

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 18 November 2016

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Message from the Head Teacher

Pre-Prep Ashtead has been very popular this week as we have welcomed a variety of visitors. The new Head of Lower School at the Prep School, Clare Kirkham, helped me welcome everyone to school on Tuesday. James Carroll from Cognita was impressed with the behaviour and academic standards that he saw when he visited on Wednesday. Open Morning on Thursday was an opportunity for the children to show off their school to prospective parents and they proved themselves to be wonderful ambassadors. The Year One children in particular impressed us all with the confidence they demonstrated when talking to

the visiting adults. Great job, Year One!

The teachers and I are on the hunt this half term for acts of kindness. 'Thoughtfulness' is the focus for my golden stars and it has been so pleasing to see the children relish my challenge. In fact the teachers were spoilt for choice this week when making their decision about the golden star recipient in their class. These are the kind of problems I like!

Next week, I have been asked to attend a Cognita Global Leadership conference so I will be leaving you in the capable safe hands of my Deputy, Janet Catlow.

Tessa Roberts

The Blue Balloon



Luckily First Steps haven't floated away this week as they have listened to and enjoyed the Mick Inkpen classic story 'The Blue Balloon'. They have squeezed, squashed, stretched, pulled, filled and had a thoroughly bouncy time experimenting with their bright blue balloons.

Autumn Days

Rising Reception were out and about on Monday morning being autumn detectives. The leaves were EVERYWHERE, which was just perfect. Amelia told us that she found 'an enormous leaf' and that the leaves made a 'crunchy' noise when she walked on them. Our investigators did a great job of spotting all of the items on their list and came back to school with a basket full of goodies to explore.

Andrea Powney and Sally Rose



Don't Forget

- **Thurs 1 Dec** - Christmas Post Box arrives
- **Fri 2 Dec** - Year One to see Year 2's Nativity
- **Mon 5 Dec** - Christmas Concert Photographs



Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

Pre-Prep Ashtead	01372 385439
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Pre-Prep L/head	01372 385437
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Admissions	01372 372311
School Nurse	01372 385409
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Downsend +	01372 385403
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Golden Board

Achievements in class work, good manners and excellent behaviour are celebrated in a special Assembly every week.

We congratulated the following children today:

First Steps

Mary Malcomson

Rising Reception AP

All of the children for a super autumn walk

Rising Reception SR

All of the children for a super autumn walk

Reception CH

Niamh Price

Reception MP

Holly Sweeney

Year One

Jack Dangerfield

Keira Dolan

Well Done!

DAPA - What a Team!

Pumpkin Tea 2016

We had a brilliant turn out for this year's Pumpkin Tea with everyone dressing up in lovely Halloween outfits, including the committee! Thanks to everyone who joined in the fun from the Demented Disco, Mummy Mayhem and Pin the Eyeball on Melvin the Monster! With your support we were able to raise over £100! Just AMAZING!



DAPA Race Night 2016

DAPA would like to extend a massive thank you to everyone who supported last Friday's Race Night, either by buying Raffle tickets or coming along or indeed both!! We hope you would agree that a FANTASTIC time was had by all and it was lovely to catch up in a more informal setting! We managed to raise almost £800. A GREAT result!



Many thanks indeed from your DAPA Team!

Events Week Commencing Monday 21 November

Lunch Menu week 1

Mon	3.30 - 4.30	Football Club
Tues	9.45 - 11.15	Last Tots in Tune
	3.30 - 4.30	Hockey Club
	3.30 - 4.30	Rising Stars Club
Wed	3.30- 4.30	Rising Stars Club
Thurs	3.30- 4.30	Problem Solving Day
		Construction Club
Fri	3.30- 4.30	Yoganory Club
Sat	11.00	DPA Christmas Fair at Downsend School

Can you help? - 16-20 Jan 17

We have decided this year to run a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) themed week in January. We already have some plans afoot but wondered if we have any mums or dads out there who have a passion for these subjects. If you could offer a little talk or could bring something along to share with the children please let us know.

Surprise Visit

We had a lovely surprise today when 'Bubba', a very special Woofability dog visited us at school. Andy and Katie from the charity were also surprised with their cheque for £552 which is the total money raised since May.



Inspiring young minds