

[View this email in your browser](#)



# DOWNSEND SCHOOL

## DOWNSEND TIMES

02 March 2018



Website



Twitter



Facebook



Menu



Email

[Download](#)

### Welcome from the Headmaster

After a very wintry week, we are looking forward to getting everyone home for the weekend. Pre-Preps and Lower School children can be collected at 2.15pm, Upper School and Pre-Prep siblings at 2.45pm. Please take extra care in the Car Parks; whilst we have had no more snow, there has been a little sleet which has made the driveway slippery; we have gritted, and our Facilities Team will be in attendance, but please drive slowly through the site.

Have a great weekend and thank you again for all your support this week!

*Ian Thorpe*



---

## World Book Day



WORLD  
**BOOK**  
**DAY**

1 MARCH 2018

[World Book Day 2018 at Downsend](#)

---

## Scholastic Book Fair



As Thursday's Scholastic Book Fair had to be cancelled due to the snow, we have rescheduled this to Monday 5th March from 3.45pm to 5.00pm in the School Library. There will be over 200 titles for you and your child to choose from and prices start from £2.99. Your child can also use their World Book Day £1 token towards payment.

If you are happy for your child to order and buy some books, there are a variety of ways this can be done:

They can bring in a Scholastic Gift voucher to spend at the Book Fair (which means you are happy for them to make their own choices on what they buy at the Book Fair). Gift Vouchers can be purchased online before the Book Fair at [bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents](http://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/parents).

or

Books can be ordered and paid for by sending in the correct amount in cash or cheque (made payable to Downsend School) along with the wish list/order form. Please put the payment and form in an envelope with your child's name and form on it addressed to Mrs Karen Cresswell/School Librarian.

or

Books can be ordered and bought by parents (cash or cheque) on Monday 5th March from 3.45pm to 5.00pm in the School Library.

Don't forget that every book you buy rewards our School Library with fantastic new books for the whole school to enjoy.

*Karen Cresswell*

---

## Brilliant Books!

The Lower School has been awash with books, traditional fable telling, quizzes and stunning writing as our younger children embraced a week-long celebration of the power of reading. Assemblies were devoted to exploring the craft of a writer, the fruits of a joint fable writing project between Year 1 and 2 and a fun quiz in which the children used clues to guess their teachers' favourite childhood books.

While a magical show and storytelling sessions had to be postponed on Thursday as the visiting theatre company were unable to make it through heavy snow, Lower School pupils were unperturbed. The school brimmed with book characters ranging from Harry Potter to Wild Wooders in *The Wind in the Willows*, while classroom activities included book scavenger hunts, word quizzes, craft and creative writing. The younger children also created stunning book covers and blurbs describing their favourite books. Meanwhile, an Inter-house writing competition, designed to inspire the children to write either a short story or poem, ran throughout the week in the Lower School. Children have until Friday 9 March to submit their writing to earn ten house points for their House and the top two entries in each House will also win book vouchers. Let your creative juices flow Lower School and keep reading and writing!

*Lisa Burns*

### Quotes about Book Week from children:

*"Assembly was really fun yesterday because the Year 2 children got to read their fables out loud to the rest of the school."* (Rahan, 2YdV)

*"My brother came to read with us in our class. That was brilliant!"* (Minke, 2YdV)

*"I liked telling my class about my favourite book and then making my book cover."* (Alice, 2LB)

*"It was really cool going to the Book Fair to get new books."* (Alex, 2LB)

*"I loved dressing up as the BFG and seeing all my friends dressed up as different book characters too."*  
(Krishan, 5JA)

*"I enjoyed writing our class fable because I like stories with animals in."* (Elliot, 2LB)



---

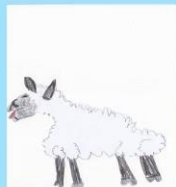
## Downsend Fables

The Year 1's and Year 2's have worked on a shared writing project this week as part of World Book Week. The Year 1 children created characters, settings and morals and the Year 2 classes turned them into fables which they shared with the Lower School in this afternoon's Assembly. The four fables are called:

- The Donkey and the Sheep (moral: good things come to those who are patient)
- The Camel and the Ostrich (moral: if at first you don't succeed, try, try and try again)
- The Snake and the Frog (moral: don't be greedy)
- The Octopus and the Dolphin (moral: if you tell lies people will never believe you even when you tell the truth)



Leatherhead PP and 2ST  
The Donkey and the Sheep



**The Snake and the Frog**  
by Ashtead PP and 2CW



**The Camel and the Ostrich**  
by Epsom Pre-Prep and 2LB



**The Fable of the Octopus and the Dolphin** by 2YDV and Leatherhead Pre-Prep



On a beautiful day, the sun shimmered on the turquoise sea and the waves crashed onto the sandy beach.

