



24th January 2020 Newsletter

January	
Monday 27th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auditions for Downs View's got Talent all week. Please see Parent mail for further details • 2pm Maths workshop for parents – Year 1 • Book Look in year 1 classrooms 2.45-3.00pm •
Tuesday 28th	Skipping Workshop –parent mail to follow with details and information on how skipping ropes can be purchased.
Wednesday 29th	Skipping Workshop - parent mail to follow with details and information on how skipping ropes can be purchased.
Friday 31st	9.05am Birthday assembly for children with Birthdays in January Parents of these children are welcome.
February	
Monday 3rd	2pm Downs View's Got Talent Assembly
Friday 7th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9.05am Dolphin class assembly • 2.30pm Whole school road safety assembly – 2.30pm parents invited into school to held complete road safety posters
W/c Monday 10th	Celebrating International/Diversity week. We will be celebrating the range of cultures and finding out more about the range of places where the children and their families are from. Children to bring in photos/artefacts/food (no nuts) or anything that are special to them.
Tuesday 11th	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13th	Parents invited into classes to see the children share their learning from the international/diversity week Last day of term – half term
Friday 14th	Staff Training Day- children not in school

Monday 24th	Children return to school
Thursday 27th	Mid-year reports to parents
Friday 28th	9.05am Birthday assembly for children with Birthdays in February Parents of these children are welcome.
March	
Friday 6th	9.05am Snow Leopard class assembly
Friday 13th	9.05am Polar Bear class assembly
Friday 20th	9.05am Penguin class assembly
Friday 27th	9.05am Turtle class assembly

	<i>Weekly school attendance</i>	<i>Days missed across the school this week</i>	<i>Best class attendance for the week</i>	<i>Overall attendance for the year</i>
	96.85%	41	Polar Bear	94.95%

					
	Reading award	Star of the week	Active Award	Star Table	Feet on Friday
	Arafat	Isaac	Jaden Jessica	Amber	Tyler
	Isabelle	Lily-Grace	Arthur Tommy	Skyla	Boaz
	Maddi	Adam	Gethin Lewis	Harley	Ellie

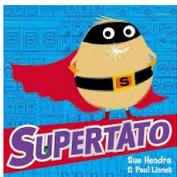
	Archie	Jessica	George Joselyn	Leo	Harry S
	Darcy	Amelia	Harvey Edward	Rowan	Kiara
	Harrison	Perry-Joe	Archie Ariella	Ruby	Poppy
	Haniya	Lola	Oliver Olivia	Stanley	Hanna
	Inara	Freddie	Thomas Florence	Inara	Emma
	Laila	Megan	Fynn Eva	Celeste	Sophie

Bonus Coin Winner of the Week – Starfish

Punctuality Pup – Dolphin

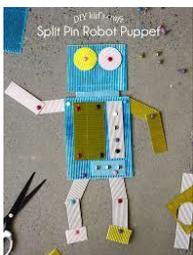
What we have been learning.....

EYFS



This week in EYFS we met Supertato, the supermarket superhero who defeated the Evil Pea. We used our writing toolkits to write our own stories about Supertato saving the day. In maths this week we looked at the numbers 6, 7 and 8. We counted out 6, 7 or 8 manipulatives, of our own choosing, onto tens frames and represented this on a whiteboard in our own way. In Religious Education we continued learning about special places and learnt about different features of the inside of a church. Next week we will be designing and making our own kites. If you have any junk modelling, for example plastic bags, straws, etc.that would help us with making these it would be greatly appreciated. Have a wonderful weekend.

Year 1



This week in Year One we have been having great fun making our own puppets. First we gave the children the opportunity to make their own puppet without support. They did a great job at attempting things like string puppets, hand puppets and stick puppets. We then showed an example of a split pin puppet. We were impressed at how quickly the children picked up this skill before creating their own. They were so proud of their final puppets! In English we explored the use of instructions. We then created our own instructions for how to make our puppets so that we could share our successes with others. In Maths this week we have been learning how to subtract. We have used various methods such as; counting back on a number line, crossing out pictorial representations and taking away concrete objects such as counters. In PE we have

continued to practise our throwing and catching skills, we had lots of fun with scarfs this week perfecting this skill before moving onto balls in the coming weeks.

Year 2



This week we have begun learning about statistics with Maths. We have interpreted and created pictograms and bar charts. We have answered questions using the language of most, least, difference between and how many more. Within English we have been inspired by the story 'One Day on Our Blue Planet - Into the Savannah'. We discussed the facts it told us about lions and were inspired to find out more about these magnificent creatures! We then explored the features of non-fiction texts and uses these features to make our own fact books about lions. In music we have explored duration of sound liked to African animals. We have composed and performed our own music using percussion instruments. Thank you to those of you who were able to come to our maths workshops, we hope you liked seeing the children learning! Our trip to the WI panto was brilliant! We all had so much fun and thank the Kennington WI for inviting us to such a fantastic show!

