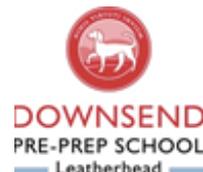


# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Leatherhead

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020



## Message from Mrs Conlan

How time flies when everyone is busy! Your children, and absolutely not forgetting you, are continuing to delight, amaze and surprise us with your commitment and hard work with our online learning programme. Your messages of thanks and gratitude, alongside the wonderful work and messages from the children have really boosted the teachers this week.

As the weeks progress, we are continuing to add to the programme but the timetable in place now for next week, is the final timetable of synchronous and asynchronous lessons. 1:1 reading is being finalised and should start towards the middle of next week and families in RR, R and Y1 will receive log ins to Quaver music from Mrs Allison, Head of Music, at main site as an additional extra if you wish to use it. Mrs Potter is looking forward to starting up the parent and child conferences next week and we are also excited to be adding dance with Mrs Hardwick to the programme.

A number of parents have reached out to us to express the challenges they are facing with their own work and home schooling. While of course we would love every child to attend every lesson and complete all work, we do understand things are not always that easy, and therefore the thought of any additions may be causing additional anxiety. Please know that we do understand and we are here to help as needed.

Next week is a 4 day week with VE day Bank Holiday next Friday. For the last 2 weeks of the half term, we will be introducing theme day Fridays as part of our curriculum enrichment programme. The children are working incredibly hard and spending far more time than we would all like on screens so our theme day Fridays will not only enrich the curriculum but will also facilitate far less screen time for the day. More information coming next week!

Have a great weekend and we will 'see' you all on Monday.

## Gardening Week

Some of our children have been busy planting in their gardens for national gardening week this week despite the strange weather! Please see their lovely pictures below...



## Happy Birthday

We always celebrate the children's birthdays in our Friday assembly so we would like to wish the following child a Happy Birthday for this week.

Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Freya!



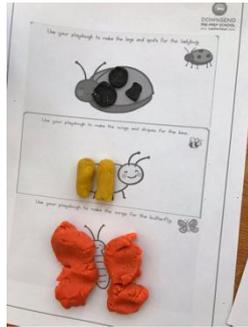
# Work of the Week

## Busy Bees



For independently wanting to create his own bee from the story using his paints. Well done Teddy!

For using his play dough to create spots for the ladybird, stripes for the bee and wings for the ladybird. Great work Matthew!



## Butterflies

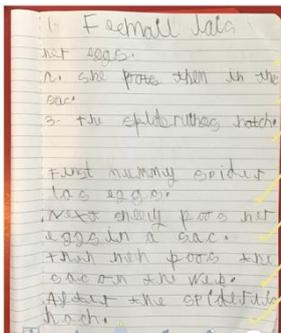
One of our activities in Rising Reception this week was to make a spider hand puppet, adding four legs and using our fingers for the remaining four. Finn worked so hard at all our activities this week and created an amazing hand puppet. Well done Finn!



## Ladybirds



Jonathan has done an amazing job of finding things and sticking them onto a very big name. He has managed to find lots of flowers to stick on his letters. Well done Jonathan. Fantastic job.



## Rabbits



Liezah has had a good go at writing sentences about the spider life cycle. She has focused on using her phonic knowledge to help her write the words and has really taken her time to form her letters accurately. Well done Liezah!



## Foxes

Hettie has worked really hard on her live cycle of a spider. She has even written each sentence of the life cycle with a capital letter, finger spaces and full stop – good job.



## Owls



We have been learning about tortoises like the one in our talk 4 writing story and Millie found out so many interesting facts. Did you know that some tortoises can live up to 100 years old! Millie has put all of the facts together in a booklet which is fantastic - well done!

Year 1 have been learning the story of 'How the Tortoise Got His Shell' and in art this week Darcey used her Pointillism skills to create this picture of a tortoise, focusing on the shell pattern. We have learnt that each tortoise's shell pattern is unique, just like our fingerprints. Well done Darcey!

## Squirrels



## A Message from Waffle & Igloo



Waffle & Igloo are very much enjoying their lockdown holiday with Miss Ellis and her family and they even had a visit from a friendly cat in their rabbit run! But they are missing all of their Leatherhead Pre-Prep family and can't wait to see you all and get back to their hutch at school!

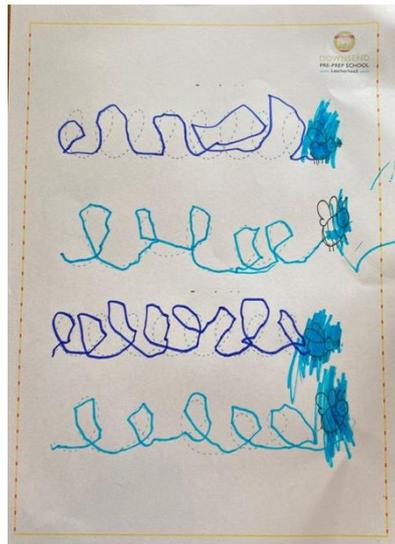
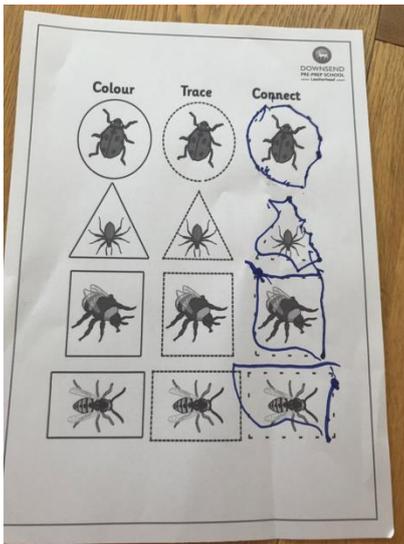
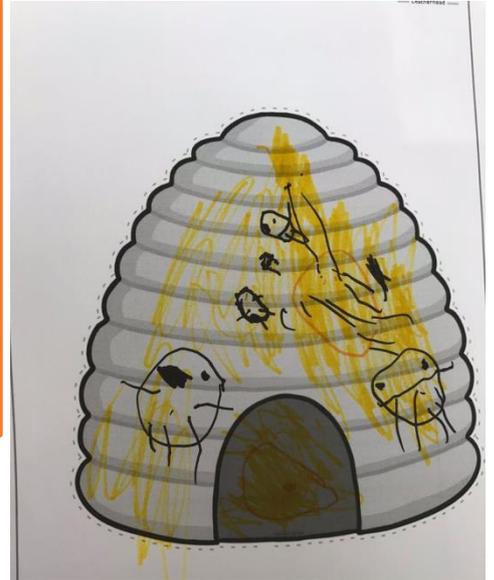
## A busy week of learning...

