

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Leatherhead



**Weekly outdoor learning with  
Woodland Forest School**

Friday 20 September 2019

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### Message from Mrs Conlan

This week I have really been able to see how wonderfully the outdoor learning environments are used to support children's learning in our school. The space we have is amazing and whenever I have been touring prospective parents, getting to know children and the classroom routines or moving from one part of the building to another, I have been able to see how extensively the outdoor space is used as both a learning environment and a space for young children to just be physical! We really are incredibly fortunate to have such wonderful space and grounds.

Thank you to all the additional parent questionnaires that have been handed in this week. I will start to collate all the responses to identify patterns and trends and report back to you, hopefully in a fortnight, regarding the overview you have provided and the fantastic insight you have given me to support the school moving forward.

### Forest School Fun in Year One!



Here are some very industrious Year 1 children enjoying a sunny September afternoon at Forest School with Mr Bristow. A combination of imaginative activities using natural materials and opportunities to investigate and learn new skills within our wonderful Forest School area are all part of the fun – we can't wait for next Friday afternoon!



### Feelings in First Steps

The children in First Steps have been learning about 'Feelings' this week. We have had lots of stories about animals being happy and sad. We then enjoyed sharing our own feelings and had lots of conversations about what makes us feel happy or sad. Antoine said "my sister makes me happy" and gave her a big cuddle. In cookery, we used circle tortilla wraps, cheese, carrots, peppers and cucumbers to make happy and sad faces. What a busy week!



## Useful contacts



Pre-Prep Ashtead	01372 385439
Pre-Prep Epsom	01372 385438
Pre-Prep L/head	01372 385437
Prep School Office	01372 372197
Extended Day	07943 134717
Admissions	01372 372311
School Nurse	01372 385409
Finance Department	01372 374842
Marketing	01372 385402
Downsend EY+	07943 134717
Downsend+	01372 385403

## Celebration Board

Each week we celebrate a special piece of work in our celebration assembly.

Congratulations to the following children...

Zack – Foxes  
Abigail – Rabbits  
Ted – Owls  
Isabella – Squirrels



## Star of the Week

Well done to the following children who were awarded 'Star of the Week'

Sayan – Butterflies  
Gabi – Ladybirds  
Hamish – Rabbits  
Leo – Foxes  
Batu – Owls  
Kit – Squirrels



On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September we will be taking part in Cognita's Global Be Well Day. Details to follow.



## Maths in Reception

In Reception we have been learning about counting correctly. We have practised counting with objects that can be moved and we have learned how to cross out when we count objects that can't be moved. We then wrote down the correct numeral.



## What have we been doing?

This week Rising Reception have been thinking about what they look like and the number 1. The children have used mirrors to look at themselves and then paint their eyes, mouth, nose and hair, remembering to use the correct colours. Number 1 has been our mathematic focus this week. The children practiced writing it on boards, paper and in the air. We found lots of numbers 1's around the classroom.



## Events Week Commencing Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September Lunch Menu – Week 1

Monday	pm – Mrs Conlan in school
Tuesday	Mrs Conlan at inspection training 7.30pm – Downsend Discovery Event
Wednesday	
Thursday	Mrs Conlan in school Individual photos European Day of Languages
Friday	Cognita Global Be Well Day

## News from main site

This week it was the turn of the Upper School parents to attend their Curriculum Information evenings and all appeared to love being in the new facilities to hear about the plans for the year ahead for their pupils. For Year 8, this meant focusing on GCSE preparation and options as parents were informed about board choices and specifications. Many have informed me that they were impressed, but not surprised, about the level of detail and preparation involved and that their children are looking forward to moving into Year 9 with enthusiasm and confidence in equal measure.

Mr I Thorpe

Inspiring Young Minds