

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
6 Norman Avenue
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Friday 16 September 2016

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Message from the Head Teacher

Not only has our first full week together been a busy one, it has been a particularly special one for me. As I've walked through school, either on my own, or with visitors, children have rushed up to proudly share their work, their ideas for games at playtimes, their favourite lunch or tell me that the chickens and guinea pigs are back from their holidays and in residence again! Naturally, some of our very little ones in First Steps are still experiencing the odd wobble but on the whole, the school is calm and the children are happily absorbed in their

routines and working purposefully. Parents will have noticed the walls gradually filling with displays and photographs for us all to enjoy. DEPA held their first meeting last week and plans for social events are underway. After-School Clubs for children in Reception and Year 1 started this week and parents across three year groups have met with the class teachers to discuss the curriculum. Yes, a very busy week indeed and I feel privileged to be a part of this special, wonderful school.
Kay Barrett

News from the children in Reception

Reception have had a very exciting week. On Monday we hunted for numbers outside. Tuesday was our first swimming lesson with Mrs Langham, our swimming teacher. She was very impressed at how confident we were in the water. We have made the most of the wonderful sunshine all week too and spent lots of time in the woodland garden. We've been taking care of the guinea pigs, the chickens and their chicks and have noticed that many of the vegetables are ripening. The reddening tomatoes are huge and look very tempting!
Sharon Butler



Photograph Day!

All the children will have their school photograph taken individually next Wednesday morning. Would parents please ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform and looking extra smart. If in doubt, please speak to your class teacher, thank you.

A little Reminder

For the children's safety, the front door is closed at 08.55 and the class registers are taken throughout the school. A late arrival can be disruptive and so we ask that everyone arrives punctually in the mornings.

Don't Forget!

- What's for lunch each day? Please refer to the menu board to the right of the iron gates.
- All communication with school, including emails for staff, must come via Mrs Lauren Albert, school secretary. Thank you.
- Open Morning at Downsend School Sat 24 Sept 09.15. All Pre-Prep parents welcome.
- Family Fun Day at Downsend School Sun 25 Sept 2-4pm. Pre-Prep parents and families welcome.



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

Celebration Board

Achievements in class work, good manners and excellent behavior are celebrated in a special Assembly every week.
We congratulated the following children this week.

First Steps
Eve Delahunty

Rising Reception CC
Cassius Dubey

Rising Reception SB/RP
Luca Jarrett
Freddie Smith

Reception
Alaina Malhotra

Year One PM
Amber Whitelock

Year One AB/JW
Annabel Eaves

Well Done!

Staff News

Several new staff join the team at Epsom this term. Miss Polly McIntyre is teaching in Year 1. Mrs Joanna Wedlake, also new this term, is teaching alongside Mrs Annette Burbidge, returning following maternity leave. Mrs Wedlake and Mrs Burbidge are teaching in Year 1. Teaching Assistant, Mrs Stephanie Strange, joins First Steps. We feel sure parents will want to join the school in welcoming them all warmly and wishing them well as they start their roles at Downsend. A new music teacher was appointed at the end of last term but has since withdrawn. We are in the process of recruiting once more and will keep parents informed.

Events Week Commencing Monday 19 September 2016 Lunch Menu week 3

Mon	15.30-16.30	Cookery Club
Tues	15.30-16.30	Football Club
Wed	15.30- 16.30	Photographers Ward Hendry in School Forest Club
Thurs	13.45-15.15 15.30-16.30	Toddler Group Gardening Club
Fri	15.30-16.15	Young Engineers Club



Children in Reception have been hunting for numbers in the playground this week. They found lots on their adding wall, so many in fact they needed paper on clip boards to record them all! Back in the classroom, the children found or drew objects to correspond with the numbers they'd found.

Inspiring young minds to create a lifelong passion for learning and discovery