



29th September 2017 Newsletter

!Espresso password change – see more information below

Dates for your diary

October

Monday 2 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of Date – now Thursday 5th -EYFS Phonics session for parents from 2.30pm • Friends Parent social at 8pm Conningbrook, Canterbury Rd (more details below)
Wednesday 4 th	EYFS Phonics session for parents from 2.30pm
Thursday 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kent Messenger newspaper in school taking photos of the 3 year R classes for the Kentish Express First Class pictures • EYFS Phonics session for parents from 2.30pm – New date
Friday 6 th	Starfish class assembly, 9.05am
Friday 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday assembly, all parents of children with birthdays in October invited 9.05am • Reading workshop for all parents - guided reading /enjoy books with the children from 2.15pm
Monday 16 th	Halloween Disco – more details to follow
Thursday 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last day of term • 3.15pm- 8pm Parents consultation evening – come and hear about your child’s learning. Crèche available for children and siblings- places will need to be booked nearer the time. • Fish and chips will be served today instead of usual Thursday menu
Friday 20 th	INSET DAY – No children in school

HALF TERM Monday 23rd October until Friday 27th October

Monday 30th Children return to school

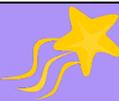
November

Friday 3 rd	Penguin class assembly, 9.05am
Friday 10 th	Dolphin class assembly, 9.05am
Friday 17 th	Snow Leopard assembly, 9.05am
Friday 24 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthday assembly, all parents of children with birthdays in November invited 9.05am • Friends Pamper evening

December

Friday 1 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polar Bear class assembly, 9.05am • Friends Christmas Fayre
Friday 8 th	Turtle class assembly, 9.05am
Friday 15 th	Birthday assembly, all parents of children with birthdays in December are invited 9.05am

	Weekly school attendance	Days missed across the school this week	Best class attendance for the week	Overall attendance for the year
	97.18%	36.5	99.33%  Fox	98%

 Reading award	 Active award	 Star of the week	 Feet on Friday	 Star table
 Jazmin	Felicity & William	Poppy	Lilly	Harvey
 Angeal	Lilia & Joshua	James	Zoe	Tegen
 Sienna	Lily & Alex	Ceres	Jack F	Rosie
 Sara	Mia & Lois	Scarlet S	Isabelle	Mia
 Zoe	Sammy & Erin	Cruz	Riley	Charlie
 Andy	Christine & Ethan	Oliver B	Asya	Morgan
 Charlie May	-	Lilly	-	Olivia
 Jack	-	Kingsley	-	Dylan
 L.J.	-	Oliver	-	Tyler
Bonus Coin of the week winners-  Starfish				



Jeans for Genes

Thank you to all those that donated to our Jeans for Genes day. Together as a school we raised £215.06.

What we've been up to.....

This week in **EYFS** we have been reading stories about a family of elephants called 'The Large Family' written by Jill Murphy. During Literacy we thought about the members within this family and compared them to our own families. We even drew pictures of our family in a picture frame. We have also been thinking carefully about what we look like. We used mirrors to help us paint a portrait of ourselves! In Maths we have continued counting out objects and have begun using different manipulatives i.e. pebbles, shells, teddies to count out the given numbers. We have had to remember to use our peter pointer when we are counting. We had our first taster of PE this week too. We took our shoes and socks off and used the sense of touch to feel different objects with our hands and feet and then recorded what we thought they felt like using descriptive language.



A little help now needed... I know as a parent how much easier it is to help your child get dressed and organised in the mornings. However give your child a challenge at the weekend when you are not so rushed and let them try to get dressed and organised on their own. This will help so much with their independence and in turn will definitely make things easier not only for them but also for you and us in school!

Now a thank you!

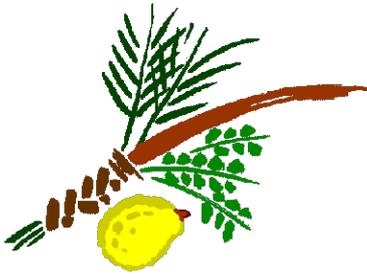
We really do appreciate how you have encouraged your children to come in on their own in the mornings. It is greatly appreciated so thank you. keep it up!

A couple of reminders...

All clothes need to be name please!

And please when collecting your child at the end of the day to move back a little from the classroom doors remember they are only little and just because you can see them does not always mean they can see you! We will of course make sure that they get to you but by moving away from the doors it will make it a little easier!

