

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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Leatherhead

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**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 31st January

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Message from Mrs Conlan

Thank you to all the parent representatives who attended our meeting this week and to all parents who contributed feedback. Your feedback has been shared with the Senior Leadership Team and all teaching staff and will be shared with teaching assistants also over the next few days to ensure any action we need to take is taken swiftly.

Another big thank you to everyone who has completed the annual Voice of the Parent survey. It closes in the next few days so there is still a chance to complete it if you have not yet had a chance to do so. The comments provided are really useful in helping to continue to shape the picture moving forward. There are still many parents I would like to contact to gain further detail regarding comments and I will do this over the next few weeks to ensure I have the fullest view possible. I hope to share the headline messages from the survey and any immediate actions to take with all parents before half term.

Eco Week



This week in First Steps the children learnt all about 'Sea Animals.' This tied in well with our Eco Focus Week and the children had to think about how to care for animals, particularly ones who live in the sea. During their carpet time discussion, they talked about how important it is to reuse, recycle and reduce so that the rubbish doesn't end up in the sea and hurt the sea animals. One morning, there was a beach scene on one of the tables using small world figures and rubbish. The children became litter pickers and had to tidy the beach to save the animals. One lunch time the children had yoghurts for pudding, and they saved the pots. First Steps thought it would be a good idea to reuse the pots and turn them into jellyfish!

The children staying for Wednesday afternoon in Rising Reception had great fun making junk cars using tubes, scrap paper and old bottle tops. You can see some of the designs in the front porch. Some of the children came up with more ideas of things to make with the tubes such as trumpets and monsters. Keep an eye out in the classrooms for these.



Junk Orchestra

A visit from the Junk Orchestra during our Eco Focus week proved very popular. Here



are some children in Year One learning that you can use all sorts of different items of 'junk' to make some weird and wonderful musical sounds. It



was interesting to learn how things that we often throw away can be recycled as musical instruments – great fun!

First Steps enjoyed meeting the junk man on Tuesday and created a variety of different sounds with his instruments made from junk.



Rising Reception have enjoyed this weeks Eco focus week. On

Tuesday the children met The Junk Man and played lots of different

instruments that had been made from things that were broken and had been thrown away.



Star of the Week

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

Ladybirds - Riva
 Butterflies - Charlie
 Foxes - Chloe
 Owls - Haris
 Squirrels - Teddy



Eiffel Tower Creations



The children in Rabbits class created their own models of the Eiffel towers using craft straws. They decided to use paper straws rather than plastic to tie in with our Eco Focus Week. The children used their own imagination and ideas on how they could create their Eiffel towers and found different resources to help join them together.

Food Caddy

As part of Year One's Eco focus week, we have introduced a class food caddy. By the end of the week their bin is nearly full and ready for our compost heap down on the field. The children have designed their own posters to promote and encourage people to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Look out for our posters around the school!



Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

Rabbits - Hugo
 Foxes - Isabella
 Owls - Oscar
 Squirrels - Maria Lily



Exploring at Forest School

Reception had a great afternoon at Forest School on Tuesday when they spent time looking at the fox's skull which Mr Bristow had brought



along. The children agreed that the fox's teeth were sharp and had great discussions about where the fox's eyes and brain would have gone. Also of great interest was a snail shell, which the children held to their ears to "hear the sea" - very exciting. There was even time to make potions, soups and chocolate cake in the outside kitchen as well as exploring in the bushes.



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 3rd February

Lunch Menu Week 2

Mon	PM	Mrs Conlan in school Genie Science Club
Tues	AM PM	Mrs Conlan in school Reception visit Pizza Express Forest School & Yoganory Club
Wed	PM	Poptastic Club
Thurs	PM	Yr 1 visiting the main site for Forest School Multi Sports Club
Fri	PM	Mrs Conlan in school Ballet & Football Club

Inspiring young minds