19th September 2025 Newsletter

Please find us on instagram and facebook:

@downsviewinfantschool and https://www.facebook.com/DownsViewInfantSchool/

September	
Tuesday 23rd	7.30pm – Friends of Downs View Meeting at the Old Mill Kennington – all welcome they look forward to seeing you if you can make it.
Friday 26th	School Nursing Team conducting Health Screening for Year R children – further information has been sent to parents/carers via parentmail
Week Commencing Monday 29th	**Harvest Festival Celebrations** – **children are welcome to bring in tins or packets of food or toiletries ALL week** which will be shared with the local community.
October	
Wednesday 1st	Vancols School Photographer – Individual School Photographs. Sibling photos of children **at Downs View** will also be taken. Please let the school office know if you would **not** like your child's photograph taken.
Friday 10th	**Mental Health Day –** further information will follow
Monday 13th	**Parent Consultation Meeting** – further information will follow regarding booking system and timings
Tuesday 14th	**9.15am** – **Prospective EYFS Parent Tours** – please see information below
Thursday 16th	**Parent Consultation Meeting** – further information will follow regarding booking system and timings

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 great to see Reception complete their first full days in school and join us for lunch in the hall this week. They have learnt so many new routines and have coped well with their new experiences this week. They are making friends and the children in year 1 and year 2 have enjoyed playing with them at lunch time. I am sure they will sleep well tonight! The recognition assembly took place on Monday, where it was lovely to see the children in the different classes proud of their achievements as a team.

Class Recognition

We are pleased to celebrate with you special achievements made by each class this week. All the children have been recognised for doing something that has demonstrated one or more than one of our school values. The table below informs you of each class's special achievement.

Class	Recognition
Bee	Bee Class have been working hard on the school value of being 'ready' by washing their hands, getting their lunch bands & lining up ready for lunchtime.
Ladybird	Ladybird class have been working hard on the school value of being 'respectful' by remembering to choose the resources, use them, and then put them away.
Turtle	Turtle Class have been working hard on the value of being 'safe' by listening carefully and staying quiet during the register.
Dolphin	Dolphins class have been working hard on the school value of being 'ready' by making sure they have all their resources for their phonics lessons.
Starfish	Starfish class have been working hard on the school value of being 'ready' by all joining in with a practical maths lesson.
Snow Leopard	Snow Leopard class have been working hard on the school value of being 'respectful'. We have listened carefully when our friends have been speaking and shown we respect our classroom resources by looking after them.
Penguin	Penguin class have been working hard on the school value of being 'respectful'. They have been taught by different adults this week and have demonstrated good manners, welcoming them and working together.

Weekly Class Achievements and updates

EYFS

We have had great fun this week getting to know the other half of our class! We have started to learn some sounds in our phonics lessons (look out for the home learning sheet within your child's reading record folder) and in math's we have been encouraging the children to see how many there are in a small group of objects by 'just seeing' and knowing straight away (subitising) rather than needing to count. Thank you too for sending in your family photos we have really enjoyed sharing them.

Something to practice at home...
As you can imagine getting 30 children organised first thing and then for home is quite a challenge so, please practice at home putting the book folder and book in their bag independently.