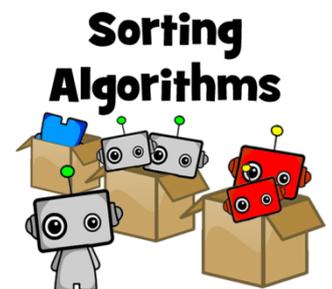
Also a big **thank you to Dobbies** for their kind donation of a 5kg bag of bulbs for our EYFS outdoor area we are going to have fun planting them and watching them grow!
Goodness seems a lot this week but thank you all for your support with these things and have a good weekend!



Year 1 have been working very hard this week, exploring Nemo as a character and thinking of appropriate adjectives to describe him. In Maths we have been developing our understanding of more and less, through practical activities and discussions. Our RE learning has been interesting as we've learnt about the Jewish holiday of Sukkot. We have even used role play in child initiative to enact the key elements of this holiday.

Our under the sea costumes are fully designed and ready for creation next week. Please ensure your child brings the necessary items to create theirs on Monday. Please can you send in any spare modelling items e.g. newspaper, plastic bottles/cartons, fabric, buttons & ribbons, tin foil, cotton wool, cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes, pom poms etc. Thank you to all who attended the phonics workshops this week, the children really enjoyed sharing their learning with you and we hope it was insightful.

This week in **Year 2** we have explored instructions, thinking about their key features. We wrote instructions together and thought about various bossy verbs. In Maths we have recapped our number bonds to 10 and 20, using these to solve missing numbers to 100. We worked so hard! In ICT we have begun to think about algorithms as sets of instructions and gave verbal instructions to each other. In RE we have continued to think about the communities we belong in, within and outside of school.



Phonics workshops

Thank you to all parent/carers who attended our phonics workshops this week for year 1 and 2 pupils. We have lots of positive feedback which is good! We apologise that on this occasion we were unable to offer a crèche and if this prevented you attending. A suggestion has been made of offering our hall or puppies for parents who are friends to help one another out and look after their own children and others on one day and attend the workshop on the other. If you would like to use this system for the Reception phonics session, please let the office know. Helen used parent mail to obtain feedback from the workshop which is such a quick and efficient way to gain your views. Thank you for input if you took part but it's not too late if you haven't!



If your child would like to have a school dinner on our special American themed day on Thursday 5th October then please let the school office know.

If your child already has a school dinner on a Thursday they will already be booked in.

The menu is as follows:

Beef burger in a bun or homemade vegetable burger in a bun with side dishes of homemade potato wedges, sweetcorn, crisp mixed salad, coleslaw, tomato ketchup

Dessert of chocolate & beetroot brownie served with whipped cream or selection fresh fruit.

Harvest

Next week the theme for our assemblies is Harvest. The children will learn about the traditions of harvest festivals around the world. We would welcome donations of tinned /fresh produce during the week to create a harvest table. The school will then be supporting the local charity Vinnie's diner by providing them with the food collected. This provides local families with food. We thank-you for your support with this initiative.



Espresso

What is Espresso? Espresso is a website that the school subscribes to that contains many exciting resources for your children to access to help them with their learning. This site is used by teachers to enhance lessons and is also available for our pupils to use at home. On the website there are many resources including videos to watch and activities to do related to all areas of the curriculum and topics. All resources on there are safe for children to access and are grouped according to their appropriateness for EYFS and KS1. To access the site you will need to use the username and password below- this has changed from last year and is case sensitive.

Username: student 17375

Password: DV2017

News from the Friends of Downs View

Just a reminder about some key dates:

Parent social on 2nd October at 8pm Conningbrook, Canterbury Rd .

We really hope many of you can come along so that we can talk through any ideas you may have and the ideas we have for fundraising to help your children. This will be an informal evening and a chance to get to know some new faces. We are hoping we can have at least one parent/carer from each class, so why not come along for a drink and a chat!

If anyone would like a lift there are spaces in one of our cars and will be coming from the Towers area. Just e mail friendsofdownsview@gmail.com & we will get back to you.

Halloween disco Monday 16th October.

More details to follow.

Pamper evening 24th November

If anyone is interested in having a selling area, please e-mail to put your name forward. More details to follow.

Christmas Fayre – 1st December

More details to follow.

Also we sell:

Uniforms (preloved)

This can be bought at any time via e mail at a cost of £1 for logo items and 50pence for all other items. All uniforms are washed in fairy non bio and ironed. Just email Mandy on o friendsofdownsview@gmail.com or pop into the office with a list of your requests and the money.

