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# DOWNSEND SCHOOL

## DOWNSEND TIMES

25 May 2018

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### **Welcome from the Headmaster**

It's been quite a half-term! Inspection and Exam Weeks have come and gone. Sporting fixtures have included both girls and boys cricket for the first time, whilst plans are well under way for the various residential trips and end of year extravaganzas. Rather fittingly, we end this busy half-term with our STEAM Day, which has been brilliantly engineered by Mrs Grocock and the STEAM Team. As I write, the House teams are wrangling with hoops, mats and inflatable dinosaurs on the netball courts! There is so much learning taking place – flowing instructions, listening, collaboration, decision-making, trial and error. All skills which form the cornerstone of a modern education! I hope you enjoy seeing the pictures and hearing of the exploits as much as the children have enjoyed the day itself.

A couple of years ago, we tried to introduce an Early Birds facility at Main Site. We have looked at the various roadworks, train timetables etc which seem to influence traffic flow and journey times and will be sending a short survey out to get the optimum service in place for September 2018. If this service is of interest to you, please take a couple of minutes to complete it when it arrives after the half-term break. I hope that you enjoy the break and return refreshed, ready for the final month of an interesting and busy academic year.

*Ian Thorpe*

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## Wisley Win Again!

Congratulations to Wisley for winning the second collection of the term and putting pressure on Ranmore for the end of year competition.

A big congratulations to all the Top Achievers and a well done another excellent half term. Enjoy the break!

*Jon Albert*

### Lower School

**Wisley**  
**Norbury**  
**Headley**  
**Ranmore**

### Position

**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**4<sup>th</sup>**

### Top Achiever

**Sophie C Y3**  
**Jemima J Y4**  
**Natalia B Y3**  
**Jackson C Y2**

### Upper School

**Wisley**  
**Norbury**  
**Headley**  
**Ranmore**

### Position

**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**4<sup>th</sup>**

### Top Achiever

**Matthew I Y8**  
**Natasha C Y6**  
**Ryan T Y6**  
**Teddy K Y8**

### Whole School

**Wisley**  
**Norbury**  
**Headley**  
**Ranmore**

### Position

**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**4<sup>th</sup>**



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## Maths Challenge

Last Friday four children from Year 4 took part in an exciting Maths Competition at St George's Junior School, Weybridge. Working brilliantly as a team, they completed many exciting activities and challenges such as tangrams, pentominoes and shopping challenges. Caitlin, Alexander B, Alexander C and Alexander G represented the school beautifully and we are very proud of them. Well done!

*Amy Sutton*



## Music Update



### Year 3 Musical Instrument Scheme

All pupils need to bring their instruments in for both Music lessons until after the Summer Concert.

- 3PM Wednesdays
- 3MB Mondays and Wednesdays
- 3NL Tuesdays and Wednesdays
- 3EF Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Please remind your children that there will be awards at the end of the year for *Overall Progress* and *Effort During Lessons*.

### Downsend Rocks – Tuesday 12 June, 7.00 pm.

Pupils involved in any of our Rock Bands will be taking part at the Rock Band Evening. More details will follow shortly.

### Upcoming Events

Monday 11 June - Informal Violin Concert (pupils of Mr Bayley) 5.00pm

Monday 11 June - Informal Flute Concert (pupils of Mrs Hart) 6.15pm

Tuesday 12 June - Downsend Rocks (Band Evening) 7.00pm

Monday 25 June - Informal Piano and Guitar Concert (pupils of Miss Rob and Mr Keer) 5.30pm

Wednesday 27 June - Informal Guitar Concert (Mr Smith) 5.30pm **\*Change of date please take note\***



### Music Clubs and Ensembles

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

### 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.

We **currently have spaces** for anyone who would like to learn **recorder, clarinet or saxophone**. Please contact Mrs Allison if you would like to find out more.

*Nicole Allison*

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## News from the DPA

Downsend  
Parents'  
Association



Registered Charity No. 1116557

## **DPA SUMMER BALL 2018**

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

*Please join us*

*Tickets still available – Only 3 weeks to go...*



As you know we have had the Summer Ball tickets on sale for a while now and with only 3 weeks to go, we would really love to sell a few more tickets. Are you still contemplating attending? Well it will be such a fun night you will not be disappointed.

