

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Ashtead



**'OUTSTANDING'**

**SIS Inspection 2014-2015**

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 17 March 2017

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### Message from the Head Teacher

I hope that you all have the luck of the Irish with you today and especially this evening if you are coming along to the DAPA St Patrick's Day Quiz. It is going to be great fun and I'm looking forward to the challenge of a few Irish questions! Begins with fish and chips at 7.30pm. See you there!

Last Tuesday we held the second of our spring term Parents' Evenings. I would like to thank everyone for their attendance over these two nights. The evenings offer a great opportunity for both you and your child's teacher to share the progress your child is making. Working as a partnership is one of our aims here at Pre-Prep Ashtead. The introduction of the Parent Portal in First Steps and Rising Reception has been a real step forward in

improving our communication. There is a facility on the site for you to offer any 'Wow' moments with your son or daughter. The teachers would be pleased to receive this input so, if you have the time, we would love to hear about your child's achievements at home.

This week St George's Church has been in touch and asked if we would like to come and sing at their café. This was such a lovely experience at Christmas for the Reception and Year One Children, that we would like to take this opportunity to sing some of our spring songs. If you are free and would like to join us at St George's Church at 11.30am next Friday, we would be delighted to see you.

**Tessa Roberts**

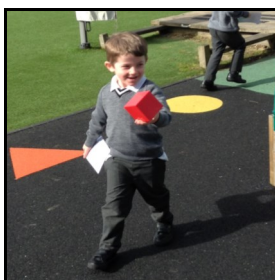
### Forest School



Forest School was Fab this week. Jenny, who is one of Jay's Forest School Leaders, read the story of Rosie's Walk and then the children made their own Rosie trails around our outdoor area. The hedgehogs, squirrels and foxes loved by the children all ended up having great adventures.

### Shape Shenanigans

Rising Reception and Reception have been in sync this week, looking at shapes and identifying their properties. Who thought that learning mathematical concepts could be so much fun? The children have been looking at similarities of shapes in the environment and learning how to compare and describe different 2D and 3D shapes.



### Don't Forget

**27 March** - Last Week for Swimming

**Wed 29 March** - Easter Hat Competition and Easter Egg Hunt

**Wed 29 March** - End of term - No Extended Day

**Easter Break-March 30-April 19**

**Downsend Pre-Prep+ and Downsend+ will be running from March 30 - April 13**



## Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

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## Sketching

The children in Year One were so inspired by their visit last week to the National Gallery that they were out on Wednesday, sketching in the playground. They were looking at how light and shade reflected on our blossom trees. The children looked carefully at the proportions and shape of a tree and then completed their masterpieces by adding touches of blossom in the classroom.



## 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**  
Emma Sweeney

**Rising Reception AP**  
Jack Clement

**Rising Reception SR**  
William Nelson-Bowling

**Reception CH**  
Alexa Charalambous

**Reception MP**  
Alice Simmons

**Year One**  
Finley Moore  
Elisabeth Sachs

## Events Week Commencing Monday 20 March

### Lunch Menu week 2

<b>Mon</b>	10.30 15.30-16.30	No Swimming Lessons - PE at the Main Site Last Football Club
<b>Tues</b>	9.45 15.40-16.10	Last Tots in Tune Last Spanish Club
<b>Wed</b>	9.00 15.00  15.30-16.30 15.30-16.30	Reception visit to Ashtead Common Bethan Fogell - St George's Church Youth Leader taking Assembly Last Rising Stars Club Last Science Club
<b>Thurs</b>	14.00 15.30-16.30	Year One - Pre-Preps Sports Afternoon Last Storyworld Club
<b>Fri</b>	15.30-16.30	Last Yoganory Club

## New Downsend Website

On Monday, the new Downsend website will go live. The change has been brought about as all Cognita school websites have been moving across to a new platform, making them easy to amend and administer. We are the penultimate school to make this move, which tells you something about the fact that our current website was, in many ways, very effective. With this in mind, you will not see significant changes, although the pictures are even newer, some aspects (eg Pre-Prep navigation) are easier to negotiate and a more user-friendly set of Parent Portals. We hope you like the new site.



## Well Done!

## Inspiring young minds