15th May 2026 Newsletter

***Please find us on instagram and facebook:* @downsviewinfantschool and https://www.facebook.com/DownsViewInfantSchool/**

May	
Tuesday 19th	• **Special Lunch Menu Ghana –** Please see information below • **2.40pm – Year 1 Phonics Screening Parent Information Workshop –** parents/carers are invited to attend this workshop/meeting to find out more about this process.
Thursday 21st	**Year R Celebration Assemblies** – parents/carers are invited to attend • **1.45-2.15pm – Ladybird Class** • **2.30-3pm – Bee Class**
Friday 22nd	**Last Day of Term 5**
June	
Monday 1st	**Children return to school Term 6**
Wednesday 3rd	**2pm - Year 2 – OPAL Stay and Play session – parents/carers are invited to join in this session**
Thursday 4th	**2pm – Year R – OPAL Stay and Play session – parents/carers are invited to join in this session**
Friday 5th	**2pm - Year 1 – OPAL Stay and Play session – parents/carers are invited to join in this session**
Tuesday 9th	**6-7pm – Welcome Evening for Parents/Carers whose children are starting in Reception in September 2026**
Friday 12th	**Sports Day 9am (this will last approx. 1.5-2 hours)** Parent/Carers invited on field – weather permitting (choice 1)
Friday 19th	**Sports Day 9am (**choice 2 if choice 1 is cancelled**)**
July	
Friday 17th	**Last Day of Term 6**

Your views, compliments or suggestions…….

We welcome any feedback from you which can be completed formally via parent view (www.parenview.ofsted.gov.uk) or via email (office@downs-view.kent.sch) or via the box in the front Reception area.

It was lovely to see parents and carers of our Year 1 children attend the celebration assemblies this week. This collaborative approach boosts self-esteem & motivation, fosters community spirit and a love for learning. The children were very proud to show you what they had been learning and it was great to see everyone getting involved.

We hope you enjoyed the video of the mini-marathon that was put together and was shared on Instagram and Facebook.
This event has raised a staggering £1,210 so far. (we still have some donations to count) Thank you so much to Miss Caldwell and the Friends for organising this event. A huge thank you to all of you, your families and friends for the generous donations.
Mrs Collins

Special Achievements

We are pleased to celebrate with you special achievements made this week. Two children from each class have been recognised for doing something that has demonstrated one or more than one of our school values.

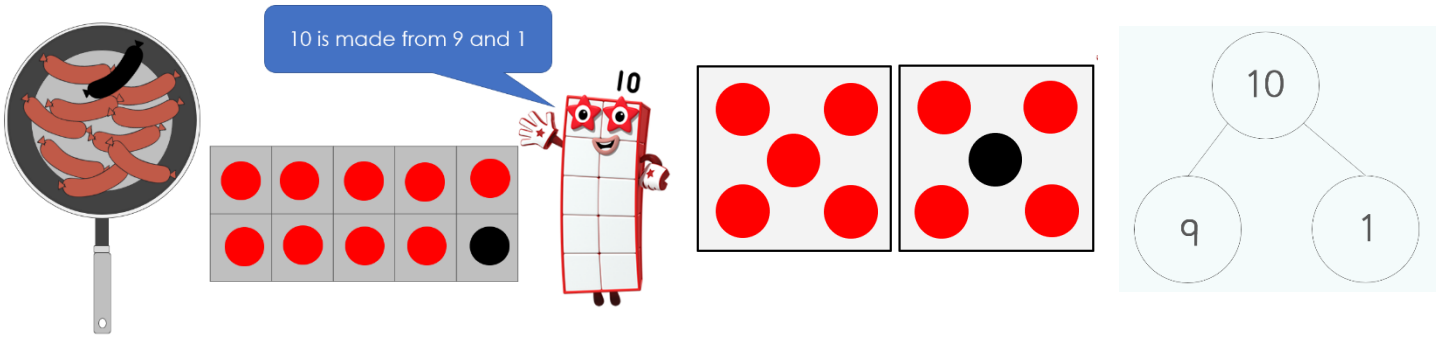
Class	Awarded to	Recognition
Bee	**Elayna**	Her enthusiasm and participation during teacher time this week.
Bee	**George**	For his enthusiasm in Maths learning this week and his progress in Phonics.
Ladybird	**Tommy**	Showing respect and kindness to his friends during PE this week. Helping them to control a ball with a racket.
Ladybird	**Freya**	Showing that she was ready to learn during all teacher directed sessions this week and showing amazing determination within her writing.
Turtle	**Xanthe**	Being ready to learn by listening carefully to friends and adults in the classroom.
Turtle	**Isla D**	Being safe in the classroom when showing her friends her fantastic dance routine.
Dolphin	**Megan**	Being ready to learn by always making sure she is listening to the teacher's instructions. Well done Megan!
Dolphin	**Cedar**	Being ready to learn by working hard on her reading all week. Cedar can now ready her book automatically and fluently. Well done Cedar!
Starfish	**Monty**	His readiness to learn in English and writing an amazing sentence with his own idea.
Starfish	**Iona**	For always being an excellent role model during phonics and showing she is ready to learn and respectful.
Snow Leopard	**Ezra**	For being ready to learn by sharing his great ideas in English this week.

