

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



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

Friday 22 March 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

The School Pupil Council met this week with two questions to discuss. The thoughts and opinions of these children offer us an insight into their school experience and help us to make their days here at Ashtead Pre-Prep, the best possible. The first question was - 'What is good about school?' The children were extremely positive with comments such as, 'Having good friends, learning so much and lovely lunches', 'We all have so much fun while we learn', 'We have good clubs', 'The teachers are good at helping us if someone has been unkind' and 'The teachers

teach us to read well'. The council were then asked, 'What is bad about school?' The children found this question more challenging and almost impossible to answer. The only comment between them was 'Sometimes we don't want to be quiet while we eat our lunch, but we understand why we have to do it!' At the end of the meeting they all agreed that school was definitely a good place to be. I thought that you would like to share this 'Voice of the Pupil'. Although we see happy children every day, it's great to hear it from the children themselves. Have a great weekend! **Tessa Roberts**

A Visitor from St George's Church



Jo Jones from St George's Church visited us this week. In her wonderfully sensitive manner, she explained the meaning of the Easter celebrations. The children were captivated by her storytelling and were fascinated to hear the Easter story. Learning about different faiths and their celebrations is something that we feel is very important to us at school. If you would like to share your faith's celebrations with us, here at school, please mention it to Mrs Roberts.

Exploring in the Woods

'We're going on a dinosaur hunt. We're going to catch a big one! What a beautiful day. We're not scared!' This week the children in Reception had a wonderful time exploring Ashtead Common during Forest School. Dressed from 'top to toe' in our waterproofs, the children followed Jay into the woods for an adventure, where we came across a number of obstacles...

"Oozy, squishy mud!" exclaimed Mary.

"A wet and squelchy swamp," squealed Archie.

"A deep ditch!" shouted Max.

"A dark wood and big spooky trees," whispered Sasha.

The children soon discovered that they couldn't go under or over these obstacles but would need their problem solving skills and courage, to find a way through! The children had great fun exploring seasonal creatures and plants, as well as climbing

trees, jumping in puddles and looking for signs of dinosaurs. "We didn't find a dinosaur....but the hot chocolate was really nice!" - Vincent. **Christeen Hill**



Don't Forget

Mon 1 April - Last Swim of the term

Tues 2 April - Last Tots in Tune

Thurs 4 April - Easter hat competition and Easter Egg Hunt

Thurs 4 April - School Finishes at 13.30—No Little Lates or Extended Day



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
School Nurse	01372 385409
Finance Department	01372 374842
Marketing	01372 385402
Downsend PP+	07899 011275
Mobile	07899 011275
Downsend +	01372 385403
Mobile	07909 861280

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

Lawrence Austin
Sophia Murray

Rising Reception

Henry Butchers
Louisa Cluysenaer

Reception

All of Reception for their amazing problem solving on their Forest School adventure to Ashtead Common.

Year One
Jack Clement

Golden Star Awards

Problem Solving Golden Stars were awarded to:

★ Isla Smith, Chessie Ling,
★ Freddie Watson, Lily Hopwood,
★ James Bower

Well Done!

DAPA Quiz

The Dads were in danger of taking over the quiz night on Friday, with Mark Ayling returning as Quiz Master and Eyeedul and Gary assuming their roles of joint Chair of DAPA. The Year One Dads pipped the teachers for the coveted Winner's title in the final round. They didn't have it all their own way though, with Miss Hill and Abi Purrington scooping the bingo prizes. Thanks to



everyone who supported the event. It was a great evening and we hope you enjoyed it!

Eyeedul and Gary

Events Week Commencing Monday 25 March

Lunch Menu Week 2

Mon	15.30-16.30	Rising Reception visit Ashtead Library No Swimming Last Lego Club
Tues	09.45-11.15 15.30-16.30	Tots in Tune Last Musical Theatre Club
Wed	14.00-15.00 15.30-16.30	Year One Pre-Preps' Sports Afternoon at Downsend School Multi Sports Club
Thurs	15.30-16.30	Get Messy Day Last You Choose Club
Fri	15.30-16.30	Last Tec Kids Club

Notice to leave Downsend

We should like to remind parents that if your child is leaving Downsend at the end of the summer term, notice must be given before the first day of next term, i.e. no later than Wednesday 24 April 2019. Where parents have not given a term's written notice, fees in lieu of notice will be applicable. To avoid missing this deadline, you may find it more convenient to give notice by Thursday 4 April 2019, the last day of the spring term. Notice should be in writing and addressed to and received by the Head personally or the Business Manager, on the Head's behalf. It is expected that parents will consult with the Head before giving notice to withdraw a pupil. Full Terms & Conditions are available to view on the Parent Portal section of the website.

Inspiring young minds