

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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Leatherhead

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**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 4th October

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Message from Mrs Conlan

James Carroll, our Cognita Director of Education, visited the school this week as part of his Governance work monitoring and supporting the school and was delighted to see such happy, motivated children clearly being moved on rapidly in their learning within a wonderfully stimulating learning environment. He was particularly impressed by the levels of language and communication he heard by some of the children in Reception who delighted him with stories about all sorts of exciting things!

With parents evening coming up soon, I wanted to explain a change we are making to our reporting structure at Pre-Prep Leatherhead. While this is quite a significant change, I hope that it is a

change that parents will find beneficial. As most parents will know previously at parents evenings a written report has also been given to you, linking closely to the conversation you have had with the teacher. I would like us to increase our reporting timetable to parents and so, rather than receiving a written report at parents evening, it will come home at the end of the term giving you further information on progress and attainment throughout the term. In essence, this increases the information you will be receiving about your child from 3 times a year to 5 times a year.

It has been World Smile Day and the school, as always, has been full of smiles. May your weekend also be full of smiles.

A busy day at The British Wildlife Centre

On what promised to be a very wet Tuesday, the children in Year One pulled on their waterproof coats and wellington boots and arrived at The British Wildlife Centre to learn about native species from the United Kingdom.

Meg and Tom, our guides taught us about red squirrels, rats, mice, badgers, deer and Scottish wild cats.

We met a beautiful Tawny Owl called Florence, who can turn her head almost all the way round and a handsome fox called Ted.



We were extremely lucky to hear the male red deer roaring, marking the start of this year's rut. We are not sure who will win, Albus Dumbledore or Olivandeer, but one of them will win all of the girls!

Meeting a very sleepy hedgehog was the highlight of our day and we learnt that Snoop Hog's prickles are made of the same kind of substance as our hair and nails.

Despite a couple of well dodged showers, we all had a fantastic day and learnt lots about some very interesting animals.

The highlight of the day for the staff though, has to be this from Freya in Owls class – 'Mrs Laverock that is a fox, they are foxturnal.'



News from main site

Global Well Being has been very much a focus for the past week and we have enjoyed seeing the children achieve such balance. On Monday, I am fortunate to be attending the Independent Schools Awards Ceremony having heard that Downsend has moved from being shortlisted to one of the finalists. Fingers crossed!

Mr I Thorpe

Star of the Week

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

Ladybirds - Anton

Butterflies - Finley

Rabbits - Maxy

Foxes - Beatrice

Owls - Joshua

Squirrels - The whole class

Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

Rabbits - Emily

Foxes - Isabella

Owls - Eddie

Squirrels - Czarek

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 PP+	07943 134717
Downsend+	01372 385403

National Poetry Day

This week, for National Poetry Day, First Steps loved learning a new poem about Autumn leaves. They had to think hard about the different colours and numbers in the poem.

We went down to the field to collect some leaves to help us remember the colours.



World Smile Day

The children enjoyed celebrating world smile day and we shared all our smiley faces.



Senses in RR

Rising Reception have enjoyed learning about their senses this week. The children had fun designing glasses and using their hands to guess what they could feel in a bag. There also had a smelling and tasting afternoon, with chocolate being the food that tasted the best.



Colour Mixing in Reception



In Reception we have been learning about colour mixing. We were excited to do a colour experiment using skittles. We placed 4 of them into the bowl, added hot water and watched what happened to the colours.



Events Week Commencing 7th October

Lunch Menu Week 3

Mon	pm	Mrs Conlan in school
Tues	All day 9am	Mrs Conlan in school Class rep meeting
Wed	All day	Mrs Conlan in school Yom Kippur
Thurs		Yom Kippur
Fri		

Inspiring young minds