If you have any questions regarding the event from tickets to food, to the disco to the venue, then please call me I'm happy to chat through on 07894 016 056 or email at [events@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:events@dpaschool.org.uk)

As I've previously explained you do not need to make up a table as I can allocate you onto a table with parents in the same year as yourself nearer the time, we currently have 16 tables but some with only 6 parents on (so still space) to tables with 12. We have also opened up ticket sales to grandparents and your friends. We can also offer whole new tables if you have a group willing to come.

We would really love this to be an entire Downsend School event, but without your support it cannot be. We know that having the event on a Friday night is not the easiest with work finish times but if any of you want to come along but cannot make the 7pm welcome drinks just join us for the dinner and dancing.

The Ball has always been a great sociable event and this year will be I guarantee will be one of the best.

Tickets are priced at £85pp and include: 2 glasses of fizz pp, welcome drink, three course meal with wine, disco with light up dance floor, live auction, silent auction and photographer all in the most beautiful walled garden setting at Painshill Park.

If you would like to come along a support this fundraising / great night out, please complete booking form and return it to us at [events@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:events@dpaschool.org.uk) to confirm your place.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the night.

## Live Auction Prizes

We have had a great outcome from you all regarding auction prizes for the live auction, thank you so much to those parents that have donated.

So far we have:

- Signed Irish Rugby Shirt
- Private Flight for 2
- Apartment in Croatia
- Silent Pool Gin Hamper and tickets

## Other DPA News

### Sports Day refreshments

Every year we set up a drinks station offering tea, coffee, water, juice and pimm's for a donation at the Pavilion for all Downsends sports days. We need some volunteers to help our small committee drinks serving

Dates we need volunteers are:

- 27th June from 1.30pm - 5pm UPPER SCHOOL SPORTS DAY
- 28th June from 1.30pm - 5pm Yr 4 & 5 SCHOOL SPORTS DAY
- 29th June from 1.30pm - 5pm Yr 2 & 3 SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

If you can help with any of these please email me at [admin@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@dpaschool.org.uk)

### New Committee Members

Urgently needed from September 2018 - if you are interested please email me at [admin@dpaschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@dpaschool.org.uk)

I hope you all have a restful half term and many thanks for reading.

*Maxine Homewood, DPA Chair*

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**RAISE Writers**



Well done to the RAISE writers who have written poems in their own time in order to enter a Young Writers Competition to be published in their next anthology, entitled *Monster Poetry*.

*Emily Friend*

### ***Crunchy***

***Crunchy is a frightful creature,  
With extremely ugly features.***

***He'll visit you in the dead of night.  
He'll take one look, then take one bite!***

***No sword or gun can bring him down,  
So with Crunchy near, no one sleeps safe and sound.***

***However, he can die  
If he eats a poisonous pie.***

***Otherwise, crunch...  
You'll be his lunch!***

*Alfie B, Year 5*

### ***This is...***

***Yoda the evil alien goat,  
He's devious and he likes to gloat.  
He's a drunkard, he drinks ale and gin,  
He's a murderer and an assassin.  
He has pinkly, wrinkly lips,  
And he wears a cloak from his neck to hips.  
With a colossal pale-green, olive-shaped nose,  
He's the bringer of loads of foes.  
You'll die from his spit, even one dose,  
He has three candy-cane legs and sixteen toes.  
He has (believe me) eleven pairs of abs.  
His brain can control Uber taxis and cabs.  
He always starts his sentences with "I am."  
He has curly horns, like ones of a ram.***

*His lemon-shaped eyes can hypnotize prey,  
His five-clawed paws are granite grey.  
He owns a lightsabre of Kylo Ren's,  
His evil limits? There are no ends.*

*Geoffrey L, Year 5*

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## **Artist of The Week**

Well done to this week's Artist of The Week Amelia in 3EF.

Year 3 have been creating some fantastic still life collages, demonstrating skill drawing 3D forms as well as an understanding of colour and pattern. This is an excellent example by Amelia in 3EF.

*Julia Ayles*





## Good Luck!



Good luck to Helen Black and Sally Temlett who are taking part in the South Downs Trekathon tomorrow to raise money for the school charity The Royal Marsden. There is still time if you would like to sponsor them via the links below.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Helen-Black15>

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sally-temlett1>

This is a tough event over rolling downs and cliffs and at 26 miles it will be an enormous challenge. Good luck ladies!



