

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Ashtead



**'OUTSTANDING'**  
SIS Inspection 2014-2015  
Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 23 September 2016

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### Message from the Head Teacher

This week in school has been fascinating as each day new displays are popping up, proudly presenting the children's achievements. I'm sure that you have noticed the wonderful artwork on the stairs and in the hall with a pattern theme. All sorts of interesting work is appearing in the classrooms so please go and have a look if you have a few spare moments in the morning. Each half term we focus on one of our golden values. We encourage the children to think about why the

value is important and how it benefits them and the people around them. During an assembly time, I introduced our first value of the year, good listening. Each week someone from every class will be awarded a golden star for showing us how hard they are trying to achieve the golden value. All the stars are displayed, hanging outside First Steps. Congratulations to those children who achieved their listening star today.

Tessa Roberts

### Where's my Mummy?



The children in First Steps are loving their class story 'Owl Babies'. However, this week one of their baby owls has flown out of the nest and gone missing! They think the owl might be looking for their mummy. Handprints were made in a hurry to create a Mummy owl in the classroom to tempt the baby back to it's nest.

### Clubs in Full Swing



Our autumn clubs programme got off to a great start last Friday with 'Yoganory'. Hayley Chalwin's storytelling captured the imagination of the children as they fully embraced all of the yoga moves. Football Club and Rising Stars are firm favourites for the children and this term is no exception, with Mrs Thomas now running Rising Stars on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. New clubs for this term are Hockey and Construction. As the children learn more from these hands-on experiences, you can see from the photos that we think they are brilliant.



### Don't Forget

- **Wed 5 Oct** - Year One Forest School trip to Ashtead Common
- **Fri 7 Oct** - Welcome morning at Downsend for parents with children in Rising Reception
- **Mon 10 Oct** - Parent/Teacher Interview Appointments available online
- **Wed 12 Oct** - Reception Forest School trip to Ashtead



## Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

Pre-Prep Ashtead	01372 385439
Pre-Prep Epsom	01372 385438
Pre-Prep L/head	01372 385437
Prep School Office	01372 372197
Admissions	01372 372311
School Nurse	01372 385409
Finance Department	01372 374842
Marketing	01372 385402
Downsend PP+	07899 011275
Downsend+	01372 385403
Mobile	07909 861280

## Lunchtime

'Mmmmmmm! Nearly lunch time!' You can hear these words clearly around the school as delicious smells drift from Mrs McCluskey's kitchen each day. We have been delighted this term with the way our youngest children sit beautifully at lunchtime with their friends and are using their spoons and forks to eat independently. The Year One children are old hands now at second sitting and are really helping the Reception children settle into the routine. During the main course, the older children listen to music whilst they eat their dinner and are asked not to chatter. This encourages the children to eat all their food and to concentrate on using their knife and fork correctly. Using a knife and fork at this age is tricky so your help at home would be much appreciated to support this life skill. Pudding time is a different affair as the children can chat to their friends while they finish their lunch. Using good manners at lunchtime is always praised and encouraged and lunchtime visitors are impressed by our happy and purposeful dining hall.

### Events Week Commencing Monday 26 September

#### Lunch Menu week 1

<b>Mon</b>	15.30-16.30	Football Club
<b>Tues</b>	9.45-11.15 15.30-16.30 15.30-16.30	Reception visit Pizza Express Tots in Tune Hockey Club Rising Stars
<b>Wed</b>	15.30-16.30	Rising Stars
<b>Thurs</b>	9.00-10.00 15.30-16.30	Coffee Morning for parents with children in First Steps Construction Club
<b>Fri</b>	08.45 15.30-16.30	DAPA Macmillan Coffee Morning Yoganory
<b>Sat</b>	9.30 - 11.30	Open Morning Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

## Golden Board

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

**First Steps**  
Matilda Wilson

**Rising Reception AP**  
Harriet Edney

**Rising Reception SR**  
Samuel Dolan

**Reception CH**  
Jake Hannah

**Reception MP**  
Alice Simmons

**Year One**  
Niamh Brember

### DAPA

Many thanks to everyone who attended this weeks DAPA AGM, which was held, on Tuesday 20 September. We are pleased to announce the following committee members have been voted in :

Chair : Victoria Driscoll

Deputy Chair : Chantal Hannah

Secretary : Lynsay Haque

Treasurer : Natalie Price

After a fantastic year fundraising in 2015/2016 we are looking forward to continuing that momentum this academic year. We have some great events planned for all ages and really hope you'll be able to join us!

### Spare Wellies

If you have any wellies at home that are not needed any more please could we have them for school.



## Well Done!

## Inspiring young minds