Snow Leopard	**Ibrahim**	For always being ready to help in class.
Penguin	**Buddy**	For his focus and determination in English lessons. Buddy has written some wonderful pieces of work!
Penguin	**Isla-J**	For taking so much pride in her work! We are all so proud of her enthusiasm and determination.

Weekly Class Achievements and updates

EYFS

This week we have been continuing to develop our understanding of the composition of numbers to 10 using different representations. We used the rhyme '10 Fat Sausages' to help us with this concept. The children were able to record their findings on tens frames, die frames and even within a part part whole! A way to consolidate this at home could be to make fruit skewers using two different kinds of fruit - 10 piece in total. How many pieces of each fruit have you got? Can you draw a picture /make a part part whole to represent your skewer? (This would also consolidate our design and technology lesson where we have learnt to cut fruit with safety!)



Year 1

Year 1 enjoyed sharing their learning with their grown-ups this week during their celebration assemblies. We hope you had as much fun finding out what we have been up to.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a lot of fun this week applying their Science knowledge together with their DT skills to build strong and stable structures for Percy Pigs friends to live in. We can't wait to finish them next week!

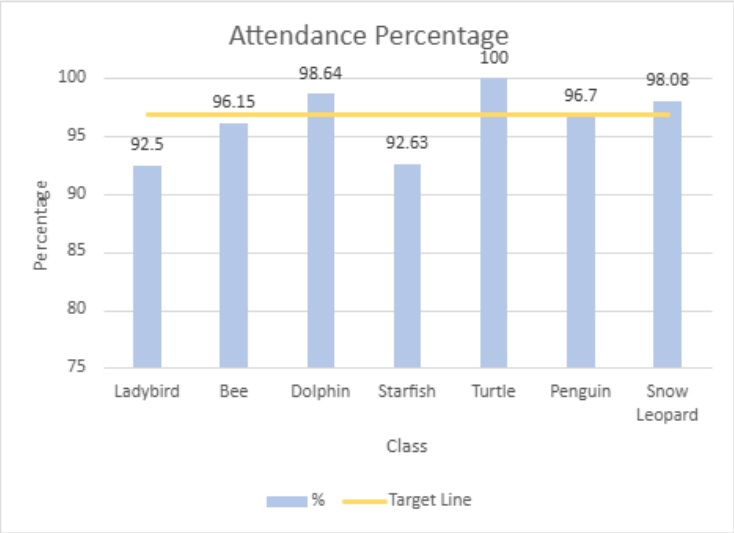
Attendance

Our school attendance for this week is **96.19%,** which is nearly **1% lower** than last week. This week have been affected by illness and term time holiday, however it is great to see **two classes above 97%** and **Turtles having 100% attendance**. Well done.

Every day really does make a difference. When children miss school, they miss important learning, fun activities, and valuable time with their friends. This week was full of exciting opportunities to enjoy and learn from, and we don't want anyone to miss out.

This also includes arriving on time each morning, as it helps children start the day calmly, join in with their friends, and be ready for learning right from the first lesson, lateness this week has meant that **143** minutes of learning has been lost, this is much lower than last week, hopefully we can continue to improve this next week.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us improve attendance. If you would like any help or have any questions, please feel free to reach out, we are here to support you.



Level 5 RHS School Gardening Award Recipient 2026

I am delighted to share that our Gardening Club has achieved Level 5, the highest level of the RHS School Gardening Awards. This is a highlight of our journey through Levels 1–5, and we are proudly displaying all of our certificates in the office foyer, please do take a look if you pop in.

As Gardening Champion, I have had the pleasure of leading the club and applying for each award level over the years. Most recently, this achievement has been supported through a fantastic partnership with Mr Perkins and Year 3 pupils at Kennington Academy, strengthening transition and creating exciting, long-term gardening opportunities for our children as they move on to the next stage of their education.

To learn more about our gardening journey so far and what each level involves, visit our Gardening Club page: https://www.downs-view.kent.sch.uk/Gardening-Club/

Congratulations to all of our gardeners and I'm looking forward to the next chapter in our gardening journey. Mrs Patrick - Gardening Champion

Donations

Thank you to The Retreat Animal Rescue for their kind donation of tables for OPAL. They have a craft fair on Sunday 31 May from 12pm, information below. Mrs Little volunteers at the retreat and will have a craft staff at the fair, she would love to see some of you there.

