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DOWNSEND SCHOOL

DOWNSEND TIMES

06 July 2018

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Welcome from the Headmaster

So, we come to the end of a busy and successful year, one filled with wonderful memories of children trying their best, with smiles on their faces, undertaking so many tasks and challenges. Over the past 36 hours, the Lower School have very much come to the fore, singing and acting their own highlights of the year with considerable aplomb and no little enthusiasm. Years 4-8 will look to do likewise this afternoon and we are looking forward to welcoming you all for what will be a fitting finale to the academic year. Our musicians are looking forward to performing under the marquee on the Sacred Lawn, and there are cold drinks available prior to the event itself. We'll also provide you with bottled water to refresh you throughout the ceremony itself. Our Year 8's are particularly looking forward to their final few hours as Downsend pupils.

What will I remember about this year? It's easy to focus on outcomes: musical concerts, plays, academic results and sporting triumphs. However, for me, it is the processes that I always look back on with most fondness: the initiative shown on STEAM days and the creativity of the staff members that designed them; the camaraderie shown on the sporting pitches or the stage; the resilience shown on the residential trips and tours. In this way, we are truly preparing children for the challenges ahead, a tenet that will continue to form part of the educational provision here in the years to come. I hope that you have enjoyed this year as much as I have and wish you all a well-earned summer break.

Ian Thorpe

Downsend+

We kick off the holidays next week with trips to Legoland, Harry Potter Studio Tours, Tennis, Cricket and Hockey Camps, Golf, Swimming and much much more!

For all enquires please email downsendplus@downsend.co.uk or call 07909 861 280

[Contact Form 2017-2018](#)

[Summer 2018 Description](#)

[Summer 2018 Booking Form](#)

Spaces still available....



Date	Time	Event	
Monday 9 July	am All Day pm	Tennis Course x 5 mornings Legoland Singing Workshop	
Tuesday 10 July	am All Day pm	Tennis Course x 5 mornings Harry Potter Studio Tour Singing Workshop	
Wednesday 11 July	am pm	Tennis Course x 5 mornings Stabilisers Off x 3 afternoons	
Thursday 12 July	am pm pm	Tennis Course x 5 mornings Stabilisers Off x 3 afternoons Bread Baking	
Friday 13 July	am am pm pm	Tennis Course x 5 mornings Lemon Drizzle Cake Stabilisers Off x 3 afternoons Sausage Rolls	

Rebecca Peek

Year 8 Round Up



This has been an amazing year for Yr8 pupils. Fantastic results in both Scholarship and Common Entrance exams, alongside some superb achievements in Sports, Music and Creative arts have meant that this has been a truly successful year for pupils. Hard work, determination and a focused approach has clearly served them well.

Following on from their exams, pupils commenced their After Common Entrance (ACE) Programme of activities and trips. This included self-defence, first aid, the 'Two Day Play', dance and drumming workshops, careers planning and mindfulness. All pupils also braved the Dragons' Den to pitch their ideas to the Dragons and answer some gruelling questions in the process. ACE culminated with a trip down memory lane as they flicked through their yearbooks charting their journey through Downsend and finished with the familiar shirt signings. Yesterday offered pupils the chance to let their hair down and experience some wild and adrenalin-fuelled rides at Thorpe Park. The pupils clearly were better suited to this than their teachers! My thanks go to all teachers who have volunteered their time to run trips or activities for the pupils, particularly with this being such a busy time of year.

The biggest highlight during ACE must surely be the week-long residential in Mimizan, where pupils were lucky enough to test out their skills on the glorious lake. Activities included catamaran sailing, paddle boarding, kayaking and mountain biking, as well as the obligatory visit to a few ice cream and souvenir shops. They were lucky enough to walk up Europe's largest sand dune, the dune du Pyla. Stunning is the only word to describe the view and their thoughts of this epic trek - completely out of the blue, and not at all what they were expecting. A memory that will certainly last!

As we head into Prizegiving this afternoon, I hope all pupils will cherish their time at Downsend and look back on all their fond memories here with pride. We will miss them and wish them the very best of luck as they start in their Senior Schools in September. Well done, Year 8, you've been a blast!

