

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 24 February 2017

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Message from the Head Teacher

We are halfway through the year and spring is on its way. When I have been outside with the children this week, they have taken great delight in showing me the daffodils blooming on the bank and the tight blossom buds on our little tree. Clear signs that the winter is nearly over.

Last half term I was thrilled to be able to give out many golden star certificates for being 'Determined'. Well done to all those children who received these stars. The teachers have noticed that the children, particularly in Reception and Year One, are keen to congratulate their peers when their determination has been acknowledged. Great job Everyone! Keep up the good work!

This half term the teachers and I are looking for children who are well organised. During assembly this week the children thought of many ways that they could demonstrate their organisational skills both at school and at home. We've already spotted a few people who have received their first stars today. Fantastic! Fingers crossed that you might also see a difference at home.....

Invitations to join us on our Open Morning have been sent this week to our youngest children. Please let us know if you can come along as we would love to see you on Saturday 4 March.

Tessa Roberts

Blast Off



Astronauts in First Steps have been to the moon and back this week in their space station role play area. Intergalactic passports were awarded as they collected moon rocks, spotted shooting stars and zoomed past planets.



Don't Forget

Tues 7 March - Year One visit National Gallery

Thurs 9 March - Second-hand Uniform Shop open to receive stock at Downsend 8.30-9.00

Fri 10 March - Creative Arts Day - African Drumming Workshops

dddddd...Dinosaurs!

At Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead, a rumble and a ROAR can be heard from the Reception classes. Overnight the children have become archaeologists, excavating vast dinosaur graveyards in the dinosaur dig. They have taken on the role of prehistoric explorers and have even become ferocious dinosaurs themselves! This term the children have really embraced our new topic 'Dinosaurs' with great excitement as it has seeped into every aspect of our learning. We have particularly enjoyed creating fossils and exploring the different features and movements of various dinosaurs that lived 225 million years ago! Reception is an exciting place to be, especially at the moment. Just come and see. We think you'll agree! As Max exclaimed "T-Rex's bite, but we don't!"

Christeen Hill and Melanie Piper





Downsend School

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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

Matty Auer
Sasha Wallis

Rising Reception AP

Rupert Purrington

Rising Reception SR

Toby Ross

Reception CH

Dexter Wharton

Reception MP

Arjunan Varathungan

Year One

Ava Dangerfield
George Gale

Well Done!

Storm 'Doris' is no match for DAPA

Yesterday, some intrepid members of the DAPA team gathered on the drive to collect bags of textiles for our annual 'Phil the Bag' collection. Little did they know when the date was chosen that storm 'Doris'



would make an appearance. The blustery and then rainy conditions eventually gave way to sunshine to reveal a fantastic mountain of bulging bags. Each family's contribution was allocated to their child's year group. The winning year group with the most bags collected was Reception with



Rising Reception being close runners up. As a treat for winning, the children will have a trip to Ashtead Pond next week to feed the ducks.

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to this event and a massive 'THANK YOU' to our DAPA team who braved all weathers to man the event.

Events Week Commencing Monday 27 February

Lunch Menu week 2

Mon	10.30 15.30-16.30	Year One visit Ashtead Library Football Club
Tues	9.45 15.40-16.10	Pancake Day Tots in Tune Spanish Club
Wed	15.30-16.30 15.30-16.30	Rising Stars Club Science Club
Thurs	15.30-16.30	World Book Day. Children and Staff dress as book characters Fairy Tales and Fables Drama Workshop for Reception and Year One Storyworld Club
Fri	09.15 15.30-16.30	Open Morning at Downsend Prep School Yoganory Club
Sat	9.30-11.30	Open Morning at Pre-Prep Ashtead

Reminder

World Book Day - Next Thursday

One of our favourite days at Pre-Prep Ashtead has to be 'World Book Day'. The teachers are all busily getting their outfits organised and we can't wait to see what all of you will be wearing. During the morning a Drama group will be running workshops with Reception and Year One. We will also be welcoming some of the older children from the Main Site who will spend time in each of the classes, reading stories and enjoying books with our children. We can't wait!



Inspiring young minds