

[View this email in your browser](#)



# DOWNSEND SCHOOL

## DOWNSEND TIMES

26 May 2017



Website



Twitter



Facebook



Menu



Email

Download

### Welcome from the Headmaster

A scorching week has been had by all, in more ways than one and it has been lovely to see the half-term coming to such a positive end, with Ashted Pre-Prep here at Main Site for their Sports Day and our STEAM Day in full flow. Seeing the children being encouraged to be creative and think outside the box to solve some tricky problems has been a real treat. These skills will be so crucial to their future success, and are just as important as recalling information, something that the Years 5-7 have been asked to do via their end of year exams this week.

Parents looking to support their children with developing their problem-solving capabilities will be interested in the course run by one of our Year 7 parents, Mrs Philpott, next month. The session organised for last term was a sell-out and very well received, so do book your place if this is of interest to you.

After a well-earned half-term break we have the final five weeks of the academic year to look forward to: residential trips, Prize Giving, multiple sports fixtures and tournaments are just some of the events ahead. We'll follow the progress of the ESSA Swim Squad with interest; following success in the regionals on Saturday, three of the four relay teams have qualified for the national finals in Sheffield, our greatest return for over a decade – well done to all concerned!

*Ian Thorpe*

## A Toolkit for Raising Resilient Children



You are invited to attend...

**A 4-hour workshop for parents, exploring resilience and how to use specific techniques to develop positive and resilient behaviours in children**

- Resilient environments
- Four dimensions of resilience
- Emotional intelligence
- Embodying resilience
- Managing self-talk
- Encouraging accountability
- Problem solving

### **Facilitator: Julia Philpott**

Julia Philpott has a background in corporate executive development and is qualified in both leadership coaching and psychology. She combines these skills with her experience as a parent to offer a range of tools and techniques, so that parents can help their children navigate the primary school years with confidence.

**Date and time:** Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June, 9am – 1pm

**Venue:** The Pavilion, Downsend School

**Price:** £50 per person

For more information and to book, please visit [www.jpparentingcoaching.co.uk](http://www.jpparentingcoaching.co.uk), or contact Julia Philpott on: [julia@jpparentingcoaching.co.uk](mailto:julia@jpparentingcoaching.co.uk)  
07967 497779

## 8S Trip to the V&A Museum

On Friday 8S took a trip up to Victoria station with a quick stop at Starbucks (shhhh!). We made the short walk to the Victoria & Albert Museum and looked at our first planned exhibit, Europe. There were loads of interesting pictures, models, sculptures of battle scenes and my favourite, model guns and weapons! Next, we looked at the similar period of time on a different continent, Asia. We also saw various paintings, religious items and incredible patterned walls and sculptures particularly in the Muslim mosques. We walked through a corridor full of beautiful and interesting sculptures of portraits and special scenes. Sadly the majority of sculptures had forgotten to put on their clothes. We then took a look at the history of Japan including incredible abstract modern models and general culture. I particularly enjoyed this exhibit as there were lots more weapons and bows and arrows. One of the shotguns was bigger than me! After a quick look through China, we had a lovely lunch at Pizza Express and took the train back to Downsend.

*Louise O, Yr 8*



---

## Ascending Snowdon

Liam M from Year 3 undertook the colossal challenge of conquering Mount Snowdon over the weekend to support his brother's challenge to raise funds for a charity that supports dyslexia.

Ascending over 3200ft to reach the peak, Liam walked for over 6 hours and covered almost 10 miles, whilst the weather was kind, Liam still endured high winds and sub zero temperatures as he walked through the clouds to the top.

Liam soldiered on and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We are all incredibly proud of his achievement, as a young 8 year old, it's an epic undertaking.

Each year the DoE give out awards for challenges undertaken to develop and Liam was awarded with the diamond challenge award for this achievement.

Well done Liam!

*Julia Crowe*



## News from our Pre-Preps

Last Tuesday morning saw Ashtead Pre-Prep's First Steps limbering up for action. The 'Go Faster' trainers were warmed up and ready to go for a very special sports event full of Jungle themed activities. The sun came out on cue and the spectators arrived, eagerly anticipating the fun and games. Our four First Steps teams proudly paraded through the crowd and found their spot ready for the starting whistle. The children all rose to the challenge of each event, demonstrating their climbing, balancing, throwing and kicking skills. Even the Hungry Hippo looked exhausted after each team had completed the course. To end the morning, each team had a running race. The delighted smiles seen on the faces of the children certainly reflected the flavour of the event. After the children had received their certificates, they settled down in the jungle for a picnic lunch. What brilliant fun!

*Tessa Roberts*



---

## News from the DPA



Well the sun is shining and we are all in need a well-earned half term rest, fingers crossed the weather stays warm and dry .. when we return it will be only a matter of weeks before we will host the annual School Ball on 16 June. Ticket sales have been brilliant and we have a great spread of parents attending from every year. On the night we've also got a live auction with some really special items as well as a live band who are sure to get you all up dancing! Plus this year for the first time, we are having a silent auction company Lots4Charity come along to the ball with some amazing experiences and items. Silent auction items will start at just £50. Check out their website for details <http://lots4charity.co.uk/>

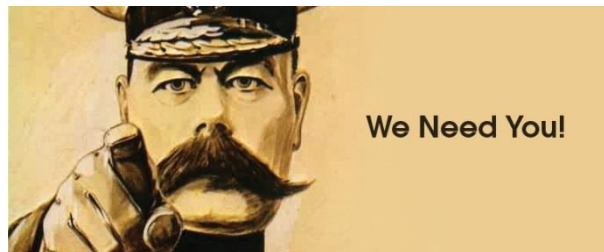
### **School Ball (A Few Tickets still left)**

