

# DOWNSEND PRE-PREP TIMES



## Leatherhead

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July



### Message from Mrs Conlan

Had someone told me last September that this year there would be a nationwide closing of schools with children being out of school for 10 weeks, teachers moving to teaching online and a return to school in bubbles, I think I would have told them not to be so ridiculous and laughed them out of the room! However, here we are and it has all happened. Thank you to you all for your patience, understanding and support over the last term but also not forgetting the two terms before. The last term doesn't define the year for us but it is certainly something we won't be able to forget! I know I have said it at different times over the last few months, but I want to say a final, mammoth thank you to my amazing staff team who have shown flexibility, resilience and determination this year to ensure the very best for the children at the school. They certainly deserve the most restful of Summer breaks with as much screen free time as possible!

I would also like to thank you for all for your personal support for me in my role as Headteacher at Pre-Prep Leatherhead this year. I have relished the challenges before me within the school and my dual Headteacher role and while there have been times I have felt like I was on a rollercoaster, I have greatly enjoyed the year, love the school and am excited about the future.

Whatever you are doing over the break, wherever you are or aren't going, I hope you all have a happy, healthy Summer. We look forward to seeing you in September for the start of a new year. Take care and best wishes.

*Vanessa Conlan*

### Farewell Year One!

Well Year One, we have come to the end of what has been a very strange, very different year and we would like to say to each and every one of the Squirrels and Owls of Leatherhead Pre-Prep how very proud we are of you. You have met every challenge this year with amazing confidence and resilience and we have loved being part of your lives, at home, and at school!

Just remember our Year One motto 'If at first you don't succeed, try and try again.' We know that you will do amazingly in Year Two, keep working hard, keep trying and most of all keep smiling.

With all our love Miss Hodges, Mrs Laverock, Mrs Barber, Miss Bazlinton and Miss White.

GOODBYE  
AND  
GOOD  
LUCK



## Birthdays

We always celebrate birthdays in our celebration's assembly so a big Happy Birthday to the following children for the Summer.

Elijah is 4 on 17<sup>th</sup> July

Hettie is 5 on 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Eddie is 7 on 1<sup>st</sup> August

Romina is 4 on 7<sup>th</sup> August

Alexia is 5 on 11<sup>th</sup> August

Isabella is 5 on 12<sup>th</sup> August

Leo is 5 on 19<sup>th</sup> August

Leo is 3 on 29<sup>th</sup> August



## 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

## A Fun Year in First Steps

First Steps have had a lovely year and have really enjoyed their time in Busy Bees. They have learnt so many new things and made lots of new friends. Mrs Potter, Miss Bassett and Mrs Hilsley are so proud of what they have achieved this year and wish them all the best for next year with Miss Ellis. We are looking forward to another busy year with the new starters and the children staying with us. Have a lovely Summer!



## Sun, Sea & Sand in Butterflies

Butterflies enjoyed their final topic about the seaside; they thought about ways in which we can keep safe in the sun and in the sea and had fun designing their own lollipops and making paper windmills. Well done everyone!



## Uniform info

The current uniform list can be found on the website for our school. There are no uniform changes in the Pre-Preps although the girls winter tunic does now have the Downsend logo on it. For the next academic year, 20/21 a tunic without a logo still continues to be part of the uniform. From 21/22, the girls tunic must have the logo on it please.



## Last Week in Ladybirds

Ladybirds enjoyed a few of their favourite activities this week for the last time in Rising Reception.



## Big Thank You!

A BIG BIG THANK YOU to the Friends of Leatherhead Pre-Prep for organising our lovely party bags and presents for our end of term fun. We have had a lovely day and enjoyed our class parties this morning!



## Well done Rabbits!

Well done to the whole of Rabbits Class for being absolutely amazing this year! Miss McInnes and Mrs Toledo are so proud of you, you have all worked incredibly hard and we have had a great year together having lots of fun and laughter! Good luck for next year!