But unaware to anyone something scary was happening down in the deep sea.

---

## Year 4 Snowy Time in French

For World Book Day in French, Year 4s made Snowy and Tin Tin book marks whilst watching the 1964 version of "Tintin and the Blue Oranges" by Hergé, inspired by James Rin 4LC who was dressed as Tintin. He brought with him his faithful Snowy! The children learnt that Snowy the dog is called in Milou in the French/Belgian film/cartoon.

*Susie Taylor*



---

## News from our Pre-Preps

What a memorable World Book Day! Stories came to life as their characters arrived at Ashted Pre-Prep yesterday. Snow White with her apple ripe for eating, Willy Wonka with one of his famous chocolate bars and a pterodactyl ready for flight were just a few of the amazing costumes that were on parade. Thank you so much to all parents for entering into the spirit of the day and giving the children a very special Ashted Pre-Prep memory.

*Tessa Roberts*







## House Textiles Competitions



### Years 2 & 3

Design and make a HOUSE banner or mascot using fabric and fabric glue, no stitching necessary.

All entries must be submitted on the first day back after the Easter Holidays to the Textiles Studio.

Judging will take place in the following week.

All entries must have your **name, form** and **House** attached.

All entries will receive house points and prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place.

### Years 4 & 5 and Upper School

Design and make a HOUSE banner or mascot using fabric and textile materials and a range of textile techniques.

All entries must be submitted on the first day back after the Easter Holidays to the Textiles Studio.

Judging will take place in the following week.

All entries must have your **name, form** and **House** attached.

Year 4&5 will be judged together and Upper School separately.

All entries will receive house points and prizes will be awarded to first, second and third place.

All entries must have your **name, form** and **House** attached.

