

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



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

## Epsom



epsompre-prep@downsend.co.uk  
www.downsend.co.uk  
Tel: 01372 385438

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Message from Mrs Conlan

School has continued 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Mrs Vanessa Conlan**

## Road Safety

On Wednesday the whole school took part in Road Safety Day to raise awareness of how to stay safe near our roads. The children were asked for their ideas about road safety and the replies were: "no running, always hold a grown up's hand, cross at the crossing, look and listen, don't run, keep looking and listening while crossing". These amazing answers show that our children have a good understanding of how to keep safe near roads. Then the children became the 'drivers' on our playground road. They had to ensure they didn't go too fast, that they stuck to the speed limit and stopped when they saw pedestrians crossing at the zebra and the traffic lights. They also maintained their vehicles by visiting the car wash and the Downsend garage.



## Published Authors



Your children have become published authors having written and illustrated their own story book during World Book Week. The Tiny Tadpole is a moving story about a tadpole who was rejected by his friends and who overcomes adversity to become the hero of the pond. The book will cost around £7 (depending upon orders placed). If you would like to order copies, please email Mrs Tucker.

## 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  
Downsend+ 01372

## 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

Sebastian

### Hedgehogs

Eric

### Reception

Jago

### Year 1

Keira



## Mathletics News

Congratulations to Darcey for achieving gold, silver and bronze certificates this week! Well done to Keira, Amaya and Aniya for securing silver and bronze awards and to Diana and Sonia for achieving bronze.

## Business as usual

This week has been just like any other at Epsom Pre-Prep. Learning, laughter and fun have filled the classrooms and outdoor learning areas and your children's curiosity and smiles have been an inspiration to us all during these challenging times. We all hope to have the children back with us in school as soon as it is safe to do so, but in the meantime, here is a snapshot of our week. **Mrs Burns**



## Help for our families

As we all enter this period of uncertainty in our lives, I would like to assure you that in my role as pastoral lead in school, I am available to offer support and advice with any worries or concerns you may have regarding you or your child's wellbeing and safety. Although it is no longer an option to do this in person, I am contactable on [Chantael.Clayton@downsend.co.uk](mailto:Chantael.Clayton@downsend.co.uk) during normal school working hours and will endeavour to do my very best to answer any queries as promptly as possible. **Ms Clayton**

*Inspiring Young Minds*