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DOWNSEND SCHOOL

DOWNSEND TIMES

30 June 2017



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[Welcome from the Headmaster](#)

Our penultimate week of the academic year has drawn to a close, but there is no sign that the pace is slowing! It has been a week full of enrichment activities, from Music Concerts to Dragon's Den presentations and a very successful Upper School Sports Day on Wednesday. We were fortunate to stay dry and have fingers crossed for more of the same today. The Lower School pupils know that the outcome of today's Sports Days will decide the destination of the House Cup. With all 4 Houses still in the frame, it is all to play for!

We welcome back Mrs Grimshaw-Smith and Mrs Goodwin, who both return from maternity leave today. This will be Mrs Goodwin's last week at Downsend, and we hope that both ladies enjoy being back with us. Finally, I would like to congratulate two young ladies who performed so brilliantly in their recent CE exams that they were both awarded Academic CE Awards. Freya C (Epsom College) and Francesca B (St John's) typified the aspirational nature of our Year 8 pupils and took the final Scholarship tally for 2017 to 56, an incredible achievement!

Prizegiving Appearance

As you are aware Prize Givings are approaching fast. You will received more logistical information about the events next week, however can you please assist us in ensuring your child is looking as smart as possible for these important occasions.

Lower School

Boys: Short haircut, clean shirt and tie, school shorts & socks, polished shoes.

Girls: Hair tidy/tied back, summer dress, white ankle socks, polished shoes.

Please note: Blazers must be in school, but the decision as to whether they will be worn will be made on the day, depending on the weather.

Jumpers and cardigans will NOT be needed.

Upper School

Boys: Short haircut, smart blazer, clean shirt/trousers/tie, school socks, polished shoes (NO TRAINERS).

Girls: hair tidy/tied back, smart blazer, clean kilt, white shirt, white ankle socks (NO TRAINER SOCKS), polished shoes (NO TRAINERS), no jewellery other than permitted earrings.

Please note: Jumpers will NOT be needed

Jon Albert

End of Term

Thursday 6 July is the last day for Extended Day next week.

On Friday 7 July, collection for Years 2 & 3 is at 12 noon, with the exception of those with older siblings who are attending the Years 4-8 Prize Giving.

Seb Watts

Year 7 Normandy Trip

Year 7 have returned from a very full trip to Normandy in the wonderful Château du Baffy. We experienced the History of the area by visiting the Bayeux Cemetery and Memorial Museum and we of course visited the magnificent Bayeux Tapestry. We made our own bread and went to a Goat's Cheese farm, along with bowling, a disco and the obligatory visit to the Hypermarket! I know Mrs Mercer would join me in saying that the children were great company and are clearly ready for more Downsend trips in the future! Please read some of the diary entries for the trip'

S Gregory



LE JOURNAL DE LA VISITE EN NORMANDIE, YEAR 7 2017

LUNDI Jonny P

Le lundi, je me suis levé à six heures et j'ai quitté la maison à six heures cinq. Je suis arrivé à Downsend à six heures et quart et le bus est parti à six heures et demie. Après avoir pris le 'Eurotunnel', nous sommes arrivés au Château du Baffy et c'était très grand et beau!

MARDI Katie M

Ma journée favorite était mardi – c'était amusant! D'abord nous sommes allés au Musée Mémorial de Bayeux et après à la cimetière Britannique. Tous les deux étaient très intéressants. Ensuite, nous sommes allés au Cinéma 360 et le soir nous sommes allés au Bowling 868.

MERCREDI Hannah G

Le mercredi je suis allée voir la tapisserie de Bayeux; c'était très longue et grande! Après, je suis allée au marché et j'ai acheté des fraises et des tomates pour préparer le déjeuner. Nous avons mangé des cuisses de grenouilles et des escargots pour le dîner!

JEUDI Danny A

I liked going to the market and the Hypermarket because there were lots of things to buy there. In the Hypermarket I was trying to find Pringles with Turkey but we couldn't find any. After I had paid, I saw someone eating Pringles! We also went to the 360 Cinema – it was very good!

Dragon's Den

Wednesday and Thursday of this week saw the Year 8's, who were unrecognisable dressed for business, compete in teams for the prize of placing their product in The Entertainer. Their brief was to design a toy for a specific market, Under 5's and age 7 – 11's being the most popular choices.

Each member of the team had a specific role for which they attended a master class from one of the Dragons. These roles ranged from MD to HR, to Marketing and Advertising, Sales, Production and Finance. Fully informed, they spent their time conducting market research, filming a TV advert, preparing profit and loss spreadsheets and preparing their presentations for the afternoon.

