

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
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Friday 22nd March 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

This week has flown by. We have had even more storytelling than usual going on with World Storytelling Day on Wednesday and a visit from Elli Woollard, our Patron of Reading author, on Thursday.

On Wednesday, one of our events was our whole school storytelling event. These events take place every half term and are part of our Personal, Social and Health Development curriculum. We mix the whole school up into different groups, enabling the children to work with different children and our Year 1 children lead a story session with a story chosen for a specific purpose. We have been looking at safety this half term so the story focus was Topsy and Tim, Safety First. As part of our Safety Work we also had Road Safety day on Tuesday which was a great success. The children loved

learning about Road Safety with our road, traffic lights and zebra crossing enabling them to put their learning into practise with the bikes and scooters!

On Thursday, Elli Woollard shared her new story Little Bear's Spring with the children which is a beautiful book and certainly one we will be revisiting as part of our Living Things topic next half term. The children were mesmerised by Elli and in disbelief that the author that had actually written the book was there reading it to them with her voices and her puppets. We look forward to continuing to work with Elli throughout the rest of 2019.

Next week are our Mother's Day events so the school has also been full of song this week. We look forward to seeing you next week for these special events.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan

DEPA news

Easter Event – 3rd April 2019

Happy Glaze Ceramics have now worked with all of the children and their creations are being currently being glazed and fired ready for our Easter Event on the 3rd April when the children will plant into their pot. We are also looking forward to a visit from the Easter bunny that day!

Summer term planning

Planning is underway for the Summer term events and all dates will be on the school calendar coming home with the end of term reports. In the Summer term we are looking forward to our ice lolly sales, a camping day, supporting sports day and the Summer celebration concert and of course the Summer fair! Book the date in your diary now —Saturday 29th June.



The Week in Pictures





Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

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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

Nyx
Zac

Hedgehogs

William

Squirrels

Victoria

Badgers

Henry

Owls

Amy

Well Done!

Big Battery Hunt!

Please collect your old, used batteries in the battery box that came home and then return them to school where we will organise recycling. Thank you.

Words of the Week

Next weeks words are resilience words linking into the phrase we use with the children, 'If at first you don't succeed, try and try again.'

I talked to the children about resilience being about the way you face challenges and that when something is tricky for us but we get there in the end it means we are being great problem solvers and becoming better learners.

Confused, baffled, muddled, puzzled

We talked about all of these words having a very similar meaning this week, that they all mean we are finding something tricky and struggling to find the best way to move forward and the best thing to do. We talked about what to do when we are feeling like this. I am so proud of the children for suggesting that the best way forward would be to try different things out until you find the right answer—this shows our teaching is getting to the right places! We did talk about what we would do if we had tried really hard and still couldn't solve it and the children said they would ask someone else to help them, a friend and then a grown up.

Mathletics news

Well done to Henry, Joshua, Keira, Rebecca and Tahira for achieving a Bronze certificate. Fantastic Mathletics!

Events Week Commencing 25th March 2019

Lunch Menu Week 2

Mon	9.00	Y1 Mother's Day assembly
	3.30—4.30	Spanish and dance and music theatre clubs
Tues	All day	Mrs Conlan out on GDPR course
	9.00 3.30—4.30	RR Mother's Day assembly RSGK club
Wed	9.00 pm 3.30—4.30	Reception Mother's Day assembly Y1 sports afternoon @ main site Forest and Grow, Cook, Eat clubs
	9.00 3.30—4.30	First Steps Mother's Day event Science club
Fri	3.30—4.15	Yoganory club

Inspiring young minds