If you are interested in joining us for a great night out please email for the attention of Birgit to [events@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:events@dpaschool.org.uk) and she can send you the booking form. **Remember we only have a small number of tickets left so don't delay!**



### **DPA Committee ongoing news**

We know we keep saying this same message, but we really do need some more parents to come forward and take over on the committee for next school year. Many of our current committee are leaving after serving their maximum 3yrs and a few are at the end of the Downsends journey with children moving onto their next schools. The committee is a really fun group of mums, who above all, want to do all they can for the children now and in the future at Downsends. We have actually made lifelong friends along the way and yes theirs hard work but lots a fun too. **WE NEED YOU !!!**



### **Family Fun Day**

The family fun day is going to be on Sunday 24 September. If anyone is interested in helping at this this event (particularly from the Lower School) please contact me [Admin@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:Admin@dpaschool.org.uk)

**PS: CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE (Downsends Parents Association)**

Wishing you all a great restful half term

*Maxine Homewood, DPA Secretary*

---

# Music Update

## Informal Concerts

Well done to all pupils who took part in the Informal Voice, Piano and Oboe concerts recently. You all performed beautifully!



## Year 3 Instrumental Scheme

All pupils need to bring their instruments in for both music lessons until after the Summer Concert.

- 3PM Wednesdays and Thursdays
- 3MB Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- 3JC Wednesdays and Thursdays
- 3EF Mondays and Wednesdays

### **Rock Band Evening**

Pupils involved in any of our School Rock Bands will be taking part at the Rock Band Evening. More details will follow shortly.

### **Upcoming Events**

Monday 12 June - Informal Flute and Violin Concert 5.30pm (Miss Woods and Mr Bayley)

Tuesday 13 June - Rock Band Evening 7.00pm

Wednesday 14 June - Informal Guitar Concert (Mr Smith) 5.30pm

Monday 26 June - Informal Piano and Guitar Concert 5.30pm (Mrs Salzedo and Mr White)

Thursday 06 July - Yrs 2 and 3 Prizegiving pm

Friday 07 July - Yrs 4-8 Prizegiving pm

### **National Children's Choir of Great Britain**

The National Children's Choir of Great Britain auditions will take place in November this year; dates and venues are:

Birmingham	19 November 2017
Exeter	19 November 2017
London	04,25 and 26 November 2017
Manchester	18 November 2017
York	19 November 2017

The auditions are for entry into both the Junior Choir (upper voices age 9 – Year 9) and the Senior Choir (SATB, girls Year 10+ and boys with changed voices). The choirs meet twice a year, at Easter and in the summer, for 6 day residential courses.

If you would like any further information about NCCGB, please email Kim Reffell on [info@nccgb.com](mailto:info@nccgb.com) or call 07894 021279.

### **Summer Music Courses**

<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.

Britten Music Course. 18-23 July at Gresham's Prep in Holt, Norfolk [www.greshams.com/bmc](http://www.greshams.com/bmc)

If you can recommend any other courses, please let me know at [steven.williams@downsend.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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*

---

## **Artist of the Week**

Artist of the week is Lauren D in 7MS for her colourful collaged etching print.

Well done Lauren!

The Art Department hope you all have a lovely half term!

*Hannah Shore*



---

# Downsend+

Downsend+ is gearing up for the holidays next week and has space available on all days. Some of our courses are now full but if you fancy trying something different we still have space on our Foot Golf, Scuba Diving and Pirate Island Golf courses as well as our Father's Day course where you can make a surprise gift for dad ready for Father's Day on Sunday 18 June. For more information please call 07909 861280 or email [downsendplus@downsend.co.uk](mailto:downsendplus@downsend.co.uk).

[Booking Form - May Half Term](#)

[Booking Form - Summer 2017](#)

[Summer Holiday 2017 Description](#)

[Contact Form](#)

[Price Information](#)

## Summer 2017

Our Summer 2017 programme is now complete and we have plenty of exciting days and courses over the 8 weeks, our 'Wednesday Specials' will be back, together with our Friday BBQ lunches. Please do contact me if you have any queries on 07909 861 280 or email me [downsendplus@downsend.co.uk](mailto:downsendplus@downsend.co.uk).

*Rebecca Peek*

---

## Next Week @ Downsend

### School Events



Date	Time	Event
Monday 05 June		Yr 5 Residential Trip Departs
Tuesday 06 June	All Day	Common Entrance Exams Begin Yr 3 Trip to Wakehurst Place
Wednesday 07 June	4.30pm	Yr 5 Residential Trip Returns Yr 6 Residential Trip Meeting, Dining Hall
Thursday 08 June	All Day All Day	Yr 2 Forest School Visit @ Downsend 8S Trip to see Twelfth Night @The Globe
Friday 09 June	Assembly All Day	No Assembly Yr 4 Depart for High Ashurst Camping Trip
Saturday 10 June		Yr 4 Return from High Ashurst Camping Trip

---

---

## School Notices

### Contact Details

Please email [office@downsend.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](#)

[Out of school childcare](#)

[School Uniform](#)

### 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](mailto:editor@downsend.co.uk)

### Downsend Sports Bulletin

If you do not already receive the Downsend Sports Bulletin on a Wednesday and would like to start receiving it then please email your details to [editor@downsend.co.uk](mailto:editor@downsend.co.uk) to be added to the distribution list.

---

# Inspiring young minds

---

*Copyright © Downsend School 2017, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

Downsend School  
1 Leatherhead Road  
Leatherhead  
Surrey  
KT22 8TJ

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

---