

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 24th January 2020

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Message from Miss Hodges

It may be cold and drizzly outside but here in school the children make their teachers feel like the sun is shining every day. Every child I see, whether it is on the door in the morning, in the playground or in their classrooms, I am always reminded that our children are happy to be here, and this is reflected in their learning.

The First Steps children have been learning about jungle animals and I saw some great ideas yesterday of how the 'Selfish Crocodile' could get across the river.

In Rising Reception the children have been learning about 'Little Red Riding Hood' and talking about stranger danger.

In Reception's around the world topic the children have been learning about Chinese New Year and I saw some amazing clay rat sculptures being made this morning.

Year One have been writing Winter poems, this week, using amazing adjectives to describe the season, perhaps with a little hope that they may see some snow soon!

As always, I hope you have a lovely weekend and look forward to seeing you next week.

Amy Hodges

Chinese New Year



The children in Reception had an enjoyable morning on Monday when they were learning about China and, in particular, tasting Chinese food. It took a little while to master the use of chopsticks but with food as the final reward, they all managed (somehow) to get to try the rice, noodles, spring rolls and prawn crackers.



Well - Being

As part of the children's on going wellbeing focus. We have been thinking about things that make us proud.

Look at our lovely proud clouds!



Thank you!

Thank you to those who have sewn or knitted pouches for the Australian wildlife. They are currently on their way to Australia and we hope they will be put to good use when they get there.

Well done Ally for showing how much you care.



Rising Reception have enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year today by making special money wallets. The children cut out and stuck together the wallet and were given two special coins to put inside their

envelopes. They have made beautiful red and gold fans and lanterns that will hang in the classrooms. Some of the children tried to write some numbers in Chinese as well.



Star of the Week

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

- Ladybirds - Zac
- Butterflies - Romina
- Rabbits - Hamish
- Foxes - Ellie
- Owls - Batu
- Squirrels - Czarek



Budding Artists



Inspired by our visit to the National Gallery, Squirrels class have been busy recreating some of the paintings they saw. Some children chose to use water colour paints to create their masterpieces and others opted to use the Pointillism tool on the laptops with very pleasing results. We obviously have some very talented artists in the making in Year One!



Painting in FS

First Steps have loved learning about animals in the jungle this week and enjoyed painting their favourite animals. Daniël independently painted this lovely picture of a lion in the grass. Can you see his mane?



Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

- Rabbits - Leo
- Foxes - Zaki
- Owls - Ally
- Squirrels - Kit



Using tools at Forest School



Reception children were shown how to use a saw safely to cut wood for the fire by Mr Bristow in Forest School this week. Mr Bristow spoke about how to use the saw safely and made sure the children all queued up in a safe distance away. He taught them to hold on tightly and to use a forward and backwards motion.

Don't Forget!

Don't forget, next week it is 'Eco Week' and the children will be having a visit from 'The Junk Orchestra' on Tuesday. They will be busy thinking of ideas about how we can help the environment. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!!



Useful contacts



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Pre-Prep Ashted	01372 385439
Pre-Prep Epsom	01372 385438
Pre-Prep L/head	01372 385437
Prep School Office	01372 372197
Extended Day	07943 134717
Admissions	01372 372311
School Nurse	01372 385409
Finance Department	01372 374842
Marketing	01372 385402
Downsend PP+	07943 134717
Downsend+	01372 385403
Mobile	07909 861280

Events Week Commencing 27th January

Lunch Menu Week 1

Mon	pm	Genie Science Club
Tues	am	Junk Orchestra visit
	pm	Yoganory & Forest School Club
Wed		Mrs Conlan in school
	9am pm	Parent Rep Meeting Poptastic Club
Thurs		Mrs Conlan in school
	pm	Multi Sports Club
Fri	pm	Football & Ballet Club

Inspiring young minds