

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Epsom



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
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Friday 29th March 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

This week has seen the next phase of the IT refresh project come to Downsend Epsom with us being the first school to get the full rollout of the new interactive SMART boards. We were chosen by Cognita to be the pilot school for the new boards and Miss McIntyre has worked extensively with both Cognita and SMART over the last few months to iron out connectivity and interactivity issues between our new hardware and the boards themselves. With the last problems ironed out a few weeks ago, the order was placed, the boards arrived and they are now installed and fully working. We had our Digital learning Advisor in school on Thursday starting our learning journey on how to get the most of the boards to enhance teaching and learning

experiences for the children. Agreeing and implementing a digital teaching and learning strategy common to all 3 pre-preps will be a key part of our focus through the Summer term and into the 19-20 academic year.

It's been a few weeks of new toys with new resources arriving in our sand pit and also the arrival of new Little Tikes big waffle blocks for large construction play. Both resources have been enjoyed by children from First Steps through to Year 1 and the addition of the wonderful weather this week has meant they have been very well used!

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend and Mother's Day.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan

DEPA news

Easter event—3rd April

The DEPA Easter event reaches it's culmination on Wednesday with a planting event and a visit from the Easter bunny. For those of you that have missed not making an Easter bonnet this year, don't panic, they'll be back next year!

Summer term planning

Summer term planning is now well underway with a camping day, monthly ice lolly sales, Fathers day gifts and of course the Summer fair all in the calendar. The Summer fair is always a wonderful community event but volunteers (in both large and small capacities) are needed to make it happen. Please come along to our first ideas evening on Tuesday 30th April to share your ideas.

Mother's Day events

The children have loved having their mummies and grandmas in school this week to share their writing, songs, poems and activities with. It has been a really special week in school and we hope that all our wonderful Mother's and Grandmother's have an equally special day on Sunday.





Downsend School

Useful Contacts:

- Ext day mob 07594170569
- Pre-Prep Epsom 01372 385438
- Pre-Prep Ashtead 01372 385439
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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

Berta
Aaron

Hedgehogs

Beatrix
Amaya

Squirrels

Jago

Badgers

Nandini

Owls

Victoria

Well Done!

Year 1 activity afternoon

On Wednesday, Year 1 took part in an activity afternoon at mainsite with the other pre-preps. It was a fantastic afternoon.



Words of the Week

To link in with Mother's Day, we have looked at communication words. We have explained that communication is about sharing your thoughts and feelings with other people and that you don't always need words to communicate.

hug, cuddle, snuggle, huddle

We talked about these actions being ways that we can communicate with others; a way of showing them we care and that we love them, with a particular focus on our families. We also talked about hugging and cuddling making us feel loved and that sometimes when someone is sad, a hug or cuddle may help them to feel better.

We also talked about the appropriateness of hugging and cuddling with our friends and that sometimes when we do want to give someone a cuddle, they may not want one and may not like it if we do. We linked into children's personal safety and personal space here explaining that it is OK to say, "Please don't do that, I don't like it," and that if someone does say that to us, we need to listen to them.

Mathletics news

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

Events Week Commencing 1st April 2019

Lunch Menu Week 3

NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK

Mon	10.30	Mrs Conlan to main site and Pre-Prep Leatherhead for meetings
Tues	12.30	Mrs Conlan to mainsite
Wed	am am	DEPA Easter event Cognita Health and Safety audit
Thurs	1.30pm	End of term—no lates and no extended dday
Weds 24th April	Usual times	Start of Summer term (early birds and extended day both on the first day back)

Inspiring young minds