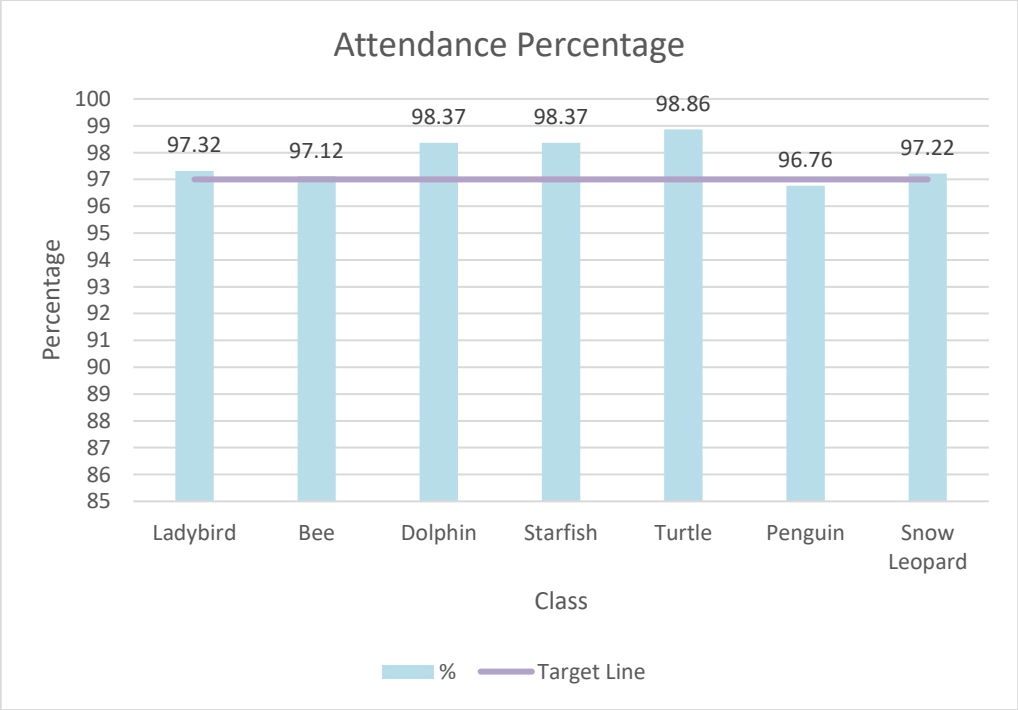
Year 1
This week in year 1 we have been comparing amounts in Maths. Can you compare groups of objects (below 10) using the language of more, fewer and the same?

Year 2
This week Year 2 showed they were great friends through being kind and helpful to one another. Ask us about our friendship passports that we were given in PSHE.

Downs View Superstars
The highlight of the week was the children creating a welcoming and friendly atmosphere in club for the new Year children joining. It was lovely seeing them play with the new children and showing them round as well as playing team games.

Attendance

Our school attendance for week three is 97.66%, which is fantastic, with only 16.5 days missed across the school.
Looking at the class attendance for this week, it's wonderful to see nearly all classes above the expected 97%; well-done everyone!
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.
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.



Uniform and Spare Clothing
Just a reminder to label any items of clothing your child is wearing, including coats, we have had quite a few items left in class that are not labelled and it is then difficult for these to be given back to your child. We also request that a bag of spare labelled clothes is left in school for your child.

Harvest Festival

Week commencing 29th September we will be celebrating Harvest! As a school we would like to join in with the harvest festivities and at the same time support the vulnerable people in our community. We therefore need your help! If you can spare any tinned, packet food or toiletries then please bring them in to class from Monday 29th September; we will create a harvest display in the hall before the food is distributed. Thank you for your support.

Prospective EYFS Parent/children Tours

We will be holding tours of the school during October, November, December and the beginning of January for prospective parents/carers, dates are listed below. If you would like to book a tour please contact the school office via email: office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk or telephone 01233 632339.

KCC on line applications for children starting school in September 2026 for both reception year and year 3 (junior school) will open on 7 November 2025, and will close 15 January 2026. More details will follow on this process.

We are hosting open sessions at Downs View Infant School on:

Date	Times
Tuesday 14th October 25	9:15am
Wednesday 12th November 25	9:15am
Tuesday 25th November 25	6:00pm
Thursday 4th December 25	9:15am
Thursday 8th January 26	9:15am

Prospective Year 3 Parent/children Tours

Kennington CE Academy are holding tours for our current Year 2 children on the following days, children are welcome to attend and can be collected from Downs View before the tour. This gives you an opportunity to view the school and ask any questions before you apply for your Junior School place. If you would like to book a tour please contact Kennington's school office via email: office@kennington.school or telephone 01233 623744:

Date	Times
Tuesday 28th October 25	9:30am
Tuesday 28th October 25	11am
Thursday 30th October 25	9.30am
Thursday 30th October 25	11am

Current Vacancies

Caretaker – 15 hours per week

Are you an individual who is dedicated, takes pride in their work, uses initiative and wants to join a fantastic team?

