

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Ashtead



**'OUTSTANDING'**

**SIS Inspection 2014-2015**

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 24 November 2017

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### Message from the Head Teacher

It's been busy this week at Pre-Prep Ashtead. I have been keeping in touch with everyone and thoroughly enjoyed hearing about all the wonderful learning and events that have been taking place.

As most of you will know, I have been away in Hertfordshire this week at a Global Leadership conference, meeting and sharing best practice with Cognita Heads from all around the world. I heard some very thought provoking talks from Simon Camby, Cognita's Director of Education and Sir Kevin Collins, the Chief Executive of the Education Endowment Foundation and a leader in the field

of using evidence-based research to improve educational outcomes. Spending time with colleagues and discussing aspects of education such as metacognitive skills, the most valuable way to feedback information to pupils and the best way to promote the five elements of character development has been really inspiring. I'd just like to say a big thank you to Janet Catlow, Christeen Hill and the Ashtead team for doing a great job, keeping everything running smoothly while I have been absent. See you all next week to catch up on your news.

**Tessa Roberts**

### Polar Explorers



This week in Rising Reception we have been focusing on the letter P as our sound of the week. We talked about polar bears and penguins and the snowy climates they live in. We discovered that polar bears live in the Arctic at the North Pole and penguins live in the Antarctic at the South Pole. We had enormous fun with the mouldable foam soap making icebergs and snowy dens for the animals to play in.

**Andrea Powney**

### Road Safety Week

This week the children have been learning how to stay safe when they are out and about. We have been talking about the Green Cross Code and Reception had the perfect opportunity to practise as they walked to Ashtead Common for Forest School. Year One have been looking at Oakfield Road and finding a safe place to cross.



We have also talked about the need to be extra careful when scooting or running down the road to School as there may be cars pulling out of the drives. The playground became a very busy road and our budding drivers have been careful to stop at the zebra crossing and the red lights.

**Janet Catlow**



### Don't Forget

**Mon 4 Dec** - Christmas Photographs. All non-Monday FS children invited to come in for photos

**Thur 7 Dec** - Christmas Celebrations in First Steps 10.45—11.30

**Fri 8 Dec**—Rec and Year One singing at St. George's Church 11.15

**Fri 15 Dec** - End of term 2.00pm No Little Lates or Extended Day



## 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**  
Omar Rahman

**Rising Reception AP**  
Sasha Wallis

**Rising Reception SR**  
Vincent Hopson

**Reception CH & MP**  
All of Reception  
for a wonderful  
Forest School Trip

**Year One**  
Martha Lee

**Well Done!**

## Learning Outside the Classroom

This week the children have had some great opportunities to take their learning outside. Reception had a fabulous time on Ashtead Common recreating a fairy and woodland folk village that had been destroyed by the Troll who lives under the bridge! Their imaginations took flight as they thought about what the village would need. Who knew that fairies would need a tube station?



**Christeen Hill**

First Steps and Rising Reception were not going to miss out on the action! Their Forest School activities this week included drilling and chopping wood with axes!

**Sally Rose**



### Events Week Commencing Monday 27 November Lunch Menu Week 2

<b>Mon</b>	15.30-16.30	Reception and Year One Flu Vaccinations Zumba Club
<b>Tues</b>	09.45-11.15 15.30-16.30	Last Tots in Tune Genie Lab Club
<b>Wed</b>	15.30-16.30	Multi Sports Club
<b>Thurs</b>	15.30-16.30	St. Andrew's Day Lunch Craft-tastic Club
<b>Fri</b>	9.30—11.00 15.30-16.30	Year One to see Year Two Nativity Yoganory Club

### DPA Christmas Fair

DPA will be holding their Christmas Fair up at the main school on Saturday. All families from the Pre-Preps are warmly invited to come along and join in with the fun.



**Inspiring young minds**