*Melanie Grimshaw-Smith*

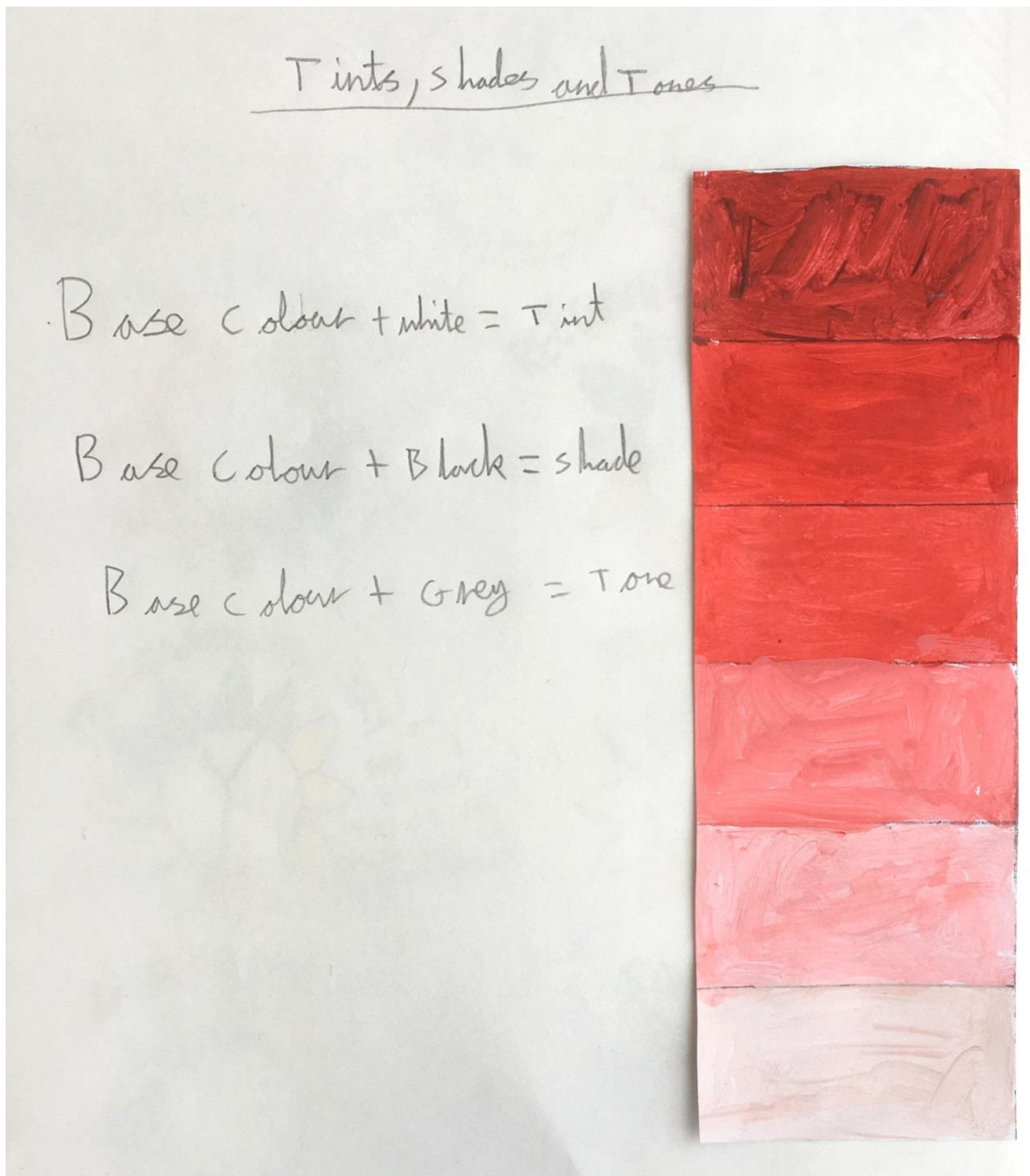
---

## Artist of The Week

This week's Artist of the Week is Maria B in 3NL.

Year 3 have been learning about colour and this week they learnt how to mix tints and shades. Here is an example by Maria. Well done.

*Julia Ayles*



---

## News from the DPA



### QUIZ NIGHT - THE RESULTS

Wow what a great evening we all had at last week's speed quiz night. We were packed to the rafters in the dining hall, but the atmosphere was electric. For the first time in three years the winners were not the teachers table, they were a table of 5 dads with the team name of **"5 Thirsty Men"**.



The bar manned by the DPA committee was very busy serving lagers, beers and bottles of wine to go with the wonderful Indian buffet meal which was cooked and served by the school's own Adrian and Doug. All profits from the evening will go to the School Charity The Royal Marsden. Thank you for all of you that came along and well done the winning Dads. We are still waiting on some final costs, so will post final takings next week.

### LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Thank you to Alex Dale and Charlotte Staplehurst for helping out at Wednesdays book fair which was very busy due to all after school clubs being cancelled. As Thursdays snow blew in, the sale was cancelled for that afternoon but will now happen on Monday 5th March 3.45pm – 5.00pm. See you there.

### **LOWER SCHOOL EASTER PLANTING EVENT – Thursday 29 March 2018**

- Every Year the DPA do an Easter activity on the last day of term in the school for both Lower and Upper school. The Upper School is already sorted, but we need 16-18 volunteers to help with the Easter planting event for Lower School. This is a lovely event that both parents and grandparents can help with.
- Confirmed timings will be from 9.45am – 12.00 and you will help in 2 sessions within this time.

If you are able to commit to help at any of these events, please email [admin@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@dpaschool.org.uk) and you will added to the helpers list for your chosen event. I know a number of you have emailed me, I will get back to you all over the next few days as I was waiting for further details on timings from the school which I received today.

### **DPA SUMMER BALL**

A number of you have asked me regarding this annual event, well this year it is booked for Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at The Conservatory at Painshill Park in Cobham. The Tickets which will be £85.00pp will go on sale after Easter. The venue has a much larger capacity than previous venues that we were bursting out of due to our size, so everyone is welcome including grandparents and friends.

The Cost will include : Drinks reception, 3 course dinner with wine, a disco, exclusive use of the venue to Downsend only, a Live Auction, a Silent Auction and a Photographer. All in the most beautiful walled garden setting. <http://painshillevents.co.uk/>

I hope you all have a lovely weekend, keep safe in the snow.

