

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 8 November 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

The children had a wonderful surprise on Monday when they returned to school. A team of very busy contractors had been at school during the half-term break and transformed the hall and the playground. The hall has been reconfigured to house new dining furniture and a set of fabulous sheds have been installed outside to store all our sports and play equipment. However, best of all two wonderful new pieces of play equipment have been erected in the playground. All the children from 2 - 6 years old have absolutely loved them. The element of risk that they present are giving the children a great

sense of achievement as they manage to negotiate the challenge. Thank you to DAPA who helped to fund these new installations. I'm sure that your children have told you all about them. I'd like to thank our Facilities Manager, Kevin Brewer, for making it happen and for bringing it in on time. It's quite an achievement.

Next week, I look forward to welcoming you all to our Parents' Evenings. The children are really proud of all that they have achieved so far and are looking forward to your visit.

Have a super weekend!

Tessa Roberts

Look what's changed!



History Comes to life!

The Chertsey Museum visited Downend Pre-Prep Ashtead on Monday. But this was not just any museum... It was a TOY museum! The children learnt how toys have changed and had the opportunity to carefully look at dolls and Lego figures that were 150 years old. Everyone played with some toys too, including a Jacobs Ladder, cup and ball and yoyos. It was surprising how tricky some of the games were... "This is harder than Minecraft," said Archie.



The children also learnt about the different materials from which toys from the past were made... "Wood and lead, it was bad for children putting it in their mouths," said Edward. Thank you Chertsey Toy Museum for a fantastic, educational visit!



Don't Forget



Fri 15 Nov
DAPA Race Night



Mon 18 - Fri 22 - First Steps
Nursery Rhymes Week

Mon 18 - Fri 22 - Whole
School Road Safety Week

Tues 19 Nov - Year One visit
British Wildlife Centre



News from Downsend

I hope that everyone has returned to school fresh after a well-earned half-term break. We are reflecting on the fall of the Berlin Wall 30 years ago in our Languages Day at Main Site today. Will we be saying the same thing about Brexit in 2049?
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
Ezra

Rising Reception
Tommy

Reception
Federica

Year One
Matilda

Golden Star Awards
Taking Turns Golden Stars were awarded to:

Y1 - Emily
R - Milo
RR - Jamie
FS - Anna

Well Done!

Fire! Fire!

This week, the children in Rising Reception's new topic, 'People who Help Us' started with great excitement as they visited the Leatherhead Fire Station. Blue watch were on great form as they let the children try on uniforms, explore fire engines and best of all, squirt foam and water EVERYWHERE! At the Fire Station, the children focused on the work of fire fighters and the many important things they do. They learned about the important job that fire fighters do to help us all. Also, what uniforms they wear and the different equipment they use. The fire fighters were very impressed with the children's knowledge and we all had such an amazing day!
Christeen Hill



Events Week Commencing Monday 11 November Lunch Menu Week 3

Mon	15.30-16.30	Football & Ball Skills Club
Tues	15.30-16.30 18.30-20.00	Engineering Club Parent / Teacher Interviews
Wed	15.30-16.30	World Kindness Day Art-Tastic! Club
Thurs	18.30-20.00	Parent / Teacher Interviews
Fri	9.30 – 11.30 9.15—11.30 19.30	Open Morning Ashtead Pre-Prep Open Morning Downsend School DAPA Race Night

Forest School in First Steps

The children in First Steps love learning outside so this week, the children have started Forest School sessions in the morning. Cindy Lockyer, who is training to be a fully fledged Forest School Leader is taking the sessions. The children will have the opportunity to explore, make and create



by taking part in a range of activities using natural materials. Alongside this, they will learn about their immediate natural environment and the creatures that share our world. They are in for a treat and this week they were off to a flying start as they had a go at whittling sticks. Fantastic!
Tessa Roberts



Inspiring young minds