

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom  
6 Norman Avenue  
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## Epsom

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019



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## Message from Mrs Burns

As the Christmas countdown begins, the excitement of the festive season is starting to simmer gently in school.

While concert practices are underway, we have also spent time this week thinking beyond ourselves. This includes learning about some of the special celebrations that are enjoyed at this time of year by other people around the world, such as Thanksgiving, Hannukah and Kwanzaa.

On Wednesday Mrs Conlan and I met with a group of parents for our

second Parental Engagement group. It was good to receive positive feedback, but we also welcome parents' ideas for ways to improve our offering. As a result of the meeting, we will look at boosting holiday club experiences for Reception children. As we await the written report from this week's safeguarding audit, we are delighted that in verbal feedback, the auditors commented on the school's excellent safeguarding culture. **Mrs Lisa Burns**

## DEPA news

### Christmas

If you ordered Christmas cards and gifts with your child's artwork, you should have received them this week. We thought they looked amazing!

The DEPA elves will turn the Reception area into a Christmas grotto tonight. We hope your children like it next week.

### DEPA Dads Night Out

DEPA Dads are meeting at The Marquis of Granby in Epsom on **Thurs. 5<sup>th</sup> Dec.** Drinks from 8pm followed by a curry. We'd love to see you there. To join DEPA Dads, email your details to [epsomdepa@gmail.com](mailto:epsomdepa@gmail.com) and we'll add you to the Whatsapp group or come along on Thursday.

### Children in Need

We raised a fantastic £71.02 for Children in Need with our recent Wear Spots to School day. Thanks to everyone who donated.

### Don't Forget:

Christmas kicks off at the Downsend Christmas Fair at main site on **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December, 11am – 2.30pm.** Entrance is FREE. Please note some stalls are cash only. The DPA Team are running some quiet sessions for Santa's Grotto from 2.30-3pm.

## In School



The sound of sweet singing and happy tapping feet have drifted out of the First Steps rooms this week as our little ones have been busy practising songs and dances for their forthcoming Christmas concert. The children have also been learning about where they and their families live around the world. However, the big excitement of the week was undoubtedly generated by the arrival of some super new bubble cars which the children have been queuing up to road test. Christmas has well and truly arrived for our youngest children and

Mrs Simpson's lovely festive decorations are the envy of us all. Ho, ho ho!

This week it was the turn of Year 1 to play host to their parents for a scrumptious lunch of roast chicken, roast potatoes and vegetables, followed by a delicious apple and sultana pie with lashings of custard. Yet again, many thanks to Mrs T and Miss Julie for producing an amazing meal and thank you to parents for coming to share lively lunch time conversation with the children.



## Useful contacts



Ext day mob 07594170569  
 Pre-Prep Epsom 01372 385438  
 Pre-Prep Ashtead 01372 385439  
 Pre-Prep L'head 01372 385437  
 Prep School Office 01372 372197  
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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

Kingsley

### Hedgehogs

Ryan P

### Reception

Lauren

### Year 1

Joshua



## World Food Thursday

This week we had lunch from Venezuela



## Out in the Community

Reception and Year 1 shared a little Christmas spirit with some of the older members of our local community this week. As part of the preparations for our festive concerts, the children visited The Elders Care Home in Ewell to sing Christmas carols. The residents were delighted with the entertainment and even joined in with some of the tunes. Meanwhile Miss Terri-Jane's Musical Theatre and Acro Dance clubs put on an impressive song and dance performance in the opening ceremony for the switching on of the Epsom Christmas lights.



## News from main site

The sounds of Christmas can be heard in all 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.

We are also looking forward to welcoming Epsom Pre-prep's Reception and Year 1 children to main site next Tuesday to watch the Year 2 Christmas Nativity. **Mr Ian Thorpe**

## Mathletics News

Well done to Victoria, Sophie, Joshua, Sonia Nandini and Keira for achieving Bronze Mathletics certificates last week.

## Events week commencing 2/12/19

### Lunch menu week 2

Mon	3.30 – 4.30	Return all reply slips today Spanish & music theatre clubs
Tues	3.30 – 4.30	Sports club
Weds	Am 3.30 – 4.30	Rec/Y1 to watch Y2 Christmas Nativity at main site Grow, Cook, Eat & Forest clubs
Thur	am lunch pm 3.30 – 4.30	Whole school reading and tree dressing Christmas lunch Rec. and Y1 singing at The Ashley Centre Science and Acro dance clubs
Fri	3.30 – 4.15	Yoganory club

*Inspiring Young Minds*