



Northbourne News

20th May 2022

It has been the turn of pupils in Year 2 to complete their SATs tests this week – as with Y6, children in Robins, Wrens and Nightingales have risen to the challenge brilliantly, showing focus, resilience and determination in showing off their reading and maths skills. I have had more children than I can remember tell me how much they enjoyed their tests – a testament to their love of learning and desire to be their best. As always, many thanks to our Key Stage One team for their organisation and planning around these tests.

Sports Day

We are really looking forward to our sports day next Tuesday...and have our fingers crossed that the forecast for dry weather is accurate. A reminder that, on Tuesday, pupils in Y1 – 6 will need to come to school wearing a T-shirt in their house colour and the rest of their PE kit (black / dark shorts or black / dark jogging trousers and trainers) and bring:

- a bottle of water, sun-cream and hat, especially if the weather is warm, and a waterproof coat to wear between races if it is showery;
- any inhalers needed.

We will always do our best to try to run sports day as we appreciate that many parents book time off work to watch this event. However, rain does make the field slippery and, as you know, the safety of our pupils is always at the forefront of our decisions. Therefore, any decision to cancel sports day due to the weather will be based on the forecast for the rest of the day and will be taken **at the start of the day** to enable us to inform you of this as effectively as possible. We will ParentMail before 8:45am should the weather forecast suggest the afternoon is likely to be wet. In this event, we will have a second attempt at this year's Sports Day on **Tuesday 21st June**.

It would be lovely to have lots of parents and family members come along to join us. If you are joining us, please arrive to watch from 1pm onwards, when the school gate will be open. Please make your way around the outside of the school to the field. Please note, we will need to start promptly at 1:10pm to get through the races we have planned and so, to keep the site secure, the gate will be locked from this time.

- A small number of chairs will be set up for you on the side of the running track nearest the school; please feel free to also bring rugs and your own fold-up chairs, as there won't be enough seating for everyone. We would be grateful if spectators could remain on this side of the field, behind the cones set out, at all times to enable teachers and teaching assistants to organise children on the other side of the track effectively.
- Our PTA will be running a café during the event, so please pop along to support our ongoing fundraising.
- As in previous years, children compete in one of four houses. Please feel free to cheer for your child's house and for the rest of the pupils involved in the day. We know that sports day can be overwhelming for some children – and this will certainly be the case this year, as this will be such a new experience for so many children - and we know you will all cheer for everyone taking part to provide support and encouragement.
- After this, pupils will return, one class at a time, to their classrooms to collect their belongings. They will then be dismissed from their classrooms at the normal time of 3pm.
- We ask that children in Reception and Nursery are **not** collected to watch Sports Day; they will have their own planned learning to take part in. Details about the Early Years Sports Day will follow next term.

We hope these arrangements are clear. If you have any questions, please speak to myself or your child's class teacher. We look forward to an enjoyable afternoon!

Jubilee Picnic

We are looking forward to our Jubilee Picnic next Wednesday – at the moment, the forecast looks promising, and hopefully children will be able to eat together on the field. A reminder that children are welcome to wear any red, white and blue clothing you may have at home to help mark this special occasion.

PTA Update

Huge thanks to our PTA committee for spending a back-breaking day in our circle garden this week, giving it a tidy up ready for the summer. The beds look much smarter, and we are looking forward to the new plants flowering. The PTA are keen to put together regular working groups to help keep on top of maintaining this area; if you are green-fingered, or even if you aren't but are just happy to lend a hand, please contact the committee through the PTA Facebook or email (pta.northbourne@gmail.com) – any time you can spare would be grateful appreciated by the PTA and by us at school.

Year 6 Bikeability – Level 3

At the beginning of Term 6 we will be offering children in Year 6, who have already completed their Level 1 & 2 training in Year 5, the opportunity to gain their Level 3 training. Please look out for the sign-up form to be sent by ParentMail at the beginning of next week.

Year 6 Leavers Photo

Our Year 6 leavers photo is planned for the afternoon of Thursday 26th May. Please note there will be **no PE** on this day for **Eagles, Kites and Kestrels**, and we ask for all Year 6 children to come to school wearing school uniform.

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