



# North Mundham Primary School

The Heron Newsletter



Welcome to our fortnightly newsletter

Autumn 1

6th September (bi-weekly newsletter)

In this newsletter, find out about:

- **Mrs Gordon's message and school news**
- **OPAL updates**
- **Reminders and Notices**
- **Internet Safety**
- **Upcoming events**

## **A Message from Mrs Gordon**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school after what I hope was a very successful, happy and safe summer break for you all. And of course a warm welcome to all of our new families it has been a pleasure to see the new Ladybird Class in school this week and I am very impressed at how quickly they have settled in to the routines of school. The Year 6 buddies have been very keen to meet their buddies and were a great help to them during their first lunchtimes yesterday and today.

This week we have introduced 6 new Learning Behaviours that we have linked to our values of Belong, Believe and Achieve. Our new Learning behaviours are; Pride, Communication, Collaboration, Resilience, Independence and Curiosity. We will be embedding these into everything that we do and supporting the children to see how these will help them in their learning and for their future. They have been responding well and it would be great if you could reinforce this at home and share any successes with your child's teacher so that they can be recognised at school.

### **Staff News**

This week we have welcomed Mrs Donna Nurse to our TA team. She will be working across the school supporting children with interventions and in class. Mr Duncan Campbell is now our Premises Manager.

Sadly Mrs Cross will be leaving us at the end of this term. Jane has been a hugely significant person in our school for over 30 years and she (and Sophie of course) will be greatly missed. However, she has decided that now is the right time for her to retire and spend time with her family and the garden.

### **Celebrations**

We started our celebration assemblies today and it was wonderful to hear about how the children had settled into their new classes.

Bumblebee Class- have shown resilience and creativity in their 'Drawing Club' work. Lots of them have written sentences to go with their drawings- well done!

Praying Mantis Class- have worked hard on their presentation in their school books and have been displaying our learning behaviour of pride.

Butterfly Class- have been working independently on their writing this week and Mrs Palin is very proud of the effort that they have shown. They have been focusing on making sure that they use capital letters and full stops in their writing.

Well done everyone for a great first week back!

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes,

Zoe Gordon, Headteacher



## OPAL- Outside Play and Learning



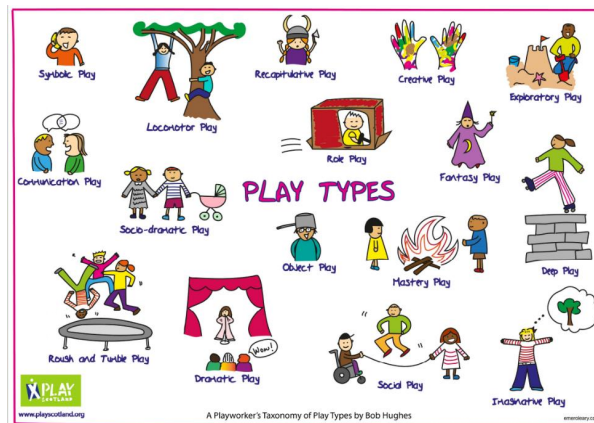
**The new shop**

In the holidays Mr Burroughs and Mr Campbell created a shop next to the OPAL shed to extend our offer of role play and creativity. Many of the children have made use of the

Sadly we had to cancel our OPAL birthday celebration today due to the weather. We rarely have to cancel OPAL due to the weather but with such wet weather early on in the term, we have been taken by surprise and were a little unprepared. Please ensure that your child has wellies (or shoes they can change into) and a waterproof coat that they can wear when it is wet so that we can use our areas as much as we can.

We still welcome donations of clothing, kitchen ware, crates, pallets, plastic boxes, old scooters and other items that we can replace any broken or worn out items with.

Many thanks



1 - We are always looking to develop the different play types and create new opportunities.



## Internet Safety



Each year the government publish a document called '[Keeping Children Safe in Education](#)'. This year's version has a renewed emphasis on online safety.

We work hard to support the children's understanding of online safety and ask that you are really vigilant with your children at home about their internet use and activity.

If you are unsure what they are doing online- ask them.

You can find some excellent advice here: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

## Important Notices



### Notices

#### Pyjamarama and Reading

You should have received a letter about Reading at school. We will be holding our Pyjamarama Day next Friday. Children can come to school dressed in PJs (or similar comfy clothing) for a small donation to Book Trust. We will have other reading activities throughout the day to promote the love of reading through the school. We are also reintroducing the reading certificates which will be awarded after the children have read a certain number of times. Please ensure that you sign your child's new reading diary when they have read so that it can be counted.

Please ensure that your child looks after their reading diary. If they are lost or ruined, you will have to pay to replace it. A plastic folder or bag might be a good idea to protect it.

#### Clubs

Most school clubs will start on 23rd September. A letter with information will be out soon. See separate emails and information for externally run clubs

#### Guitar lessons

We are just finalising the details of employing a new guitar teacher and will send out information in the next week or so.



