

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
6 Norman Avenue
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Friday 23rd February 2018

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Message from the Head Teacher

I have had a busy couple of weeks writing the school strategic plan for the next 2 years linking into our expansion in 2020 to include Year 2 on site. Yesterday I presented the plan to our school support team and on Monday I am presenting it to the Cognita Executive Board. I think there are some very exciting ideas for the school moving forward with the Inspiring Young Minds philosophy and also my own vision for our children to be confident and articulate, understanding their words have power and that their words can affect change, thus enabling them to forge their way successfully into their futures as tomorrows leaders. I hope to be able to share the details of the plans with you next week following Executive Board approval!

Next week is Book Week in school with lots of exciting activities planned throughout the week as well as our community events from Monday to Thursday and also our dressing up day on Thursday which is actually World Book Day. We would be delighted if you could get involved during Book Week and send in photos of you and your children reading together at home to display in school. I read a very worrying article this week saying that there has been a drop from 69% to 51% of pre-school children being read to at home over the last 5 years. Stories and reading are a key part of my life at home and I know they will be for you too; our children are very fortunate. Please send your photos in next week.
Mrs Vanessa Conlan

DEPA news

Spring clear out success!

Thanks to all the parents who donated bags of clothes for our Bags 2 School collection on Wednesday. As you can see from the happy faces of the DEPA team, we had a healthy donation of bags and are very grateful to all those who participated. The bags were all picked up promptly from school on Wednesday morning and taken to a company facility to be weighed, and we hope to receive a cheque shortly. DEPA will share the amount raised in our next newsletter.

Thanks again to parents who took time to clear out their wardrobes and donate the old clothes to help fundraising efforts.

DEPA Coffee morning – Tuesday 27 February @ 9am

Our next coffee morning will be held at school on Tuesday 27 February at 9am. Due to the stay and play sessions next week, the event will be hosted in the class room next to Year 1's, so it will be nice to see you all in a different setting. At the coffee morning, in addition to enjoying a little time out of our busy day, we will share the results of the Summer Fair brainstorm session that we held at the drinks evening.

DEPA Easter Egg Hunt and Bonnet Parade - Monday 26th March

Its nearly that time of year again where we have a very special furry visitor at school! DEPA bunnies are hard at work organising the annual Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bonnet parade which will take place on the morning of Monday 26th March.

In preparation for the event, we will be sending home Easter Bonnet templates in your child's school bag so they can decorate and parade their own Easter Bonnets on the sponsored walk to raise money for Rianna's Fund. Our children will also be able to participate in a variety of Easter activities including an exciting bunny hunt and to top it off they get to meet with a special guest star at the end of the day who will give them their lovely Easter treats. More information to follow, however if you would like to volunteer to help out on the day for 2-3 hours in the morning, please could you email DEPA at EpsomDEPA@gmail.com. Thanks to those who have already put their names down – we are very grateful!

Understanding of the World

First Steps and Rising Reception celebrated Chinese New Year today to support their understanding of different customs and traditions around the World. Thank you to Noemi's mum for teaching First Steps how to make dumplings.





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

Leo
Victoria
Penelope

Hedgehogs

Athena

Squirrels

Amelia
Isabella

Badgers

Olivia

Owls

Robin

Well Done!

Easter Holiday Club

Bookings can now be made for Downsend Pre-Prep+ during the Easter holidays. They offer a dedicated facility for children 2-5 at our Pre Prep in Leatherhead. It will be open from Tuesday 3rd April - Friday 13th April. There will be a fun programme of daily activities. The themes for this holiday are Easter Arts and Crafts: Growing and the Outdoors. Call 07899 011275 for additional details. Early Bird booking discount: Downsend parents receive a discount of £2 per day or £1 per half day if booking is made by Monday 19th March. Please return forms to Downsend Pre-Prep+ 13 Epsom Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 8ST or to our school office. All forms are available from our Reception area and details will be sent on School Comms.



Mother's Day assemblies

FS: Wednesday 7th March @ 9am (not 5th as per Schoolcomms)

RR: Thursday 8th March @ 9am

R: Thursday 15th March @ 9am

Year 1: Wednesday 14th March @ 9am



Events Week Commencing Monday 26th February

OPEN HOUSE WEEK FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES

Lunch Menu week 2

Mon	10.00am	Rhymetime stay and play session
	3.30—4.30	Spanish club
	3.30—4.30	Poptastic dance
Tues	10.00am	Storybox stay and play session
	3.30—4.30	Ready Steady Go Kids
Wed	7.00	Rising Reception parents info meeting
	10.00am	French storytime stay and play session
Thurs	3.30—4.30	Forest club
	All day	WORLD BOOK DAY—dress up as a traditional tale character
Fri	10.00am	Musical storytime stay and play session
	1.30	Mrs Conlan to a Downsend expansion meeting
	3.30—4.30	Science club
Fri	3.30—4.30	Cookery club

Inspiring young minds