



Newsletter 15

24/05/2024

Dates for your diary!

SUMMER TERM 2024

HALF TERM 27th – 31st May

D-Day Anniversary – 6th Jun

FS2 New Parent meeting – 2.15pm 17th Jun

Home clothes for Royal Signals Charity – 19th Jun

Sports Day (timings tbc) – 25th Jun

Downlands Family Picnic – 25th Jun

Cedar class assembly – 27th Jun

Yr5/6 Cumulus Residential – 3rd-5th Jul

Transfer day/Move up morning – 9th Jul

Summer Fayre (timings tbc) – 11th Jul

KS2 production (timings tbc) – 16th Jul

Downlands Dance Festival (timings tbc) – 18th Jul

Year 6 Leavers Speeches & BBQ – 17th Jul (new date)

Last day of term – 19th Jul

AUTUMN TERM 2024

Inset days – 3-4th Sept

Autumn term starts – 5th Sept (phased start for FS2 pupils)

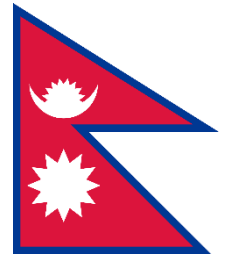
Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your families are well. Here are some final news items and messages prior to the half term break.

Nepal Day

We are committed to holding a Nepal Day each year around the time of Buddha Jayanti. This year, all our children were invited to visit the temple on camp where they could see a replica Nepalese House and try out traditional instruments. They also heard from the Lama Guru who spoke to the children about showing strength through being kind to others.

Downlands Community School is proud of its diverse and multi-cultural community which reflects the modern British Army. Our families represent all corners of the British Isles and many other countries too. Almost a quarter of our community have links with Nepal, but we also have extensive international links beyond this - represented in the clothes children chose to wear on this special day. Many thanks to parents for their support, and to members of the Nepalese community for organising the temple trip.

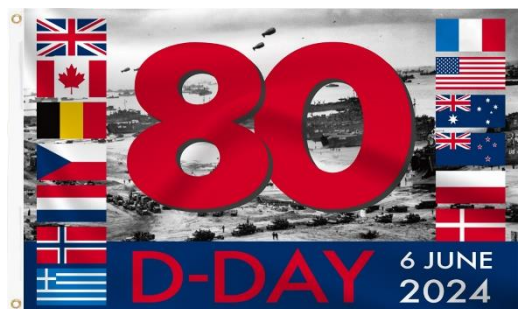




80th D-Day Anniversary celebrations

I am pleased to announce that we will be marking the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings with some special events.

On Wednesday 5th June, Y6s will take part in a poetry workshop with a guest poet from the organisation [Never Such Innocence](#): they will develop poetry themed around peace and have the opportunity to recite them in front of their peers.



On Thursday 6th June (D-Day anniversary), we will begin the day with a special assembly. At around 1130hrs, the school will gather outside for the official opening of the FODS Hideaway with a special guest. Children will then eat lunch outside (weather permitting) in a street party style where we will also be joined by some vehicular guests. Please see the following information for bringing in food to share on this special occasion. This day will also be mufti (red, white and blue themed) with moneys raised going to the afore mentioned charity of Never Such Innocence.

The list below outlines a guide as to what we would like the children to bring in and some suggested items. All contributions will be 'pooled' collectively as a school which may mean that your child may not have the food that you supplied. **Foods containing nuts must be avoided.** The school will provide drinks.

If you would prefer your child to eat specific food, please send them in with a plate of food, clearly labelled with their name.

Dandelions - Biscuits (eg. chocolate and plain)
Reception – Crisps (eg. Twiglets, Wotsits, Cheddars)
Year 1 - Savoury (e.g. Pizza, scotch eggs)
Year 2 – Savoury (eg. Sausages, cheese straws)
Year 3 -Sandwiches (eg. Ham, egg, tuna & mayo, cheese, marmite, jam.)
Year 4 -Sandwiches (eg. Ham, egg, tuna & mayo, cheese, marmite, jam.)
Year 5 - Fruit/Veg (eg. Cucumber and carrot sticks, apples, tangerines)
Year 6 – Cakes (eg. Fairy, mini rolls, homemade!!!)

Please can Years 3 and 4 make 4 rounds of sandwiches each (8 slices of bread) so we have plenty for all the children.

Hot school meals for this day have been cancelled.

Y6 SATs

A huge well done and thank you to all Y6s whose attitude was so brilliant during the SATs week. They still have to complete their writing portfolios before the end of June, but they can feel really proud of themselves for completing the tests in the manner which they did.

Headteacher drop ins

A reminder that I leave my diary clear each Friday morning between 0900hrs and 0945hrs for parent drop ins. No appointment is necessary and I welcome parents to come and talk with me if they have any questions or concerns relating to their child's experience in school or about the direction of the school in general.

Thank you for your support

I raised almost £1100 for Prostate Cancer UK thanks to the kind donations of many parents and staff, so I thought I would update you all to say that I managed to complete the Jurassic Ultra Challenge (58km) in under 7 hours (just). Thanks for your support and kind messages.

My team and I wish you and your families a great holiday and we can't wait to see your children again next term.



Yours faithfully
Mr J Rielly
Headteacher