

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



'OUTSTANDING'
SIS Inspection 2014-2015
Downsend Pre-Prep Ashtead

Friday 1 May 2020

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Message from the Head Teacher

It's been a busy week in the world of online learning and I have seen some wonderfully creative activities being posted on Seesaw. The STEAM lessons this week in First Steps and Rising Reception have captured the imaginations of the children and their parents alike. We have seen all manner of airborne vehicles flying across living rooms, kitchens and rocketing up into the sky in gardens - just brilliant!

I hope that the children are enjoying seeing many familiar faces on Seesaw. We are delighted that this week, we have been able to add all staff as teachers to Seesaw, so you will

hear some different voices feeding back on work and comments, as well as seeing the teachers' smiling faces in their videos.

The response we have had to our live pastoral sessions has been wonderful. I wish you could have seen the beaming smiles on the teachers' faces as they told me all about their meetings. They have missed chatting with the children as much as we can see that the children are missing their teachers. These sessions will be running every week from now on, with either a teacher or a teaching assistant leading the meeting. Please remember, when Mrs

Hegarty sends out the link, to book the session that is best for you.

Last but not least, I would like to thank so many of you for your support and positive feedback. The assurance that this gives us all as we explore and develop the best ways of keeping in touch, as well as delivering a comprehensive and structured online learning programme has been invaluable.

Over the next couple of days enjoy having a breather from online learning and have a super weekend.

Tessa Roberts

Counting in 2's, 5's & 10's

Lots of people might be thinking why do children need to learn to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. ... Counting in groups helps children understand patterns, thus improving their problem-solving skills. It helps them to learn times tables and have a better understanding of multiplication. Also, counting in 2s helps to improve their concept of even and odd. Year One this week used their creativity and imaginations to practise counting with these number patterns. They designed and created their own brilliant home maths resource to help with future lessons. Great job Year One!

Melanie Chipperton



Happy Birthday



Ezra & Cameron

3 Years old

27 April

Jamie

4 Years old

30 April



Golden Star Awards

Emily nominated her **Nana** - She is making outfits for the NHS

Daniel nominated a family friend, **Emma** - She is working with patients who have coronavirus.

Eric nominated the **Rothsay Grange Care Home** who are caring for his Great-Granny Christabel and **Granny Joanne** who is helping with the pre-schoolers in her community.

Everyone who has been nominated has been sent one of our Golden Star certificates and a special thank you card from us all. We look forward to hearing about other family and friends who deserve a mention.

Golden Board

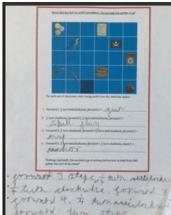
First Steps - Amelia has been 'flying high' in her topic lessons this week. She has successfully manipulated the colouring and drawing tools on her iPad, made a super hot air balloon and she also made a balloon rocket fly right across the room during the steam activity. Well done!



Rising Reception - Jamie was a super sound hunter and could find lots of things in his home starting with the sound of the week 'zzzzzz'. He then decided to use his super sound making skills to even sound out and write some of his words! WOW!

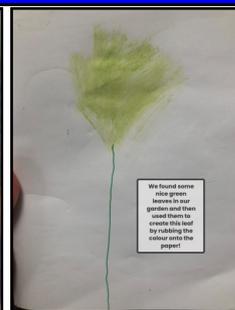


Reception - Henry really impressed us this week with his knowledge and understanding of plants and how they grow. He used accurate vocabulary to create and label his brilliant sunflower, made out of junk modelling materials. Great job!



Year One - Edward used his newly learned directional vocabulary in a video. It shows him carefully listening to instructions and then moving in the correct direction. He also helped out a pirate, by following the directions and collecting all of his missing belongings. Fantastic work!

Reception have been learning all about the life-cycle of a plant this week. Look at what they have been doing.



Inspiring young minds