



10 March 2017

Welcome from the Headmaster

Yesterday, I had the very great privilege of watching our Year 2 Choir perform at the St Christopher's Music Festival in the glorious surroundings of St Martin's Church in Epsom. Choirs from 8 local schools came together to sing a range of songs, all delivered with confidence that belied the ages of the children performing. Just as heart warming was observing over lunch so many children in different uniforms playing together so readily, as if they had been friends forever. A timely reminder that a good education is so much more than literacy and numeracy skills!

Thankfully, tournament success in local and Surrey Festivals and IAPS Competitions, orchestral participation at St John's, Modern Language poetry delivered at Lancing College, Forest School sessions here at Downsend and a Year 6 Trip to the Globe Theatre reflect the breadth of life here at Downsend – and all in the last week alone! I hope that you enjoy reading more about these activities below. In closing, I would like to congratulate Isobel Roberts, the latest in a long line of scholars, on gaining a Music Scholarship to CLFS. Well done Isobel!

Ian Thorpe

Lancing French Poetry Competition

Some Year 7s and 8s spent a lovely sunny day at Lancing College and acquitted themselves well against some tough competition, including near native speakers. The children recited their poems and speeches with confidence and élan, both Mr Newland and myself being there for support, which was not needed. We were shown round the school by two delightful six formers, dressed in onesies to support their school charity! Refreshments were very welcome and most of the children agreed that they were not nearly as nervous once they got going! Thank you as always to Mr Newland for his inimitable support.



List of participants;
Year 8 – Amelia F, Maya B, Jacob S.
Year 7 – Alice L, Lucy P, Jonny P, Meherpal G.

Sarah Gregory

Leadership Lunch

Thursday was the perfect sunny day for a treat for the leaders in Year 6, 7 and 8; as a thank you for their services to their tutors and year groups the children were given a special lunch in the sunshine which included unlimited ice cream and cookies! Tutors and Heads of Year really appreciate the help and support they give to both staff and children and it is clear that they enjoy the responsibilities, undertaking them with energy and enthusiasm.



Anna Mercer, Rob Temlett and Lee Silva

House Results

Congratulations to Ranmore for winning the latest House Collection!

In a closely fought contest over the last 3 weeks, it's great to see all the children in Ranmore have stepped up their game, winning both the Lower School and Upper School competitions. With three Houses having won each of the collections so far this term, the competition amongst the Houses couldn't be closer; come on Wisley!

Positions:	Lower school	Upper School	Overall
1st	Ranmore	Ranmore	Ranmoe
2nd	Wisley	Wisley	Wisley
3rd	Headley	Headley	Headley
4th	Norbury	Norbury	Norbury

Top Achievers for this collection go to the following children; very well done to all of you:

Caitlin.B, Alexander.B, Noah. T, Martha.G, Ted. Stafford, Matthew. K, Grier. H, Meredith. B



New Menu

We have introduced a delicious new menu which can be viewed [here](#). A selection of dishes from today's menu are pictured below. We hope all the Pupils enjoyed their lunch!



Adrian Feasey, Catering Manager

Jon Albert

Next week @ Downsend

School Events



Date	Time	Event
Monday 13 March	1.15-1.45pm	Informal Music Recital, Music room
Tuesday 14 March	6.30pm	Year 5 Parent-Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 15 March	am	Year 6 Evacuees Morning
Thursday 16 March	3.00-4.30pm	Uniform Shop open for sales
Friday 17 March	Assembly All Day All Day pm	Mr M Farmer, Headmaster, St Teresa's School Year 2 Victorian Day Year 4 Team Building Day Year 6 Junior Citizen Event @ Epsom Downs

Music Update

Spring Concert – Tuesday 28 March

This year's Spring Concert will feature the following:

Examples of Art, Design Technology and Textiles work from a range of pupils from Year 2 – 8

- The Chamber Choir
- The Lower School Choir
- The Upper School Choir
- All School Rock Bands
- The Whole School Orchestra
- The Lower School Orchestra
- The Brass Ensemble
- Samba/Percussion Club

The concert will start at 7pm and should end between 8.30 – 9pm. At 6.30pm we will open the doors and invite the audience to have a look at the Art, Design Technology, Food Technology and Textiles work on display.

This event is not ticketed but should you wish to attend, please [click here](#) to book via our school booking system. If your child is performing, they should arrive no later than 5.45pm and report to the Social Area. You may enter via the Sports Hall Entrance.

Whole School Orchestra

Well done to the Whole School Orchestra for a fantastic performance at the Children's Trust Charity Concert last Sunday. You were amazing!

Music Success

Well done to Octavia M for winning her woodwind category with a Distinction at the Godalming Music Festival. She gained the highest mark across all of the beginners in the woodwind and brass categories and walked away with the Horsley cup, despite being the youngest performer.



Chamber Choir – Reminder

Unfortunately I have made the decision to withdraw the Chamber Choir from the Music for Youth Festival on Sunday 12 March. This is owing to an unforeseen clash affecting a large number of our participants. The majority of pupils who are unable to take part make up Part 2 in the three part piece we have been working on. Without them, all of the pieces we have been rehearsing will sound unbalanced and too many changes will need to be made to make it work.

