

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
6 Norman Avenue
Epsom KT17 3AB

Friday 8th February 2019

epsompre-prep@downsend.co.uk
www.downsend.co.uk
Tel: 01372 385438

Message from the Head Teacher

This week our children have further developed their understanding of the wider world through the focus on Safer Internet Day and Chinese New Year. It has also been Children's Mental Health Week so an opportunity for us to reflect on our strategies to support and promote our children's mental health and well-being. While it may seem that our curriculum is very busy with additional events and celebrations, these are key to supporting children's mental health as they help children to understand how they fit into the wider World (focusing on different celebrations), how to express themselves and understand how others feel (days such as National Hug day) and also to equip them with the skills to stay safe (Safer Internet Day, road safety day etc). However, promoting mental health is not an add on and there are many parts of our day to day work and school ethos that support children, for example, the

introduction of 4 words each week to develop children's social and emotional vocabulary and language enabling them to clearly express themselves and also the use of our outside space for play and sports; we know that a healthy body and healthy mind are very closely connected.

Following on from healthy body, healthy mind, I hope everyone received the email with the details and password to access the 5 a day website and activities. The children love the 5 a day active and relaxation activities in school and we are delighted that we have been able to extend our subscription to include families and homes. Please enjoy.

Finally, I am in consultation currently to start a breakfast club from September to extend our current Early Birds offering to start earlier and include breakfast. This would be a paid for club. I will keep you updated.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan

DEPA news

Quiz and Auction Night – 6th March 2019 19.30 at Epsom Pre Prep

Hopefully you will have all received an invitation to the Quiz and Auction Night on the 6th March in your child's book bag this week. If not, Mrs Tucker will be able to assist. Please return your reply slips to Mrs Tucker by the 26th February – don't forget to include your dinner choice. The DEPA team have been working hard on the auction prize and we have some great auction prizes already secured. We hope to see as many of you that can make it on the night – this is an informal way to meet other parents, have some fun and take on the teachers.

Bags 2 School Clothes Collection – 11th March (morning drop-off)

The Bags 2 School collection bags will be popped into your child's book bag next week so please keep your eyes open for yours. If you would like additional bags please speak with Amy Tucker or use a black bin liner. The more bags we can collect the more money we raise for our school. Thank you in advance for your support.

Mother's Day Surprise

With Mother's Day on the horizon, the DEPA team are working with the teachers to create a personalised gift to remember. This could be a lovely gift for Mum's and Grandma's alike! The order forms and artwork will be sent home in your child's book bag on the 15th February, please complete this during half term and return it to your class teacher by **Wednesday 27th February** along with payment (cash or cheque payable to DEPA) and the DEPA Team will do the rest! We can't wait to see how our children respond to their creative challenge and look forward to hearing feedback from happy Mum's after the big day! If you have any questions, do let your Class Rep or the DEPA team know epsomdepa@gmail.com.

Chinese New Year

In assembly on Thursday the children listened to the Chinese New Year story. They then tasted noodles at snack time and made their own Chinese Dragons. The whole school then celebrated together by having their own Chinese Dragon Dance in the playground. Kung Hei Fat Choy!



Safer Internet Day

This week we have been learning about internet safety. The children followed the story of Smartie the Penguin and his new tablet which covered age appropriate issues such as if you see something on the computer that you're not sure about. The aim behind this global incentive is to ensure that all children, even at such an early age, learn how to keep themselves safe online.



Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

Ext day mob 07594170569
 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

Words of the Week

Next weeks words are focused on good learning behaviours and the impact they have on learning as well as supporting children to remember to ask for help when they need it.

Listen—we show our teachers we are listening using our whole body. Our body faces the person talking, our eyes are looking, our mouth is quiet and our hands and legs are still.

Focus—if we are focusing, we are doing the best we can to be a good learner. We can focus by listening well and always trying our hardest in our work.

Concentrate—concentrating and focusing are very similar. When we concentrate, we are listening and focusing and being the best learner we can be.

Understand—to be a great learner you need to understand what your teacher is asking you to do. If you don't know what your teacher wants you to do, this might mean you don't understand. If you don't know what to do, you should ask your teacher who will help you. To help you to understand, you should always listen, focus and concentrate.

Celebration Board

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

We congratulated the following children this week:

First Steps
Ryan and Berta

Hedgehogs
Elijah

Squirrels
Anaelia

Badgers
Sonia

Owls
Olivia

Mathletics news

Well done to Manya, Keira, Rebecca, Zaria and Tahira for achieving a bronze Mathletics certificate this week.

Well done to Rebecca who also achieved a silver certificate this week.

Events Week Commencing 11th February 2019

Lunch Menu Week 3

Mon	3.30—4.30	Spanish and dance and music theatre clubs
Tues	All day	Mrs Conlan at Pobble Champion training day
	All day	Mrs Carruthers at Cognita Early years hub—Mrs Burbidge covering
	3.30—4.30 evening	RSGK club Parents evening
Wed	9.30—12.00	Mrs Conlan out at meetings at main site
	3.30—4.30	Forest and Grow, Cook, Eat clubs
	7.00	Parent session at main site
Thurs	pm	Additional parents evening for FS
	3.30—4.30	Science club
Fri	All day	Miss McIntyre out at Digital Champion training
	3.30—4.15	Yoganory club
	End of day	Finish for half term. School ends at 3.30pm as

Well Done!

Inspiring young minds