Term Dates 2026

Term 5 – Monday 20th April – Friday 22nd May 2026
(Monday 4th May 2026 – Bank Holiday – school closed)
Term 6 – Monday 1st June – Friday 17th July 2026(Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July 2026 – Training Days – school closed to children)

Term Dates 2026/27

Term 1 – Thursday 3rd September – Thursday 22nd October 2026
(Training Days – Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September and Friday 23rd October 2026 – school closed to children)
Term 2 – Tuesday 3rd November – Friday 18th December 2026
(Training Day – Monday 2nd November 2026 – school closed to children)
Term 3 – Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February 2027
Term 4 – Monday 22nd February – Thursday 25th March 2027
(Friday 26th March 2027 – Bank Holiday – school closed)
Term 5 – Monday 12th April – Friday 28th May 2027
(Monday 3rd May 2027 – Bank Holiday – school closed)
Term 6 – Monday 7th June – Tuesday 20th July 2027
(Training Day – Wednesday 21st July 2027 – school closed to children)

Animal Sanctuary Fairs
at The Retreat Animal Rescue

Free Entry | Free Parking | Dog Friendly | Stallholders
On-site Cafe | Vegan Supermarket | Thrift & Gift Shops

THE RETREAT ANIMAL RESCUE, HIGH HALDEN, ASHFORD TN26 3LJ

Summer Family Fun, Craft & Food Fair

Hothfield Village Hall

Saturday 30th May 10-3

St Mary's Church Kennington

SPRING FAIR

SATURDAY 16TH MAY

12 - 4 pm

CAKES

HEALTH FOODS

PLANTS

KIDS GAMES AND MUCH MORE

New Wells church as running a Free Half term holiday club this May, there will be a soft play bus, games, crafts, sports and much more. If your child is in Primary school, they are invited! You can sign up here using this link: newwells.church/kids

Ashford Family Hubs

May Half Term Timetable

26th May 2026 - 29th May 2026

Contact us

Ashford North Family Hub 03000 417567
Bockhanger Family Hub 03000 418600
Waterside Family Hub 03000 418700
The Willow Family Hub 03000 418800
Tenterden Family Hub 03000 418400
Stanhope Family Hub 67A Otterden Close

Find us on:
Facebook or Instagram at
Ashfordfamilyhubs or
Ashfordfamilyhubs11to19

Email:
ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Family Hub Sites are run by
Kent County Council

Ashford Family Hubs

26th May 2026

Baby Group

Stanhope Family Hub
67A Otterden Close
Ashford
TN23 5TH

1.00pm - 2.30pm

Songs and sensory play for babies who are pre walking.

Limited Numbers

27th May 2026

Stay and Play

Tenterden Family Hub
Recreation Ground Road
Tenterden
TN30 6RA

10.00am - 11.30am

A relaxed session for families with play, singing, stories and messy fun for children aged 0-5.

Limited Numbers

28th May 2026

Parent Drop In

Willow Family Hub
Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

10.00am - 11.30am

Drop in for friendly advice on any parenting questions (0-19)

28th May 2026

Baby Group

Ashford North Family Hub
Mabledon Avenue
Ashford
TN24 8BJ

10.00am - 11.30am

Songs and sensory play for babies who are pre walking.

Limited Numbers

28th May 2026

NCT Infant Feeding Support

9.30am - 11.30am

Ashford North Family Hub
Mabledon Avenue
Ashford
TN24 8BJ

1.00pm - 3.00pm

Tenterden Family Hub
Recreation Ground Road
Tenterden
TN30 6RA

28th May 2026

Stay and Play

Willow Family Hub
Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

1.00pm - 2.30pm

A relaxed session for families with play, singing, stories and messy fun for children aged 0-5.

Limited Numbers

29th May 2026

Child Health Clinic

Willow Family Hub
Halstow Way
Ashford
TN23 4EY

9.30am - 12.30pm

Come along with your baby/child to speak to one of the Health Visiting Team, for information, advice and support

Last admission 12.15pm

kae Family Learning
kent adult education

COOKING ON A BUDGET

Delicious meals, smart savings!

Join us and enjoy good food and a healthier lifestyle. Learn new, exciting and child-friendly recipes that make the most of your shopping budget.

Where:

Ashford North Family Hub

Mabledon Avenue TN24 8BJ

Date::

20/05/2026

Time::

10am – 12pm

To book a place please contact:
03000 418600 or email in
Ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk
Kent Adult Education is part of Community Learning and Skills

For more information scan the QR code

kentadulteducation.co.uk

FREE, Fun & Informal

GRACE
FELLOWSHIP

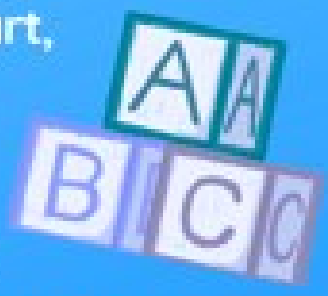
Free!