*Maxine Homewood, DPA Chair*

---

## **Uniform Shop**



### **NEXT UNIFORM SALE**

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Social Area**

3.45pm – 5pm

(Access via the turret)

Any queries re the uniform please email [admin@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@dpaschool.org.uk). If you are interested in volunteering to help in the uniform shop then we always need help so please let us know via the same email address.

*Maxine Homewood, DPA Chair*

---

## **2018 Ski Trip to Prato Nevoso**

A reminder that next Wednesday 7 March at 4.30pm there is an information evening in the Tregenna Hall which I would be grateful if everyone could attend. At this meeting, you will see where the children are staying and given information on everything from the skiing to the apres-ski activities. It is very important that you all attend if possible as I will be giving out an information booklet which contains all you need to know about this trip. I will hopefully be giving out the ski hoodies to the children too! I would like all passports brought to the meeting if possible.

Deadlines:

Passports and EHIC forms to Dee Vanstone by Friday 16 March 2018.

Pocket money – 50 euros in small notes to Jon Albert by Wednesday 21 March 2018.

Medicines to Susie Taylor either before the departure day or on the morning if necessary.

*Dee Vanstone*



---

## 2019 Ski Trip



**6 – 13 April 2019**

We are excited to announce that next year's ski trip will be to the Les Trois Vallees (3Valleys)! We have secured an ideal location within the very popular resort of Les Menuires in the French Alps. As a first, our hotel will be hosting only Cognita Schools and children of a similar age to our own, making this experience a unique one. The estimated cost of this trip is £1300, although as always, the price will slightly depend on numbers attending. More details to follow shortly.

*Helen Black & Jon Albert*

---

# Saturday Sports Club

Regrettably we have decided to cancel Sports Club this Saturday morning (3rd March) due to the continued adverse weather. I wish you a warm weekend and look forward to seeing you next Saturday.

*Jon Albert*



## Music Update



### Dates for your diary:

Thursday 15 March 9.15 am - Year 2 Choir perform as part of St Christopher's Music Festival.

Wednesday 21 March 6.00-7.00pm - Informal Drums and Guitar Concert (Pupils of Mr Precious and Mr Bradfield)

Wednesday 28 March 7.00-9.00pm - Spring Concert 7pm (Sports Hall)

**\*\*All music ensembles will be performing in the Spring Concert\*\***

### Music Clubs and Ensembles

For a full list of Music Ensembles please see [here](#).



Monday	
Year 4 & 5 Choir	10.15 - 10.45 a.m. (Mrs Allison)
Upper School Choir	10.45 - 11.15 a.m. (Mrs Allison)
Year 2 St Christopher's Choir	1.15 - 1.45 p.m.

Tuesday	
Chamber Choir (Rehearsal 1)	8.00 - 8.30 a.m. (Mrs Allison)
Flute Ensemble / LS Mixed Ensemble	(Mrs Hart and Mrs Allison) 10.15 - 10.45 a.m.
US Mixed Ensemble	(Mrs Allison) 10.45 - 11.15 a.m.
Upper School Rock Band	(Mr Bradfield) 10.45 - 11.15 a.m.
Lower School Orchestra	(Mrs Allison and Mrs Hart) 12.45 - 1.15 p.m.
Lower & Upper School Rock Band	(Mr Bradfield) 1.15 - 1.45 p.m.

### Music Ensembles

March 2018


Wednesday	
Brass Ensemble	(Mr Boote) 8.00 - 8.30 a.m.
Lower School Rock Band	(Mr Bradfield) 10.15 - 10.45 a.m.
Upper School Rock Band	(Mr Bradfield) 10.45 - 11.15 a.m.
Whole School Orchestra	(Mrs Allison and Mrs Hart) 1.15 - 1.45 p.m.


  

Thursday	
Lower School Percussion Club/ LS Mixed Ensemble	(Mrs Allison) 10.15 - 10.45 a.m.
Upper School Mixed Ensemble	(Mrs Allison) 10.45 - 11.15 a.m.
Chamber Choir (Rehearsal 2)	(Mrs Allison and Mrs Bayley) 1.15 - 1.45 p.m.

