22nd May 2026 Newsletter

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

May	
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)
Wednesday 17th	**Bee Class Cycling Workshop**
Friday 19th	**Sports Day 9am (**choice 2 if choice 1 is cancelled**)**
Wednesday 24th	**Ladybird Class Cycling Workshop**
Saturday 27th	**12-4pm – Kennington Summer Fayre –** information about purchasing raffle tickets is below **–** The Friends of Downs View would welcome any helpers, for setting up and supporting on our stalls.
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 R children attend the celebration assemblies this week. This collaborative approach boosts self-esteem and motivation while fostering a strong sense of community and a lasting love of learning. The children were very proud to show you what they had been learning and it was great to see everyone getting involved.

Preparing your child for their next steps

Next term there will be many opportunities for your child to meet their new teachers and for year 2 to visit Kennington Academy. We appreciate moving to the next class can be daunting for some children and therefore we make a transition programme which will give opportunities for teachers to find out us much as possible about each child and begin to build relationships with them.

We hope you enjoy some family time together next week and look forward to welcoming your child back to school on Monday 1st June.

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.

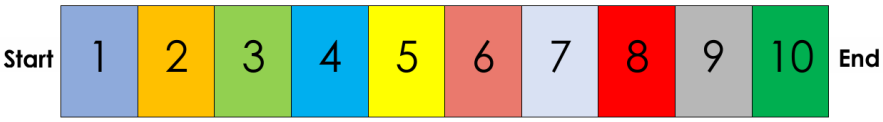
Class	Awarded to	Recognition
Bee	**Danny**	Being very creative this week and creating some amazing junk modelling
Bee	**Mylo**	His effort in reading and Phonics recently.
Ladybird	**Jack**	Showing amazing respect and safety when participating in a variety of games during P.E in preparation for sports day!
Ladybird	**Paige**	Showing amazing enthusiasm and participation during all teacher directed times.
Turtle	**Ariel**	Noticing links between counting in 2's and finding doubles in our maths lesson.
Turtle	**Sylvie**	Working really hard to notice the alternative graphemes in words when reading.
Dolphin	**Finley**	His hard work in his Maths all week. Finley has been showing respect to the class teacher and making sure, he is always ready to learn. Well done Finley!
Dolphin	**Riley**	Being ready to learn by trying hard in his guided reading all week. Riley is re-reading sentences in his book to increase his automaticity. Well done Riley!
Starfish	**Willow**	For being ready during a writing lesson and pointing out the alternate 'ou' in 'our', applying her phonics knowledge well.
Starfish	**Annabelle**	For being ready to learn and growing in confidence to share her ideas.
Snow Leopard	**Upendo**	For being ready to learn by demonstrating growing fluency in Maths.

Snow Leopard	**Joseph**	For being ready to learn by always challenging himself in phonics.
Penguin	**Xavier**	Always offering to help tidy up the classroom and get resources ready for learning. You are a superstar, Xavier!
Penguin	**Kyra**	Putting so much effort and enthusiasm into her learning! Kyra goes above and beyond in every lesson. Well done, Kyra!

Weekly Class Achievements and updates

EYFS

This week in our Maths learning we have been consolidating the order of numbers from 0-10. We used the Numberblocks, numerals and representations of each number and placed them in the correct order on a number track. We then used the number track to help us recall numbers that are more and fewer than a given number. Once we had consolidated the order of number, we used the number track to help us play a game. We rolled a dice numbered 1, 2 and 3 to see who could get to the other end of the track first. Over the holidays play some board games to help consolidate the order of number and moving along a track!



