

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 2 December 2016

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Message from the Head Teacher

Goodness, what a chilly week it has been! We are hoping that it has blown all those cobwebs and bugs away as so many of our staff and children have been feeling under the weather.

The excitement is building here with Christmas just around the corner. Bethan Fogall from St George's Church popped in for our Wednesday Assembly with a perfectly timed talk all about advent.

Then on Thursday morning I was greeted with beaming children eager to tell me about the surprises that been hiding in their advent calendars. This is such a wonderful time of year for our children and I'll let you into a little secret; the staff can't wait to get the glitter and tinsel out either!

Watch out Christmas! Here we come!

Tessa Roberts

Christmas Shopping!



This week Year One have been buying items from the shop and working out how much change they should receive. They have really impressed us with their ability to add coins to make totals up to £1.00 and beyond. The children now plan to go home and count up their pocket money so that they can buy presents for some very special people!

Rumble in the Jungle

Forget I'm a Celebrity! The children in Reception have been creating their own rumble in the jungle with their child initiated topic. This half term, the children decided that they would like to investigate the jungle, causing vines to sprout from the ceiling and colourful woodlands to appear in the classrooms. As a class, we have had much fun incorporating the jungle into every aspect of our curriculum from Literacy to Maths and even Physical Development. The children have particularly enjoyed looking at the many different animals that live in jungles around the world, as well as their habitats. As we draw to the end of our topic, the children decided they would like to celebrate their wonderful choice in topic with a Boogie Woogie Ball. What a great half term! Well done Reception.

Christeen Hill and Melanie Piper



Don't Forget

- **Mon 12 Dec** - Last Swimming Lessons
- **Tues 13 Dec** - Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal at St George's Church
- **Tues 13 Dec** - Year One to Rose Theatre to see Wind in the Willows
- **Wed 14 Dec** - Christmas Nativity at St George's Church - 10.30am
- **Thurs 15 Dec** - Christmas Lunch
- **Fri 16 Dec** - 9.15am - Christmas Entertainment
- **Fri 16 Dec** - End of Term 15.30pm. No Extended Day



Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

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Christmas Wishes



This is a very special time of year for all our Ashtead families, sharing the preparations and family festivities. However, we know that there are many people for whom Christmas will not be such a happy time. We are encouraging the children to think of those less fortunate than themselves and to make an individual Christmas wish for someone else.

The Children in Reception and Year One will find a little stocking in their book bag. Please cut out the stocking and decorate the front. On the back, we would love the children to write their special Christmas wish.

Each wish will be hung in the porch for everyone to read.

I have some spare stockings in my office if anyone from Rising Reception or First Steps would also like to contribute a Christmas wish.

Events Week Commencing Monday 5 December

Lunch Menu week 3

Mon	15.30 - 16.30	Christmas Concert Photographs Football Club
Tues	15.30 - 16.30 15.30 - 16.30	Last Hockey Club Last Rising Stars Club
Wed	13.30 15.30- 16.30	Reception and Year One singing at St George's Church (Parents Welcome) Last Rising Stars Club
Thurs	14.30 15.30- 16.30	Year One visit the Red House Care Home Last Construction Club
Fri	10.45 15.30- 16.30	A 'Jolly Holly Christmas' in First Steps Last Yoganory Club
Sat	9.00	Last Saturday Sports Club

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
Sarah Prior

Rising Reception AP
Isabella Ventris

Rising Reception SR
Brennan Langley

Reception CH
Max Ayling

Reception MP
Theodor Sachs

Year One
Henry Smith

Well Done!

Early Birds

Over the past few weeks I have been reassessing the complimentary Early Birds provision that we offer here at school in the mornings. I am delighted to say that as from **Wednesday 4 January** Early Birds will start at the new earlier time of **7.45am**. Mrs Humphries will be on hand each day to welcome those children who arrive at school before 8.30am.

Tessa Roberts

Singing at St George's Church



The children are really looking forward to singing their Christmas songs at St George's Church next Wednesday at 13.30pm. Mums and Dads are welcome to come along and give us a cheer. St George's café will be open for lunch and a glass of mulled wine which should get us all into the Christmas spirit. We hope you will be able to join us.

Inspiring young minds