The Dragons and I were most impressed with the presentations and the toys produced ranged from 'Blitz Ball', 'Collect 'em alls', 'Inflatable Bleecoy' and 'Maza Cube' amongst others. The winning team for "Best Presentation" were Lava Games with their innovative cards linked to phones idea. This team was made up of Robert McG, Fraser S, Leon M, Daniel G, Jess N and Caroline W. This was the most successful product and the one which the CEO of The Entertainer wished to stock. The task was very reliant on excellent Teamwork and the cup for this went to Team Triumph Toys made up of Francesca B, Tilly W, Ella H, Anna R, Billy P, Jackson R and Anthonie K with their den-making kit.

Hopefully the day was enjoyed by all and the pupils gained many valuable lessons in business skills and maybe got a flavour of what might interest them in the business world in years to come. I certainly witnessed a few entrepreneurs in the making!

Dee Vanstone



Charity Update

A cheque for £6,497.77 was proudly presented to Epilepsy Research UK by Sam and Emma B in this morning's charity assembly for all our fundraising so far this academic year. We are looking forward to raising even more at our Upper School Charity Afternoon next week.



Thank you very much for all the donations that have come in for the sunflower growing competition. Please keep sending your donations in to your child's class teacher and emailing photos in to natasha.ludlam@downsend.co.uk

This is Jacob S's sunflower (5MS) and it is 93cm tall. Jacob has enjoyed looking after Sid and we look forward to seeing how big he gets!



Thank you for all the donations to Sal's Shoes. We will continue collecting your shoes until the last day of term. Please drop them off in the tub in the Peterborough Hall.

Natasha Ludlem

News from our Pre-Preps

Pre-Prep Epsom had an active start to the week with their sports day on Monday! The children took part in a range of activities across the morning and we all finished up with a family picnic at lunchtime. It was a busy and wonderful morning, thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. A very special thank you to our Year 7 volunteers who came along and helped with the organisation and supported the younger children.

Vanessa Conlan



Year 7's help at Epsom Pre-Prep Sports Day

On Monday a group of Year 7 children were invited to help run Sports Day at Epsom Pre-Prep. Arriving at 9am, they worked exceptionally hard to lead sports activities all morning and should be thoroughly proud of themselves. Explaining, demonstrating and then coaxing children as young as 2 to get involved in challenging activities, whilst parents watched on is no mean feat; a task a number of staff would have found tricky at times. All demonstrated real leadership qualities and played their part in a great morning had by all.

Jon Albert

"Helping out with Epsom Pre-Prep Sports day was really fun as all the children were so small and cute. I enjoyed the morning enormously and really liked the responsibility of running the activities. I learned that leadership is not just about telling people what to do, it needed me to demonstrate for others to copy. I also learnt that with little children, they can't always do things first time, practice is really important. Finally that all children have different strengths and need to be encouraged in different ways. It was such fun, I would like to do it again in Year 8." *Cameron B*

"On Monday I went to Epsom Pre-Prep to help with their Sports Day. I ran a throwing activity which involved explaining the rules to the children in front of their parents, which was a little scary at

first. However the children were great fun and all enjoyed themselves a lot. I loved giving stickers to the children and seeing their faces light up; this filled me with joy. I also felt very proud of the responsibility of being chosen to run the activities, even though I was a little nervous at first. It was a great morning – thank you Epsom Pre-Prep." *Alice L*

"I really enjoyed taking part in Epsom's Pre-Prep Sports Day. It was amazing to see how the children all used different techniques and had different personalities. I enjoyed giving out the stickers as it reminded me of when I was younger. I learnt that little ones like to be independent and not be told what to do at times, and others enjoy being helped. It made me think about myself and how I like to be taught. It was great fun and I would love to do it again in the future." *Chloe S*

"On 26 June I went to the Epsom Pre-Prep to help them with their Sports Day. It was amazing because I got to play with all the little ones, they are so cute. I learnt that encouragement is the key to success and that you can never have too many well done stickers! Thanks for letting me come and help." *Francesca T*

"I was really pleased to be asked to help out at Epsom Pre-Prep Sports Day as I've never done anything like this before. I was in charge of the football shootout and had to organise the children. I was quite nervous at first being in front of their parents but after the second group my confidence grew and I began to really enjoy the experience. It was great fun!" *Ethan S*

"When I heard that I had been chosen to help out at the Epsom Pre-Prep Sports Day, I felt honoured that I had been given the big responsibility of looking after smaller children. When we arrived we were told what to do - I went off to my obstacle course where I was helping the children round. The children were all so good and I enjoyed getting to know their personalities. At the beginning of the session you could tell who were the confident ones and who was shy, but by the end everybody was running round the obstacle course as fast as they could." *Oliver G*





LAMDA

There are Autumn Spaces available for Lamda lessons with Mrs Biszczanik for children in Years 2 to 8. Lamda is a wonderful way to increase confidence and creativity. We work on acting skills including voice, movement, physical theatre, mimework and improvisation as well as yearly Lamda exams during the Spring term. Lessons are held for 30 minutes during morning and lunchtime breaks.

For more details please contact Mrs Biszczanik at lucylu900@hotmail.com / tel: 07816 524 066.

