

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Downsend School Pre-Prep Epsom
6 Norman Avenue
Epsom KT17 3AB

Epsom

Friday 17th January 2020

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Message from Mrs Burns

While the winter mornings may be dull and dark, our Spring Term has started with vibrancy and warmth.

This week, when visiting the classrooms around school, I have seen two-year olds building ramps for cars, telling stories about trains and using pens to 'write' their names. Meanwhile, the older children's enthusiasm for exploring the past through role play or to immerse themselves in games designed to improve their mathematical skills is equally impressive. The wonder and purposefulness with which your

children approach every day has reminded me of the words of Fred Rogers: 'for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.'

Our current whole school topic, 'People', is already generating excitement. This week Rising Reception were visited by Dr Pal, Reception and Year 1 have learnt about The Queen and next week Mrs Jiang will come in to tell us about Chinese New Year. There is more to come in the weeks ahead, but for now, we wish you all a great weekend. **Mrs Burns**

DEPA news

DEPA News – Ed. 15 – January 17th 2020

Auction Prizes

Can you help us secure prizes for our Auction and Social Night on Thursday 5th March? If you, a family member or friend runs a business, or you use a local business regularly and are willing to ask them to donate a prize for our auction, your help would be greatly appreciated.

See the letter in book bags for more info and prize ideas. If you can help, please contact your Class Rep or the DEPA Team at epsomdepa@gmail.com.

Look out for details about the Auction Night and how to get tickets in the next couple of weeks.

DEPA Ideas Evening

Our next Ideas Evening is on Tuesday 4th February at 7.30pm at the school. With a busy Spring term and planning starting for the Summer Fair, we'd love to see as many of you there as possible.

Don't Forget ...

... the next pre-loved uniform sale is on Tuesday (21st Jan), 3.45-4.45pm in the Drama Room at Main Site.

Diary Dates

4th Feb DEPA Ideas Evening

13th Feb DEPA Dads Night Out

5th March DEPA Auction & Social Night

2nd May Pre-Preps Charity Ball

13th June Summer Fair

Learning about our wide world



To learn more about our topic 'People Who Help Us', Hedgehog Class had a special visitor this week. It was Dr Pal, Berta's mummy. She came to tell the children about all the things she does to help people in her job as a Doctor. Dr Pal showed the children how she helps Poorly people by examining the children using her stethoscope, taking their blood pressure, checking their ears and tummies as well as bandaging their arms. Then it was the children's turn to care for the two dolls who had hurt themselves. So, they put on gloves, cleaned the dolls' wounds, dried them and put on plasters. The dolls were well looked after by Hedgehog Class and you'll be pleased to know that they made a full recovery. Thank you so much Doctor Pal for taking the time to visit us.



In French this week the Reception children learnt about the weather. They revised different weather types such as: *il pleut, il fait soleil, il fait vent, il neige* with pictures and actions. They each took a turn to report the weather to the rest of the class using their French vocabulary. Great focus and super foreign language skills Reception!

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
Admissions 01372 372311
School Nurse 01372 385409
Finance 01372 374842
Marketing 01372 385402
Downsend PP+ 07899 011275

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

Peter

Hedgehogs

Aaron

Reception

Ralph

Year 1

Nandini



World Food Thursday

This week we ate food from Poland



Dream a dream

This week we celebrated 'make your dreams come true' day by encouraging the children to reflect upon the things they would really like to achieve at home, in school or when they are grown up. It was lovely to listen to the children's ideas about wishing to become a vet, a paleontologist, a ballerina or an artist. However, it was equally uplifting to hear about the children's aspirations to improve their reading, handwriting, number bonds or bike riding skills. Over the course of the week the children have come to appreciate that persistent effort will help to fulfil those dreams.

Parking plea

Please drive **slowly at all times** when using local roads to drop off or collect your child from school.

Since the start of term, we have had several complaints from residents about unsafe driving on Denham Road and Norman Avenue on approach to the school and respectfully request that families park in Wallace Fields or Windmill Lane and walk to school through the alley by the park when dropping off or collecting children. This includes late drop offs to school. The only exception to this is during the hours of 7.45-8.00am and after clubs have ended ie after 4.30pm. This is in line with the Memorandum of Understanding made between the school and local residents. Please help us to remain good neighbours and to ensure the safety of all children and adults travelling on foot in Norman Avenue, especially during the dark winter mornings and afternoons when visibility in the vicinity of the school is low.

Mathletics news

Well done to Jack, Sophie, Darcey and Keira for achieving Bronze certificates this week. Fantastic Mathletics! Please ask your child's teacher if you have mislaid your child's log in details.

Events week commencing 20th January 2020

Lunch menu week 3

| | | |
|------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Mon | 3.30 – 4.30 | Spanish & music theatre clubs |
| Tues | 3.30 – 4.30 | Sports club |
| Weds | | Mrs Conlan in school |
| | 3.30 – 4.30 | Grow, Cook, Eat & Forest clubs |
| Thur | | Mrs Conlan in school |
| | 9.10-9.30 | Chinese New Year Assembly |
| | 3.30 – 4.30 | Science club |
| Fri | 3.30-4.15 | Yoganory club |

Inspiring Young Minds