



Northbourne News

13th May 2022

Congratulations to all of our year 6 pupils for working so hard during their SATs tests this week. We were all so impressed by how calm and motivated everyone was, and by the resilience and perseverance shown as pupils worked through their papers. To hear pupils reflect at the end of their final test yesterday “that wasn’t as bad as I thought!” was a testament to both their extremely positive attitudes and the work of our staff to keep these tests in perspective. We are all very proud of all of them.

I would like to pass on huge thanks to all of our Upper Key Stage Two team for the time and energy they have spent helping pupils prepare in the build up to their tests – they have, as always, gone the extra mile to make sure pupils were prepared and confident, and I am very grateful, as always, for the commitment they have shown.

Year 6 know their learning doesn’t stop now SATs are over. They have exciting topics to cover for the rest of this term and after the half term break which will ensure they continue to make progress across all areas of the curriculum, and will also be thinking about their transition to secondary school. I am looking forward to seeing Y6 continue to set an example for the rest of the school as they end their time with us at Northbourne.

A request from Y5/6 for magazines and newspapers they can use for an Art project – please send these in to class teachers if you have any.

Sun Protection Policy

As we (hopefully) approach a period of warmer weather, a reminder about our approach to children being outside in the heat might be timely. You will find our Sun Protection Policy attached with this newsletter – please have a read through to remind yourself of how we aim to keep your children safe during the summer, and what we ask you to do to help us with this.

Read, Write Inc

A couple of weeks ago I explained that we are in the process of changing our Phonics scheme, with staff starting to use Read, Write Inc (RWI) for our teaching programme. Our move towards fully using RWI continues; Mrs. Alleway, our Phonics and Key Stage One Lead, is working alongside staff to make this change as seamless as possible.

Parents and family members play a hugely important role in supporting our teaching of early reading, not only by listening to children practice at home, but through reading to children and helping them develop positive attitudes towards books and a deep, lifelong love of reading. With this in mind, Mrs. Alleway has produced a brief video to introduce RWI and share some key information about the programme, available here: <https://youtu.be/NRa74Pu4nuk>. Please take ten minutes or so to click through and listen; as always, let me, Mrs. Alleway or your child’s class teacher know if you have any further questions we can help with.

PTA News

Our PTA are busy planning our Summer Barbecue – the first we have been able to hold since 2019. We hope you will be able to join us between 5 and 8pm on Friday 24th June – please hold the date and pop along to join in the fun and help our fund-raising efforts.

If you have a small business or would like to join us to host a stall, please contact the PTA through their email account pta.northbourne@gmail.com or their Facebook page and someone will be in touch to discuss further. More information about the barbecue will follow, so watch this space...

Secondary Transition: Y5

Although it seems a little early to mention secondary school if your child is in Y5, the deadline for your applications is the end of October...and this rolls around very quickly at the start of next school year. The secondary School Tours in the Autumn fill up very quickly, so Didcot Girls' School have organised some tours over the next few weeks should you be interested in having a look round and asking any questions you may have. Dates are below and further information attached.

Didcot Girls' School

Committed to Excellence



School Tours 2022

To book a place please use the links on the Open Events page of our website

Tours will take place on the following mornings:

Tuesday, 10th May	Wednesday, 18th May
Friday, 17th June	Tuesday, 21st June
Wednesday, 22nd June	Monday, 27th June
Wednesday 29th June	Wednesday, 6th July

All School Tours 9am - 11.15am

Missing Scooter

A purple child's scooter has gone missing from the bike shed during the week. Could you please check at home to make sure your child has brought the right one back with them, and let us know if you have one in error. Many thanks in advance.