

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 17 November 2017

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Message from the Head Teacher

This week our school has burst into colour. Our new Hall and Stairs displays show how the children have explored different shades and media to create their 'Splash of Colour' themed pictures. Great job everyone!

It has been wonderful to catch up with you all this week at our Parents' Evenings. I hope that you were all able to visit the classrooms and see some of your child's wonderful work. Such progress has been made since the beginning of term, as the children have all settled so brilliantly into their new routines. It has been Anti-Bullying week across all schools and during my

assembly on Wednesday, with Reception and Year One, we discussed this issue. Please encourage your children to discuss this with you and explain that repeated unkind behaviour is not acceptable. They must tell someone if it's happening to them or if they see it happening to someone else. Thank you for supporting us with this message. Next week, I am attending the Cognita Global Leadership Conference so I will be leaving you in the capable safe hands of my Deputy, Janet Catlow. Have a great week!

Tessa Roberts

Lavender's Blue Dilly, Dilly.....

In First Steps this week we have been celebrating National Nursery Rhyme week. Each day we have learned a new rhyme and had fun learning more about each of the songs.

The children have been singing - 'Bobby Shafto's gone to sea' and wearing a tricorne captain's hat - 'Lavenders blue Dilly Dilly', colouring and smelling Lavender - Hickory

Dickory Dock where an elephant climbed up the clock instead of the mouse and broke the clock! On Thursday, everyone sang 'Wind the Bobbin up', where we practised winding and unwinding a cotton reel. To end this tuneful week we acted out the rhyme 'Old King Cole'. The children have loved learning these new rhymes. Well done, First Steps!

Julie James



Counting Coins



Reception have been hard at work this week, shopping! They were challenged with including 2p coins in their totals but the children have a great way of making sure they have the right amount. See if they are able to remember and can show you how it's done.

Don't Forget

Tues 28 Nov - Last Tots in Tune

Thurs 30 Nov - St Andrew's Day Scottish Lunch

Fri 1 Dec - Year One to see Year Two's Nativity

Mon 4 Dec - Christmas Post Box arrives in school

Mon 4 Dec - Christmas Concert Photographs

Mon 4-Fri 8 Dec - Christmas Tree Festival at St George's Church



Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

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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

Gigi Stallman

Rising Reception AP

Edward Truong

Rising Reception SR

Isla Popham

Reception CH

Astrid Reilly

Reception MP

Arlo Hunt

Year One

Alexa Charalambous

Toby Harriman

Apologies to **Ariane Morris** who was on the Golden Board last week for RCH but was not mentioned in the newsletter.

Well Done!

Time for Hibernation!

The children had so much fun yesterday, building a den and getting ready to hibernate. Everyone helped as we put the tarpaulin up and laid the blankets on the ground. Amazing team work! After a while, outside in the chilly air, the children soon realised how the animals felt as they chose masks and pretended to be hedgehogs, squirrels and foxes. To warm up again, the children then went on to find and use natural resources to build hibernaculums for their chosen animal to keep them safe and warm. ZZZZZZZ see you in Spring.



Sally Rose

Events Week Commencing Monday 20 November Lunch Menu week 1

Mon	15.30-16.30	Zumba Club
Tues	15.30-16.30	Genie Lab Club
Wed		Reception Forest School Trip to Ashtead Common
	15.30-16.30	Multi Sports Club
Thurs	15.30-16.30	Craft-tastic Club
Fri	15.30-16.30	Yoganory Club
Sat	11.00-14.00	DPA Christmas Fair at Downsend School - all welcome

Mud , Mud Glorious Mud!

Year One had a wonderfully creative morning on Ashtead Common this week. The children began by collecting something "natural" and then they used their imagination to think of an alternative use for their material. We had blankets for the tiny wood folk who live on the Common as well as miniature marshmallow sticks, umbrellas and speed boats! Everyone then collected more objects to create pictures inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. If you are out and about on the Common, see if you can spot a stray ostrich! Finally the children worked hard to create a cosy habitat for the woodland animals. Of course, Forest School is never complete without a hot chocolate! Thank you Jay for an amazing morning.



Janet Catlow

Inspiring young minds