17th July 2026 Newsletter

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

July	
Friday 17th	**Last Day of Term 6**
Monday 20th	**Staff Development Day –** No children in school
Tuesday 21st	**Staff Development Day –** No children in school
September	
Tuesday 1st	**Staff Development Day –** No children in school
Wednesday 2nd	**Staff Development Day –** No children in school
Thursday 3rd	**Welcome back to our Year 1 & 2 Children**
Monday 7th & Tuesday 8th	**Welcome to our New Year R children –** they will be joining us for their first day on either Monday or Tuesday
Wednesday 30th	**Vancols School Photographers in School –** they will be taking individual pupil photographs

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.

As another year comes to an end, we would like to say a huge thank you to you parent/carers for your support across the year which has made such a difference to your child's journey. Your children have thrived and made us proud every day. We look forward to welcoming back Reception and Year 1 in September, along with welcoming new children to our school.

A special farewell to year 2 children and families….

We would like to wish the year 2 children every success. Their amazing show highlighted how unique, hard-working and talented they all are! It has been a pleasure to watch each and every one of your children grow and we will be sorry to come to the end of an era. Your child has built strong foundations at Downs View and have left a mark which we will cherish forever. We are sure

they will go from strength to strength as they move on to year 3. Saying goodbye is never easy so this is not goodbye but farewell and good luck!
We always love to hear how your child is getting on so please keep in touch!
The doors are always open!

A final farewell from Mrs Collins

I can't believe where the time has gone – my last day with your wonderful children is finally here.

Over the past 31 years, I have had the privilege of getting to know so many wonderful families. It has been especially lovely to teach some of you who were once children yourselves at Downs View, and then to welcome your own children to Downs View.

As I begin a new chapter in my life, I will always treasure the amazing memories I have made during my time at Downs View. I will never forget the laughter we have shared, the funny moments that brightened each day, and, most of all, the immense sense of pride in seeing the children grow, learn and achieve.

Thank you for your kindness, support and for allowing me to be part of your children's journey. It has truly been a privilege.

I wish you and your children every happiness and success for the future, and I'm sure I'll see some of you around Ashford.

Best Wishes

Mrs Collins

Weekly Class Achievements and updates

EYFS
We have had a sad but fun last week in both Ladybirds and Bees. We have continued with some fun phonics to consolidate all of our phonemes, digraphs and trigraphs as well as our tricky words and sentence structure. We hope that you are going to continue with this consolidation over the summer holidays! We have also had fun using amazing fine motor control to create portraits of our friends using just a pencil. Why not have a try at creating some portraits of your friends and family. We would also just like to say thank you for all your continued support over the last year and we wish you all a lovely summer.

Year 1
This week in Year 1 we have learnt how to tell the time on an analogue clock. We have learnt how to tell o'clock and half past times. Can you ask your child to read these times on a clock?

Year 2
What a great last week we have had in Year 2! We have finished our stories based on The Secret Giant and made our animal life cycles in Science. We had fun signing our shirts and are now ready for Year 3 . Have a great summer Year 2 and good luck!

The Friends of Downs View

As the school year comes to a close, we wanted to share our incredible fundraising achievements and what it's provided for the children.

We also wanted to take the time to say a HUGE thank you to each and everyone of you, that has not only volunteered your time, but have bought a raffle ticket, sponsored your child, donated a bottle, cake or toy, visited a fair or have booked your child onto a workshop - this wouldn't have been possible without you!

We hope you all have the best summer break, and enjoy the precious time with your families.

Thank you again - Katy, Cathy & Step

Farewells

We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Clark, Play Leader. We wish her very success and thank her for her hard work and for their valuable contribution to the school. She will be greatly missed by us all and we are sure you will join us in wishing her every success for the future.

Term Dates 2026

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)

- **WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY SUMMER BREAK**
- **FROM ALL THE STAFF AT DOWNS VIEW**

Vacancies
Downs View Infant School is looking to recruit a temporary cleaner to cover staff absence. This position will be fixed term from 1st September 2026 – until 17th October 2026 however this will be reviewed and the contract may be extended.
The hours of work are 4.15pm – 6.15pm Monday, Wednesday and Friday term time only.
This is an opportunity to be part of a small, friendly cleaning team who play a key role within the school.
The aim of the role is to provide a good cleaning service that is responsive to the needs of the school, resulting in a clean and healthy environment for pupils and staff.
Duties include all aspects of cleaning within a school including the daily cleaning of classrooms, office, corridors and washroom areas.

We are looking for someone who is:
Reliable
Responsible
A good time-keeper
Have some previous experience of cleaning preferably in a school (training will be provided)
If you would like to apply for this role please either phone the school office on 01233 632339 or email office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk

DOWNS VIEW
INFANT SCHOOL
has vacancy for a

Midday Supervisor
Friday only
This is a fixed term contract until 31/08/2027
11.45am – 1.25pm
Salary: KSA £26,168 pro rata

Would you like to become a member of our fantastic midday supervisor team? The job role includes:

- **Supporting children in the dinner hall**
- **Laying of dinner tables**
- **Supervising OPAL with our children on the playground**
- **First Aid provision**

If you are enthusiastic, a good communicator, organised, reliable and work well as part of a team this may be the role for you.
If you are interested, please collect an application form from the office or contact via email

office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk

If you have any questions, please contact Emma Stanley via the office by email or by phone on 632339

Closing date for application: Monday 21 July 26
Interviews: Tuesday 21 July 2026

Free Kellogg's breakfasts in all Morrisons Cafes
We have received the following from Morrison's Cafes which we would like to bring to your attention and ask that you share with parents/carers.

