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DOWNSEND
SCHOOL

DOWNSEND TIMES

23 November 2018

A message from the Headmaster

The cold snap certainly hasn't stopped our pupils from putting their best feet forward and their many successes have warmed a few hearts this week. There were many highlights, from last night's excellent opening night of the Year 8 play, Addams Family, to the Year 6 Science Team qualifying for the Regional Finals; the tournament winning hockey girls on Saturday to our Public Speaking competition hosting on Wednesday evening; and our Surrey Cup runner-up to our brilliant Bake Off entries. The all-round excellence achieved by our pupils is something to behold and just one of the reasons why they were proud to show so many visitors round our school during last week's Open Morning. I do hope that you enjoy reading about these successes in greater detail.

Ian Thorpe

Mufti Day

A reminder that next Friday 30th November is a Christmas themed Mufti Day in exchange for a £2 donation (to be given to Form Tutors) to the school charity, The Children's Trust.

Seb Watts

Lower School Update



It's been a hugely busy week in the Lower School this week, from the wonderful Kenn and Ian from Openbox visiting to support learning in Year 2 about The Great Fire of London, to the whole Lower School watching some of our Year 7 and 8 children in their wonderful performance of 'The Addams Family'. We also welcomed a record number of children interested in joining the school in Year 3 – they loved their sessions with our fantastic Year 2 and 3 teams, making slime, decorating biscuits and making pine cone owls in the Art Room. It really was a super event!

I was so proud this week to see Grace K's Diamond Blue Peter badge which she has recently earned. It would have gone beautifully on my coat, but understandably Grace was keen to keep hold of it. A huge well done to you Grace.

The surge of outstanding work sent to my office has continued this week with brilliant examples of writing about Mummification from Samuel B, Grace K, Tayla S, Sam R and Alex C. It was an absolute pleasure to see not only their work, but also their pride in their own individual achievements.

Well done too, to Martha G and Sadie T in 5AG for their brilliant, interactive explanation of how day and night happens – I certainly learnt a lot from this work, well done girls!

Next week, I look forward to the DPA Christmas Fair and all the fun that it will bring. I hope to see many of our Lower School families there.

Have a wonderful, restful weekend.

Clare Kirkham

Christmas Post Boxes



On Monday 3rd December the Christmas Post Boxes for the Lower School will go out. They will be located in the Turret and each year group has their own box.

Please make sure that all the envelopes are labelled clearly with first names, surnames and classes. The boxes will be emptied daily.

Helen Black

India Day



"Magnets and souvenirs at great prices!"

"Come and buy some fresh tasty samosas here!"

"Three elephants for the price of two!"

...were just some of the cries that could be heard throughout the Year 4 classrooms on Friday last week. India Day was in full swing, with teams of children creating their own Indian style market stall full of tempting wares for their classmates to haggle for. Immersed in an Indian shopping experience, the children learnt to haggle and barter for the best price whilst trying to tick off all the items on their shopping list.

Other highlights of the day included a fantastic Bollywood dance-off, some beautiful sand art mandalas being created and some excellent design work on symmetrical rangoli patterns. Clothed in bright colours and beautiful saris, the children had a fantastic day immersing themselves in their current Geography topic. For their homework, they used their experience and imagination to describe how an authentic Indian market might be - please see below for some of their fantastic description.

The Year 4 Team



INDIAN MARKET DESCRIPTION!

LOOK AT THE PICTURES BELOW AND THINK ABOUT OUR LESSON ON INDIAN MARKETS TODAY. WRITE A DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH USING YOUR 5 SENSES TO DESCRIBE AN INDIAN MARKET.



TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

- ZOOM IN ON TINY DETAILS!
- UP-LEVEL YOUR COLOURS (E.G. RUBBY-RED).
- TRY AND INCLUDE ONE OR TWO SMILES.
- I CAN USE 3 DIFFERENT WAYS OF STARTING A SENTENCE!

At the bustling market I can see shops with shelves of clothes and soft blue saris. The air is filled with vibrant, bright colors as I see people rushing about the busy street.

The sounds of conversations, I hear like jelly on a hot day over the shouting people. You can smell the spices as I walk with my hand on my nose. The air is filled with the sound of the market. The air is filled with the sound of the market. The air is filled with the sound of the market.

Hot sun, the breeze, the sound of the market. The air is filled with the sound of the market. The air is filled with the sound of the market.

What a super description of an Indian market! You included: Zoomed in on tiny details, Sensuous agent, Your 5 senses.

This is fantastic description Samuel!

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Indian market description Wow!

By Natalia Bullingham 4MP

In the corner of the crowded market an old lady was hunched over a colossal wooden bowl, serving a bright yellow mango curry. I took a huge spoonful of the sauce and the exotic flavour's immediately hit me. It was as sweet as Belgian chocolate and as spicy as fiery Mexican chili. The incredible taste stayed in my mouth for the rest of the wonderful day in India.

The market was very noisy with people buying, selling and bartering. Above all of the shouting was the sound of car horns constantly beeping, like an annoying fire alarm that would never stop.

