

# EPSOM PRE-PREP TIMES



## Epsom



DOWNSEND SCHOOL PRE-PREP EPSOM  
6 NORMAN AVENUE  
EPSOM KT17 3AB

FRIDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER  
2018

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### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

A very warm welcome back to the 18-19 academic year. It really is a very quick note from me today as the newsletter is a bumper edition full of information.

We have had a wonderful first 3 days back and been delighted at how well the children have settled. I am very excited about the year ahead and all of our exciting plans, one of which you can read about on the back page. I will share, via the newsletter and social media, the other plans and new initiatives for the year over the coming weeks.

You should have received a letter from Mr Thorpe on Wednesday regarding the Downsend expansion. Please come and see me to discuss the contents of the letter or to ask any questions you have.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend. We'll see you all on Monday!

**Mrs Vanessa Conlan**



2018-2019  
Reception

Year 1  
2018-2019



### DEPA NEWS

#### DEPA NEWS

The DEPA (Downsend Epsom Parents Association) Committee would like to warmly welcome all our school families, both old and new, to the new school year and look forward to planning and delivering some fun and exciting events for all our school's children and parents.

#### DEPA Evening Meeting (Coffee and biscuits)

#### 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in the Epsom Lodge

The 12<sup>th</sup> September see's the first DEPA meeting in the evening. We are alternating our coffee mornings with evening meetings to be held in school in hope that parents interested in helping the core committee plan and deliver fun events for our children, will now be able to attend. These meetings are open to anyone that would like to get involved with the parents association or simply find out what is happening and meet other parents.

We have an exciting and fun filled term ahead and without the help and support of our parents sadly some of these events sometimes have to be cancelled. We hope that if you can and you would like to come and meet us and hear what is in store that we see you on the 12<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm for a coffee.

See overleaf for further DEPA news.

## MORE DEPA NEWS

### For the academic year 2018-2019

DEPA can be contacted by emailing

[ep-somDEPA@gmail.com](mailto:ep-somDEPA@gmail.com) or you can talk with your Class Representative who is there to help you with anything to do with your class and answer any questions you may have.



### The DEPA Core Committee are:

- Mandy Jensen
- Terri Jensen
- Taryn Robertson
- Sheila Patel
- Kim Agrawal
- Leanne Daws

### The Class Representatives are:

- First Steps** - Daphne Weal (Noemie's mum)
- Squirrels**— Anjali Davis (Ethan's mum)
- Hedgehogs** – Louise Patel (Ralph's mum)
- Badgers** – Emma Heerah (Henry's mum)
- Owls** - Cheryl Roberts (Zaria's mum)

### Children's Art Exhibition (Drinks and canapes) 4<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30pm in the Epsom Lodge

The first parents drinks and canapes night showcasing your child's artwork on a canvas will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> October – more details to follow. The invite is on display in the Reception and a copy will be coming in book bags soon so please keep an eye out for it. We hope to see as many parents at the event and look forward to catching up with old parents and meeting new parents.

## GRANDPARENTS DAY AND EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES— REQUESTS FOR HELP!

Wednesday 26th September is European day of Languages. We would love to spend this day celebrating some of the rich and varied languages spoken by the families at Pre-Prep Epsom (throughout the year we hope to celebrate all languages from within the school, not just the European ones). In order to do this, we need your help please:

- 1) Do you speak a European language within your family? We would love to know what language it is. We do have some additional language records but we don't think it is a full record.
- 2) Could you record and send us a greeting in this language please so we can use it on the day to teach the children about the language. Please send recordings to the office email by Friday 21st September: [epsompreprep@downsend.co.uk](mailto:epsompreprep@downsend.co.uk)

On the day we are also hoping to have either Mr Thorpe or one/some of the languages teachers from main site coming into school to work with the children also.

We have Friday 5th October in our calendar for Grandparents morning to link in with Grandparents day and as a key part of our All About Me topic. Reflecting on how busy the Autumn term calendar is, we are changing the focus of the day slightly. On this occasion, we will not be inviting Grandparents into school—apologies that the calendar suggested this was the case. We did consider it, but with Harvest assemblies and other events within the week we didn't feel we could manage this. However, we still want to celebrate how wonderful Grandparents are and what a significant role they play in our children's lives.

This is where we need your help!

Please could you send in a photo of your children's Grandparents. On the day itself we would like the children to share the photos and to talk about their Grandparents to their class. We will then put the photos and some quotes from the children up on display in the school so we can share the importance of our wider family with our whole community.

## STAFFING NEWS

We have had a few staffing changes over the Summer holidays.

Firstly, Mrs Bernard has left our staffing team. She has moved onto a full-time post in retail.