Upcoming Events

Sunday 12 March	Chamber Choir perform at Music for Youth - Cancelled
Monday 13 March	Informal Music Recital (Selected pupils) 1.15-1.45pm
Saturday 18 March	Y6 Production Rehearsal 10.00-1.00pm
Wednesday 22 March	Informal Drums and Guitar Concert 6.00-7.00pm (Mr Precious and Mr Bradfield)
Thursday 23 March	Performance of Y6 Production 7.00pm (Dining Hall)
Friday 24 March	Performance of Y6 Production 7.00pm (Dining Hall)
Tuesday 28 March	Spring Concert 7.00pm (Sports Hall)
Friday 21 April	Chamber Choir tour to Belgium departs 7.00am
Monday 24 April	Chamber Choir tour to Belgium returns 10.45pm

Easter Music Courses

There are a number of music courses available to our musicians over the Easter period. Here are a few that have been recommended:

Join the Buzz Brass course 03-07 April at the Purcell School, Hertfordshire.

www.brass-academy.co.uk

Feel the Beat Percussion course 03-07 April at the Purcell School, Hertfordshire

www.brass-academy.co.uk

Surrey Arts Music Courses

03-07 April at Royal Alexandra and Albert School, Redhill

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritage-culture-and-recreation/surrey-arts/music/easter-music-course>

Summer Music Courses

Britten Music Course

18-23rd July at Gresham's Prep in Holt, Norfolk

www.greshams.com/bmc

<http://www.musicmakers.co.uk/> has come highly recommended and they are offering a number of courses in July and August suitable for ages 5-18.

If you can recommend any other courses, please let me know at steven.williams@downsend.co.uk.

Instrumental Lessons at Downsend School

If your child would like to learn an instrument at Downsend with one of our tutors then please email the Director of Music at steven.williams@downsend.co.uk. For more information about how the music lessons work, please click [here](#). Currently we have tutors for the following instruments:

Flute, Recorder, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Tuba, Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar, Mandolin, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Percussion, Ukulele, Violin, Viola and Piano.

If your child would like to play an instrument that is not listed above, please let me know and I will try to source a tutor for you.

Steven Williams

Downsend +

Downsend+

Easter and May half term course descriptions are available [here](#). Please note that the contact information form should only be completed once during the academic year 2016-17 unless your contact details change during the year.

[Booking Form - Easter 2017](#)

[Booking Form - May Half Term](#)

[Contact Form](#)

[Price Information](#)

Summer 2017 Tennis & Cricket Courses

We will be running cricket and tennis courses again this summer. Please click [here](#) to download the booking form.

All morning tennis courses will run from 9.00am to 1.00pm and the years 3 - 5 cricket course will run from 9.00am to 1.00pm and the years 6 - 8 cricket course will run from 12.00 noon till 4.00pm. All courses will include a mid session snack and a hot lunch, finishing with a barbeque lunch each Friday. The 5 session courses will cost £150. However, all courses booked and paid for in full by 4.00 pm Friday 31 March will be charged at £125.

Tennis Courses

All abilities aged 6 - 13 years

This summer's action-packed tennis courses will be led by Amanda Beaumont and her team of LTA coaches and are aimed at children aged between 6 - 13 years. The course will comprise of instruction on basic techniques, practice drills, match-play, together with singles and doubles tactics appropriate to age and ability. In addition there will be plenty of fun games for all ages, with competitions on the final

morning. Great fun to be had by all!

Cricket Courses

All abilities - Years 3 - 5 and Years 6 - 8

This summer's action-packed cricket course will be led by James Thompson and Alex Culhane, both ECB Level 2 Qualified Coaches. A fun course over 5 mornings for children in Years 3 - 5 and afternoons for children in Years 6 - 8. Both courses welcome children of all abilities to improve their batting, bowling and fielding ability through a variety of fun activities and games. Whether you are new to cricket or want to improve your cricket come and join us.

Please feel free to [email us](#) if you have any enquiries.

Rebecca Peek

Artist of the Week



Artist of the Week is Elizabeth H in 4AL for her fantastic collagraph!
Well done!

Hannah Shore

School Notices

Contact Details

Please email office@downsend.co.uk if any of your contact details change. Most communication regarding school matches, meetings and other general school information is sent via email or text message.

Medical Details

Please email nurse@downsend.co.uk if any of your child's medical details change or return a hard copy to the School Office.

[Music Clubs and Ensembles](#)

[Downsend +](#)

[Downsend Matters](#)

[Maths Clinic](#)

[School Sports](#)

[Sports Fixture Line](#)

[Parents' Swimming](#)

[Weekly Music Practices](#)

[Extended Day](#)

[Transport & Walking Home](#)

[Absence from School](#)

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Downsend Times

Should you wish to add any additional family members to the weekly distribution list then please email their details to editor@downsend.co.uk

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