Standing at the heart of the market was a silk shop selling multi-coloured, elegant scarves. I wrapped one around my neck and it was as soft as a rose petal floating from the sky.

On the other side of the market sat a long wheelbarrow forming a fresh fruit stall. I could see over fifty different colours, like rainbows coming together. Mangoes, lemons, oranges, apples, lemons, pears, bananas, strawberries, blueberries and raspberries were stacked up in tall towers of boxes. The impact of the newly picked fruit on my nose was instant, medicine for the horrible street smells throughout the surrounding market.

Lower School Years 4 and 5 House Bake Off

On Thursday it was the turn of the Year 4's and 5's and they also brought in the most fantastic range of Christmas and Winter themed cakes to sell and to raise money for our school charity the 'Children's Trust'. Yet again, Mrs Kirkham had an extraordinarily hard job in trying to judge the winners for each house, as there were so many amazing cakes. Thank you to all of you for your brilliant efforts, we managed to raise £309.14.

Winners for Year 4 and 5 are:

Emerson W - Headley

Caitlin B - Ranmore

Andrew Mc - Norbury

Freya V - Wisley

Helen Black



Local Schools Public Speaking Competition



On Wednesday evening Downsend hosted Manor House and St Teresa's for a Public Speaking competition for Year 5's and Year 6's with each school providing a team for each age group.

We heard speeches on a variety of topics from "Make up as a mask" to "Robot teachers are not the future". The standard of presentation from all six teams was outstanding and the confidence and courage, as the judges put it, of the children was most impressive.

Many congratulations to Adam V who was awarded the "Best Vote of Thanks" prize and was complimented on how he had made a well-rehearsed speech sound spontaneous. The overall winners were the Year 6 team from St Teresa's who delivered a thought provoking speech on the plight of the rhinoceros.

I was extremely proud of both the Downsend teams. They had worked very hard on their speeches and all spoke so well and confidently.

Thanks must go to Mr Thorpe, Mr Newland and Mr Watts for their support at the competition; to Mrs Vanstone for her tireless enthusiasm and drive for the Public Speaking Club and to Miss Coates for helping me with the teams.

The teams were:

Year 5

Chairperson - Alexander C

Speaker - Lucy W

Vote of Thanks - Erika S

Subject - Should there be separate girls and boys sports?

Year 6

Chairperson - Arya K

Speaker - Imogen G

Vote of Thanks - Adam V

Subject - Make up as a mask

Sue Dinnage



Artist Of The Week

Our Artist of the Week is Angus W in 6SN.

This week Year 6 have been working hard to develop their initial graphic scores into colourful abstract compositions. They have created a series of prints and this is an excellent example from Angus W in 6SN.

Well done Angus!



Julia Ayles

DPA News & Events

**Downsend
Parents'
Association**



Registered Charity No. 1116557

**Count Down to the DPA Christmas Fair
Saturday 1st December from 11am - 2pm**



Thanks for your collective efforts towards the Big Event so far, we are so proud of the response from parents, children and staff. On Thursday and Friday morning the DPA collected lots of lovely books, DVDs, chocolates and bottles, but don't worry if you haven't had time to donate yet, you can always bring them in on Monday 26th November.

We especially need more bottles please – share that Christmas cheer!

A reminder of the Parents Checklist of activities for this coming week:

Monday 26 & Tuesday 27 November Hand in at: Turret	Bring in filled jolly bags (no nuts) Don't forget to seal the tops!
Wednesday 28 November Hand in at: Turret	Bring in your decorated bauble for Santa's grotto In case you misplaced yours, pick up at the Turret or download here
Thursday 29 November Hand in to: Class Reps	Raffle tickets – please complete and provide with ££ to your class rep

Thank you for bearing with us over the **Grotto** booking gremlins; Santa's Elves must have been at the Egnogg that day! Please rest assured that all bookings are now being safely collected and organised and we will share the booking list via schoolcomms on Monday so everyone can see. There are a few slots still available, please click [here](#) to book if you haven't had a chance yet.

Ready your roof racks or bring your biggest chariot on the day of the Fair: our very own Woodland Forest School team will be selling high quality real **Christmas trees** for you to take home and enjoy.

Santa Dash
Upper School Friday 7th December
Lower School Tuesday 11th December

The DPA are looking forward to seeing all our children supporting the Children's Trust in the Santa Dash.

To celebrate their achievement, they will enjoy a soothing hot chocolate and Christmas biscuit afterwards, courtesy of the DPA.

Phil the Bag

What do these two things have in common?



Well, we are delighted to let you know that an unbelievable 1280kg of textiles were donated at our annual Phil the Bag recycling event on Wednesday 7th November – that's the same weight as a full grown walrus!! Your efforts raised a whopping £448 to put towards the DPA programme of ongoing enrichment activities for our school community. Tremendous!