Lee Silva





End of Year 7 Update

So another year comes to a close – I would just like to say that it has been a great privilege for me, Mrs Sehgal, Mr Howe and Mrs Day to look after your children this year; they have had a busy year and have coped well with everything they have encountered. We wish you all a well-earned Summer break and hope you get a chance to re-charge your batteries!

A few pieces of news to finish the year – well done to the following children who have managed to go through the whole year without picking up any debits; this is an incredible achievement.



Brooke T, Toby W, Lexi M, Ava U, Luke C, Olivia B, Matthew Y, Jules T, Katherine V and Zoe S (Not available for the picture).

I would also like to thank our Ambassadors for their work over the Summer term, they have been busy with their different roles of responsibility and have carried out their roles with reliability and enthusiasm!



Jake W, Sofia H, Matthew Y, Amy N-J, Ava U, Toby W.

The entire year group have also been awarded their next commendation badges – very well done on finishing the year so well!

The year group would also like to wish Louis H the best of luck as he moves onto his new school and hope he continues to be successful in all that he encounters.

Happy holidays to one and all; enjoy the summer sunshine!

Anna Mercer, Michelle Sehgal, Rupert Temlett, Beth Day.

Year 6 Headmaster's Commendations

Congratulations to the following Year 6 pupils who have achieved their 3rd Headmaster's Commendation.

6DV – Lauren B, Aniyah G, Aadam M, Daniel R, Ryan T, Charlie W

6CB – Elizabeth H, Mia H, Will K, Bronwen R, Jacob S, Sophie S, George V

6JT – Amelia B, Josh B, Josie D, Oliver F, Marcus H, Emerson N, Khalil V, Daisy W, Sam W

6ST – Natasha C, James M, Joel W, Alex W

6SG – Edward G, Brandon G, Chloe M, Bibi W

Well done!

Rob Temlett

Year 3 Update

Year 3 had a lovely time celebrating the end of term with a special awards ceremony recognising all the children's different achievements and talents. We then had fun playing with bubbles in the sunshine. All of the Year 3 team would like to wish the children and families a very happy summer.

Natasha Ludlam





House News

Wisley continue their winning ways to claim the final term!

Having won the first two terms, Ranmore have finally been beaten, well done Wisley! Over the course of the year the House system has continued to provide enormous competition for all the children in a variety of events. It has been lovely to see so many children and staff enjoy the challenges on offer and respond with such passion and determination for their House. We combine all the various competitions such as the House Quiz, Bake Off and Sports Days, together with the House Point Collections, which recognise the hard work in class and behaviour around school. The points for the final collection along with the Top Achievers can be seen below:

Lower School

Wisley
Ranmore
Norbury
Headley

Position

1st
2nd
3rd
4th

Top Achiever

Matys R Y2
Amelia B Y3
Martha G Y4
Ana-Maria H Y3

Upper School

Headley
Wisley
Norbury
Ranmore

Position

1st
2nd
3rd
4th

Top Achiever

Amelia B Y6
James M Y6
Daisy W Y6
Rylie H Y8

Whole School

Wisley
Ranmore
Headley
Norbury

Position

1st
2nd
3rd
4th

Adding these to the competitions have resulted in the following **Overall Scores**:

Whole School

Wisley
Ranmore
Headley
Norbury

Position

101
85
70
54

Congratulations to all the children, House Captains and Heads of Houses for another great year! I wish you all a wonderful summer and look forward to September.

Jon Albert



Dragons' Den 2018



Last week saw the Year 8's divide into teams and enter the Dragon's Den with their ideas for a toy which encouraged play for a certain age group. They were given a theoretical £200,000 to spend on advertising, marketing, manufacture etc and each member of a team took on a role from Financial Director to Marketing to HR! They all arrived on the actual day dressed very much for business and ready to take on the Dragons! Each team member attended a Master Class from one of the Dragons and learnt some vital skills for their specific role. Once the MDs of each group had helped to organise their teams, it was down to business. Whether that meant visiting and getting advice from the Finance Dragon about how to

complete a P&L spreadsheet, conducting market research in the Lower School, filming a TV advert or creating a visual of the product, all were busy and very quickly learnt the importance of deadlines!

The products designed were impressive to say the least and I am certain that, if there were ever a Junior Dragon's Den, the winning product would definitely have a shout!

