

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 23 February 2018

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Message from the Head Teacher

Half term whizzed by and we are back at school and ready for action. I was greeted this week as I opened the door with a 'Yay!' This was a First Steps child's enthusiasm as they were eager to come to school and it made my day.

I have been spending time in classrooms this week, watching and observing the children at work. It was wonderful to see the teachers nurturing the individuality of the children and inspiring academic achievement. Lessons have been taking place both inside and out and the children have been totally engaged in their

learning. It's such a privilege to see their progress unfold.

Yesterday, our Parent's Information Evening on Digital Safety and Writing was very well received. The pre-writing skills displayed and explained in the classrooms were fascinating and the statistics offered during the digital safety talk certainly gave us food for thought!

Next Thursday is World Book Day. The teachers cannot wait to see all the children's outfits. The theme from the staff's chosen book is well underway. I wonder if you will be able to guess their book?
Tessa Roberts

Chinese New Year



There were treats all round on Monday as we celebrated Chinese New Year. We were thrilled to see one of our ex-pupils, who popped into our assembly and told us all about the 'Year of the Dog'. His sister sang us a song in Chinese which was delightful. The children learned so much that they were keen to carry on the fun in the classroom. At lunchtime, Mrs McCluskey came up trumps with a delicious Chinese meal. Some of us even tried using chopsticks!

Great News!

The staff and I are 'Over the Moon' as Ashtead Pre-Prep has been awarded 'Millie's Mark'. This prestigious national accreditation is awarded by the National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) in association with the Department for Education and Millie's Trust. This award recognises that Ashtead Pre-Prep goes above and beyond the minimum requirements for keeping children safe. It shows that all the staff working directly with children not only hold a paediatric first aid certificate but that they are also competent in how to apply this practice. In addition to this, we were thrilled to find out that we are currently the only school in the Mole Valley area to receive a Millie's Mark. I'd like to pass on my thanks to all the staff who have enthusiastically supported this application and continue to uphold the high standards that we aim to deliver in all areas at Ashtead Pre-Prep.



Don't Forget

Tues 6 March - Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thurs 8 March - Reception visit Leatherhead Library

Thurs 8 March - Parent/Teacher Interviews



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

Jack Parkin
Matthew Auer

Rising Reception AP

Freddie Lind

Rising Reception SR

Harrison Gay

Reception CH

Robert Pugh

Reception MP

Harriet Edney

Year One

Emily Elliott
George Murray

Well Done!

Our Global Friends

The children were very excited to meet their new friends from another country - Rediet from Ethiopia, Suraj from India and Selisjana from Albania. The portal link has given the children a chance to experience home and school life where they live. We have received little parcels from the children with a handmade gift and a note. Each year group is now preparing their replies for their sponsored child and are deciding what to send back as a gift. This opportunity is such a wonderful way for our children to start developing a global understanding of communities around the world .

Events Week Commencing Monday 26 February

Lunch Menu Week 2

Open Week at Ashtead Pre-Prep

Mon	15.30-16.30	Storymakers Club
Tues	09.45-11.15 15.30-16.30	Lisa Burns (Year Two Teacher from Downsend) visiting Year One. Tots in Tune Engineering Club
Wed	15.30-16.30	Year 8 pupils visiting school to share stories as part of World Book Day celebrations Multi Sports Club
Thurs	15.30-16.30	World Book Day - children and staff dress as Book Characters Xanthe - Performance Storyteller, workshops for each year group Genie Lab Club
Fri	9.30	Downsend Open Morning

Which book is best?

Year One visited the Library this week and had a wonderful time browsing through the large range of fiction and non-fiction books available for children. The children were also able to use their library card to choose a variety of



books to borrow and bring back to school. The only problem was, which ones do you choose?

Janet Catlow

Inspiring young minds