



The Federation of The Downs & Northbourne Church of England Primary Schools



Chair of Governors: Dr A Eyden
Vice Chair of Governors: Rev D Ridley

***“if you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible.”
(Matthew: 17 v20)***

The Downs CEP School

Owen Square, Walmer
Kent CT14 7TL
Tel: 01304 372486 Fax: 01304 380471
Website: www.downs.kent.sch.uk

Headteacher: Ms T Leighton
Deputy Headteacher: Ms N Luxford
SENCO: Mrs N Barnes
Safeguarding Lead: Mr M Turner

Northbourne CEP School

Northbourne, Deal
Kent CT14 0LP
Tel: 01304 611376 Fax: 01304 621938
Website: www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr M Reynolds
SENCO: Mrs K Morrison
Safeguarding Lead: Mr M Turner

Dear Parents / Carers,

Phased reopening of Northbourne

As of Monday 1st June, Northbourne reopened its doors to pupils from EYFS, Year 1, Year 6 and pupils of Key-Workers, in line with Government guidelines. All teaching staff and most Teaching Assistants are now back in school full time, working with the pupils and delivering a bespoke curriculum. The government have requested that schools prioritise exercise, speaking and listening activities and opportunities for socialisation (within their bubbles and respecting social distancing of course!). The pupils in school have enjoyed plenty of exercise and fresh air this week, as well as taking part in some English, Maths and Topic sessions with their teacher.

The social distancing measures that we have taken around the school site have been respected and followed by pupils and adults. The pupils are all getting used to working separately from each other and using a limited number of resources in the classroom. The zoned areas on the field have been very useful for providing safe spaces for each group to play and exercise in.

If your child is in EYFS, Yr 1 or Yr 6 and you are considering sending them back into school over the coming weeks, then please do contact Mrs Lund in the school office, as we have to monitor the sizes of each group very carefully to ensure they do not exceed 15 pupils.

Home Learning during Term 6

Those pupils who are in Years 2 to 5 do not currently have the option to attend school, therefore it is important that they continue accessing the home learning that their teachers have prepared for them. ***At this point in time we are not producing any new paper home learning packs.*** This is due to all of our efforts going into meeting the government's directive of re-opening school under very strict logistical and health & safety guidelines. All of our teachers are now working back in class, full time. ***They will still be supporting online learning via Purple Mash. They will still be responding to pupils and marking their work via Purple Mash.*** For the time being please ensure that this is the learning resource that you are supporting your child with.



If we develop the capacity to produce a third set of home learning packs for the whole school then we will let you know.

Aside from Purple Mash, I would encourage all of our families to continue to prioritise high quality time together and family experiences. ***School is still not statutory for any pupils***, and if you are continuing to look after your child safely at home then please make the most of these unusual times. We are here to support you remotely where we can.

Lockdown – Toilet Roll Challenge Video

Some of our pupils (and staff!) in Miss Roberts' class have been very creative during Lockdown and have produced a toilet roll challenge video for us all to enjoy. You can follow this link to our school website to watch the action!

<https://www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Beech+Class+Lockdown+video&pid=220>

East Kent Science Jamboree – A Virtual Experience

Each year we take our Year 6 pupils to the East Kent Science Jamboree, hosted at Discovery Park. This is a fabulous science experience, where local scientists, companies and technology firms come together to give our pupils a hands on experience of working with science and technology. This year we were booked to attend during June, but inevitably the event has been cancelled. In its place, the organisers have created a 'Virtual Science Jamboree' which will be available to view anytime from Thursday 11th June at www.thestemhub.org.uk. This event is particularly suitable for pupils in Years 5 and 6, however, I would encourage any of our pupils and their parents to check out the Jamboree and enjoy a flavour of the event. It will certainly provide opportunities for engaging and inspiring science activities.

Engage Literacy – Online Reading Books



We are very aware that one of the most requested resources throughout lockdown has been reading books. Sadly, due to having to disinfect absolutely everything that a child uses, we have not been renewing reading books or sending any further books home. We do apologise for this.

We have shared numerous reading resources with you during lockdown. Parents of EYFS pupils received a letter outlining some excellent Phonics resources that could be found for free on the internet, as well as some suggestions of books that could be purchased. Additionally, there are online reading resources listed on our website, in the Pupil Zone, titled Further Learning Sites To Explore:

<https://www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Further+Learning+Sites+to+Explore&pid=140>

One further resource that we would like to highlight to you is ***Engage Literacy***. You can access the website at: www.online.raintree.co.uk and use the following login information: **Username:** UKfreeaccess **Password:** engage

This website is particularly useful for early readers and those looking for shorter fiction and non-fiction texts. Each book is fully readable online and you even have the option to have the book read to you. The free access to this website lasts until 31st July 2020. I hope you find this a useful additional resource.

Mr M Reynolds