Understanding your Child's Behaviour – Parenting Course

Do you want to learn more about your child's behaviour and development, as well as improve your relationship and communication with your child? If so please contact Sam our Family Liaison Officer (FLO) to book a place on an 8 week course starting on Wednesday 29th January 2020, 9am-10.45am, in school. Sam can be contacted via the school office on 01233 632339 or her email address is 'sansell@downs-view.kent.sch.uk'

Adverse weather arrangements

At this time of year we like to take the opportunity to remind you of the procedures we put in place should we have any adverse winter weather.

If it has been snowing heavily we will do everything we can to make sure the school is open however we have to take in to account the number of staff able to get to school and the safety of children and adults on the school site. Mrs Kent will liaise with Mrs Seal/Mrs Wratten at Kennington Academy and make a joint decision as early as possible in the morning.

If we have heavy snow we request that all children bring in a packed lunch as we may not be able to provide a school dinner.

We may also have to delay the opening of Breakfast Club until 8.15am to enable us to make sure we have enough staff and the school site is safe.

If any of these measures are put in place we will keep parents informed by putting up to date information on:

Website: www.downs-view.kent.sch.uk

Kent Closure site: www.kentclosures.co.uk

[BBC Radio Kent](#)

[Facebook](#)

We will also contact parents via parent mail.

PLEASE NOTE: As long as we have enough staff and the site is safe the school will be open.



Headlice

There have been several cases of head lice in school. It is important that you check your child's hair regularly to help prevent them spreading to other children. If you find head lice, your local chemist or family doctor can advise on treatment and which lotion to use.

If your child has head lice you will also need to examine the heads of all other members of the household. If head lice are found they should also be treated at the same time.



Every day matters..... every minute matters.

Road Closure/Maintenance Work – The Street

Uk Power Networks have advised us that in partnership with their contractors ALS Civil Engineers, on 25th November 2019 they will be starting works at The Street, Kennington to install a new connection to their network. There will be 2-way traffic lights installed on this section of the road between the junction with Church Road and the junction with Billington Gardens. An entrance to Tritton Fields will also be closed. Please allow extra time when travelling to and from school if you use this route. They aim to complete all works by 24th January 2020.

FOSTER FOR KENT



Kent Fostering. Care you can believe in.

Kent County Council urgently needs foster homes in Ashford and the surrounding areas from people who can offer a child support by opening up their home.

03000 420 002
kentfostering.co.uk
#kentfostering



Why choose us ?

Our children are cared for in a safe and secure environment by people who are trained and experienced in caring for children. We have a variety of foster placements to suit all needs and we are always looking for more people who can help us.



Fostering information event - Ashford

Find out why you should choose us by coming along to our information event on:

**Tuesday 11 February at
The Conningbrook Hotel, Canterbury
Road, Kennington, Ashford TN24 9QR**

The presentation will start at 7pm followed by open discussion with foster carers and fostering staff.

There is no need to book a place, just please arrive in time for the presentation which will begin at 7pm.

03000 420 002
kentfostering.co.uk
#kentfostering





Registered Charity No. 1122114



Did you know your amazon shopping could help raise money for The Friends of Downs View, a charity dedicated to raising funds to support the school?

AmazonSmile, a website operated by Amazon, has the same products, prices and shopping features as Amazon, but when you shop on AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to your charity of choice - The Friends of Downs View Infant School.

No additional cost for you; donation to The Friends of Downs View! Now that is something to smile about!

Signing up to support The Friends is easy!

- Go to smile.amazon.co.uk and log into your amazon account and search for "Friends of Downs View Infant School" in the 'pick you own charity or organisation'" search bar.
- Select "Friends of Downs View Infant School"
- Shop as you normally would, just make your final purchase by going to smile.amazon.co.uk

If you've already signed up to amazon smile but would like to change your charity to Friends of Downs View:

- On the smile.amazon.co.uk website go to the 'Accounts & List' drop down menu
- Select 'Your AmazonSmile' from the drop down menu.
- Under 'Your Current Charity' select "Change Charity"
- Type in 'Friends of Down View Infant School' in the "pick your own charitable organisation" box, and then hit the select button.

After that, all you need to do use smile.amazon.co.uk when you shop Amazon, and The Friends of Downs View will get a donation.

Anyone can support The Friends through Amazon Smile, so help us spread the word and raise some funds for the school.

FIFA 18

EA SPORTS

You don't need to be the biggest football fan in the world to have heard of FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) - the governing body for football. And, the video game series bearing the organisation's name is one of the most successful ever. The lure of this football series is that official licensing gives your child the opportunity to play games in the role of their favourite players. They can either work through a story mode version of the game or play online in competitions against other players. The game, released annually by Electronic Arts under the EA Sports label, is available for a range of consoles, and there are also mobile versions available for smartphones and tablets. The most recent version is FIFA 18, but FIFA 19 is due for release later in the year.

