

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



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

Friday 9th March 2018

epsompre-prep@downsend.co.uk
www.downsend.co.uk
Tel: 01372 385438

Message from the Head Teacher

What a relief to be back to normal this week!

So, what does being a storytelling school mean? The storytelling approach is underpinned by 3 main elements: language and communication, a breadth and depth of knowledge (academic focus) and also confidence and resilience to talk in front of a range of audiences (character development focus). The storytelling approach will permeate through all the different areas of learning from the 'stories' that children need to give to technological items to get them to work, so early coding, all the way through to understanding and telling the stories that have inspired artists and composers to create the pieces of work that they have created. In maths the storytelling focus will be on children explain-

ing, justifying and reasoning and in literacy it will be on retelling stories and making up stories of their own. Our first big move into becoming a storytelling school will begin in the Summer term when all staff will receive training on Talk4writing, a strategy to use as a basis for storytelling in the classroom. We will then to start to develop the strategies across the curriculum as described. As parents, you won't see huge changes in the school as a result of this focus. Storytelling is a 'hook' to bring our curriculum together so the changes you will see will be in our environment and curriculum planning as we start to reflect this approach, but more so in your children as their storytelling skills develop further.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan

DEPA news

Beast from the East is no match for Downsend Pre Prep mums!

The bad weather was no match for Reception and Y1 mums from across the three pre preps as we 'kept calm and carried on' last Friday. It was lovely to spend time with mums from the other lodges and get to know each other a little better. Thanks to Kim Collinson for organising the Curry night – and for suggesting we should have a cross lodge drinks evening in June.... More details to come!

Mother's Day surprise in the bag

Shhh, don't tell anyone, but the mother's day surprises are in the children's book bag....

Hop to it – Easter event planning is underway

Hopefully you all received your template Easter Bonnets, instructions and sponsorship forms in the book bags on Monday – let the DEPA team know if you didn't receive them or have any questions (epsomdepa@gmail.com). All sponsorship forms and money raised should be handed to your Class Rep on Friday 23 March! Class reps will then hand that to Mrs Tucker at reception on Monday 26 March. We are so excited to see the completed Bonnets paraded for all to enjoy!

And the results are in.... drum roll please

Whilst the cheque is still 'in the post' I was able to confirm with Bags 2 School, that our clothes collection efforts raised a whopping £116 for DEPA activities! This is a brilliant result, thanks again to you all for digging deep and helping contribute to this success!

Mother's Day assemblies

Happy Mother's Day to all our wonderful mummies. This week we enjoyed sharing our learning with our FS and RR mummies.



**HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY!**





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

Polite Reminders

Parking

When parking in any streets nearby, including Windmill Lane, please ensure you abide by parking regulations at all times. There should be **no** parking on footpaths at any time, and of course please never park over any of our neighbours' driveways.

We would greatly appreciate if you do not park on Norman Avenue as it can create congestion and restrict access for our neighbours and other drivers (including emergency services).

Thank you for cooperation on this matter to ensure the safety of our families at all times.

Clothing

Please remember to label all items of clothing (including wellies, hats, gloves and scarves), and any other items such as water bottles clearly with your child's name. Please also remember you are following the uniform expectations for all uniform please.

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

Timothy
Alexia
Ralph

Hedgehogs

Whole class

Squirrels

James
William R

Badgers

Anna

Owls

Arthur

Summer Term Clubs

We will continue to run the same clubs again in the Summer term. Further details will be sent out to all parents next week. Clubs will commence for the Summer term from Monday 23rd April.

Sign up by Monday 19th March to receive your early bird discount for Downsend Pre-Prep+ Easter Club (Leatherhead). Details from Mrs Tucker.

Events Week Commencing Monday 12th March

Lunch Menu week 1

Mon	3.30 - 4.30	Spanish club
	3.30 - 4.30	Poptastic dance
Tues	All day	Mrs Carruthers out, Mrs Burbidge covering
	9.00	DEPA coffee morning at school
	3.30 - 4.30	Ready Steady Go Kids
Wed	9.10	Year 1 Mother's Day assembly
	3.30 - 4.30	Forest club
Thurs	9.10	Reception Mother's Day assembly
	3.30 - 4.30	Science club
	3.30 - 4.30	Spanish Club
Fri	All day	Mrs Conlan out at General Data Protection Regulation course
	3.30 - 4.30	Cookery club

Well Done!

Inspiring young minds