Bubbles

Baby and Toddler group

Toys, craft, Bible stories, singing, snack time
& lots of fun!

1st and 3rd Wednesday each month
during term time
10.00-11.30am
at
Grace Fellowship Church,
Singleton Road, Great Chart,
TN23 3BA



gracefellowship.org.uk

Find us on 'Bubbles baby and toddler group'

STARTERS FOOTBALL ACADEMY

ASHFORD

FRIDAY EVENING'S

GODINTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, TN23 3JR

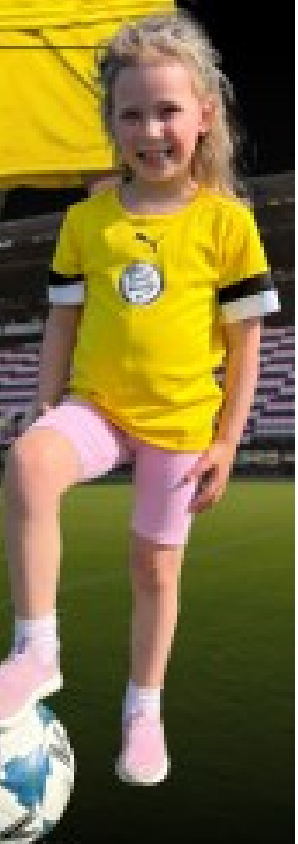
ALL SESSIONS TAKEN BY PREMIER LEAGUE ACADEMY COACH WILL ROURKE

SCHOOL YEARS R,1 & 2

4:30-5:30PM

SCHOOL YEAR 3-6

5:30-6:30PM



JOIN NOW!

ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

INFO.STARTERSFA@GMAIL.COM

WWW.STARTERSFA.COM

Enter our FREE family competition

Quiz Trails

Enter at Prize Draws on our home page - good luck!

A great activity for the holidays!

We're a Mum and two daughters team creating educational, history based **fun** Kent Quiz Trails!

They liven up a healthy family walk!

FREE TO ENTER!

Quiz Trail

WHAT'S ON? IN KENT.COM

Download the WOIK app here!

WIN

We've teamed up with What's On In Kent to give away a 'Best of Kent Explorer Adventure Pack'!

Top Prize: One lucky winner will win a wicker picnic hamper with plates, cutlery and glasses, one each of the Quiz Trail short stories books, 5 Quiz Trails of your choice and lots of sweet treats!

Three runner-up winners will each win 3 Quiz Trails of your choice!

Enter on our website www.QuizTrail.co.uk

*Closing date: 31st May 2026 at 11.59pm. Free to enter - no purchase necessary.

WHAT'S ON? IN KENT.COM

Download the app to discover hundreds of activities and events going on in Kent!

Special offers too!

www.QuizTrail.co.uk

Quote Discount Code DISCOUNT10 at our checkout

10% OFF

Let the adventure begin with

Quiz Trails

We're a Mum and two daughters team creating educational, history based **fun** Kent Quiz Trails!

Quiz Trail

LOW - COST!

Clues for adults PLUS clues for juniors which are **made for 5 to 11 year olds!**

Trustpilot

Quiz Trail

Reviews • Excellent

A fun low-cost, healthy activity that entertains all!

Quiz Trails are written for adults and packed with local history. As well as adult leisure reading, Quiz Trails are a fabulous activity for adults and children to do together - ***with a set of fun clues for each.***

You can take as long as you like to complete the trail, making it the perfect activity for a relaxed trip out.

At just £5.99 a copy for a group to share, Quiz Trails are the perfect way to spend time outdoors in the fresh air with loved ones - *great to do with grandparents too!* ALL trails are accessible.

www.QuizTrail.co.uk

Quote Discount Code DISCOUNT10 at our checkout

10% OFF

children's

Quiz Trails are an 'Approved Activity' for The Children's University

INDEPENDENTCATERING | EDUCATERLIMITED

Around the World

GHANA

TUESDAY 19th MAY

MENU

Chicken Jollof Rice (10)

Black Eyed Bean Curry with Rice

Jacket Potato Choice of Filling

Nkate Nkwan-Inspired Sweet Potato, Spinach & Peas (10)

Strawberry Fool (9)

WE ONLY USE

FRESH UK BEEF | FRESH UK PORK | FREE RANGE EGGS | LOCAL FRUIT & VEG | WHOLEMEAL PASTA

freshingredients freshfood