

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 7th February

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Message from Miss Hodges

The sun is finally shining and although a little chilly, the children are thoroughly enjoying their learning in the outside areas around school. Two big highlights are of course the sandpit and mud garden!

Next Tuesday the 11th February, we will be holding this term's parent's evening. Class teachers will be in the hall to meet with you for your 10 minute appointment and they will provide you with feedback on how the children have progressed this half term. As always the classrooms will be open for you to view the children's work.

I'm sure you will all be proud of your children's effort and hard work. Mrs Conlan all the staff and I certainly are.

I hope you have a very happy weekend.

Miss Hodges

Forest School Fun!



Yesterday, the children in Year One spent a very busy morning exploring the Forest School area at Main Site with Mr Bristow. In the crisp morning sunshine, the children busied themselves searching for anything natural that they could find in the undergrowth and used digging tools to investigate under the ground. Next, there was the opportunity to have a go at using a bow-saw to saw small logs under Mr Bristow's careful



guidance. After investigating what everyone had found, our visit ended with the traditional hot-chocolate sitting around the firepit – fantastic!



A Visit to Pizza Express



This half-term Reception have been learning about different countries, this week we have been focusing on Italy. We have been learning about the culture, history and different foods in each country. The children enjoyed a special visit to Pizza express and got to make their own pizza's to take home for the dinner, yum yum! The children enjoyed spreading the sauce, sprinkling the cheese and smelling their pizza's cooking in the oven.



Star of the Week

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

- Ladybirds - Vikram
- Butterflies - Ava
- Rabbits - Liezah
- Foxes - The whole class
- Owls - Arabella
- Squirrels - Maria Lily



STEAM challenge in First Steps



This week the children in First Steps were set a challenge. They had to think of different ways to balance potatoes on tubes. At first, it proved quite difficult and they had potatoes rolling all over the classroom! They had to test their ideas and problem solve. Scott had a good idea to turn the

potatoes sideways so they were able to balance better. Hudson turned the tubes around to make a flatter surface which seemed to work perfectly and he managed to balance all the potatoes on all of the tubes. He then thought it would be a nice idea to sing "one potato, two potato, three potato, four..." Which the whole class then joined in with.



Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

- Rabbits - Chloe
- Foxes - Max
- Owls - Freya
- Squirrels - Leo



Shape Hunt in RR

This week Rising Reception have been on the hunt for shapes in the environment. They were given a checklist of shapes and set off to look around the classroom and outside to see if they could find squares, circles, rectangles and triangles. Shapes were found everywhere! Circles were seen on tyres and the train and rectangles were noticed on the fences and windows of the school.



Main Site News

We are now 4 weeks into the Arts Centre build and there was much excitement amongst the pupils with the arrival of giant cement mixers on Monday. With the outline of the footprint taking shape, we are starting to visualise the difference this fantastic facility will make to our school.

Mr Thorpe

Useful contacts



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Pre-Prep Ashtead	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 10th February

Lunch Menu Week 3

Day	Time	Event
Mon	PM	Genie Science Club
Tues		Safer Internet Day Mrs Conlan in school Yoganory & Forest School Club
	5:30-8:00PM	Parents Evening
Wed	PM	Poptastic Club
Thurs	PM	Mrs Conlan in school Multi Sports Club
Fri	PM	Football & Ballet Club

Inspiring young minds