## **Meet the Teacher Meetings**

Next week there will be Meet the Teacher meetings for all classes as follows:

Monday 2.45- year 1

Tuesday 2.45- YR

Tuesday 3pm- Year 4

Wednesday 2.45- Year 3

Wednesday 3pm- Year 6

Thursday 2.45- Year 5

Thursday 3pm- Year 2

These meetings are an opportunity for you to meet your child's new teacher and find out what the children will be doing this year.

## **Volunteers**

We welcome volunteers who can help with reading or other activities- please let your child's teacher know if you are able to help. In addition, we really need a volunteer who could come and help organise our library. An hour or so each week would be amazing and make a big difference. NB All volunteers will need to complete an application and DBS check.

## **Uniform**

Thank-you to everyone for the big effort in providing your child with the correct school uniform. The children have looked very smart this week. Full details of our uniform including the policy can be found [here](#).

We now have an excellent online pre-worn uniform shop with many cheap items available. All uniform is online here... <https://north-mundham-school-parent-teachers-association.sumupstore.com/> Most items are 50p-£2 per item with so many items that are practically new! Every item is marked with size, brand, and an indication of condition. There are currently 245 items ready to buy. **Donations** welcomed especially jumpers and cardigans - drop to school office and I'll pick them up to get them listed.

## **Attendance**

Please ensure that your child is in school on time (by 9.00). Once the register is closed, a child is marked absent and this is unauthorised. Children miss vital learning if they are late and it can also be very unsettling. We expect children in school every day unless they are very unwell in which case you must phone or email the school office. Holidays must **NOT** be booked in school time. If they are, this will be unauthorised and referred for a fixed penalty notice as per government guidance. When children miss school, it has a lasting impact on both their academic progress and their mental well being. It can also really impact their future life chances. If you have difficulty getting your child in to school, please contact the school office and make an appointment to see Mrs Gordon, Mrs Robins or Mrs Finch.

## **Reflection Room**

We have a therapeutic behaviour policy and promote positive reinforcement of behaviour wherever possible. However, occasionally a child does not follow our behaviour Golden Rules or makes a poor choice. If this behaviour has been continual (despite warnings), disruptive and/or aggressive in nature then the consequence is that they spend time in the Reflection Room at lunch time on the day of the incident. This will be with a senior member of staff and will involve a reflective activity to, hopefully, change the behaviour. If your child is in the Reflection Room, you will be sent a short message to inform you of that so you can follow it up with them at home.

### **Dogs on site**

Please note that only service or guide dogs are allowed on our school site. These dogs must be on the lead. If you cannot avoid bringing your (non working) dog onto site, we ask that it is carried by the adult owner. This is for the protection of our school community.

### **Recycle to Read Toys**

We are still collecting old good condition toys that we can convert to new books with the Recycle to Re

Many thanks for your co-operation in these matters.

## **Dates for the diary**



23rd July- Break up for summer 3.20pm

2nd September INSET

3rd September Return to school for pupils

9-12 September - Meet the teacher meetings (see above)

13th September - Pyjamarama (see above and separate email)

17th September- Y4 to Weald and Downland Open Air Museum

18th year 3 to Butser Ancient farm

19th September School Council and House captain elections

20th September - INSET day

23rd- 27th September- Outside Learning week\*

23rd September- School run clubs start

25th September- Open Morning for new parents (September 2025 YR entry)

30th September- Harvest assembly

3rd October- Little City in school\*

9-10 October author visits\*

10th October - World Mental Health Day

10th October pm- Open Afternoon for new parents (September 2025 entry)

17th October- Bag2School

24th October- Creepy Cakes sale\*

24th October- end of half term for pupils

25th October- INSET day

6th November - Year 1 Campfire evening \*

8th November -Y4 Class Assembly 9am

11th November- Remembrance Assembly

13th November- World Kindness day

15th November- Year 6 to British Museum in London\*

21st November- House Baking competition\*

22nd November- Year 6 assembly 9am

29th November- Year 5 Class assembly 9am,

6th December- Christmas Fair

9th December- pm Y1 and 2 Dress Rehearsal

10th December pm- Year 1 and 2 performance 1\*

11th December-am YR- Dress rehearsal

11th December pm year 1 and 2 performance 2.

19th December- Christmas church service

20th December- break up for Christmas

### **INSET Days**



## **20th September**

25th October INSET

24th February 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025

## **West Sussex Term dates 24-25**

Autumn 1- 3rd September- 25th October (INSET)

Autumn 2- November 4th- December 20th

Spring 1- 6th January- 14th February

Spring 2- 24th February (INSET)- 4th April

Summer 1- 22nd April- 23rd May (INSET)

Summer 2- 2nd June- 22nd July

## Contact Us



If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact us:

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