



Dear Families and Friends ....

In this newsletter, I want to bring you up-to-date with the school diary for the remainder of the summer term and to share some news from this half-term.

First though, I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome two new members of staff, Milupa Shahid and Carol Brown, to our after-school club team. Both Karen Beswick and Susan Harwood have recently reduced the days they work in the after-school club and Milupa and Carol are working these and some additional hours to provide some extra staffing levels on our busiest days.

I want to remind you that the school closes today for one week. Hopefully the weather will be favourable for us all to enjoy a little sunshine and I wish everyone a enjoyable bank holiday weekend and half-term holiday.

Best wishes

Ian Beard  
Headteacher



## KEY DATES for your DIARY

<i>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June</i>	<i>School opens for the remainder of the summer term</i>
<i>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2.00pm</i>	<i>Learning Walks</i>
<i>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June, 9.00am</i>	<i>Learning Walks</i>
<i>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Dress Down Day (Summer Fair) for Chocolates/Gifts</i>
<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Nursery Class Assembly</b>
<i>Week Beginning 17<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Geography Awareness Week</i>
<i>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Year 4 class visit to Llanberis, Wales</i>
<i>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Dress Down Day (Summer Fair) for Bottles</i>
<i>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Year 5 class visit to Manchester Health Academy</i>
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Reception Class Assembly</b>
<i>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Visiting Theatre Company : Alice in Wonderland</i>

## KEY DATES for your DIARY continued



<i>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June</i>	<i>Summer Fair</i>
<i>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July</i>	<i>Sports Day (Infants AM, Juniors PM)</i>
<i>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Reserve Sports Day (if 3<sup>rd</sup> July cancelled)</i>
<i>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Reception class visit to Smithills Open Farm</i>
<i>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Pupil's annual report to Parents</i>
<i>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Year 6 leavers' party (Britannia Country Hotel)</i>
<i>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 9.15am</i>	<i>End of Year Certificate Assembly</i>
<i>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>Class Transition</i>
<i>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 3.30pm</i>	<i>Parents' Drop-In (optional discussion about report)</i>
<i>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 9.15am</i>	<i>Year 6 leavers' assembly</i>
<i>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July</i>	<i>School closes for the summer holidays</i>

## LEARNING WALKS – CHANGE OF DATE

We are sorry that we had to postpone our learning walks which were originally planned for this week. It was a busy week this week with assessment tests still taking place and a class visit planned for Wednesday. Learning Walks will now take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

## MUSIC AROUND THE WORLD (YEAR 4 PROJECT)

I have not had an opportunity to say publicly how proud Miss Chapman and I were of the Year 4 children earlier this term when they performed alongside four other primary schools at the Manchester Health Academy. The children sang songs from around the world with the other schools and then performed a individual class piece on the Samba drums. Given that they had had little rehearsal time, they did exceptionally well and received a great round of applause from the audience for their upbeat (and rather loud) performance. It was brilliant. Well done everyone!



## PLAY EQUIPMENT – IMPORTANT REMINDER

We would like to remind all parents and children that children **MUST NOT** play on the outdoor play equipment (including Early Years equipment) at the end of the school day, even if supervised by parents. We are concerned about a lack of supervision by some parents and the potential for accidents to occur. On most days the playground area will be coned off and staff will supervise at the end of the day. When this is not the case, children must still not play on the equipment. I know some parents feel we are being “miserable” but this is a matter of safety and supervision. There is also a need for us to clear the playground of children and parents as soon as possible at the end of the school day so that extra-curricular activities can begin. We ask all parents to ensure they leave the school premises by 3.15pm each day so that we can lock the gates for the security of the children who remain on site after school. Thank you for your co-operation.

## ONE GOAL : THE 'SIX HABITS' PROGRAMME

During the spring term, Year 4 and Year 5 had the privilege of working with Lucy from One Goal. One Goal has helped us develop the skills of the Six Habits, which are: *attitude, behaviour, communication, discipline, effort and fairness*. Every Thursday, Lucy came in to work with us on the six habits. Working together, we used our six habits to accomplish hard, tricky challenges. Some of the activities were: the stepping stones game, which involved lots of effort and the class quiz that made us work as a team. At the end of every session, Lucy awarded stickers to six people who had shown their six habits during the lesson. Lucy also worked with us and Key Stage 2 children at lunch time. We did hockey, netball and basketball, which made us use a lot of effort and communication to work as a team. Not only did Lucy help us work as a class, she helped us work as a school. We can surely say every Thursday was a joy at lunch (with fewer arguments). We are now trying to use our six habits wherever we go.

*Article by Hannah Caulfield, Mae Kinley-Morgan and Ruby Wadbrook*

## CHARITY / HOSPITAL FUNDRAISING – GENTLE REMINDER

We would like to thank all the children who took part in a range of physical activities to raise money for the children's hospital on 26<sup>th</sup> April. Judging from the number of children who were out of breath by the end of the task, it was definitely challenging for some. The children were asked to seek sponsorship for their physical challenges and our aim was to raise over £1,200 for the children's hospital. To date less than half of the children who took part have returned their sponsorship forms and money. This is slightly disappointing and we are hoping that children and parents simply need a gentle reminder to collect their sponsorship money. We are hoping to present the hospital with a cheque in an assembly after half term so we need all of the sponsorship money to be returned to school when we return from the half-term holiday. Thank you for your support.

For those of you who do not know, Mrs Singh completed the London Marathon in a good time of 4 hours 12 minutes, keeping a steady pace throughout despite a gruelling last few miles. We would like to congratulate Mrs Singh on this great achievement.