Lucy Biszczanik

News from the DPA



Thank you to the volunteers who have helped serve drinks at the sports days this week. It's been an interesting week buying umpteen bottles of Pimm's and chopping fruit only for the change in weather to mean many parents preferred a good old English cuppa!

Our duties this school year are now at an end however, no rest for us this summer – Family fun Day planning for 24 September 2017 is in full swing. If you would like to help plan or just support us on the day please contact admin@dpschool.org.uk.

Finally, Mr Thorpe and I are working on a potential comedy night in October – we envisage a much

needed night of fun before the Christmas chaos descends! (did I really just mention Christmas again – sorry!). Details will be posted as soon as they are finalised.

We have had a good response regarding new committee members but not nearly enough so please let us know if you would like to become involved. We really cannot function without a full committee. To ease any concerns, a few of the existing committee will still be involved as 'Friends' of the DPA to assist with big events like the Christmas Fair.

Enjoy your weekend everyone – the countdown to Summer has started.

Jodie Pett, DPA Chair

Music Update

Music success

Well done to the following pupils for passing their music exams:

Fraser S	Grade 4 Trombone	Merit
Sophie B	Grade 1 Singing	Merit
Olivia H	Grade 1 Singing	Pass
Eva Reilly	Grade 1 Singing	Merit
Anoushka S	Grade 1 Singing	Distinction
Lily B	Singing Prep Test	
Jessica Jane L	Singing Prep Test	
Natalia T	Singing Prep Test	
Molly F	Piano Prep Test	

Informal Piano and Guitar Concert

Well done to all pupils who took part in the Informal Piano and Guitar concert this week. You all performed brilliantly. A special thank you to your wonderful teachers, Mr White and Mrs Salzedo for all of their hard work!



Information for the Years 4-8 Prizegiving

The Whole School Orchestra, Upper School Rock Bands, Chamber Choir and Lower School Samba Band will be performing during the Years 4-8 Prizegiving next Friday afternoon. Year 2 and 3 pupils involved will be supervised by me in the Music room from 12 noon onwards. Lunch will be provided. In preparation for Prizegiving I would like to hold the following rehearsals:

All Upper School Rock Bands

Monday 03 July (2.15-4.15pm)

Wednesday 05 July (8.45-10.45am)

Friday 07 July (8.45-10.45am)

Chamber Choir

Tuesday 04 July (8-8.45am)

Wednesday 05 July (8.45-10.45am)

Friday 07 July (8.45-10.45am)

Whole School Orchestra

Wednesday 05 July (8.00-10.45am)

Friday 07 July (8.00-10.45am)

Lower School Samba Band

Tuesday 04 July (10.15-10.45)

Wednesday 05 July (8.45-10.45am)

Friday 07 July (8.45-10.45am)

All rehearsals will take place in the Sports Hall unless otherwise specified. Please ensure that your children have their instruments and music on the correct days and are on time for rehearsals. Children who arrive on school buses should attend as soon as they arrive at school. **Year 2 and 3 pupils only involved in the Samba Band may leave quietly after their performance at approximately 2.30pm.**

Upcoming Events

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 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

If you can recommend any other courses, please let me know at 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. 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 Amelie H in 6TH who has created a beautifully decorated clay pot.

Well done Amelie!

Julia Ayles



Downsend+

Summer 2017

With just over a week to go before the start of the holidays, Downsend+ still has spaces on all days and most courses.

We have also added an extra course this summer for those who love to scuba dive. The PADI Open Water Referral Course is for children aged 10 years and over and will be held on Wednesday 23 – Friday 25 August. This course is the first step to becoming a fully qualified Open Water Diver and prepares the participant for the final 4 qualifying dives which are completed in open water at any PADI centre in the world.

For more details on this or any of our other courses or days please contact me on 07909 861 280 or email downsendplus@downsend.co.uk.

[Booking Form - Summer 2017](#)

[Summer Holiday 2017 Description](#)

[Contact Form](#)

[Price Information](#)

Rebecca Peek

Next Week @ Downsend

School Events



Date	Time	Event
Monday 03 July	All Day am pm	ACE trip to the Oval Yr 2 'Castles' morning with Open Box Theatre Yr 4 'Vikings' afternoon with Open Box Theatre
Wednesday 05 July	9.00-11.00am pm	Prizegiving Rehearsal Upper School Charity Afternoon
Thursday 06 July	All Day All Day 8.30-9.00am 9.00-10.30am pm	Yr 6 outing to Chessington Yrs 7 & 8 outing to Thorpe Park Uniform Shop open to receive stock Uniform Shop open for sales Yrs 2 & 3 Prizegiving
Friday 07 July	9.00-11.00am 12 noon pm	Prizegiving Rehearsal Yrs 2 & 3 leave Yrs 4-8 Prizegiving

School Notices

Contact Details

Please email 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 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](#)

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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

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 to be added to the distribution list.

Inspiring young minds

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