Between 29th June and 6th September 2026, families can access free Kellogg's breakfasts in all Morrisons Cafes. This is available to both children and adults, who can choose from much-loved favourites Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies, topped with their choice of dairy or non-dairy milk and a free apple or banana.

In addition to the Kellogg's Breakfast offer, Morrisons 'Kids Eat Free' offer will continue to run in all its Cafés, allowing families to enjoy a free meal and drink for one child aged 16 or under when they purchase an adult main meal costing over £5 from The Breakfasts and The Classics menu

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

GO ALL IN National Year of Reading 2026

Kent Libraries

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

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DOWNS VIEW INFANT SCHOOL

OPAL PLAY

Opal
OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING

WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO SUPPORT OUR AMAZING PLAY.

IF YOU CAN HELP WITH ANY OF THESE ITEMS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR SCHOOL OFFICE: 01233 632339

FARM

FARM ANIMALS, TRACTORS, BARNS, FENCES, HAY, CROPS, LOOSE PARTS

WOODLAND

FOREST ANIMALS, TREES, LOGS, LEAVES, PINE CONES, STICKS, LOOSE PARTS

SAFARI / JUNGLE

LIONS, ELEPHANTS, GIRAFFES, MONKEYS, VINES, ROCKS, PLANTS, LOOSE PARTS

TOWN / COMMUNITY

HOUSES, ROADS, PEOPLE, SHOPS, BUSES, EMERGENCY SERVICES, LOOSE PARTS

FAIRY GARDEN

FAIRIES, GNOMES, TINY HOUSES, FLOWERS, GEMS, BRIDGES, PLANTS, LOOSE PARTS

PIRATES

PIRATE FIGURES, TREASURE CHESTS, BOATS, ISLANDS, BLUE FABRIC, LOOSE PARTS

ARCTIC

POLAR BEARS, PENGUINS, SEALS, COTTON WOOL OR WHITE STONES, LOOSE PARTS

BEACH / OCEAN

SHELLS, SEA CREATURES, BOATS, BLUE FABRIC, SAND, LOOSE PARTS

SPACE

ASTRONAUTS, ROCKETS, PLANETS, ALIENS, MOON ROCKS, STARS, LOOSE PARTS

ZOO

ZOO ANIMALS, ENCLOSURES, TICKET OFFICE, VISITORS, LOOSE PARTS

CASTLE

KNIGHTS, DRAGONS, PRINCESSES, CASTLE WALLS, FLAGS, LOOSE PARTS

AIRPORT

PLANES, HELICOPTERS, TERMINAL, LUGGAGE, VEHICLES, LOOSE PARTS

ENHANCE EVERY THEME WITH LOOSE PARTS

WOODEN BLOCKS | PEBBLES AND STONES | STICKS AND BARK | PINE CONES | FABRIC (BLUE FOR WATER, GREEN FOR GRASS, BROWN FOR MUD) | SMALL LOGS AND TREE SLICES | CARDBOARD TUBES | BOTTLE TOPS AND CORKS | ARTIFICIAL GRASS OR MOSS MATS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR AMAZING PLAY!

DOWNS VIEW INFANT SCHOOL

OPAL PLAY

OUTDOOR PLAY AND LEARNING

WE ARE LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO SUPPORT OUR AMAZING PLAY.

IF YOU CAN HELP WITH ANY OF THESE ITEMS, PLEASE CONTACT OUR SCHOOL OFFICE.

RIDE ON CARS

SAND TOY TRUCKS

RIDE ON MOTORBIKE

BUGGIES (STROLLERS)

ROCKING HORSE

SLIDES

PLASTIC SEESAW

CABLE REELS

SCAFFOLD PLANKS

TOY TREASURE (GEMS, COINS)

SEA CREATURE TOYS

POTS AND PANS

COOKING UTENSILS

WOOD CUT OFFS

PLASTIC TREE SWINGS

DRUM BARRELS

LARGE WATER PIPES

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR AMAZING PLAY!

01233 632339

2026 30TH & 31ST AUGUST

THE KENT COUNTRY SHOW & WE LOVE DOGS

Quex Park, Manston Road • Birchington, Kent, CT7 0HR

DISCOUNTED TICKETS ONLINE

www.thekentcountryshow.co.uk

SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP

AT ASHFORD RUGBY CLUB

FROM 27TH JULY – 21ST AUGUST

9AM – 3PM

FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 – 11 YEARS – (MUST BE IN YEAR 1 TO ATTEND)

SNACK AND HOT LUNCH PROVIDED

LEARN NEW SKILLS AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS!

KIDS GO FREE WITH THE CODE 'FREETSC'!

ASHFORD RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

TOTAL SPORTS COACHING

ALT ASHFORD LEISURE TRUST

JOIN AN iROCK BAND THIS SEPTEMBER

New spaces now open!

Choose your instrument today.

DISCOVER MORE

ENROL NOW

Enrol Online

www.irockschool.com/enrol

We're here to help

0330 174 2655

info@irockschool.com

iRock

As our iRocker school leavers move on to their next adventure, new places are opening for children to start band lessons from September.

About iRock Lessons

- 30-minute band-based music lessons taught by a professional Band Coach
- Lessons take place during school hours
- Easy subscription: cancel at any time, with a first lesson money-back guarantee.
- Open to children aged 4 to 11, regardless of ability or experience
- Children learn popular music while building confidence, teamwork and listening skills
- Pupils can work towards an exam-free RSL Awards music qualification as part of their iRock journey.