## DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



# **Epsom**



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

Friday 13th October 2017

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## Message from the Head Teacher

Our parent questionnaire in the Summer term identified communication with parents regarding academic attainment and progress as an improvement area for the school. As a result we have changed the way we are reporting to parents this year. You will see the first change at the end of next week when the half term target reviews come home. In the annual report at the end of the last academic year, teachers identified targets for each child. The new class teachers took these targets and have been working to achieve them with your child this half term. Within our school improvement plan this year, we have an action to get the children more engaged with their targets, so this half term teachers have started to share children's targets with them to engage them further in understanding what the targets are and their role in achieving them, supporting the development of perseverance, resilience and understanding how to work towards a goal/target; key skills that our children will need as they progress, not only in their educational journey, but for life. Teachers are currently reviewing the children's targets and whether or not they have been achieved, setting new targets as needed and are completing target review reports for each child to share this information with you. You will receive your report next Friday. For children who were new to us in September, you will receive your child's first set of targets. Any feedback on these reports/changes would be greatly appreciated.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan

#### Harvest/Autumn at Pre-Prep Epsom

Our Harvest and Autumn activities have continued this week with Reception and Year 1 harvest breakfasts and Rising Reception Autumn walks. A huge thank you to everyone for their generosity with our harvest donations. I know the Epsom foodbank and our local elderly residents will be extremely grateful.



## Don't Forget!

 We finish for half term next Friday 20th October at the usual times. We come back to school as usual on Monday 6th November. We hope everyone has a lovely half term break.

### **DEPA** news

Remember:

Halloween Mufti Day – Wednesday 18 October £2 per child – Halloween is coming early to Epsom! Children are invited to come to school dressed in their spookiest Halloween fancy dress. A £2 per child donation to the DEPA fund would be gratefully received.

Parent drinks—Wednesday 8th November at school

New way to get in touch with DEPA – We have made it even easier for you to share ideas, thoughts or questions with DEPA, please send them all to us at:

EpsomDEPA@gmail.com



#### **Downsend School**

**Useful Contacts:** 

Downsend+

Pre-Prep Epsom 01372 385438
Pre-Prep Ashtead 01372 385439
Pre-Prep L'head 01372 385437
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Admissions 01372 372311

Admissions 01372 372311
School Nurse 01372 385409
Finance 01372 385402
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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** 

Hedgehogs

**Squirrels** 

Max Sonia (from last week apologies)

> **Badgers** Amelia

> > Owls

#### Well Done!



#### **Teddybear's Picnic**

Children are invited to bring a Teddybear into school next Friday for our Teddybear's picnic. The picnic is the end of unit celebration of our 'All About Me' work. The picnic will be at snacktime and will be an opportunity for the whole school to be together. The children will talk to

each other about why they are special, the special people in their lives, the people they would talk to if they were worried about something, and also about what they have achieved this half term that makes them feel proud. We will capture the children's thoughts about their achievements to make a Downsend Pre-Prep Epsom 'proud cloud'.



#### **Rights Respecting Schools Award**

We are working towards achieving the RRSA Recognition of Commitment. The Rights Respecting Schools Award puts children's rights at the heart of schools in the UK. Unicef works with schools in the

UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. The reason we have decided to work towards the award is to support children's understanding that they have a voice and can effect change; to empower them to make a difference as they grow up.

#### **Events Week Commencing Monday 16th October** Lunch Menu week 1 Mon Mornina Reception to Garson's Farm 3.30—4.30 Spanish club for Reception and Year 1 3.30-4.30 Poptastic dance for Rising Reception and Reception Ready Steady Go Kids for Rising Reception Tues 3.30—4.30 Wed All day Halloween mufti day 3.30-4.30 Forest club for Reception and Year 1 Thurs Mrs Conlan out all day on a safeguarding All day course—Mrs Carruthers in charge 3.30-4.30 Gardening club for Reception and Year 1 Fri 10.30 Whole school teddybear's picnic to celebrate how special we are and the achievements we are proud of this half term Cookery club for Reception and Year 1 3.30—4.30 3.30-4.30 Science club for Reception and Year 1

### **Inspiring young minds**