

DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



Ashtead



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

Friday 22 May 2020

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Message from the Head Teacher

Today, we come to the end of a half-term like no other. It has stretched all our powers of ingenuity, creativity, tolerance and resilience. However, in a most peculiar way, it has brought us all closer together and allowed us to focus on the values that we treasure the most. The two videos that you will have seen today, on Seesaw, were such a fabulous example of a united Ashtead community. This along with the wonderful messages that the team here at school have received, in light of our imminent return, have been so warmly welcomed and will be cherished.

I would like to thank everyone once again for your speedy response to yesterday's return to

a school survey and I'm thrilled to say that currently, 80% of our children will be starting back at school after half term. The teachers are delighted with the response and are busily preparing the classrooms and planning for the 1st June. We are looking at keeping our timetables as close to the originals as possible. Our specialist teachers will teach the class through a live link and the more 'action packed' lessons, such as dance and PE, will be taught by the class teachers outside. The children will not be mixing across the classes but will remain in their class 'bubble'. The first week back will have a strong emphasis on the children's wellbeing with planned discussions and

activities to encourage them to share their feelings and thoughts about all that they have experienced over the past few months.

The teachers and I cannot thank you enough for taking up the mantle and assuming the role of the teacher in each of your households. The quality of the children's work that we have seen on line was more than we could have expected. As a result, it has put all of our children in such a positive place to return after half term.

Please take time next week to relax and have fun as a family and we will see you back in school on 1st June.

Tessa Roberts

Wow.....wow.....WOW!

Go team Ashtead and go...go...go team Downsend! After an action packed week of sporting competition with schools all over the world in the Cognita Home Games, we have some amazing news. Team Europe were the overall winners and **DOWNSEND** were the World's highest scoring team. Everyone who participated should give themselves a huge pat on the back and a big cheer. Without all your brilliant contributions, this would not have been possible!



Happy Birthday



Cooper

3 years old

18 May

Aryton

6 years old

28 May



Harry

5 years old

30 May

Golden Star Awards

Vincent nominated his **Mum** - She is helping local people in Ashted by delivering medicine to people who are unwell.

Eric nominated his **Granny and her friend** who have been knitting little hearts to help someone who has coronavirus to stay connected with their family. Eric also nominated his **Great Grandma, Joy** who has been knitting clothing for sick babies.

Harry nominated his **Granny** who has made over 100 items such as scrubs and laundry bags for the NHS. Harry also nominated **Mama**. Harry was feeling sad because he hasn't seen her but instead she has been making up virtual treasure hunts and 'Bug bingo' games.

Mrs Humphries has nominated her friends **Tony, Theo** and **Judy** who live in Cyprus. They have made over 8000 hot meals for people who do not have enough money to feed themselves.

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 families and friends who deserve a mention.

Golden Board



First Steps - Reya and Daisy are both on the Golden Board this week. They have both created amazing journals of all the activities that have been on Seesaw over the past half term. This week they amazed us all with the way they rose to the challenge of the Cognita Home Games and completed all the events. Superstars!



Rising Reception - Sophia used her fabulous imagination and engineering skills to create a magnificent flying fire engine! The attention to detail was superb and she was very keen to explain all about her creation to Miss Hill. Fantastic!



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Reception - Timothy has been loving his learning this week and has used his knowledge of subtraction to show Mrs Duke some very tricky calculations. He then went on to wow us with his comprehension answers during the RWI lesson. Great job!

Year One - Mary has impressed us all with the way she has tackled her learning on Seesaw across the whole half term. She always gives one hundred percent listening carefully and completing the task in hand. This week she has shown us an understanding of the past tense, compound words, 3D shapes and she still had time for the Cognita Home Games. Wow Mary! You are a Downsend superstar!



Inspiring young minds