Awards were given for 'Best Teamwork' and 'Winning Presentation'. Congratulations go to: Tip Top Toys (Lauren D, Lukas E, Sophia B, Tom Q, Teddy K and Marco H) for winning the Teamwork prize and IIC (Lucy P, Meharpal G, Matthew K, Daniel P, Francesca T, Felipe G and Emily L) for winning 'Best Presentation'.

My thanks go to the Dragons, Mark Currie, Mark Burgess, Isabella Harding, Aileen Lowe and Faye Raincock.

Look out for these future entrepreneurs!

Dee Vanstone



Year 8 Play - November 2018

The Year 8 play in November 2018 will be *The Addams Family: The Musical*, directed by Mr Bryant with Mrs Allison as musical director.

Year 7 have auditioned very well and parts were allocated last week. All cast members have been given

their scripts and asked to learn them over the holidays if possible!

The tracks from the show have been uploaded to the Drama area of the school VLE and can be accessed [here](#).

If you have not yet returned the slip from the letter sent out about dates for rehearsals and the performances, please e-mail Mr Bryant with confirmation.

I hope you all have a fantastic holiday.

Chris Bryant

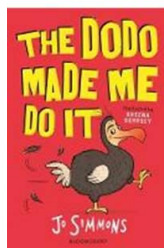
Library Update

Summer Sensations



Below are some suggestions for books which will also be available in our School Library from September 2018.

Fiction



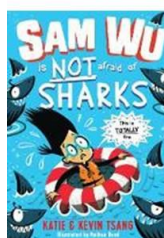
The Dodo Made Me Do It by Jo Simmons (Younger Fiction)

Danny's dreading his summer holiday at his gran's. He's desperate for action, fun and adventure! This year, amazingly and unbelievably, he gets it all, when he finds a dodo on a tiny island. This is going to be the wildest summer holiday ever!



The Boy who Grew Dragons by Andy Shepherd (Younger Fiction)

When Tomas discovers a strange old tree at the bottom of his grandad's garden, he doesn't think much of it. He takes the funny fruit from the tree back into the house and gets the shock and delight of his life when a tiny dragon hatches! The tree is a dragon-fruit tree, and Tomas has got his very own dragon, Flicker. Tomas soon finds out that life with Flicker is great fun, but also very unpredictable. Dragons are wonderful, but they also set fire to your toothbrush. Whilst Tomas is learning how to look after Flicker something extraordinary happens, more dragon-fruits appear on the tree. Tomas is officially growing dragons!



Sam Wu is NOT Afraid of Sharks! by Katie and Kevin Tsang (Younger Fiction)

This book is part of a series about the bravest scaredy-cat in the world. Sam thinks he is very brave but when a shark TOTALLY tries to eat him at the local aquarium, he decides he's not going to take any more chances. So at his friend's birthday party at the beach, Sam refuses to dip even a toe in the water. Nothing could go wrong now, could it?



The Storm Keeper's Island by Catherine Doyle (Year 3/4+)

When Finn Boyle sets foot on Annonyme Island, it begins to stir beneath his feet. Once in a generation, Annonyme Island chooses a new Storm Keeper to wield its power and keep its magic safe from enemies. The time has come for Finn's grandfather, a secretive and eccentric old man, to step down. Soon, a new Keeper will rise. But deep underground, someone has been waiting for Finn. As the battle to become the island's next champion rages, more sinister magic is waking up, intent on rekindling an ancient war.



The Cradle of all Worlds by Jeremy Lachlan (Year 5/6+)

Fourteen years ago, Jane Doe and her father arrived on the steps of the Manor, the entrance to a dangerous labyrinth connecting the island of Bluehaven to many other worlds. That was the same night the earthquakes started, and Jane and her silent, troubled father, John have been feared and despised ever since. When the strongest quake yet strikes and John disappears back into the Manor, Jane embarks on a perilous adventure to find her father and save her world, perhaps all worlds from destruction.



