

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
6 Norman Avenue
Epsom KT17 3AB

Friday 22nd September
2017

epsompre-prep@downsend.co.uk
www.downsend.co.uk
Tel: 01372 385438

Message from the Head Teacher

I have commented to staff today that this week feels like the first 'settled in' week. I can see in the behaviour and progress of the children that we have moved out of the 'settling in' phase of the start of term and are now fully into the academic year.

Over the next few weeks, teachers will be talking to the children about their targets (at an age appropriate level), and we hope that they will start talking to you about them. This will be a work in progress as it is a new way of working, but we hope that by the end of the year our children will be fully aware of their targets and will be able to talk to you readily about them.

At the end of last term, you received summative, comparative

information about the achievement of your child. Some of you will have received information that your child is emerging into age related expectation which can happen with young children at different times, as they all develop at different rates. During the first few settling in weeks we have been observing all of our children very carefully and meeting to discuss any additional provision needed for children who are emerging into expectations in different areas of learning. Next week, I will write to individual parents as needed with information regarding strategies we will be using to support your children to reach age related expectations.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan



Harvesting our Autumn crop in the school garden

Gardening Club were very excited to find that so many vegetables had grown over the summer.

We were able to dig up carrots and potatoes, beetroot and onions, pick runner beans and tomatoes. We could see where the strawberries had been on the plants and also the broccoli, which has now finished.

The guinea pigs and chickens were very happy to finish up the carrot tops and bean leaves, so everything we have grown in the garden has been put to good use.

We look forward to putting our Autumn garden to bed and planting our spring bulbs, in the weeks to come.

Don't Forget!

- Harvest breakfasts coming soon: First Steps—Weds 4th Oct; Rising Reception—Thurs 5th Oct; Reception and Year 1—Weds 11th Oct. All at 9.10am. All parents welcome.
- Saturday sports from 9.00—10.00 at main site is provided free of charge to all Reception and Year 1 children
- Please ensure all uniform, water bottles and snack boxes are named. We still have lots of unnamed items coming into school. It is time away from learning activities for the staff to find the right owner of these items.
- Please do not drive or park on Norman Avenue between 8.30am and 9.00am and 3.15pm to 3.45pm due to congestion and the danger to children and families who are walking to school.



Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

Pre-Prep Epsom 01372 385438
 Pre-Prep Ashtead 01372 385439
 Pre-Prep L'head 01372 385437
 Prep School Office 01372 372197
 Admissions 01372 372311
 School Nurse 01372 385409
 Finance 01372 374842
 Marketing 01372 385402
 Downsend PP+ 07899 011275
 Downsend+ 01372 385403

Celebration Board

Achievements in class work, good manners and excellent behaviour are celebrated in a special assembly every week.

We congratulated the following children this week:

First Steps

Bolu, Chloe and Tommy

Hedgehogs

Eve

Squirrels

Jasmyn

Badgers

Amelia

Owls

Ella

Well Done!

Contacting the school during extended day



The extended day mobile has reached the end of its natural life (it has been going for a while—apologies). If you need to contact the extended day staff, please use the usual school number. The office phone will be redirected to the kitchen phone at the end of the day so the extended day staff will be able to answer it. However, there are times when the staff may not be able to leave the children to answer the phone and the answerphone will kick in. Please leave a message. We will check the messages regularly to ensure we don't miss anything.

Using our senses

This week, Owls and Hedgehogs have both been using their senses to taste food. Year 1 conducted a science investigation (they liked the strawberry laces but not the gherkins or lemon) and Rising Reception investigated the fruits from their key text Handa's Surprise.



Events Week Commencing Monday 25th September

Lunch Menu week 1

Mon	3.30—4.30	Spanish club for Reception and Year 1
	3.30—4.30	Poptastic dance for Rising Reception and Reception
Tues	All day	Mrs Conlan out of school at a Cognita Pre-Prep Heads meeting
	3.30—4.30	Ready Steady Go Kids for Rising Reception
Wed	Morning	Epi-pen training for First Steps and Rising Reception staff
	3.30—4.30	Forest club for Reception and Year 1
Thurs	All day	Mrs Conlan and Mrs Carruthers out all day at an inspection preparation briefing—Mrs Burbidge will teach in First Steps today
	3.30—4.30	Gardening club for Reception and Year 1
Fri	All day	Miss McIntyre is not in school today—Mrs Burbidge will teach Year 1 today
	3.30—4.30	Cookery club for Reception and Year 1
	3.30—4.30	Science club for Reception and Year 1

Inspiring young minds