



# 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](http://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](http://www.northbourne-cep.kent.sch.uk)

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

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

Dear Parents / Carers,

### **An opportunity for all pupils to return before the summer**

As you know, I have said all along that our aspiration has been for every single one of our pupils to return to school before the summer holidays. For a short while this was proving to be very challenging, especially as our number of Keyworker pupils and those in EYFS, Yr 1 and Yr 6 continue to take up the government's offer and return to school.

However, over the past week, we have managed to balance our numbers carefully in order to create a short window of opportunity in which to welcome back all of our pupils. This week we have prioritised our Year 5 pupils. It has been wonderful to have them back with Mr Martin, in their classroom, socialising, learning and preparing for Year 6 together as a cohort.

As we move into next week we will be welcoming back our Year 2 and our Year 3 pupils for 3 days and 2 days respectively. We have not seen these pupils for over 3 months now and we cannot wait for them to return and enjoy some quality time with Mrs Diamantis ahead of the summer holidays.

If your child is in Year 4, please don't think we have forgotten you! We are putting the final plans in place to see if we can offer those pupils a few days with Mr Martin in the coming weeks. Whilst I cannot promise anything or give you exact details, please know we are working hard to make this happen.

### **INSET Days for next year**

We have set our INSET days for the next academic year. They follow a very similar pattern to this year. The days are either attached to a Monday following a Half Term or they create a long weekend. We hope you find this structure helpful, especially if you are planning family time away next year (Covid dependent, of course!)

Please see the dates below:



## INSET Days 2020/2021

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September (Pupils will start the new school year on Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> September)
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November (Monday following Oct Half Term)
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February (Monday following Feb Half Term)
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June

## **Staffing structure for next year**

After such a disruptive year, we have focused on consistency for our pupils as we move ahead into next year. To this end, the class teachers will remain in their current classrooms. There will be some movement within our team of teaching assistants, in order to provide some ongoing support as the pupils move up to new classes. We are delighted that Mr Whelan has agreed to stay with our TA team for the next year and we will also be supporting Miss Iggleden as she begins her teacher training.

Our staffing structure will be:

- Willow Class – EYFS  
Teacher: Miss Bradley, Teaching Assistant: Miss Scott
- Beech Class – Year 1/2  
Teacher: Miss Roberts, Teaching Assistant: Miss Lamb
- Maple Class – Year 2/3  
Teacher: Mrs Diamantis, Teaching Assistant: Mr Whelan, Student Teacher: Miss Iggleden
- Hazel Class – Year 3/4  
Teacher: Mr Martin, Teaching Assistant: Mrs Mander-Don
- Oak Class – Year 5/6  
Teacher: Mrs Tutton, Teaching Assistant: Mrs Heath

There is a slight change from our usual structure next year; our Year 5 will not be split as they usually are. Due to a very small Year 6 cohort, we will be able to accommodate Yr 5 & 6 together in one class. Our Yr 3 cohort next year will be based with Mrs Diamantis as usual, however, in order to balance class sizes we will have a very small number of Yr 3 pupils based in Mr Martin's class. We are in the process of speaking to individual parents regarding any new arrangements next year. You will be informed of your child's new teacher when you receive your end of year school report later in July. Please bear with us as we work through the new class arrangements for next year.

Mr M Reynolds