The Wild Robot Escapes by Peter Brown (Year 3/4+)

Roz is no ordinary robot after being washed up on the shore of a remote and wild island, she learned to adapt and make it her home, befriended the animal inhabitants and even adopted a small orphaned gull, Brightbill. But a new life is now beginning for Roz: she has been taken away, far away from her island, back to civilization. She must pretend that she is a robot like any other, there to follow orders and to carry out tasks on the farm where she now works. She knows she must never let anyone find out who she really is. More than anything, she must find a way to escape, back to the island and her beloved Brightbill. This will be a journey fraught with danger and drama, and some very unexpected surprises.



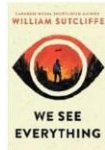
The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q. Rauf (Year 5/6+)

The Boy at the Back of the Class is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense. There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it. He's nine years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets! But then I learned the truth: Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who has run away from a war. A real one, with bombs and fires and bullets that hurt people. The more I find out about him, the more I want to help. That's where my best friends Zeki, Michael and Tom come in. Because you see, together we've come up with a plan...



The Girl with the Dragon Heart by Stephanie Burgis (Year 3/4+)

Once upon a time, in a beautiful city famous for chocolate and protected by dragons, there was a girl so fearless that she dared to try to tell the greatest story of all, the truth. Silke has always been good at spinning the truth and storytelling. So good that since arriving as a penniless orphan, she has found her way up to working for the most splendid chocolate makers in the city (and becoming best friends with a dragon). Now her gift for weaving words has caught the eye of the royal family, who want to use her as a spy when the mysterious and dangerous Fairy royal family announces it will visit the city. But Silke has her own dark, secret reasons for not trusting Fairies. Can Silke find out the truth about the fairies while keeping her own secrets hidden?



We See Everything by William Sutcliffe (Year 7/8+)

This is a thriller set in a reimagined London where drone surveillance is the norm. Lex lives on The Strip - the over-looked, closed-off, bomb-out shell of London. He is used to the watchful, army drones that buzz in the air above him. Alan's talent as a gamer has landed him the job of his dreams. He is about to start work as a drone pilot at a secret military base. These two young men will never meet, but their lives are destined to collide. Alan has just been assigned a high-profile target. Alan knows him only as #R222. But Lex calls him Dad.



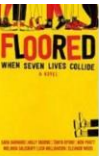
The Distance between Me and the Cherry Tree by Paola Peretti (Year 5/6+)

This is a story about a young girl losing her sight, inspired by the author's own life story. Mafalda is a nine-year-old girl who knows one thing, in the next six months her sight will fall completely. Can Mafalda find a way through a seemingly dark future and still go to school, play football and look after her beloved cat? With the help of her family, and her friends, Mafalda needs to discover the things that will be important to her when her sight has failed.



The Girl in the Window by Penny Joelson (Year 7/8+)

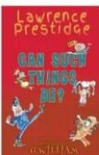
Nothing ever happens on Kasio's street. She would know, because her illness makes her spend days stuck at home, watching the world from her bedroom window. So when she sees what looks like a kidnapping, she's not sure whether she can believe her own eyes. There was a girl in the window opposite who might have seen the incident but when Kasio goes to find her she is told the most shocking thing of all. There is no girl.



Flooded by Sara Barnard, Holly Bourne, Tanya Byrne, Non Pratt, Melinda Salisbury, Lisa Williamson and Eleanor Wood (Year 7/8+)

Flooded is a collaborative novel by seven bestselling and award-winning young adult authors. When they got in the lift that morning, they were strangers. Sasha, who is at the UK's biggest TV centre desperately trying to deliver a parcel; Hugo, who knows he's by far the richest and best-looking guy in the lift; Velvet, who regrets wearing the world's least comfortable shoes to work experience; Dawson, who isn't the good-looking teen star he was and he is desperate not to be recognized; Kathryn, who's slowly losing her sight but won't admit it; and Isaac, who shouldn't be there at all, but who wants to be there the most. And one more person, who will bring them together again on the same day every year.

Poetry



Can Such Things Be? By Lawrence Prestidge

This fun poetry book features a whole host of characters from a Maggie the ghost of William Shakespeare and from a cunning fox to a gory butcher.



One Day in Wonderland by Kathleen Krull and Julia Sarda

In this beautifully illustrated book Lewis Carroll's life is showcased alongside his brilliance at creating and adapting playful words and phrases. From brillig and uffishness to frumious and chortle, the author Kathleen Krull uses many of Carroll's own words to tell the story of a man whose legacy continues to entertain and delight today. There is a glossary of Carroll's invented words at the back of the book.



