

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 27 September 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

On Monday, the children surprised us all with their response to the first fire practice of the year. They stopped and listened carefully to their teachers when they heard the sound of the bell. I watched as all the classes left the building efficiently, calmly and without a sound! It was very impressive for a first practice in their new classes and their new rooms. The big round of applause we gave ourselves at the end was truly well deserved! Through these regular drills and the discussions after the event, our children are learning how to value their safety and learn strategies in

how to respond in an emergency. Life skills such as these are important, even at two years old. Our visit today from Stuart Rolland, Cognita's CEO for Europe, was an extra treat for our 'Be Well' day. He thoroughly enjoyed joining in with the activities and spending time chatting to the children. As we undoubtedly expect from our children, they amazed him with their understanding of how to enjoy life and keep well. Have a restful, relaxing weekend and keep a check on that social media time!

Tessa Roberts

European Languages Day



A big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed video clips to help us celebrate European Languages Day. We were thrilled by the response and the range of languages that we were able to share with the children. The classes absolutely loved seeing familiar faces on the screen and sharing their knowledge with their classmates. Celebrating this day was a wonderful way to further strengthen our home/school links.

Cognita Global 'Be Well' Day

Wow! What a day! The children have been taking part in activities today that have made them think about their feelings, the value of sleep, how to exercise the brain and body and finally how to create their own nutritious meal. Jenni Burrows, a felting artist, really gave our creative brains a chance to shine. The children loved designing their own felting picture which gave them a real sense of achievement. Mrs McCluskey was on hand to help us make lunch and Mrs Shaw gave us music and meditation while teachers spent time talking to the children about their emotions and feelings. It has certainly been a day for reflection. I would also like to thank all those parents who have taken up our 'Social Animal' challenge. Good luck over the next 21 days. Our badges are ready for those who manage the whole three weeks.

Tessa Roberts



Don't Forget



**7-11 October
Space Week**

Mon 7 Oct - Parent Engagement Coffee Morning

Wed 9 Oct - Rising Reception Autumn Walk

Thurs 10 Oct - DPA Uniform Sale at Ashtead Pre-Prep 8.30-09.15



News from Downsend

We are fortunate to have such supportive and energetic parents at Downsend! On Sunday, around 400 people attended the first DPA event of the year- the Circus Skills Fun Day, and great fun it was too. At this week's DPA AGM, the year ahead was planned and we are all excited about the fun evenings ahead: there is a Quiz Night, a Summer Ball and a Christmas Fayre to look forward to, amongst many other activities. It promises to be a fantastic year for the DPA.

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
Aurora

Rising Reception
Charlie

Reception
Milo

Year One
Emma
Freddie

Golden Star Awards

Good Friend Golden Stars were awarded to:

Y1 - Sasha
R - Henry
RR - Phoebe
FS - Oliver, Reya

Well Done!

Perfect Pizzaioli!

Reception enjoyed their venture on Tuesday to Pizza Express in Dorking, to experience making their own Margarita Pizzas. The children enjoyed using their malleable skills to knead, stretch, push and roll the dough before spreading their tomato sauce base. The chef was amazed when the children shared with him their knowledge of which ingredients go into making dough. The children carefully sprinkled on their mozzarella cheese before the chef placed the pizzas in the oven. We all waited patiently as we could smell the delicious pizzas cooking.



We used our sense of sight to watch demonstrations; our sense of hearing to listen to instructions, our sense of smell as the pizzas cooked, our sense of touch as we moulded the dough and the best of all, we looked forward to taking our pizzas home to use our sense of taste! Yum!

Emma Duke

Events Week Commencing Monday 30 September

Lunch Menu Week 2

Mon	14.00-15.15 15.30-16.30	Year One Sports Afternoon at Main Site Football & Ball Skills Club
Tues	15.30-16.30	Engineering Club
Wed	15.30-16.30	Art-Tastic! Club
Thurs		Reception and Year One Forest School Trip to Ashtead Common
Fri	9.30	Open Morning Ashtead Pre-Prep
Sat	9.15-12.00	Open Morning at Downsend School

Digital Awareness

Our current topic in the Year 1 and Reception assemblies is 'How to look after ourselves'. This week we discussed taking care online, while using computers and tablets. The children were reminded of our friendly penguin called Smartie. The children had to help Smartie when something popped up on the screen that he didn't like. They decided Smartie should tell an adult and not try to solve the problem alone. We also learnt a song to help remind us how to stay safe online.

Melanie Chipperton



Before you tap and click...

You need to stop and think...

And TELL someone!

Inspiring young minds