

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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Leatherhead

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**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 22nd November

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Message from Miss Hodges

With a chill in the air, the children have been warm and kind to all of their friends this week, carrying on our kindness and friendship focus from last week.

Mrs Conlan led a wonderful outside assembly on Monday to introduce the buddy bench to the children. Discussions around how and why we can use the bench led to Mrs Conlan and I demonstrating being good friends to each other. Having an outside assembly was new and exciting for the children but they all came away from it with a good understanding of what to do if they are feeling sad or lonely at playtimes.

It was wonderful to see children sitting on the bench earlier this week with their friends having a chat and using it in such a positive way.

This week has also been Nursery Rhyme week. Nursery rhymes play an important role in early childhood development and education. As well as being fun they are excellent teaching tools. The children have sung lots and lots of their favourite nursery rhymes in school this week, and I'm sure have been at home too.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all for another busy week, next week.

Miss Amy Hodges

Incy Wincy Spider



This week Rising Reception have enjoyed singing their favourite Nursery Rhymes to each other. They stood up in front of their friends and each

chose a rhyme to share. The favourite was definitely Incy Wincy Spider. The children have also been busy learning the number 8 this week and one of them cleverly pointed out that "spiders have 8 legs!" They also used their maths resources such as Numicon to find different ways of making 8.



Little Miss Muffet

One of the Nursery Rhymes we learnt in First Steps this week was Little Miss Muffet. We thought about how we could make our own curds and whey and used porridge oats. We really like pouring and filling bowls using different sized spoons and exploring the texture. We also discussed how we might feel if a spider came and sat beside us. Some of us would have quite liked



a spider friend next to us and others would have been frightened just like Miss Muffet.



In cookery, we made our own spiders. We used chocolate muffins and fingers and had to count the correct number for the legs. Some of us would have preferred this spider to be beside us!

Star of the Week

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

Ladybirds - Jonathan
 Butterflies - Marc
 Rabbits - Edward
 Foxes - Isabella
 Owls - Millie
 Squirrels - Isabella



Sounds in Reception

In Reception this week we have been learning the sounds z, zz, y and qu. We have also been learning to read some of the tricky words. These are words that we have to know by sight. The children took it in turns to point to a tricky word for their friend to read. They all enjoyed trying to trick their partners!



Challenges in Year 1

On Tuesday afternoon Owls class were set a challenge to use a variety of materials to make something that moves. The children impressed Miss Hodges and Miss Bazlinton by making some amazing creations, from hover crafts, to faces with moving hair! Well done Owls class.



Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

Rabbits - Liezah
 Foxes - Esther
 Owls - Joshua
 Squirrels - Teddy



First Steps at Forest School

It was a cold and frosty morning at Forest School this week. We had to wrap up warm and wear our coats, hats, scarves, gloves and boots. Mr Bristow explained to us that all of his furry friends were feeling sad and cold and we had to think about how we could cheer them up and make them warm again. We used leaves and sticks to make them comfy beds and we watched Mr Bristow light the bonfire for extra warmth.



A few reminders from Mrs Conlan

With the cold weather well and truly upon us, can I remind everyone to provide school uniform hats, scarves and gloves for the children please. While the brightly coloured or glittery ones look beautiful, they shouldn't be in school.

Please, please, please keep on regularly checking your child's hair for headlice. We really need to beat those bugs completely out of the school! Remember to change towels and bedding if you do find and then treat any to avoid them returning again.

[Thank you for your support in these matters.](#)

Useful contacts



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 Pre-Prep L/head 01372 385437
 Prep School Office 01372 372197
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Events Week Commencing 25th November

Lunch Menu Week 2

Mon	pm	Reception sports afternoon at main site
Tues		
Wed		
Thurs		
Fri		

Inspiring young minds