

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Ashtead



**'OUTSTANDING'**

**SIS Inspection 2014-2015**

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 10 March 2017

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### Message from the Head Teacher

The beautiful sunshine that we have seen this week has made us want to get out and about. The children have had a wonderful time building houses, having horse races, making mud pies, exploring water activities and much, much more.

Next week, during one of our assemblies, I will be telling the children about a very special practice that will take place during the week. Like Fire Drill, we are required to practise a Lockdown. The school is secured and the children and staff assemble in a safe hiding place away from view. The children will be asked to think of things we do every day to

keep safe. We will explain that another way to stay safe is by planning for things that probably won't happen but it is good to be prepared for, just in case, like fire drills. A Shelter Drill is another practice for keeping us all safe if something we do not like is outside, such as a fierce dog. We will emphasise that preparing for these situations means that we know how to keep safe and can enjoy having fun and learning at school. Your child may come home and mention the practice. If this happens, I hope this information will help you to explain this safety drill further.

**Tessa Roberts**

### Storytime fun!



Reception had a great trip to Ashtead Library this week. The children learned all about how to use a library card, as well as being treated to a captivating storytime.

### Don't Forget

**20-24 March** - Last Week for Clubs

**Mon 20 March** - No swimming

**Tues 21 March** - Last Tots in Tune

**Wed 22 March** - Reception Forest School trip to Ashtead Common

**Thurs 23 March** - Year One Pre-Preps Sports Afternoon at Downsend . School - 14.00

### Rocking with Rhythm

Ashtead Village was vibrating this morning with the sound of African drumming. Did you feel the beat? We were thrilled to invite Ray Watters to our school, to help us celebrate our Creative Arts Day. He arrived with a wonderful array of African drums and the delight on the children's faces as they took part was magical. I think you will be able to see from the photos how much the children gained from this exciting experience. Also, during the day the children have been designing and creating a range of summer and spring flowers using different mediums. All their efforts will be combined to create a new whole school display for our hall. Please keep your eyes open for the new creation.





## 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
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School Nurse	01372 385409
Finance Department	01372 374842
Marketing	01372 385402
Downsend PP+	07899 011275
Mobile	07899 011275
Downsend +	01372 385403
Mobile	07909 861280

## Picture Perfect

Year One had a fantastic visit to The National Gallery this week. The focus of the trip was to look at how artists use light to create different effects in their paintings. Our guide showed us some of the most well known paintings in the Gallery including Whistlejacket, and The Surprise by Rousseau. We also had time to look at The Sunflowers and Seurat's Bathers. The children were able to answer some challenging questions and were very happy to share their thoughts about the paintings. We were very impressed by their knowledge and also by their behaviour which was exemplary throughout the day! Since the visit, the children have been busy creating their own masterpieces which are now displayed in the classroom.



Janet Catlow

## 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**  
Ayrton Friend

**Rising Reception AP**  
Ethan Jackson

**Rising Reception SR**  
Brennan Langley

**Reception CH**  
Jake Hannah

**Reception MP**  
Holly Sweeney

**Year One**  
Niamh Brember  
Thea Morris  
Henry Smith

## Events Week Commencing Monday 13 March

### Lunch Menu week 1

<b>Mon</b>	10.30	Open Swimming Lessons - Please see invitation for your child's swimming time
	15.30-16.30	Football Club
<b>Tues</b>	9.45	Tots in Tune
	15.40-16.10	Spanish Club
	18.30	Parents' Evening for Year One, Reception MP, Rising Reception AP and First Steps
<b>Wed</b>	15.30-16.30	Rising Stars Club
	15.30-16.30	Science Club
<b>Thurs</b>	15.00-16.30	Second-hand Uniform Shop open for sales at Downsend
	15.30-16.30	Storyworld Club
<b>Fri</b>	15.30-16.30	Yoganory Club DAPA Quiz night

## Message from Mrs Wood

I wanted to thank each of you for such a wonderful send off and my lovely presents. I count myself lucky that I have worked alongside great friends, excellent parents and the cutest children! I will miss you all but am looking forward to a new challenge after nine years at Ashtead.



Great news! We have just heard back from "Phil the Bag" and are delighted to say we raised just over £80 with the help of all the parents!

## Well Done!

Inspiring young minds