The company have produced a flyer for us in case any parents are interested in this opportunity for their child/ren and we will share it later this week.



## Horsham Plant to Plate

This coming Saturday is another good time to be in Horsham!

There are a range of events taking place, all linked to Sussex Green Living's Plant to plate festival. Follow the link below to find more details of what is going on in and around Horsham for the festival.

It looks like there is plenty for everyone to see, do and taste!

<https://www.sussexgreenliving.org.uk/plant-to-plate/>

Find out more:





## Pupil Success



As the year progresses, we have more and more pupils achieving their Bronze Award Certificates from collecting merits from their teachers. These awards demonstrate pupils' commitment to their learning and to appropriate behaviours in class and around school. We hope they have been proud to share these achievements with you!

Some of our pupils have gone even further and have already earned a silver award – under 20 so far – and I know there are more close behind. As I'm sure you do, please celebrate with them when they receive the certificates as they have worked hard, across the term, to achieve these awards.

Next in line is the gold certificate and finally a platinum award which comes as a small glittery badge in their house colours. We are not anticipating giving out many of these so they should be very special. ★★☆☆

Every week, we celebrate house points given out to pupils (1 with every merit and some given without a merit) and this creates great excitement as we find out which houses win tokens for these in assembly each week.

Then we look at who is getting closer to winning the cup.

Current totals are: **Tilgate: 87 tokens (4564 housepoints)**  
**St Leonards: 86 (4544) Ashdown: 66 (4141) Owlbeech: 59 (4062)**



## Senior Leaders

I am delighted to inform our community that following a round of recruitment last term, we have appointed Mrs Smith and Miss Head as Assistant Headteachers.

As well-known members of staff having worked at North Heath for several years, we know they will be a real asset to the growth and ongoing development of the school. We are fully confident that both are outstanding teachers, committed to supporting the children, staff and parents during their time at North Heath.

We are very excited!



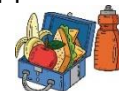
## Lunches



A quick reminder to everyone who books hot lunches through Chartwells that you need to book the specific meals for your children at least two weeks in advance. Midnight on Thursday is the cut off day and there needs to be at least 2 weekends in between booking and the date of the meal. This saves any disappointment on the day as Chartwells are unable to provide alternative meals to the ones booked, even if the pupils have eaten them previously. Even better if, in the morning, you can remind your child (accurately!) of what has been booked so that they know what to expect – I understand that this is tricky on a busy school morning though! We would also like to ask that any meals that are booked and then are no longer required, are cancelled before the cut-off date as the school is charged for all meals ordered for KS1 pupils.

We are trying to encourage pupils to develop good table manners, such as placing their knife and fork on their plate at the end of their meal – it would be great if you could reinforce this at home as it is another skill that helps prepare them for their future, happy social-life.

For parents of pupils with packed lunches, please be aware that we try to encourage the children to eat whatever you have packed. This is even more so with the main elements such as sandwiches and fruit than the 'extras' of chocolate bars and treats. Whilst we try to watch carefully while they are eating, some pupils are very skilled at hiding uneaten food or even dropping it on the floor! We know that some of you will be completely unaware that your child hasn't managed the whole lunch as it is very difficult to trace dropped food back to its owner! However, it is wasteful and risks you continuing to provide similar types and quantities of food that are maybe too much at lunchtime. Please try to make the time to discuss with your child what they are happy to eat at lunch so that they have food they like in the quantities they are comfortable eating. Thank-you for your support with this as I know we all want the children to enjoy happy, and hopefully healthy, lunchtimes.



As we move into the summer term, we look forward to a wide range of events including class assemblies, sports days, class trips, and family & parent events run by FONH. We are also looking forward to brighter, hopefully drier, days and lunch playtimes all together on our lovely big field.

As ever, we appreciate the way you support the school to help your children flourish. Please keep in touch and let us know about any concerns you have, any changes at home and any achievements your child may experience out of school that we will know nothing about. Enjoy the warmer weather!

Yours sincerely

*Nicky Chesshire* (Headteacher)

## Upcoming dates

<b>MAY</b>			
Thursday	1	Y3 Hazel Class Assembly	Hazel
Monday	5	BANK HOLIDAY	
Tuesday	6	Y5 Egyptian museum and workshop 2:00pm-3:00pm	Y5 pupils + parents
Thursday	8	Y3 Willow Assembly	Willow
		YR + Y1 – Local Area Walk	YR + Y1
W/B Monday	12	SATs week	Y6 pupils
Friday	16	FONH – Spring Disco	FONH + Hall + pupils
Monday	19	Y3 Hazel – Horsham History walk and visit	Y3 Hazel pupils
Wednesday	21	Class Photographs	All pupils in school uniform
Friday	23	Last Day of Half Term	
<b>JUNE</b>			
Monday	2	INSET day – No pupils in school	Teachers + TAs + Governors
Tuesday	3	Pupils back to school	
Thursday	5	Y4 Cricket at Billingshurst	Y4 team
Monday	9	Children's Parade Big Make – Y3 in Mulberry	Y3 pupils
Wednesday	11	Y6 Cricket + JB	Y6 team
Thursday	12	Y2 Silver Birch Assembly	Silver Birch
Tuesday	17	Y5 to Mary Rose in Portsmouth	Y5 pupils + volunteers
Wednesday	18	Whole School Photograph	All pupils in school uniform
Thursday	19	Y2 Elder Class Assembly	Elder
		Y1 to visit Tilgate Park	Y1 pupils, staff + volunteers
		Y6 Girls Cricket	Y6 team
		6:30 – New Reception Parents Meeting	Reception Sept 2025 parents
Tuesday	24	KS1 Sports Day 9:30-11:30	KS1 + YR + parents
		10:00-11:00 – New Reception intake	Reception Sept 2025 parents
Wednesday	25	Y6 Rounders competition at Millais	Y6 team
Thursday	26	YR Apple Assembly	Apple
Friday	27	District Sports	Y3/4 team am Y5/6 team pm
<b>JULY</b>			
Tuesday	1	Y2 to Wakehurst Place	Y2 pupils + volunteers
Wednesday	2	Transition Day	All pupils
		YR/1 Cherry Assembly	Cherry Class
Thursday	3	KS2 Sports day 9:30-11:45 and 1:15-3:15	Y3/4am + Y5/6 pm
Sunday	6	Horsham Children's Parade	Y3 pupils + Mr Cousins
Monday	7	Lime Class - Local Mapping 1:30-2:45	Lime pupils
Tuesday	8	Y6 Inclusive Cricket at Kingslea	Y6 Team
		Lime Class - Local Mapping 1:30-2:45	Lime pupils
Wednesday	9	Reserve sports Day – KS2	Y3/4am + Y5/6 pm
Thursday	10	Y1 Chestnut Assembly	Chestnut
Sunday	13	FONH – Summer Fayre – Western Theme	All
Monday	14	YR to Washbrook Farm	YR Apple + Cherry
		Larch Class - Local Mapping 1:30-2:45	Larch pupils
Wednesday	16	Open Evening + meet the teacher – 5:30-6:45	All parents/pupils/staff
Monday	21	6:30pm – Y6 Leavers Performance	6:30-7:30pm
Tuesday	22	LAST DAY OF TERM	