

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 13 September 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

Our first full week back and the classrooms have been buzzing with activity. When you arrive at school on Monday morning, on the wall going up the stairs you will be able to see the wonderful display all about Space. Each class has chosen an aspect of Space or space travel to contribute to the final picture. We hope that you will think that it's 'out of this world!' In one of our assemblies this week, I was looking for some observant children who had looked at the display in the porch. We travelled back in time to 50 years ago when the first man walked on the moon. Trying something brave and new for the first time is always a risk, but with the help of innovative

scientists, engineers and mathematicians, these three men had the confidence to 'have a go'. The children decided that learning new things was going to be great fun this year as they knew just who to ask for help if it was needed. Who do you think they will ask? Last night, at the DAPA AGM we thanked Eyeedul Haque and Gary Clement for the enthusiasm and energy they applied to their role as Chair of DAPA last year. Their superb team organised and led many great events, creating wonderful lasting memories for both children and parents. A new committee has now been elected. Please look out for details in next week's newsletter.

Tessa Roberts

Ukuleles



Last Friday our Year One children proudly arrived at school with their brand new ukuleles and couldn't wait for their first lesson. Learning to play a musical instrument has so many benefits. It builds confidence, stimulates the brain, improving functions like memory and reasoning skills and gives a wonderful sense of achievement. Most of all, it's also great fun! Mrs Shaw is ready for action and all tuned up for her ukulele band.

Loving Learning in Reception



The Reception children are loving their new classroom and all the learning and new lessons that are taking place. They have been busy recapping their phonic sounds and enjoying spelling, blending and writing words in the sand tray. The numicon



apparatus was also busily being used for matching, counting and even partitioning numbers. What a start! Then on Wednesday they had their first swimming lesson. Miss Seivewright said "The children were all so amazing!" I am delighted to see how quickly the children have adapted to full-time school and I know we are going to have lots of great fun learning together.

Emma Duke



Don't Forget

Sun 22 Sept - DPA Circus Skills Fun Day

Tues 24 Sept - Reception visit Pizza Express

Tues 24 Sept - Downsend Discovery Evening for Pre-Prep Parents, Peterborough Hall 19.30

Thurs 26 Sept—European Languages Day

Friday 27 Sept - Cognita—Be Well Day

Thurs 19 Sept - Literacy Information Evening - 19.00



News from Downsend

The sporting season has started off with a bang during the first week of term. Two tournaments played - two lots of silverware earned! We have welcomed Year 3 and 4 parents to our Curriculum Evenings in the new Lower School facilities. We have enjoyed showing them round and hearing how well their children have settled in. They, in turn, have enjoyed finding out how we work in partnership to help their children aim high.

Ian Thorpe

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
James Bower

Rising Reception
Charlie Hall

Reception
Federica Plewa Baici

Year One
Edward Truong
Ayrton Friend

Golden Star Awards

Good Friend Golden Stars
were awarded to:

Chessie Ling, Matthew Auer,
Sophie Prior, Cooper Wright,
Cameron Stewart

Well Done!

Leading the Way

The children in Year One have responded really well to their role as the 'Top of the school!' They ensure that Mrs McCluskey cooks the correct number of lunches each day and that Mrs Hegarty knows who is in school. They have also been thinking about which additional responsibility they would like to take on, either as a Charity Friend, a Playground Friend, a Gardening Friend, an Eco Friend or as a member of the School Council. We talked about the qualities that were needed for each role and the children then chose what they would like to do. They received their special badges in our Celebrations Assembly this morning and a full list of Friends is on display above the Year One coat-pegs. The children cannot wait to get started on their new duties.

Melanie Chipperton



Events Week Commencing Monday 16 September Lunch Menu Week 3

Mon	3.30-4.30	Football & Ball Skills Club begins
Tues	09.45-11.15 3.30-4.30	Healthy Eating Workshops with Thomas Franks' Nutritionist Tots in Tune Engineering Club begins
Wed	3.30-4.30	Art-Tastic! Club begins
Thurs	19.00	Individual School Photographs Literacy Information Evening
Fri		
Sun	11.00-15.00	DPA Festival Day—Mainsite

Individual Photographs Thurs 19 Sept

Reception & Year One -
Summer Uniform with
cardigans/jumpers
RR— Summer dresses/
polos with cardigans/
jumpers
FS - red sweatshirts and
polos

Literacy Information Evening



Thursday 19 September
Ashted Pre-Prep School Hall
7.00pm

Inspiring young minds