

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 28th February

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Message from Miss Hodges

It has been lovely to see everyone back after half term, which seemed to just fly past! The children have been full of excitement to tell staff about their holidays and we are all very impressed at what brilliant skiers we have in our midst!

Next week, we are looking forward to our annual book week and the staff are busy planning some great activities in class. As a whole school on Monday afternoon, staff will be reading their favourite stories to a different class. On Thursday, which is World Book Day we will be coming to school in our Fairy tale character costumes and we also welcome a story teller who will be telling stories to the children and encouraging them to take part in her activities.

On Friday, instead of a work of the week assembly we will be having a Rhyme time assembly where each class will share a poem or rhyme that they have learnt.

We are really looking forward to a fun-filled week and I myself cannot wait to see how many Little Red Riding Hood's and Big Bad Wolves we have arriving in school next Thursday!

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Hodges

Pancake Day

On Tuesday morning in Rising Reception we talked about Shrove Tuesday and why it is known as pancake day. We



discussed which ingredients we would need to make pancakes and, more importantly, which toppings we would like on them! We then had great fun taking part in pancake races outside.



To celebrate Pancake Day this week, in Nursery we read the story 'The Runaway Pancake' and liked the part when the people and animals were chasing after the pancake! At carpet time, we then discussed what ingredients were used to make them. We used our large tuff tray for a messy play afternoon with the ingredients and liked mixing them all together using spoons, whisks and sieves.



Egg-citing news!

Reception are so excited to have some chicks in their classrooms. On Monday the incubator and eggs were delivered and we didn't have to wait long until the first 5 chicks



hatched. Wednesday was the highlight as the children were able to see 2 of the chicks hatch during the school day. It won't be too long until we can hold them for the first time! The children in Nursery were stunned to see the new arrivals on Wednesday afternoon.



Star of the Week

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

- Ladybirds -
- Butterflies - Byron
- Rabbits - Maxy
- Foxes - Alexia
- Owls - Eddie
- Squirrels - Emma



Extended Day

The children at Extended Day have been so happy to be back at school this week especially with the lighter evenings! They have enjoyed spending their evening outside despite the cold weather.



Celebrating Differences

Look out next week for the 'Celebrating Difference' competition being launched in each year group. Once again, huge thanks to the Friends for their support with sourcing competition prizes and making the link with The Grange.



Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

- Rabbits - Hamish
- Foxes - Beatrice
- Owls - Haris
- Squirrels - Louis



Spring has Sprung with RR

In Forest School this week Rising Reception worked together to create a bug house. They were delighted to see daffodils in bloom and decided that Spring would soon be here. They used magnifying glasses to look for signs of new life and to closely examine the bugs and minibeasts they discovered under the logs. The session ended with a very welcome hot chocolate.



Talk for Writing



Inspired by our 'Talk for Writing' story 'Lost and Found' about a boy and a penguin, together with learning about Antarctica in Geography, Squirrels class showed their creative talents by painting, drawing and collaging pictures of penguins. We now have a variety of penguin pictures and paintings to display and everyone has been able to write interesting facts we have learnt this week about these very appealing birds.



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 2nd March - Book Week

Lunch Menu Week 2

Day	Time	Event
Mon	PM	Genie Science Club
Tues		Mrs Conlan in School
	PM	Forest School & Yoganory Club
Wed		R and Yr1 Book Week event at Main Site
	PM	Poptastic Club
Thurs		Mrs Conlan in school
		World Book Day—Author Visit
	PM	Character Dress up Day
		Multi Sports Club
Fri		Mrs Conlan in school
	PM	Prospective Parents Open Morning
		Ballet & Football Club

Inspiring young minds