Swim, Bike, Run by Alistair and Jonathan Brownlee

The ultimate guide to triathlon by Olympic heroes Alistair and Jonathan Brownlee. This is the true story of how two brothers from west Yorkshire became the best triathletes in the world. Meet the Brownlee's, Olympic Champion Alistair and World Champion Jenny. It's both a story of the races, the success and the brotherly rivalry, as well as a guide to triathlon with sections on how to swim, bike and run and it is packed with advice on nutrition, injury, and how to approach the challenge of competing in a triathlon.



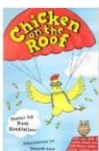
The Waggiest Tails by Brian Moses and Roger Stevens

From huskies to security dogs, meet Bruno, the smallest dog on the farm, and Charlie, the dancing chihuahua. Find rescue dogs, helping dogs, yappy dogs, happy dogs and the dog with the waggiest tail! All written from the dogs' point of view by poets Brian Moses and Roger Stevens.



No Summit out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits by Jordan Romero

Jordan Romero climbed Mount Everest at age thirteen and he didn't stop there. In this inspiring young adult memoir, he tells how he achieved such great heights. On May 22, 2010, at the age of thirteen, American teenager Jordan Romero became the youngest person to climb to the summit of Mount Everest. At fifteen, he became the youngest person to reach the summits of the highest mountains on each of the seven continents. Jordan recounts his experience, which started as a spark of an idea at the age of nine and after many years of training and hard work turned into a dream come true.



Chicken on the Roof by Matt Goodfellow

There's a chicken on the roof and the only way she's coming down is by using a chicken parachute! Dance through deserts and crawl through caves. Discover a sonar's word or have a slice of lunar lemon. Hide in the fun of an African goat, check for rain snakes and gobbling gibbles and look out for a chicken on the roof.

Wishing you all a very happy summer holiday,
 Karen Cresswell June 2018



Music Update



Well done to Octavia M who achieved a distinction at grade 1 drum kit and a merit at grade 2 orchestral percussion. Congratulations also to her brother Hector M who achieved a merit at grade 5 jazz sax.

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. 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.

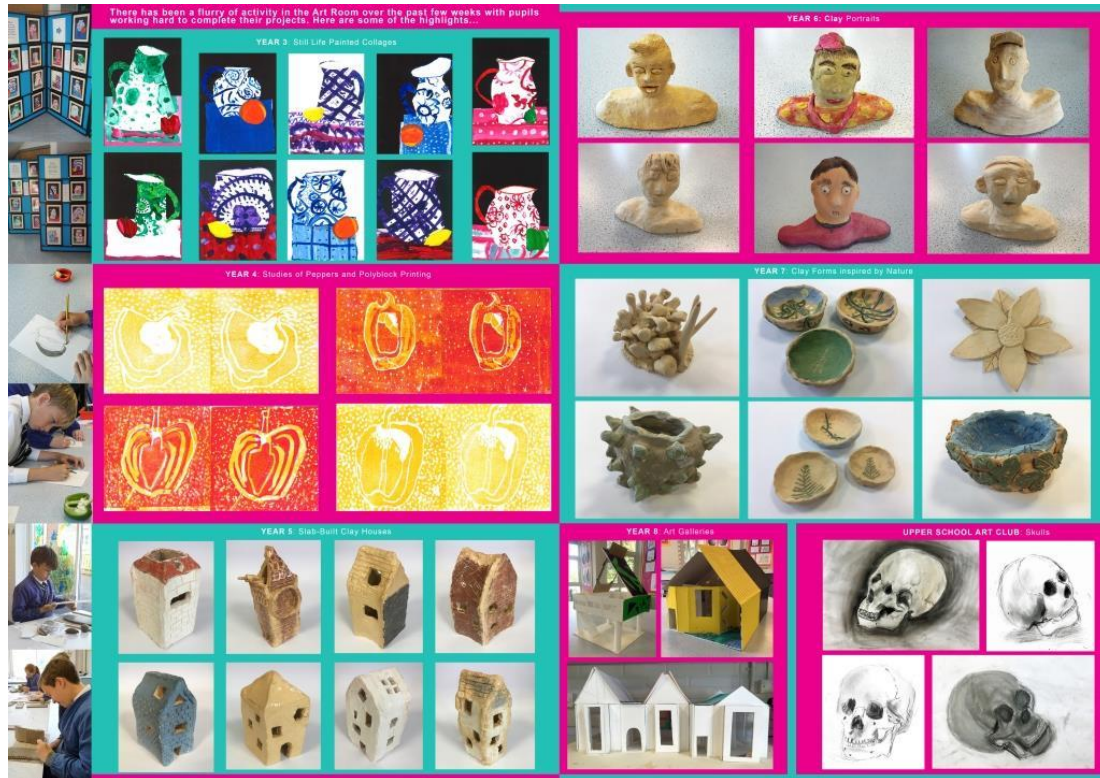
We **currently have spaces** for anyone who would like to learn **recorder, clarinet or saxophone**. Please contact Mrs Allison if you would like to find out more.

