

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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PRE-PREP SCHOOL  
Leatherhead

## Leatherhead



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**Weekly outdoor learning  
with Woodland Forest  
School**

Friday 29th November

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### Message from Mrs Conlan

Time is flying and we are almost into the last 2 weeks of term. Christmas trees have appeared around school today, the school has been full of Christmas singing all week and preparations are well under way to turn to the hall into a Christmas performance area. We look forward to welcoming our First Steps parents into school on Monday for Christmas songs followed by a Christmas activity to do together. Following parent feedback about being in school and seeing the children's classrooms as well as a very successful Rising Reception Harvest activity morning, we are going to be trialling different events and activities throughout the year to get more parents into school. The

activities will be a combination of the coffee mornings which parents have fed back they enjoyed and would like reinstated, assemblies and activities to take part in together. We want to ensure we are maximising the time you have available to spend in school with us! We welcome any feedback and further ideas and suggestions along the way.

I enjoyed a thoroughly enjoyable quiz evening arranged by the Friends last night. I greatly enjoyed guessing the flavours of the different jellybeans! Thank you to the Friends for organising.

I hope everyone has a warm, wonderful weekend.

### Reception Sports Afternoon



What a lovely afternoon Reception had on Monday! We all walked down to the Main Site for a thoroughly enjoyable sports afternoon with the children from Epsom and Ashted. We were greeted by Mr Parsons who explained the different activities and then the excitement began. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon and the children had the opportunity to demonstrate all the different skills they have been learning to their family members who came to watch.



### Christmas Post Box

The Christmas post box will be open again on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December until the end of term. Please post cards in the post box making sure that the name and class of the child receiving the card is written clearly on the envelope.



### Write Dance

This half term Rising Reception have started a new unique programme called Write Dance. It helps to develop physical skills and co-ordination for writing and encourages creativity, self-expression and confidence. We have read a story to the children, which is accompanied by a song and music, and then move on to moving in different ways to each part of the story. When the children are familiar with these movements, we move on to scimbling. This means working on a writing surface. The children are now well into the scimbling stage and are using pencils in both hands to draw the story. They have also enjoyed large scale scimbling on the playground with chalks.



### Friends Message



Congratulations to the winning team at the Friends Quiz on Thursday night. It was a great evening of fun and trivia.

## Star of the Week

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

Ladybirds - Luca  
 Butterflies - Arthur  
 Rabbits - Elise  
 Foxes - Chloe  
 Owls - Ally  
 Squirrels - Darcey



## Stars of the show

The children in First Steps have been busy practicing their Christmas songs ready to show their families on Monday morning. They are excited to be inviting them into the classroom afterwards for a Christmas activity, coffee and mince pie!



## R at Forest School

On Tuesday Reception look forward to Forest School with Mr Bristow. Even though some afternoons can be rather wet and muddy (excellent weather for mud pies!) there can be lovely breaks in the weather where the children can take part in other activities like rope walking and team work exercises, all topped off with a nice hot chocolate. Yum!



## Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

Rabbits - Maxy  
 Foxes - Beatrice & Max  
 Owls - Sophie  
 Squirrels - Hugo, Alastair, Teddy



## Extended Day Elves



The elves at Extended Day have been super busy getting the

school hall ready for all the upcoming Christmas Shows. They have been wrapping presents, painting and tidying all ready for the first show which is First Steps Songs on Monday at 9am.

## Shapes in Yr1

This week, Squirrels class have been busy learning about 3D shapes. These groups worked together to decide how to sort the different shapes and then sorted them into two groups by thinking about shapes with straight or curved faces and edges.



## Message from Main Site

The sounds of Christmas can be heard at all of our schools as our families ready themselves for the festive season. We hope to see as many of you as possible at the Christmas Fair on Sunday, as we celebrate the start of December.

*Ian Thorpe*

## Useful contacts



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## Events Week Commencing 2nd December

### Lunch Menu Week 3

<b>Mon</b>	9am	Mrs Conlan in school First Steps Christmas songs
<b>Tues</b>	All day	Mrs Conlan in school Cognita safeguarding audit
<b>Wed</b>		Mrs Conlan in school
<b>Thurs</b>		
<b>Fri</b>		

*Inspiring young minds*