If yes, then why not apply to be our Caretaker, Mr East will sadly leaving us on the 31st October so we looking to recruit for this position.

- You will be responsible for ensuring the site is kept clean and safe for our school community.
- You will be responsible for unlocking the school in the morning and undertaking security checks.

- You will be working alongside a small team of cleaners and together, you will create a clean, hygienic and inviting environment that is conducive to learning.
- You will be responsible for managing the upkeep and maintenance of the site, signposting to outside contractors when necessary, for buildings, grounds, and equipment.
- You must have excellent communication skills and be able to work collaboratively with staff, parents, children and external contractors.

If you are passionate about creating a safe and clean environment and want to be part of a dynamic team, we encourage you to apply. This is a rewarding role that provides an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young children

Please email the office(office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk) if you are interested in the role or you can apply on the Kent Teach website.

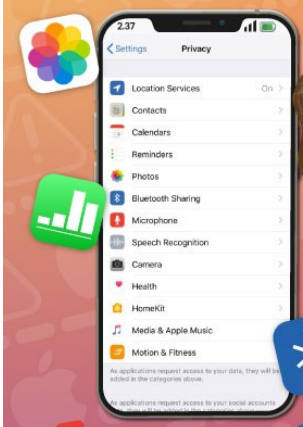
Term Dates 2025-2026
Term 1 – Wednesday 3rd September – Friday 17th October 2025
(Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September – Training Days – school closed to children)
Term 2 – Monday 27th October – Thursday 18th December 2025
(Friday 19th December – Training day – school closed to children)
Term 3 – Monday 5th January – Friday 13th February 2026
Term 4 – Monday 23rd February – Thursday 2nd April 2026
(Friday 3rd April – Bank Holiday – school closed)
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)

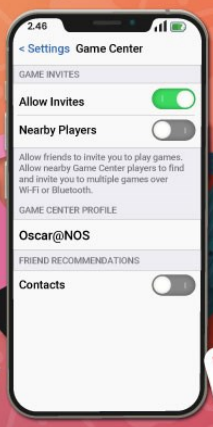
At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

How to Set up PARENTAL CONTROLS for APPS

iPhone

Apple devices come with built-in apps already available: Mail, FaceTime and Safari, for example. However, you can choose which apps and features appear on your child's device and which ones don't. You can also manipulate the features in Game Centre to enhance your child's safety and privacy when playing games, as well as blocking iTunes or App Store purchases if you wish.





How to Restrict Built-in Apps/Features

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Allowed Apps (you may need to toggle this to 'on' at the top)
5. Enable or disable the apps you wish to appear(or disappear) on your child's device

How to Restrict Game Centre

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap Content Restrictions (you may need to switch the toggle at the top to the 'on' position)
5. Scroll down to Game Centre
6. Choose between Allow, Don't Allow, or Allow with Friends Only in the settings for each feature

How to Restrict iTunes & App Store Purchases

1. Open Settings
2. Tap Screen Time
3. Tap Content & Privacy Restrictions
4. Tap iTunes & App Store Purchases
5. Select Allow or Don't Allow for each feature (you can also lock these settings with a password)

National Online Safety®
www.nationalonlinesafety.com

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 22.09.2021

ASHFORD MUSLIM ASSOCIATION

iera SHARE ISLAM

EXHIBITION ISLAM

OPEN HOUSE & EXHIBITION ABOUT ISLAM

VISIT MY MOSQUE

Date: Saturday, October 4th, 2025
Timings: 09:00 AM – 07:00 PM
Venue: 79 Torrington Rd, Ashford Kent, TN23 7TG

Who Can Attend: We welcome everyone. Ladies, Gentlemen, Children. People from all faiths and No faith.

Exhibition about Islam.
Visit the Mosque.
VR Display.
Artifacts.
Models.
Poster Display.
Free Book stall.
Listening station
Brief interactive presentations.