Learning outside of school really has got off to a fantastic start this half term, with new topics being covered and our new world offering daily learning opportunities. Here is a snapshot of what has been happening in each year group. I continue to be amazed at how staff and children are making the most of the school closure in their day to day teaching and learning and although I've said it before I am proud of each and every one of them.

**Miss Hodges**

In First Steps this half term our topic is 'In the Garden' and this week we have enjoyed lots of stories about bees. Mrs Potter talked to the children about bee facts She then told the children about how many legs they have and that they make honey in their hives. Mrs Potter then showed the children a real jar of honey and spread it on some toast. The children then had to cut and stick their own bees onto a hive and then counted how many they had on their picture. What a buzzzy week!

**Mrs Potter**



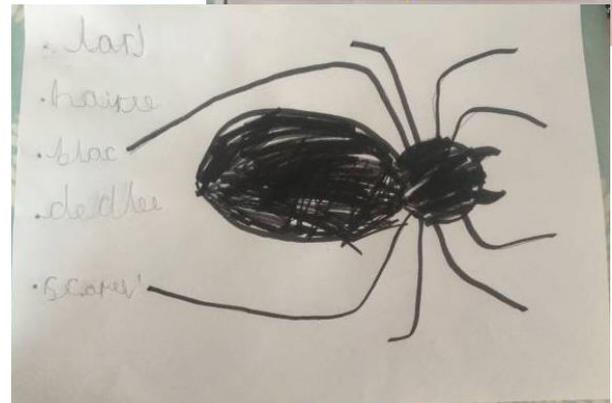
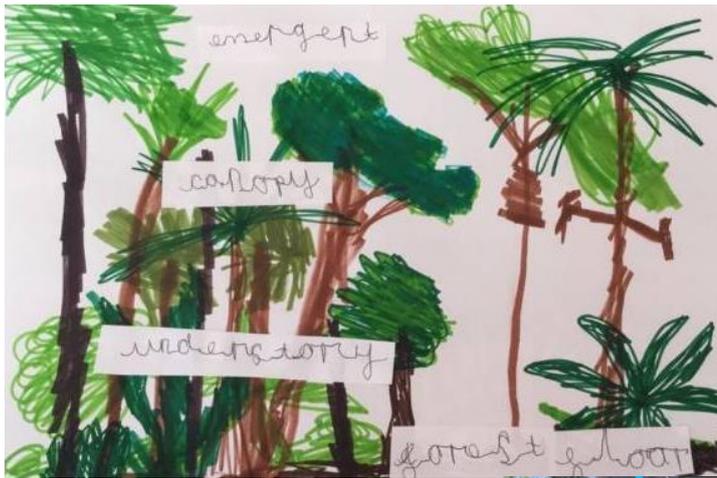
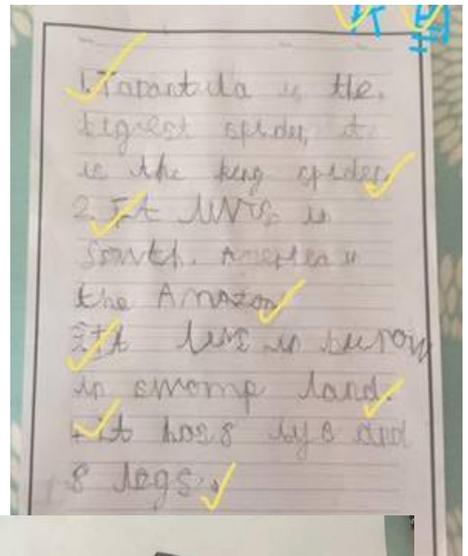
As part of their topic about minibeasts, Rising Reception have been looking at spiders and caterpillars this week. They played a game rolling dice, adding the numbers together and putting the correct amount of legs on the spider. They also gathered natural materials from the garden and used them imaginatively to form the letters of their name with some super results.

**Mrs Hampshire & Miss Corden**



This half term we have been learning about the rainforest. We have learned lots of facts about where rainforests can be found, why they are called rainforests and the different layers of the rainforest. The children have created rainforest pictures identifying the different layers. This week we have learned all about the forest floor. It is dark and humid on the forest floor and we found out that spiders live there. We have made life cycles of spiders and found out facts about the Goliath spider.

**Miss Ellis & Miss McInnes**



In our Year One Science lessons this term we are learning about plants and growing. The children are all very knowledgeable about all the plants and flowers that they are growing in their gardens, I think we have some budding green fingered gardeners amongst us!

We have also been learning about the changes that Springtime brings and observing them. The children have made videos, voice recordings, photo journals and posters of the things they have spotted.

Well done Year One - you are all super scientists!

**Miss Hodges & Mrs Laverock**