## SUMMER FAIR

The date for the Summer Fair has now been confirmed as 29th June. Our 'Friends' team are currently busy planning activities for the fair and are hoping to gain the support of more parents to help run stalls and activities on the day. Look out for sign-up sheets which will be posted up in school after the half-term holiday. You can also join in the discussions online via the Friends' Facebook page 'The Friends of Northenden Community School'. If you can support the Friends team in any way for this event, please contact Paula Wadbrook on 07875 509 939 or Lisa Beattie on 07810 448 817.

## DRESS DOWN DAYS – TOMBOLA STALL PRIZES



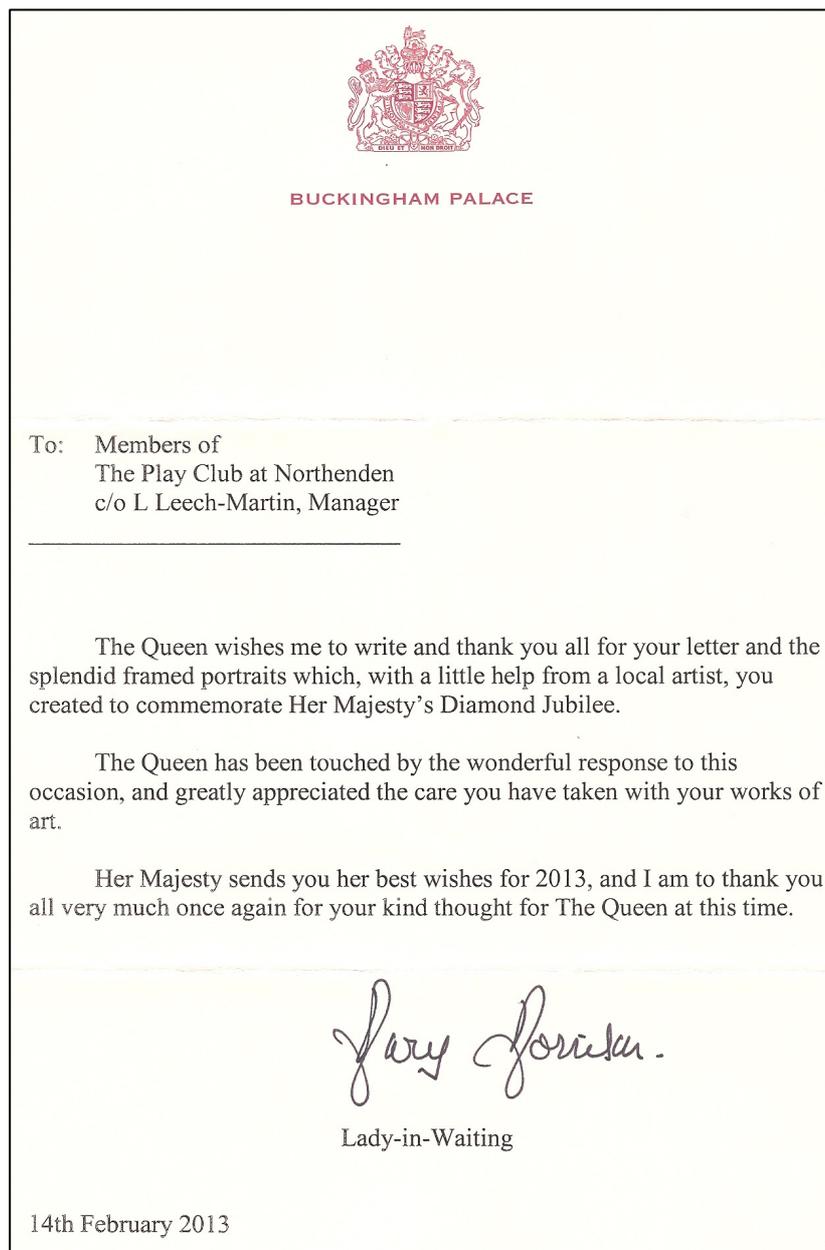
As always, we need your help in making our tombola stalls a success and are asking parents to donate items for the prizes. In exchange for bringing in prizes, children may 'dress down' (not wear their school uniform) on two occasions. Children can 'dress down' on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June in exchange for **chocolates and gifts** and again on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June in exchange for bottles (toiletries or drinks, including bottles of wine, etc). Thank you.

## AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB : A LETTER FROM HER MAJESTY

Some weeks ago, a letter with a Buckingham Palace postmark arrived at school. It is not everyday that such a letter arrives so you can imagine it caused some interest and intrigue in our school office.

The letter was addressed to our After-School Club and when opened by Lana, our After-School Club Manager (Mr Beard resisted the temptation to open it), it was found to be a response from Her Majesty, thanking the children for an item sent to her by our After-School Club in celebration of her Diamond Jubilee last year.

The club sent her a number of drawings of members of the Royal Family sketched by Marcus who was working with the team at the time and displayed by those in the club. Well done to everyone involved. You should be proud of your letter from the Queen.



## ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY

I am very encouraged by children's overall attendance at this time which is 96.9%. This is just 0.1% less than our target of 97.0% which I do hope is achievable. Two classes, Year 2 and Year 6, have achieved 98% attendance which is fantastic. Attendance in Year 4 is the lowest at 96.0% which not has not been helped by parents taking family holidays during term time. We will publish a more detailed report in our next newsletter.



**APOLOGIES FOR THE PRINT QUALITY OF THIS NEWSLETTER  
WE ARE WAITING TO REPLACE OUR AGING PHOTOCOPIER!**