

**9<sup>th</sup> February 2018****Newsletter 5**

Dear Parents,

Another half-term has flown by with so many achievements and events contributing to our full and active school life. Thank you to all those parents who attended the Year 1 phonics drop-in; more detailed information will be sent to you in a letter including news of another workshop .

Year 1 children had a fabulous time at The Ashcombe School developing their sports multi-skills with other children from the Dorking School partnership.

Out of The Egg.

The whole school have been truly inspired by our 'Out of the Egg' topic, and children who are engaged and interested do far better in their learning! I imagine the buzz has spilled

over into home life and you have been able to see just how much impact the creative approach to our curriculum has had. It appears that the eggs we found on our school grounds finally hatched this week and rumours suggest some baby dinosaurs escaped through an open window and even made it to St. Peter's church! There is much more to come next half-term. Now that the children have had an introduction to orienteering we are introducing the much anticipated whole school '**Welly Wednesday**' learning sessions straight after the half-term. Children will spend the afternoon outside the school taking part in a range of well-planned topic related activities, sometimes adult led (this includes more MOLES/forest school learning/orienteering/Dino Digs) and sometimes child led. We will be capturing their learning through observations and photos/videos and hope to share this with you at the end. Please can you ensure that your child/ren come to school every Wednesday in suitable clothes including wellies /scarves/hats/gloves/waterproofs (if you have them) and coats. We would like them to wear their school jumper but they may need more layers underneath if it is a particularly cold day. We are more than happy for children to also bring in slippers to wear during that day should they wish to.

**Family Snack challenge**

As part of the 'Change for life' initiative we are being encouraged to think about making healthy snack choices. Many children are eating three times more than the recommended sugar quantity, much of this coming from snacks. Your child has brought home today a **7 day 'Family snack challenge' leaflet**, encouraging a healthier approach to snacking that we hope you will have a look at over the half-term.

**Congratulations!** – to Mrs Woolfson on the birth of her daughter – Otilie Sylvia – mother and baby are both doing well.

Finally, a huge thank you goes to the FONS group for their substantial contribution to the school from their fundraising events, most notably the very successful Xmas Fayre. We are truly appreciative of their support and have been able to purchase resources to support our teaching of phonics, reading books, curriculum resources for our creative topic teaching as well as other subject areas including maths, science and art. Thank you families for continuing to support them so that they can support us!

**Have a fabulous half-term holiday.**

Paula Bliss      Gayle Priestley      Nicky Cleather  
**Newdigate Leadership Team**

**Just a few things to note:**

**Back to School** – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Break up for Easter holidays at 2pm on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> March

**For more dates visit the website:**

<http://www.newdigate.surrey.sch.uk/calendar/>

**FONS events:**

**Quiz night** 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018

**Children's Magic show** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March

**Pool life savers and first aiders** training day coming up soon (see FONS newsletters for more details)