AGE RESTRICTION
FOR ALL AGES



What parents need to know about **FIFA**

CONSTANT SERIES REFRESHES

The big selling point for the FIFA range of games is that it includes current players, a feature which no other football video game offers. However, this means that a new version of the game is released every year, with updated teams, players and stadia, plus new gameplay features and tweaks. And, with every annual update of the game, there is an expectation that it will be far better than the previous one, so the pressure to upgrade and buy the new version is likely to be immense!

* # @ \$
IN-GAME CHAT * # @ \$

While the FIFA video game is suitable for children of all ages as it does not include any inappropriate content, there is the issue of in-game chat. Your child can play with other people online and chat with them using headsets. As this is largely unregulated, it could mean that your child is exposed to language or conversations that you deem unsuitable.

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FAKE EMAILS, SCAMS AND COPYCAT WEBSITES

Your child may receive an email or see a message on social media or in forums which appear to be a genuine FIFA promotion. While the link may seem like a FIFA login page, it's a phishing scam to capture a login name and password. Scammers may use names that sound legitimate, like 'EA Admin' or 'FIFA Developer'.

BUYING ADD-ONS

In-game purchases are to be expected in any modern game and FIFA is no different. FIFA Ultimate Team (commonly called FUT) is a mode in FIFA that lets gamers build teams of players from any league, playing both offline and online to win coins. These can be used to buy better players or packs containing random players. While some purchases can be made using in-game currency, other purchases involve spending with real world money, which could become expensive. There have been reports of parents receiving large credit card bills resulting from in-game purchase made by their children.

JUST ONE MORE GAME

Your child could be playing FIFA games on their computer or console for very long periods of time. That's not to say that computer-based matches are a full 90 minutes long, but a series of 20-minute matches can very quickly fill up a day! The World Health Organisation has classified 'gaming disorder' as a mental health problem - this is when children have trouble controlling their gaming behaviour and let it reign over their lives and daily routine.

FIFA GAMEPLAY

The FIFA series has been criticised for the competitive nature of gameplay leading to aggression in some players. Add to this the chance to converse with other players via in-game chat, and the potential for anger levels is likely to rise... especially if you're losing heavily!



National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents



CONSTANT SERIES REFRESHES / WHAT TO DO?

As a parent, the implications of this really depends on the age of your child and your relationship with them. It may be that playing and sharing games is part of your family life and so this isn't a problem, but just be mindful that being involved with the FIFA franchise is unlikely to be a one-off event - it's the start of a gaming journey that could last for many, many years and involve numerous (potentially expensive) upgrades.

IN GAME CHAT

It's unlikely that you'll be able to convince your child to play FIFA without making use of the chat facility - it's something that adds to the experience. However, you should ensure your child is aware of how to silence any abusive players and how to report anyone who becomes problematic.

!#?!



FAKE EMAILS, SCAMS AND COPYCAT WEBSITES

You should teach your children to stay clear of scams. Explain to them that they must be wary of any link which asks them to either verify their username and password or provide other sensitive information; game developers will never send a message asking for login information. Console messages, emails and websites, or social media posts promoting contests for in-game content, such as packs, players, or coins requiring login information are fake.

BUYING ADD-ONS

To spend real money in FIFA, a credit or debit card must be linked to a gaming account, so ensure that your card is not being used for this! There's also support for PayPal payment, so also check who has access to this type of account. Depending on the platform your child is using to play FIFA, there are different parental controls that can be put in place to restrict spending should you allow them to link a card to their account. There is also a payment option called Paysafecard, which allows you to make payments online without the use of a bank account or credit card. As you can top up balances, this makes it easy to control spending.

JUST ONE MORE GAME

The parental controls on consoles can be used to restrict the amount of time spent playing. Physically monitoring how much time your child is spending in FIFA is recommended - just as you might monitor how much time they spend watching TV. Keep an eye out for warning signs, such as a lack of interest in other activities, tiredness or fatigue, neglect of personal hygiene, changes in character or anger issues when your child is told to stop playing a game.

FIFA GAMEPLAY

Monitoring in-game chat may be difficult as you're likely to only be able to hear one side of a conversation. However, noticing how your child is reacting may be a reasonable indicator of the general mood. Dealing with both the frustrations of a game as well as troublesome people can serve as useful life lessons, but as a parent, you know your child better than anyone else. If you notice your child is getting too upset or angry, that's the time to intervene and try to encourage them to take a break from the game.

SOURCES
<https://press.ea.com/products/p/1532/ea-sports-fifa-18>
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/ps-fatherhood/18889919/My-son-spent-hundreds-of-pounds-on-in-app-purchases-without-me-knowing.html>
<https://help.nsa.com/en-gb/help/fifa-be-safe-with-fut-coins-and-fifa-points/>