Friday	
Whole School Orchestra	(Mrs Allison) 8.00 - 8.45 a.m.
Year 2 & 3 Choir	(Mrs Allison) 10.15 - 10.45 a.m.
US Mixed Ensemble	(Mrs Allison) 10.45 - 11.15 a.m.







### **Instrumental Lessons at Downsend School**

If your child would like to learn an instrument at Downsend with one of our tutors then please email the Head of Music at [nicole.allison@downsend.co.uk](mailto:nicole.allison@downsend.co.uk). For more information about how the music lessons work, please click [here](#). Currently we have tutors for the following instruments:

Flute, Recorder, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, French Horn, Tuba, Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar, Mandolin, Bass Guitar, Drum Kit, Percussion, Ukulele, Violin, Viola and Piano.

If your child would like to play an instrument that is not listed above, please let me know and I will try to source a tutor for you.

### **M:Tech music technology – Summer 18 term**

M:Tech is a creative composition course in which children create exciting music using the latest music technologies. The course is available to children age 7 - 13 and is suitable for all levels of musical ability.

In the Summer 18 term the children will be working on **Project 'Cartoons'**

**'Compose your own jingle, background music and sound effect to the likes of Tom & Jerry, Scooby Doo, Bugs Bunny and Pokemon'.**



A digital download is emailed directly to parents and a Certificate will be given out in assembly at the end of each term. This course is administered directly by M:Tech and so to register your child's interest please sign up online at [www.mtechonline.co.uk](http://www.mtechonline.co.uk) or contact Pia, Rebecca or Ann on 01483 578114.

M:Tech costs £165 per term with weekly sessions of 30 minutes. Please note: It is important to understand M:Tech is not a club or an activity. It is a group instrumental lesson teaching creative composition with a clear graded learning curve, therefore we apply the same terms and conditions as for instrumental lessons notice is required by half term in order to stop at the end of term.

*Nicole Allison*

---

## Next Week @ Downsend

### School Events



Date	Time	Event
Tuesday 06 March	All Day All Day 8.45am	Surrey Plate Hockey Yr 7 ESB Individual Presentations 4LC & 4MP Class Assembly
Wednesday 07 March	4.30pm	Ski Trip Meeting, Tregenna Hall
Thursday 08 March	All Day pm 8.45am 2.30pm 6.30pm	Yr 3 Forest School Visit @ Downsend Lancing French Speaking Competition TBC 4JN & 4AS Class Assembly Yr 5 Inter House Swimming Gala Yr 5 Parent-Teacher Interviews, Dining Hall
Friday 09 March	Assembly All Day 2.30pm	Science Assembly National Netball Finals Yr 3 Inter House Netball

## Downsend+

Please find below details of the Easter and May Downsend+ programmes which we are now taking bookings for.

Also below are details of this summer's Tennis and Cricket courses, please note the early booking discount available on all bookings received and paid for in full by Friday 6 April.

For all enquires please email [downsendplus@downsend.co.uk](mailto:downsendplus@downsend.co.uk) or call 07909 861 280

[Contact Form 2017-2018](#)

[October, Christmas and February Course Description](#)

[February half term 2018 Booking Form](#)

[Easter and May Half Term Description](#)

[Easter 2018](#)

[May Half Term 2018](#)

[Summer 2018 Tennis Cricket Booking Form](#)

*Rebecca Peek*

---

## School Notices

### Contact Details

Please email [office@downsend.co.uk](mailto:office@downsend.co.uk) if any of your contact details change. Most communication regarding school matches, meetings and other general school information is sent via email or text message.

### Medical Details

Please email [nurse@downsend.co.uk](mailto:nurse@downsend.co.uk) if any of your child's medical details change or return a hard copy to the School Office.

### Downsend Times

Should you wish to add any additional family members to the weekly distribution list then please email their details to [editor@downsend.co.uk](mailto:editor@downsend.co.uk)

### Downsend Sports Bulletin

If you do not already receive the Downsend Sports Bulletin on a Wednesday and would like to start receiving it then please email your details to [editor@downsend.co.uk](mailto:editor@downsend.co.uk) to be added to the distribution list.

---

# Inspiring young minds

---

*Copyright © Downsend School 2017, All rights reserved.*

### Our mailing address is:

Downsend School  
1 Leatherhead Road  
Leatherhead  
Surrey  
KT22 8TJ

**[www.downsend.co.uk](http://www.downsend.co.uk)**

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

---