

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 3 March 2017

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Message from the Head Teacher

Phew! What an action packed week! I knew it was going to be good when Rising Reception showed me their foamy hands. I have never seen so many enthusiastic and energetic writers. They tell me that writing your name in foam is highly recommended.



First Steps have travelled over land this week in trains, cars, diggers, motorbikes; in fact any wheeled form of transport you could imagine. Then, I have barely dared to venture into Reception as there seems to be a dinosaur lurking around every corner. The children are loving it as they let their imaginations take charge. "Guess what we are doing

next?" I heard Aanya in Year One say this week. Being just a little curious, I followed her in and found the children working together to create extended, descriptive fairy stories. Their use of vocabulary and the way they produced a twist to the tale was very impressive. I now can't wait to read their finished stories.

The school is looking amazing at the moment and our new spring displays in the hall and on the stairs are wonderful. It would definitely be worth a quick look if you have a spare moment or two in the morning. Also, if you are free tomorrow morning, do pop in for our 'Under the Sea Open Morning.

Tessa Roberts

Don't Forget

Mon 13 March - Open Swimming Lessons details to follow

Tues 14 March - Parents Evening for Year One, Reception MP, Rising Reception AP and First Steps

Thurs 16 March - Second-hand Uniform Shop open for Sales at Downsend 15.00-16.30

Fri 17 March - DAPA Quiz Night



World Book Day - We love it!

Yesterday the school was buzzing with excitement as we celebrated World Book Day in style. The staff would like to say a massive THANK YOU to all the parents for entering into the spirit of the event and for their wonderful creativity and ingenuity. With the amazing array of costumes that came flooding through the door in the morning, the day was off to a great start, full of storyworld adventures. Year One and Reception were treated to a fabulous workshop taken by Matthew from 'Perform'. He whisked the children off on a journey to explore the world of Fairy Tales and Fables. We were also thrilled to see some of our Downsend Year 8 children who thoroughly enjoyed spending time reading to our children and then letting the children read to them.





Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

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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
Edward Truong

Rising Reception AP
Rory Anderson

Rising Reception SR
Isla Smith

Reception CH
Max Ayling

Reception MP
Theodor Sachs

Year One
Jack Dangerfield
Felix Green
Calista James
Aliyah Khan

Well Done!

Staff News



Next Tuesday we will be saying 'Goodbye' to Sue Wood who has been the School Secretary here at Pre-Prep Ashtead for 9 years. She has done an amazing job during her time, keeping the office in order and still managing to sort out all of our questions, of which there were many. I know that she will be greatly missed but luckily for us, Sue is not going far, so we will be able to keep in touch. I'm sure that you will join me in sending her our best wishes and many happy days in her new role.

We are delighted that Mary McIntosh will be starting with us on Monday and we offer her a very warm Pre-Prep Ashtead welcome. I know that she is looking forward to getting to know us all and is keen to get involved. If you are coming along to the Open Morning, please say 'Hello', as she will be here helping Sue.



Events Week Commencing Monday 6 March

Lunch Menu week 3

Mon	15.30-16.30	Football Club
Tues	9.45 14.15 15.40-16.10	Year One visit National Gallery Tots in Tune - Cancelled this week Reception to visit Ashtead Library Spanish Club
Wed	15.30-16.30 15.30-16.30	Rising Stars Club Science Club
Thurs	8.30-9.00 15.30-16.30	Second-hand Uniform Shop open to receive stock at Downsend Storyworld Club
Fri	15.30-16.30	Creative Arts Day - African Drumming Workshops Yoganory Club



Our 'Phil' the Bag winners had their treat this week. A visit to Ashtead Pond to feed the ducks.



Mmm.. Pancakes

Pancakes were popping up (and down) in classrooms everywhere on Tuesday, causing great hilarity. They were tossed with great intentions but many never made it back to the pan! However, during the afternoon, Edward showed us all how to toss a pancake as he won our pancake challenge. He managed to toss a pancake 35 times without dropping! You now know who to invite for tea if pancakes are on the menu!



Inspiring young minds