



# Northbourne News

26<sup>th</sup> May 2023

School closes today for the half term break. We look forward to seeing you at 8:45am when we return to school on Monday 5th June.

## Sports Day

We were overwhelmed to see so many parents and family members join us for sports day earlier this week – what a huge turnout. The weather turned out to be pretty much perfect – if a little on the warm side – and we hope you enjoyed the afternoon. It was great to stand at the starting line and see the determination on everyone's faces...but also to see everyone laughing, getting into the team spirit, having a good time and, in so many cases, showing perseverance and resilience. We had talked in assembly about the nerves and anxiety which go along with racing in front of so many people; although a number of children told me they were nervous as I chatted to them during the morning, I only saw great focus, resilience and enthusiasm during the afternoon. Whatever the outcome of their races, our school values were clear to see; thanks, again, to all of you for encouraging all of our young competitors so warmly.

Congratulations to **Ash, the blue team**, for finishing first overall with 135 points. Well done to everyone for throwing themselves into the occasion so enthusiastically.

Many thanks to all of our staff who worked so hard to plan Sports Day and to ensure that it ran so smoothly, and thanks to the PTA for running the parents' café – as always, we all appreciate your hard work.

A final thanks and well done to our Y6 Sports Captains Charlie and Vesper, Elle and Charlie, Sophie and Benji, and Toby and Amelia, who did such a great job in setting an example of how to behave and compete, and who were hugely helpful in getting competitors to the right place for each race. Thanks, all, for your help.

**Reception Sports Day:** Children in Puffins and Swans are really looking forward to their own Sports Day, which this year will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Races will start at 10:30am, and parents will be very welcome to stay for a picnic lunch after the events. Please keep the date and more information will follow next term. Parents and carers of children in Reception are also warmly invited to our Celebration Assembly at 2:30pm on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July – again, more details will follow.

## Pentecost Service

Many thanks to everyone who joined us for our Pentecost Service at St. Peters this week. As always, it was a pleasure to hear such joyful singing – including from the choir – and to see the confidence with which Toby and Harry, Sophie, Hannah, Freddie, Niall, Florence, Jessica and Ted brought to their readings. Thanks to Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Green for their hard work leading our choir, and to Reverend Hannah for welcoming us to church so warmly.

## PTA Updates

Many thanks to all of you who came along and enjoyed the PTA Quiz last Friday. Thanks to your generosity and the hard work of our committee and other parents, the event raised over £450. So far this term, the contributions you have made have helped us buy a new trolley to store our iPads and replace some of the Chromebooks in our trolleys which have reached the end of their life. This wouldn't be possible without the ongoing efforts of our PTA – so thanks to all of you.

Well done and huge thanks to Lisa Howlett, our Vice-Chair, who ran the Blenheim 7k to raise money for Northbourne at the weekend. Lisa has smashed her £500 target and has, so far, raised a phenomenal £800. We are all so grateful, Lisa, for the hours you spent training and running – what an achievement. Lisa's Gofundme page is still live, so if you can spare a donation and help increase the total raised further, please click through to <https://tinyurl.com/2s3bhb87>.

**Northbourne Book Day**

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, the whole school will be celebrating books and a love of reading with our very own Book Day. Teachers are busy planning a whole range of fabulous activities for their classes and we would love your help with just a few of them.

- As part of the day, classes will be pairing up for some 'buddy reading' and we would love it if your child could bring their favourite book to school to share with another child (please label the books if possible).
- We are also holding an Extreme Reading Competition where we have challenged the children to see how many different and unusual places they can read in over the half term holiday; we would love family member to take part too. You can help by taking a picture of your child in their (safe!) extreme reading place or hideaway and either send a printed copy to school with your child or email it to [office.3852@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3852@northbourne.oxon.sch.uk), labelled with the subject Extreme Reading. Please be aware that these pictures will be displayed in school – entries by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June please.

Please note that, this year, we won't be asking children to dress up for our Book Day as we want the children (and you) to focus on reading enjoyment rather than worrying about their costumes.

**Well done Jessica!**

Thanks to everyone who supported Jessica in Owls in her fundraising for the Little Princess Trust. Since I last wrote, Jessica has had 14 inches cut off her hair (her new style looks great) and has raised £550 – the cost of a new wig – as a result. Well done for living out so many of our school values Jessica – what a star.