Year 1

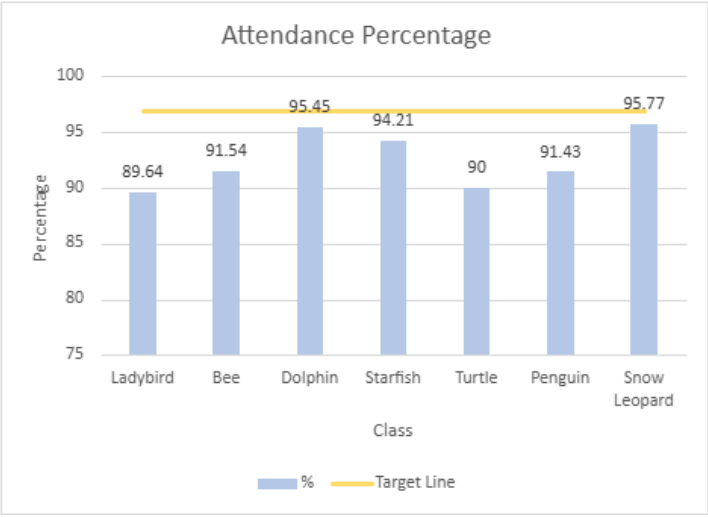
This week in Year 1 we have learnt about the difference between fruit and vegetables. We have learnt that fruits have seeds and start with a flower on the plant. Did you know a cucumber is actually a fruit? We then made smoothies with a fruit, vegetable and fruit juice in. We had to be careful to use equipment safely. Can you make a smoothie with your child? Can you discuss the health benefits of eating a range of fruit and vegetables?

Year 2

This week in English, we have been writing instructions on how to plant a sunflower. We have used time connectives, imperative (bossy) verbs and adverbs. Maybe we could have a go planting some at home.

Attendance

We have reached the end of **term 5** and our school attendance for this week is **92.44%**, which is nearly **5% lower** than last week. This week have been affected significantly by term time holiday.



Our **Attendance Bingo** has been awarded **22 times** this term, well done all.

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 **377 minutes** of learning has been lost, this is much higher than last week, hopefully we can improve this next term.

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.

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)

Kent Libraries and Archives

2026 is the National Year of Reading, and Kent Libraries is encouraging families to get a head start on summer reading by preparing early for the Summer Reading Challenge.

Families can join the library, borrow books, and enjoy free eBooks and audiobooks using the library's eLibrary apps. Getting started early helps children feel confident and excited about reading ahead of the summer holidays.

Libraries are great places to enjoy time together. Families can discover new books, take part in free events listed on the Kent Directory, and explore libraries online through virtual tours.

Parents can also join the Kent Libraries Book Chat Facebook group [https://www.facebook.com/groups/KentLibrariesBookChat/] and follow Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/KentLibrariesArchives/] and Instagram [https://www.instagram.com/kentlibraries/].

All you need to get started is a free library card.

Go all in and get a head start on summer reading at kent.gov.uk/libraries

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

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

GRACE
FELLOWSHIP

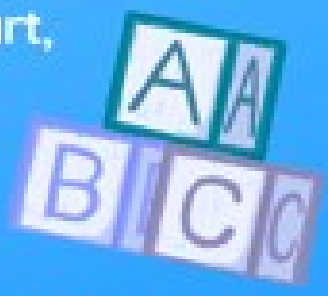
Free!

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

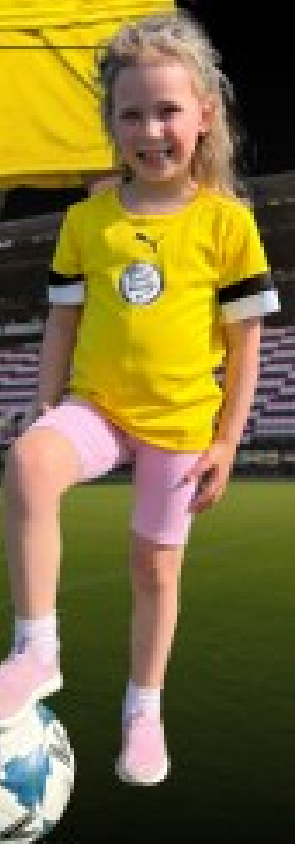
ALL SESSIONS TAKEN BY PREMIER LEAGUE ACADEMY COACH WILL ROURKE

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