Class Reps

An updated list of Class Reps is as follows:

2LB - Katie Williams

2YdV - Chantal Hannah

2ST - Emily Crease

2CW - Mark Burgess

3MB - Amy Smith & Emma Kavanagh

3VB - Emma Hudson & Heather Cross

3CC - Gail Witherspoon-Hughes & Sarah Clarke

3NL - Alexandra Jenson-Humphreys is

4EF - Louise Ling & Melissa Pigott
4JN & 4MP - Lynda Mackie
4AS - Mark Burgess & Sally Gilbert

5AG - Alex Thompson
5GH -
5LC - Laura Milsted
5PM - Jennie Kirkland

6CB - Natalie Thornton
6MSK -
6SN - Lynda Mackie
6STa - Jo Milton

7BD - Jane Cooper
7FF - Victoria Goodyer
7JA - Ana Esteves Murfin
7RH -

8AD - Helena Barrows, Jenifer Horvat & Elizabeth Tennant
8GL - Jo McDonald
8CO - Emma Hodson & Katie Williams

We are now only missing reps for classes 5GH, 6MSk and 7RH. If you would like to take on this role, please contact [Charlotte Feltham](#).

Alex Dale, DPA Secretary



Calling all Lower School Instrumentalists!



I would like to invite any pupil in Years 3, 4 and 5 who can play an instrument to join in with our

Festive Lower School Christmas Cracker Orchestra

Rehearsals are at 12.45pm on Tuesday 27th November and Tuesday 4th December. There will be 5 House Points awarded to all who attend.

Christmas Performance Dates



Year 2

2CW and 2YdV, Tuesday 4 December, 2CW at 1.45pm and 2YdV at 2.45pm, Peterborough Hall
2STe and 2LBU, Thursday 6 December, 2STe at 1.45pm and 2LBU at 2.45pm, Peterborough Hall

Year 3

3MB and 3CC, Monday 3 December, 2pm, Peterborough Hall
3NL and 3VB, Wednesday 5 December, 2pm, Peterborough Hall

Year 4

Monday 10 December, 2.30pm, Dining Hall

Year 5

Carols by Candlelight, Wednesday 12 December, 5pm, St George's Church

Years 6-8

Upper School Carol Concert, Thursday 13 December, 5pm, Sports Hall

Rainbow Trust Charity Concert

Tuesday 4 December, 7pm, St Nicholas Church Bookham

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

Currently we have tutors for the following instruments:

Flute, Recorder, Oboe, Clarinet, Cello, 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.

Well done to Horatio M in 4MP who competed in the Sutton Festival on Saturday winning second in the U9 string solo and second in the U12 concertino classes.



Nicole Allison

Downsend Upper School Santa Dash

You are invited to join in the Festive Friday Fun Run in support of our school charity, The Children's Trust.

Dress up in Festive Fun Outfits to dash around the Astro - how many laps can you do in 25 minutes?

There is a minimum donation of £3.00 but you are welcome to donate more if you wish or even organise your own sponsorship.

Donations will be collected by your Form Tutor.



It would be fantastic to see you run in House colours - **Norbury as Santas**, **Headley as Christmas Trees**, **Ranmore as Stars** and **Wisley as Christmas Puddings** but a festive jumper or fancy dress would be just as fun!

Earn House points for entry, having fun, and the number of laps you complete in 25 minutes.

Change into your outfits at break

Wear trainers or astro boots

Tuesday 7th December - Period 9

Any queries, see Mrs Day

Join in and have festive fun!



QUICK, LET'S RAISE MONEY FOR


The Children's Trust
For children with brain injury



Think about running in
house colours around the Astro.....

Norbury—Father Christmas,
Headley—Christmas Trees, Ranmore—Stars,
Wisley—Christmas Puddings
Friday 7th December—p9



£3
Minimum
Entry Fee



Beth Day

News from our Pre-Preps



Rhyme Time

'Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall' was definitely one of First Steps' favourite rhymes as they celebrated National Nursery Rhyme Week this week. Each day there has been a new rhyme. Along with this, there have been wonderful activities organised by the First Steps team to embed and support the children's learning around the vocabulary and rhyming words within the songs. Nursery rhymes play an important role in early childhood development and education. As well as being fun, they are excellent tools for teaching skills in language and communication, emergent literacy and early maths. The children in First Steps have definitely had fun this week and we hope they have shared their new rhymes with everyone at home!

Tessa Roberts

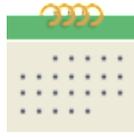


Next Week @ Downsend

School Events



Date	Time	Event
Monday 26 November	6.00pm	SEN Parent-Teacher Interviews, Peterborough Hall
Tuesday 27 November	All day 6.30pm	Yr 7 ESB Individual Presentations Yrs 2 & 3 Parent-Teacher Interviews, Peterborough Hall
Wednesday 28 November	All day 6.00pm	Yr 7 ESB Individual Presentations Informal Brass Concert, Social Area
Friday 30 November	Assembly All day 2.00pm	House Singing Assembly Mufti Day Yrs 2 & 3 Inter House Events
Saturday 01 December	11.00am-2.00pm	DPA Christmas Fair



Calendar



Healthy School



Uniform



Firefly



DPA



Letters & Forms



Term Dates



Inspiring young minds

[Download School Notices](#)

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