Sorry to keep reminding you of dates but we are all so busy and it's easy to miss things .

We all look forward to meeting you all at any of our events and should you have any questions just ask away.

Hope to see you on 2nd October if not before!

Maureen, Mandy, Francesca, Rachel & Shelley

Ashford Borough Council - Welfare Intervention Officers

Are you confused by changes made to your benefits? Struggling to pay your rent or council tax? Have any other debt worries? If you have answered yes to any of those questions Tracey James and Julie Waissenmay be able to help. They work for Ashford Borough Council as Welfare Intervention Officers. Their job is to support people who need help with welfare reform changes. They can give practical advice and can refer to specialist organisations.

So, if you need advice or support - don't delay, contact them!

Tracey.james@ashford.gov.uk

01233 330822

Julie.waissen@ashford.gov.uk

01233 330818

CHAIR OF GOVERNOR'S REPORT – SUMMARY September 2017

The Downs View Governing Board meets regularly at the school. We work with the Headteacher and staff to deliver the Key priorities identified in the School Plan. I have been asked to let you know after each meeting how we are working to improve the school.

Tracy Kent, the Headteacher reports to the meeting on what the school has achieved since the previous meeting, This month we discussed the impressive pupil outcomes and annual attendance. The Business Manager presented a financial report showing that we are spending money wisely. We review school policies throughout the year, and in September we reviewed Teaching and Learning, Anti-bullying, Good Behaviour and Well-Being to make sure they would help to achieve our policy aims.

Governors make monitoring visits to the school and report back to the Headteacher and other Governors. In September several Governors attended the Inset Day to help with identifying objectives for the School Plan. We have a monitoring visit schedule and I particularly like attending the class assemblies and achievement meetings.

This month we welcomed two new co-opted Governors and two Parent Governors to the first meeting of the Academic Year on 21 September 2017. Governors serve a term of two years and you can find out more by visiting the school website.

<http://www.downs-view.kent.sch.uk/governors/>

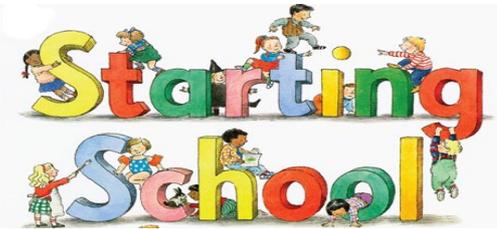
Governor Election

We currently have a Governor seeking re-election. If you have a passion about wanting the best for the children at Downs View you could stand for election. Governors have the opportunity to support and challenge the leadership and direction of the school and work closely with Mrs Kent to ensure that your children get the best education possible. If you are interested and would like to know a little more, please watch our Governor recruitment video by clicking the following link...

<https://youtube/qthuEFXmG4A> and where current Governors from our CATs collaboration, including Felicity Moore our Chair of Governors share their experiences There is also further information on our website about our current Governors and the role. If you are interested and willing to commit to ten 2 hour meetings across the year please email Mrs Kent on headteacher@downs-view.kent.sch.uk or the school office on office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk.

Open days for parents of children starting in September 2018

We have the following open days arranged for children starting Reception in September 2018. If you would like to come on one of these days please contact the school office to book your place. Once again we are co-ordinating our open days with our linked school Kennington Junior Academy and will be having some of our tours starting at Kennington. If you know of anyone who has a child who will be school age next year please pass on our open day dates to them.



19th Oct 9.15 starting at DVI
30th Oct 1.30pm starting at KA
6th Nov 9.15am starting at DVI
20th Nov 6pm starting at KA
28th Nov 1.30pm starting at DVI
10th Jan 9.15 KJS starting at KA

Donations of unwanted items.....

If you have any of the following items at home that you no longer require we would be happy for them to be donated to the school.

All types of animals figures - farm, forest, jungle, desert, savannah, sea, sand, wild, insects.

Stainless steel items such as plates, pots, pans, lids, trays

Camping equipment such as children's chairs, plates, cups, tea pot (metal)

Stainless steel items such as plates, pots, pans, lids, trays

sand toys / Sand moulds

cork stoppers

small plastic Funnels

small plastic jugs

small fishing nets

spray paint

duplo

floor puzzles

stickle bricks

ANYTHING related to our topics:

Goldilocks & the three bears, three little pigs, red riding hood, secret garden, wild things, under the sea, gruffalo, jungle, vets, Nemo

weighing scales

bath toys: ducks etc

alphabet cutters

playdoh