

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
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Epsom

Friday 11th October 2019



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Message from Mrs Conlan

While we are busy celebrating Autumn and Harvest in school currently, following our DEPA meeting last night and a great idea suggested there, I am busy thinking about the Summer and our Olympic themed sports day! Mrs Burns and I have had lots of ideas already and enlisted Miss Verity's support today with planning a whole school dance for our opening ceremony. Just the rest of Autumn and then Winter and Spring to get through first though!

This week we are also celebrating two of our Y1 children as published authors on Pobble, a secure publishing platform. We had a very low key launch of Pobble in school

last year but are committed to using Pobble fully this year. Mrs Burns used the platform last year in Year 2 and has been out of school today on a course to refresh her skills so is our new Pobble Champion! Currently we have Reception and Year 1 signed up to publish their writing on Pobble but Mrs Burns is exploring publishing writing from Rising Reception and First Steps too. We look forward to publishing writing from our 2 and 3 year olds soon.

I hope everyone has a restful weekend.

Mrs Vanessa Conlan

DEPA news

DEPA News

Only 75 days to Christmas!

We're slightly ashamed to be using the C-word in October, but DEPA, the teachers and your children are already busy preparing for the festive season. The children have created individual artwork which can be printed on a range of products including Christmas cards, decorations and mugs. These make great gifts, plus you can feel a little smug for starting the Christmas shopping early.

All the details, along with your child's artwork are coming home in book bags next week. Completed order forms and payment should be returned to Mrs Tucker by **Weds 6th November**.

In and Around School



Rising Reception went on an autumn walk to the park. They listened very carefully to the safety instructions before leaving the school and walked sensibly with their walking partners. They were fantastic at spotting the signs of autumn and collected lots of leaves, conkers, pine cones and sticks to bring back to school.

On Monday the Reception children performed their Harvest Assembly. They were very confident singing the songs and saying what they like to eat. The morning ended with the children sharing breakfast with their parents, followed by an autumn poem.



Year 1 also entertained their families with a Harvest Assembly of songs, a play and a poem and visited The Downs to find out about The Derby as part of their topic on the United Kingdom. There, they saw the original Derby starting bell, tried out the jockeys' weighing scales and peeked inside the Royal Box where they learnt that it takes two days to polish and lay the Queen's table!



Spooky Dress Up Day

Don't forget **Thursday (17th Oct)** is Spooky Dress Up Day. Children can come to school in a Halloween costume (or non-uniform) for a £2 donation. The children will be receiving a Halloween treat bag. The majority of this is non-edible but a small confectionary treat is included.

Thanks ...

...to all those who joined us last night to share drinks, nibbles and ideas. We've got some great ideas and plans for the year ahead. The next meeting is **Weds 20th November**. Everyone's welcome.

Revised school dates: Autumn Term 2020 will now start on Wednesday 9 September and Half Term will be 19-30 October 2020

Useful contacts



Ext day mob 07594170569
 Pre-Prep Epsom 01372 385438
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 Pre-Prep L'head 01372 385437
 Prep School Office 01372 372197
 Admissions 01372 372311
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Celebrating Achievement

Achievements in learning, working with others and excellent behaviour are celebrated in a special assembly every week.

We congratulated the following children this week:

First Steps

Sebastian

Hedgehogs

Skyla-May and Oliver

Reception

Jack

Year 1

Arjun



World Food Thursday

This week we had lunch from Turkey



Whole School Reading



Tuesday's whole school reading session was a huge success in bringing the school together for a special time sharing a book. The younger children listened beautifully while the older children read 'This Is Our House' a story focused on sharing and

News from main site

Our pupils were the stars of the show on Saturday at Open Morning, proving to be the perfect hosts as they showed around 200 visitors around Downsend. On Wednesday, football tournament wins at Charterhouse and Bedales emphasised why we were recognised at the National Awards on Monday, for Sporting Achievement.

Mr I Thorpe

Our First Published Authors

Congratulations to Keira and Tahira in Year 1 for having their stories published on Pobble this week. Pobble is an online education platform designed to engage children in writing and to celebrate their achievements.

Events week commencing 14th October Lunch menu week 1

Mon	pm 3.30 – 4.30	Mrs Conlan in school Spanish & music theatre clubs
Tues	All day 9-11.30am 3.30 – 4.30 5.30-8.00	Mrs Conlan in school Y1 Downsend Discovery at the main site Sports & fitness club Parents' Evening
Weds	pm 3.30 – 4.30	Mrs Conlan in school Grow, Cook, Enjoy & Forest clubs
Thurs	3.30 – 4.30	Science and acro dance club
Fri	am	Mrs Conlan in school No Yoganory today

Mathletics news

Well done to Darcey, Diana, Elodie, Amaya, Keira, Sophie, Ellie and Joshua for achieving Bronze Mathletics certificates last week.

Inspiring Young Minds