Free Activities.

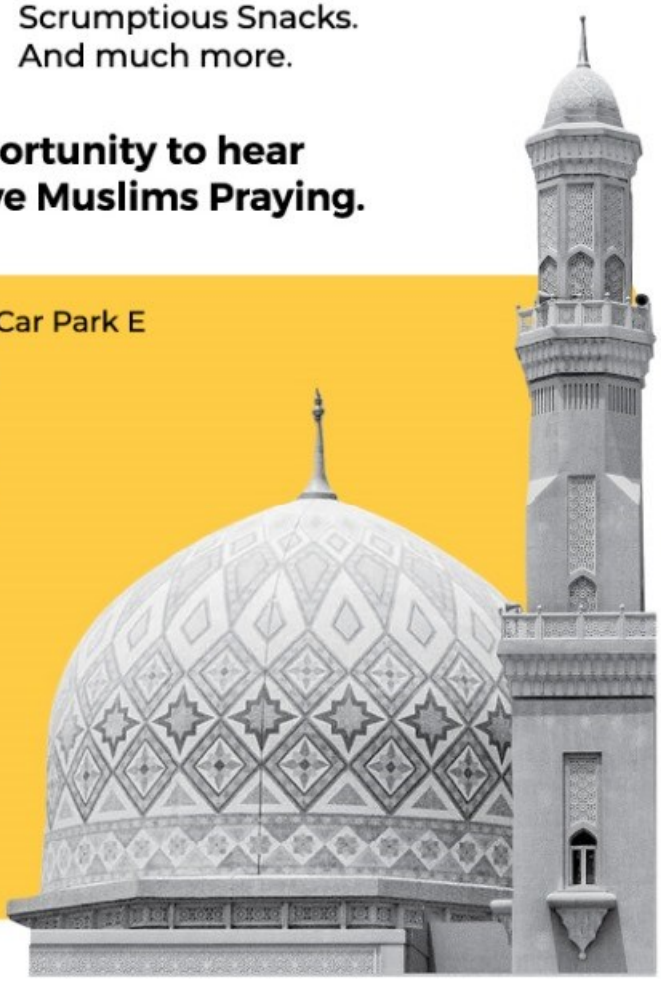
A translation of the Quran & Books for you to keep.
Kids' Corner.
Face Painting, Henna.
Tea/coffee & Scrumptious Snacks.
And much more.

Also includes an exclusive opportunity to hear the *'Call to Prayer'* and observe Muslims Praying.

Free parking at Ashford International Car Park E
(Designer outlet overflow Car Park E)
Vehicle registration is a must for free parking.

