

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Ashtead



**'OUTSTANDING'**  
SIS Inspection 2014-2015  
Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 15 February 2019

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### Message from the Head Teacher

Half term next week. I can hardly believe it! Where did January and half of February go? We've had wonderful trips to the National Gallery and the Polka Theatre, along with exciting visitors to school. The staff have enjoyed exploring the capabilities of our new IT resources in each class to enhance their lessons. In addition to this, we are also delighted at the way our introduction of the STEAM principles has been fully incorporated into the curriculum and shared with you all. Not only have the children experienced a

wealth of exciting experiences but they have also taken charge of their learning. At our staff meeting this week we looked at each child's progress and we are thrilled with their results in their key areas of learning. I think that we are all ready for a little break and I think we can see why this half term has flown by.

I hope you all have a well-deserved, relaxing and enjoyable half term.

**Tessa Roberts**

**Love is in the air!**



The children in First Steps mixed red and white together this week to make pink. It was the perfect combination for a Valentine's Day wish. Foam, paint and glitter created special hearts and the decorated Valentine's biscuits were a delicious treat for some hungry First Steppers! We hope that you were all spoilt with love and hugs on this very special day.



**Don't Forget**

**Half Term  
Mon 18—Fri 22 February**

**Mon 4 March** - Year One visit Ashtead Library

**Thurs 7 March** - World Book Day—Xanthe, Performance Storyteller visits school

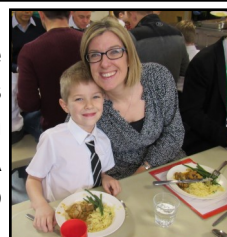
**Fri 8 March** - Open Morning Ashtead Pre-Prep 9.30-11.30

### School Lunches—Yummy!

Year One were very excited to be able to invite a relative for lunch this week. The children had been busy preparing menus, flower arrangements, gifts and a little surprise for their guests. Mrs McCluskey also worked her magic in the kitchen to create Mediterranean chicken with orzo and green beans followed by courgette and lime cake. The guests were delighted to be served such a tasty lunch with many having "seconds" and maybe even "thirds"! After lunch the guests were able to enjoy strawberries dipped in chocolate - the little surprise that the children had made for them. I was very proud of the children as they were perfect hosts and we were thrilled that all the parents, grandparents and aunts were able



to experience the wonderful lunches that the children enjoy every day. A huge thank you to Mrs McCluskey who is always coming up with inventive, new and sugar-free menus.



**Janet Catlow**



## Downsend School

### Useful Contacts:

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Pre-Prep Ashtead   | 01372 385439 |
| Pre-Prep Epsom     | 01372 385438 |
| Pre-Prep L/head    | 01372 385437 |
| Prep School Office | 01372 372197 |
| Admissions         | 01372 372311 |
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| Finance Department | 01372 374842 |
| Marketing          | 01372 385402 |
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| Mobile             | 07899 011275 |
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## Golden Board

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

**We congratulated the following children today:**

### First Steps

Livvy Relf

### Rising Reception

All of Rising Reception for their brilliant participation and excellent behaviour on their first ever school outing.

### Reception CH

Chessie Ling

### Reception MC

Eric Welton

### Year One

Rupert Purrington

Kamran Haque

## Golden Star Awards

### Good Manners Golden Stars were awarded to:

- William Nelson-Bowling,
- Hensen de Souza Bridges,
- Ayrton Friend, Gigi Stallman,
- Alexander Buchen

**Well Done!**

## In the Winter Wood

The Rising Reception children had a very exciting morning yesterday as it was the first time that they had ventured out on a school trip. Their destination was the Polka Theatre in Wimbledon. Once they arrived, they were lead into an imaginary winter wood which was surrounded by tree trunks, with animal prints on the ground. They could also hear animal sounds all around. Everyone was given a blanket to keep them warm whilst listening to the story. The story was about a few farmyard friends who helped each other to build a new home. Jan the story teller was amazing. She added a Jamaican feel to the



story through songs and movements and the children were encouraged to join in. At the end of the winter story, snow fell from the ceiling covering the woods and the children finished their visit by dancing in the snow flakes. What a wonderful way to end your first school outing!

**Sally Rose**

### Events Week Commencing Monday 25 February

#### Lunch Menu Week 1

|              |             |   |
|--------------|-------------|---|
| <b>Mon</b>   | 12.00       | Parent/Teacher Interviews—bookings available online today                                     |
|              | 15.30-16.30 | Lego Club   |
| <b>Tues</b>  | 9.45-11.15  | Tots in Tune  |
|              | 15.30-16.30 | Musical Theatre Club  |
| <b>Wed</b>   | 15.30-16.30 | Multi Sports Club   |
|              | 18.30       | 'It's your child's journey through Downsend' - Lower School Open Evening for Year One Parents |
| <b>Thurs</b> | 15.30-16.30 | You Choose Club   |
| <b>Fri</b>   | 15.30-16.30 | Tec Kids Club   |

## Pyjama Day for Stripey Stork

Zzzzzzzzz..... You would think that today was calm, relaxing and very chilled but amazingly, coming to school in your pyjamas is VERY exciting! The children had a wonderful time making a 'bed for ted'



and supping hot chocolate whilst listening to bedtime stories. Thank you so much for all your donations as today's bedtime capers raised £112.50 for Stripey Stork.

**Inspiring young minds**