

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 1 December 2017

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Message from the Head Teacher

It was great being back at school this week, catching up on all the news. I loved hearing about Road Safety week and the children were very quick to tell me about the Green Cross Code. Fantastic! Our lovely cook, Mrs McCluskey, is not with us at the moment, as she is recovering from an operation on her shoulder. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to having her back with us again after Christmas. This week, the Main Site kitchens have been absolutely brilliant, helping us out with our lunches,

as we have had a hiccup with our oven. However, we hope that next week we will be back on track with our wonderful relief chef - Sharma.

With the first door of advent calendars being opened today, we know that Christmas is on its way. If you would like to get that festive feeling going, please come and join our Year One and Reception children on Friday morning, just down the road at St George's Church, where they will be singing some of our Christmas songs.

Tessa Roberts

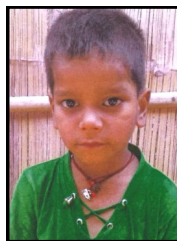
Christmas Trees



Next week St George's Church are holding their bi-annual Christmas Tree Festival. Each class has been busily creating decorations with an 'All Around the World' theme ready to decorate our special tree for the Festival. It is open to everyone throughout the week. Please pop into the church to see our beautiful tree.

Sponsoring a Child

The idea of sponsoring a child was proposed at the DAPA AGM. The committee were keen to find a way in which some of the money raised from fundraising activities could go towards supporting children who are less privileged than the children who attend Ashtead Pre-Prep. Sponsoring three children through the charity 'World Vision' was discussed and shared with the teaching staff. We all felt that linking with these children was a perfect way of supporting their education whilst also enabling our children to learn about each sponsored child's way of life and experiences in a different part of the world. This week, the sponsorship has come through and our children have started to find out about one of the children you can see here. Each year group has a child who they will write to and learn about. At the moment we are learning about their homelands in either Ethiopia, India or Albania. This is a brilliant way for our children to find out more about communities and countries around the world. Thank you very much DAPA for arranging this wonderful opportunity.



Don't Forget

Mon 11 Dec - Last swimming Lessons

Tues 12 Dec - Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal

Wed 13 Dec —Christmas Concert at St George's Church, Ashtead 10.30

Thurs 14 Dec - School Christmas Lunch

Fri 15 Dec - End of Term 14.00. 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
Henry Butchers

Rising Reception AP
Ayrton Friend

Rising Reception SR
Freddie Watson

Reception CH
Tate Bishop

Reception MP
Rupert Purrington

Year One
Austin White

Well Done!

St Andrew's Day

Yesterday, the sound of bagpipes could be heard drifting through the school as we entered into the spirit of our St Andrew's Day celebrations. In the classrooms all things Scottish were woven into the lessons and even the weather decided to play its part by chilling our fingers and toes at playtime! Mince and tatties along with a little haggis for all to try were on the lunchtime menu, with our favourite 'shortbread' to complete the meal. Then in the afternoon, Mrs Haque joined us for assembly and told us all about the things that make Scotland special.



Events Week Commencing Monday 4 December

Lunch Menu Week 3

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

Mon	15.30-16.30	Christmas Post Box arrives in school Christmas Concert Photographs Last Zumba Club
Tues	15.30-16.30	NO Genie Lab Club (Last club next week)
Wed	15.30-16.30	Last Multi Sports Club
Thurs	10.45-11.30 15.30-16.30	Christmas Celebrations in First Steps Last Craft-tastic Club
Fri	11.15 15.30-16.30	Singing at St George's Church - All welcome Last Yoganory Club

Christmas Wishes

This is a very special time of year for all our Pre-Prep Ashtead families, sharing the preparations and family festivities. However, we know that there are many people for whom Christmas will not be such a happy time. During this week's Wednesday assembly, I encouraged the children to think of people less fortunate than themselves, who might not be able to enjoy the festivities in the same way as they will. I asked if each child could write a special wish for someone else.

The Children in Reception and Year One will find a little snowflake in their book bag this weekend. Please encourage your child to write their special Christmas wish on the back of the snowflake and then return the wish to school.

Each wish will be hung in the porch for everyone to read.

I also have some spare snowflakes, if anyone from Rising Reception or First Steps would also like to contribute a Christmas wish.

Tessa Roberts