## Goodbye and Good Luck – We Will Miss You Very Much

We are saying goodbye to:

**Mrs Hampshire** - Mrs Hampshire has been with Downsend (working at both Epsom and Leatherhead) since 2011 and has taught and supported a very significant number of children fantastically at the beginning of their educational journey. Many of you will know that Mrs Hampshire had a health scare earlier this year and while she has enjoyed being back with us, she has decided that this is the year to hang up her teaching shoes.

**Miss Corden** - Miss Corden has been at Downsend for 12 years now and feels the time is right to explore different opportunities and avenues for the future. She will be sorely missed at Pre-Prep Leatherhead as a teacher and a colleague and I know the hundreds of children she has worked with over her 12 years will have benefitted greatly from the time they spent with her.

**Mrs Colvin** - Mrs Colvin has worked at Downsend for 13 years and over those years has made thousands of morning greetings, read hundreds of books with children and supported teachers, children and families brilliantly. She has decided that this is the year to retire and attempt to enjoy a slightly quieter life, although knowing Mrs Colvin, she will still keep herself busy and active! When thinking about her retirement Mrs Colvin says she will miss the children, parents and staff greatly and will always look back on her time at Downsend with happy memories.

**Miss Ali** - over the last 2 years Miss Ali has been completing an MA in Business Management outside of school and feels now is the time to make a move into a role related to this course.

I'm sure you will join the staff and I in saying goodbye to our leavers and wishing them all success for the next chapter of their lives. They leave behind with us very fond memories of their time here and will be remembered for a long time after they have left.

# Work of the Week



## Busy Bees

The final week has been lots of fun in Busy Bees and the children used their imaginations to make a train in the classroom. The ideas were flying in and the chairs were moved to make way for a train. Henry made tickets for everyone, Matthew became the driver and Julian asked for the special steam train song! What a lot of fun for our last week together. Well done everyone 😊



## Butterflies

Mrs Hampshire and Mrs Tullett have chosen the whole of Butterflies class this week as they have all worked so hard to create beautiful artwork related to their seaside topic. During this term they have demonstrated adaptability and resilience both working at home and on their return to school and we are immensely proud of them all.

## Ladybirds



The final work of the week this school year in Ladybirds class goes to everyone. They are all superstars and have worked really hard all year. Well done to you all.

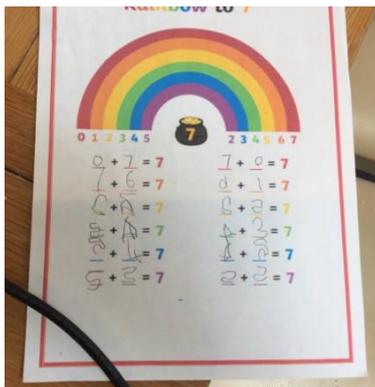


## Foxes

Hettie – For working so hard online at home. Hettie has enthusiastically been keeping up with all her learning and Mrs Colvin and I have enjoyed seeing all the pictures that she has sent in from home.



## Rabbits



In Reception this week, the children have had a new focus each day. On Monday we had a day of Marvellous Maths, Livvy has had a go at finding different ways of making 7. Well done Livvy!



## Squirrels

On a sunny Tuesday morning, the children in Squirrels class performed their Leavers' Assembly in front of their very proud parents and teachers. Everyone sang the songs they had learned, remembering the actions too and the children shared their favourite memories of their time in Year 1. Highlights included going on school trips, especially to the National Gallery and Brooklands Museum, reading, maths and art. Well done Squirrels Class. You all thoroughly deserve to all be awarded 'Work of the Week' for your fantastic performance and for all the effort you have put into working hard to achieve your goals during your time in Year 1.

## Owls



Miss Hodges and Miss Bazlinton would like to give work of the week to all of Owls Class for their amazing learning this year. We are proud of you all for all your hard work and wish you lots of luck and happiness in Year 2.