Nicole Allison

Artist Update

There has been a flurry of activity in the art room over the last few weeks with pupils working hard to complete their projects. Here are some of the highlights.

Julia Ayles



News from the DPA



Wow What a Year it's been, for your children, for the school and the DPA, we've had:

- **The Family Fun Day**
- **Recycling Event**
 - **Quiz Night**
 - **Christmas Fair**
- **Christmas Santa Gifts**
 - **STEAM Days**
 - **Easter Events**
 - **Summer Ball**
 - **Coffee Mornings**
 - **Sports Days x 3**
- **Loads of Uniform Sales and Intakes**
And lots more

We have raised lots of funds towards extras for your children and thank my committee, the parent volunteers and supporters of these events for their efforts and hard work throughout the year.

Sept 2018 Onwards

The New Committee – watch this space...

Thank you to the number of you responding to our call for new committee members for Sept 2018 onwards, we are in the process of contacting you all. If you had problems emailing us last week, that's my bad, I accidentally did a typo on the email address given last week (sorry), we'd still love to hear from you.

The correct email for all DPA Interest and queries is: admin@dpaschool.org.uk Note that someone will be checking this email over the summer break.

This is my last write up as Chair in the Downsend Times as my son finishes his time at Downsend today. I want to say that I have really enjoyed my time as a Downsend Parent and especially as a member of the Downsend Parents Association DPA, where I have truly made some lifelong friends.

Many thanks for reading, have a totally fab relaxing summer.

Goodbye.

Maxine Homewood, DPA Chair xx

Uniform Sale



The next uniform sale is on:

**Friday 10 August
10.00am - 12.00 noon**



There will be a few vacancies from September 2018 for pupils who wish to take up Speech and Drama lessons (Lamda). The lessons are available to children from Year 2 onwards.

The children will work on poetry, prose and drama. They will focus on key areas such as improvisation and story-telling, characterisation, mime and physical theatre, as well as voice work and devising. Through these disciplines, they will cultivate important skills such as imagination, confidence, coordination and teamwork and develop an appreciation and understanding of the spoken word and love of literature.

Children taking lessons will be put in small groups according to age group. Those wishing to do so, will be able to take Speech and Drama examinations with Lamda (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) during the Spring term.

For full details and pricing, please contact Lucy Biszczanik on 07816 524 066 or email lucylu900@hotmail.com.

Next Term @ Downsend

School Events



Date	Time	Event
Monday 3 September	All Day	Staff INSET
Tuesday 4 September	All Day 8.30-1.15pm	Staff INSET Yrs 2 & 3 Induction Morning
Wednesday 5 September	8.30am 3.45pm	Autumn Term Starts Opro Mouth Guard Fitting, Sports Hall
Thursday 6 September	2.30pm 4.20pm	Yr 5 Inter House Football Girls' Swim Squad Trials Yrs 4-8
Friday 7 September	Assembly 3.00-3.30pm 4.20pm	Mr I Thorpe Yr 2 Parents Tea, Pavillion Boys' Swim Squad Trials Yrs 4-8

School Notices

Contact Details

Please email 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 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

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 to be added to the distribution list.

Inspiring young minds

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