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## Cricket Success

Congratulations to Ben B, Sam B and Teddy K who have all achieved a selection of half centuries in recent weeks and were presented with commemorative cricket bats in assembly this morning.

Well done!

*Jon Albert*



# School Hero

Well done to our very own school hero the marvellous Miss Seivewright who appears in the summer edition of Independent School Parent Magazine!

STAR STAFF





## MARIE SEIVEWRIGHT

**I** have been the Head of Girls' Games at Downwood School, a co-educational Prep School in Surrey for 10 years. One of my focuses is to inspire girls to find a sport they enjoy and, most importantly, to take part and have fun.

While I was growing up, my passion was always swimming, and while I was never at the standard to compete at a county or national level, this never stopped me enjoying myself. In fact, I loved competing at the level that felt just right for me, and this is something I constantly try to instill into my pupils.

I always knew I wanted to be a PE teacher from a young age, and after completing my BEd at The Manchester University, I went straight into teaching. At Downwood, we offer a range of sporting opportunities for our female pupils, including netball, hockey, swimming and athletics. This summer, we will also be introducing cricket for girls, and I'm always looking for new opportunities to try different sports.

We regularly take the girls to see professionals such as Surrey Women's Netball team,

and it's through trips like this that I hope inspire the girls and show them what they, too, can achieve when they find a sport they enjoy – not just for their school days, but for their life beyond education.

We've had many sporting successes during my decade at Downwood, our current Head Girl has won the National IAPS Swimming Championships for two successive years in the Sims Swimsyle. We have also come a close second several times in the National ESA Primary Relay in Farn's Edge, and have reached the National Hockey and Netball Championship finals on numerous occasions.

In 2014, I was accepted as a volunteer for the Athlete Olympics, after one of my pupils suggested I apply. With school holidays free from watching, I then went on to volunteer at the London Olympics in 2012, the Glasgow Commonwealth Games in 2014 and the World Athletics Championships in London in summer 2017. I thoroughly

enjoyed each opportunity, particularly working in the Athlete Village and the Aquatics Centre in London 2012, where I got to meet Michael Phelps, which was a dream come true!

Last summer in the World Athletics Championships, I worked backstage at the warm-up track, which was a great chance to mentally note down how these elite athletes performed drills, some of which I have since used in my watching at Downwood.

For the last three years, I have also raised money for Downwood's nominated charity of the year, which is chosen by the pupils. Last year I ran my first (and last!) London marathon raising over £2,000 for Epilepsy Research UK. And this year, I participated in the Big 100 cycle event and the Big Half Marathon in March, all for Downwood's current charity of the year, which is The Royal Marsden.

I find it's important for me to show my pupils that I enjoy taking part in sporting events, even though I don't achieve first place. One pupil asked me before I ran the London Marathon last year, "What if you win Miss Seivewright?", and I replied that I wouldn't, but that's not why I'm running it. She seemed surprised and said, "But you're always telling us to be positive and believe in ourselves." And indeed, I am! ☺

*This Head of girls' games is so passionate about exercise that she is inspiring pupils of all sporting abilities*

It's important for me to show my pupils that I enjoy taking part in sporting events, even though I don't achieve first place

## Next Week @ Downsend

### School Events



Date	Time	Event
Monday 4 June	All Week	Yr 3 Great Outdoors Week
Tuesday 5 June	All Day	Common Entrance exams begin Yr 3 Trip to Wakehurst Place
Wednesday 6 June	am 4.30pm	Yr 5 residential trip to PGL Liddington departs Yr 6 residential trip meeting, Dining Hall
Thursday 7 June	All Day	Yr 3 Forest School Visit @ Downsend
Friday 8 June	All Day am pm	Common Entrance exams end Yr 2 trip to Windsor Castle Yr 4 depart for High Ashurst camping trip Yr 5 residential trip to PGL Liddington returns
Saturday 9 June	am	Yr 4 return from High Ashurst camping trip

Downsend+

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

[Contact Form 2017-2018](#)

[May Half Term Description](#)

[May Half Term 2018](#)

[Summer 2018 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.

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# Inspiring young minds

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