

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'

SIS Inspection 2014-2015

Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 15 November 2019

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Message from the Head Teacher

It was lovely this week to meet with so many parents at our two Parents' Evenings. I hope you all enjoyed the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and also your visits to the classrooms, to see the breadth of learning that has been taking place. Please remember that if you ever have a particular query or any concern that you would like to ask your child's teacher, just let Sarah Hegarty know and we can arrange a meeting for you at any time during the term.

The weather has started to turn quite wintery this week. However, this doesn't make a difference here at school, with regards to our learning and playing outdoors. We are out-and-about every day so please could you make sure that your child brings their warm fleecy coat, a hat, scarf and gloves to school each day.

I hope that you all have a very enjoyable weekend and I look forward to seeing many of you tonight at the Race Night. .

Tessa Roberts

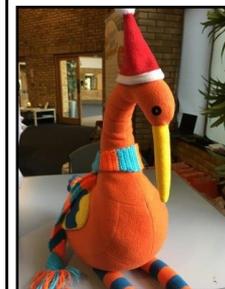
Kindness Week

Happy children have been everywhere this week as we have all been thinking about 'What is kindness?' The children decided that being friendly, looking after other people, helping people and being nice to others was the way that we could be kind to each other. They were also amazed to learn that doing kind things for others activates parts of the brain that make you feel happy. Also, kindness can help you concentrate as the 'positive' chemicals in your brain are released. This week is also 'Anti-Bullying Week.' The word bullying is a word which is often misunderstood so during an assembly this week, we discussed this subject and how it is a repeated unkind action towards another person. At Ashtead Pre-Prep we think that it is important to teach our children to negotiate relationships, to socialise well and to find non-bullying strategies to deal with conflict. Through positive behavioural strategies, we are able to create an environment where children can feel confident and happy when expressing their thoughts and feelings. At the end of the assembly I asked everyone what they thought about the children at their school. I absolutely love our children's positivity as they were unanimous in their assurance that everyone at Ashtead Pre-Prep was kind.



Stripey Stork

This year we are delighted to once again be supporting Stripey Stork as our school charity. We love the fact that their focus is to support local families in hardship, improving their quality of life and making sure that they know that someone cares. Their Christmas appeal this year is 'Santa Stork' and they aim to provide presents for 2000 children and 1000 of their parents or carers, but they need your help! If you



would like to support this wonderful campaign please click the link [here](#) to find out how.

Don't Forget

Mon 25 Nov- Reception Sports Afternoon at the Main Site

Thurs 28 Nov - Reception and Year One Forest School trip to Ashtead Common

Fri 29 Nov - St Andrew's Day Celebrations

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Sun 1 Dec - DPA Christmas Fair at Downsend School—all welcome 11.00—14.00



News from Downsend

It was lovely to see so many visitors at Open Morning today. As always, the Year 8s were the perfect guides, and very much the stars of the show. **Ian Thorpe**

BOOKINGS FOR FATHER CHRISTMAS



AT THE DOWSEND DPA CHRISTMAS FAIR

SUNDAY 1st DECEMBER 2019

11am to 2.30pm

£4 per child - Pay on the day

For more information, please click the link below

[Father Christmas Booking](#)

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
Lockie

Rising Reception
Omar

Reception
Jennifer

Year One
Archie

Golden Star Awards Taking Turns Golden Stars were awarded to:

Y1 - Gianna

R - Federica

RR - Tommy

FS - Rafferty

Well Done!

NASA Calling

Reception have launched 'All Systems Go' into their new topic - 'Space'. We have embarked on space travel from a scientific perspective, looking more in depth at how humans interact with Space. We have recently made contact with NASA Johnson Space Centre, who are helping us with our fact finding mission in gaining a broader experience of Space travel. We have also started linking up with the UK Space Agency who are engaging with us and providing valuable information. Our fantastic experiences so far have influenced us to design and build our own space rockets. We initially designed our space crafts in a 2D format which was then translated into a 3D model. Space travel is fascinating!



Emma Duke

Events Week Commencing Monday 18 November

Lunch Menu Week 1

First Steps Nursery Rhymes Week

Road Safety Week

| | | |
|--------------|-------------|--|
| Mon | 15.30-16.30 | Football & Ball Skills Club |
| Tues | 15.30-16.30 | Year One visit British Wildlife Centre Engineering Club |
| Wed | 15.30-16.30 | Art-Tastic! Club |
| Thurs | | |
| Fri | | |

Full STEAM Ahead

On Monday evening Ashted Pre-Prep staff were hosts to the teachers of the other Pre-Preps. The schools are keen to introduce the STEAM approach to their children and wanted to hear about and see what we are doing here at Ashted. The teachers were amazed to learn how, through STEAM activities, we have seen the children grow in confidence and strengthen their ability to reason. We have also noticed that our children do not hold back when a real-life problem is posed. They love the challenge and enjoy working together to find a solution. The teachers from Leatherhead and Epsom went home buzzing with ideas to test out in their own classrooms. We are now looking forward to learning about their successes and sharing even more great practice.



Geography Lesson
London—Designed and created by Year 1

Tessa Roberts

Inspiring young minds