

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Leatherhead



**Weekly outdoor learning
with Woodland Forest
School**

Friday 20th March

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Message from Mrs Conlan

School has continued with a new normal every day this week and for that I must thank my excellent and committed teachers, teaching assistants and support team. The world outside our 4 walls is a world that we are all struggling to comprehend but within our 4 walls, our staff have created an oasis of normality, protecting our children from the outside horrors and preparing them as much as they can for what is to come. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all parents for your overwhelming support over the last few weeks. Your thanks and praise for the way we have handled communications and changes to routines is humbling and has made a very challenging situation just a little easier.

As you know, staff have been working incredibly hard planning and preparing for our next new normal of remote and online learning. I hope by now that you all have your remote learning pack and that you have given permission for us to set your child up on Seesaw. While we want to limit communications to prevent overkill and any loss of

key messages, we will be sending out an email a day next week steadily supporting everyone's understanding of Seesaw and preparing us all for the leap into the world of online learning from Monday 30th March.

As the doors close on the school today, these are only our physical doors. We remain open as a school and determined to fight our way through this to support you and your children in their continuing educational journey.

In these unprecedented and uncertain times, I wish your families a healthy and safe way forward over the next days, weeks and potentially months. For me, within my professional role, the very saddest part of all of this is that I won't get to see and hear the children's excitement every day, watching them grow and develop as each day passes. The weeks ahead will be tricky, but please rest assured that myself and my amazing staff team are here to support you and your children through this.

Number detectives in RR

Rising Reception have been number detectives this week and have taken part in games and challenges to help them correctly match numeral and quantity. These have involved playing number lotto, finding treasure chests with a given number of gold coins and putting the correct amount of passengers on board the maths bus. Applying our mathematical knowledge to practical challenges has been great fun!



Measuring Up in Year 1!

Year 1 have been learning about measuring length and height. First, we went into the playground to find things that are longer or shorter than a metre. Then back in the classroom the challenge was to find out who could make the longest paper chain. The children were given the same sized piece of paper and then had to work together in small groups to discover the best way to cut the paper into strips for their paper chain. Everyone worked well together to rise to the challenge!



Star of the Week

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

Ladybirds - Jonathan

Butterflies - Zachary

Rabbits - The whole class

Foxes - The whole class

Owls - Freya

Squirrels - Anna



Celebration Board

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

Congratulations to the following children...

Rabbits - Elise

Foxes - The whole class

Owls - Madeleine

Squirrels - Emma



Useful contacts



DOWNSEND
PRE-PREP SCHOOL
Leatherhead

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

Reception at Painshill Park

Last Friday, Reception children had a fabulous day at Painshill Park learning about the lifecycle of a seed. The children learned about the different ways seeds are dispersed and pretended to be a seed - blowing in the wind or rolling on the ground! They also collected items to make their own "tree" which they later planted in a garden they each designed. Many thanks to Adam, our guide, for such a fun time.



We're Going on a Bear Hunt

First Steps loved listening to 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' this week and many of them were able to help with retelling it. They turned their role play area into a bear cave and had to walk through every step of the journey. They waded through mud, splashed in water, used shaving foam as snow and even planted seeds to grow their own grass!



Get moving with Joe Wickes

With the school closed and all of us spending more time at home, it's more important than ever that we keep moving and stay healthy and positive. Joe Wickes is holding live PE classes for children Mon-Fri at 9AM. They will be specifically designed for children and it will get them moving, make them feel energised and positive. You will be able to find this on YouTube.

Message from all Staff

As we prepare to close the doors on Leatherhead Pre-Prep for the foreseeable future, we would like to thank you for all your support in the last few days. We will miss seeing the children every day and look forward to catching up with them very soon. Stay well everyone.

With love from all the staff at Leatherhead Pre-Prep.

Inspiring young minds