+44 7876766212 (Messages only)
education@ashfordmosque.org

For RSVP, please scan the ***QR code*** and fill in the form



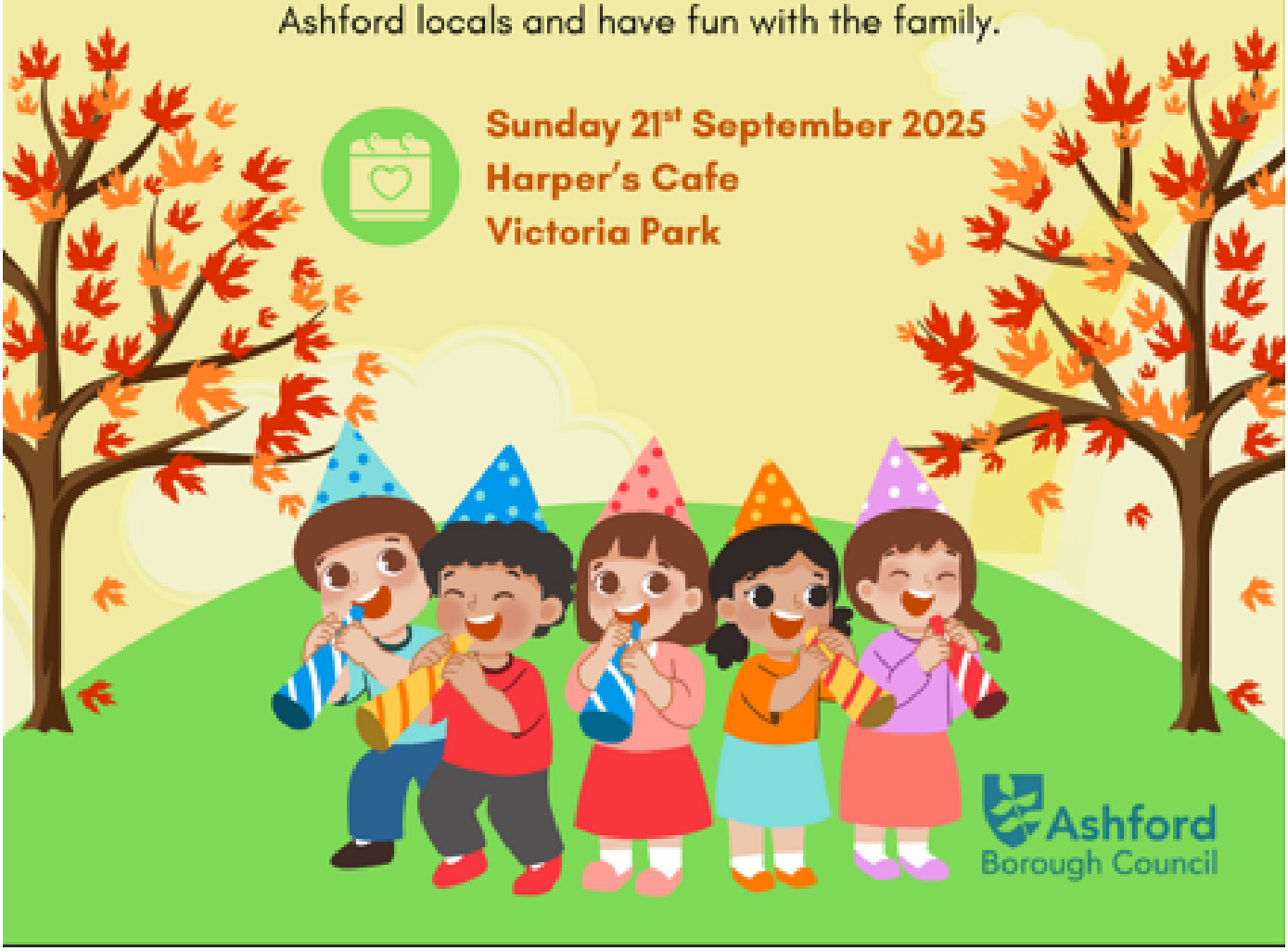
End of Summer

Party in the Park

FOOD | FACE PAINTING | PARTY GAMES

Join us for a lively party, filled with community spirit, laughter, and positive energy! It's a great opportunity to connect with other Ashford locals and have fun with the family.

Sunday 21st September 2025
Harper's Cafe
Victoria Park



Ashford Borough Council

HOLIDAY COURSE

OCTOBER HALF TERM

Fun, engaging, inclusive, safe football activity for Boys & Girls of all abilities, during the school holidays. Book now by scanning the QR code or using the below website and course code.

Course Code	Venue	Date
SS-LA-K-2	Leigh Academy TN9 2PH	21st-22nd October

Timings	Age	Cost
10.00-15.00	School Year 1-8	£72.00

chelseasoccerschools.co.uk

Childcare Vouchers welcome!
HOLIDAY CAMPS
BOOK NOW
TEAMTHEME KENT
Ofsted
Registered

SUPPORT FOR PARENTS/CARERS

We offer face-to-face and online support for parents/carers including...

- Webinars covering a range of topics
- Face-to-face workshops
- Therapy services - speech & language therapy, occupational therapy, counselling
- Outreach support such as de-escalation techniques to be used at home
- Help parents and carers support children with school anxiety

Scan the QR code for more information on our website

If you would like any further information please email:

rmsolutions@r-i-t.org

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