Secondly, Mrs Bantock has moved over to main site to over a Food Technology teaching post for the Autumn term. Mrs Bantock taught in Rising Reception on a

Wednesday and Thursday afternoon and taught cooking on a Friday afternoon. Ms Clayton is taking over the Rising Reception teaching on a Wednesday and Thursday which means there is now one consistent teacher for the afternoons in Rising Reception which is great news. Mrs Simpson has taken over the role of our cooking teacher.

Finally, Mrs Carruthers will be out of class all day on a Thursday this year focusing on her leadership role within the school. On a Thursday, Mrs Simpson will be the teacher in First Steps. On any other occasions that Mrs Carruthers is out of class, Mrs Simpson will be the teacher.



## DOWNSEND SATURDAY SPORTS

**Reception, Year 1 & Year 2**

**9am-10am**

For new parents and our Reception parents, a little additional information about this activity: the Saturday morning 'Sports Club' is run by Downsend staff at Main site, as a method of providing additional sports coaching to all those girls and boys who are keen to participate. This club is solely for Downsend pupils at no expense and will continue to operate as a drop-in service; if you wish your child to attend, simply turn up. The club will run every Saturday (finishing on 8 December) excluding the following dates:

**20 October**  
**27 October**  
**3 November**  
**1 December**



The aim is to create a fun environment where pupils can develop an enthusiasm for sport, whilst playing with their school friends. The majority of the training is held on the main Astroturf next to the car park, although occasionally on the grass pitches or within the Sports Hall, depending on the weather and other school matches. Throughout the year a variety of sports will be introduced, all aimed at improving the fundamentals of balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination, speed, agility and most importantly fun! We ask that all pupils wear their Downsend sports clothing (shin pads for footballers), trainers and bring a water bottle.

Similarly to last year, refreshments can now be purchased from within the Sports Pavilion.

We were delighted by the response last year and can already see the benefits that this ground work has generated within our sports teams; we look forward to seeing you this Saturday 8 September.

**Jonathan Albert, Assistant Head**

**Please remember to send your child in with their coat. We will go outside whatever the weather!**



# DOWNSEND SCHOOL

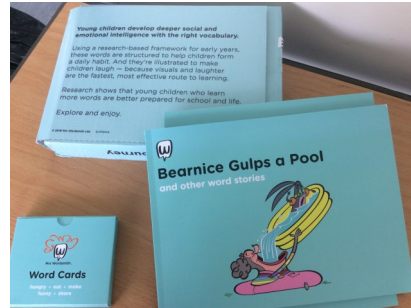
## Useful Contacts:

Pre-Prep Epsom 01372 385438  
 Pre-Prep Ashted 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

## Introducing our new vocabulary development extension programme

Every week, I will introduce 4 words to the children. They will support the children to develop their understanding of themselves, their connections with others, their communication skills and their creative thinking, therefore supporting their social and emotional literacy and mental health. I will share the words in the newsletter each week and ask you to support the children in using and explaining the language. The teachers will continue to do this in the following week in the classrooms also.

This weeks words have focused on self awareness.



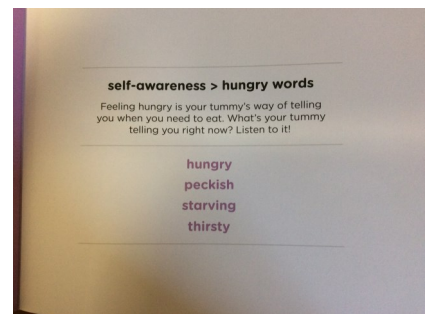
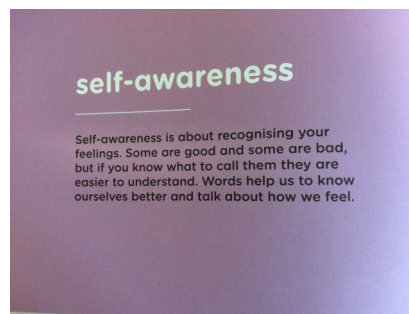
## CELEBRATION BOARD

**Achievements in class work, good manners and excellent behaviour are celebrated in a special assembly every week.**

We haven't had a celebration assembly this week but would like to celebrate all our children for coming back into school so wonderfully. Both our 'old' and new children have settled back into school beautifully and shown their teachers that they are ready for learning. A great start!



**Well Done!**



## Events Week Commencing 10th September 2018

### Lunch Menu week 2

<b>Mon</b>	10.30	Susan Webb from the Independent Schools Association visiting the school
	3.00	Reception and Year 1 assembly
<b>Tues</b>	4.30	Mrs Conlan at Downsened Headteachers meeting at main site
<b>Wed</b>	11.15	Rising Reception parents curriculum meeting
	7.30	DEPA coffee and biscuits evening
<b>Thurs</b>	9.00	Celebration and word introduction assembly for Rising Reception, Reception and Year 1
<b>Fri</b>	All day	Roald Dahl day for Reception and Year 1
	2.45	Reception and Year 1 parents curriculum meetings

**Inspiring young minds**