6th March 2026 Newsletter

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

February	
March	
Tuesday 10th	**7pm - Friend of Downs View Meeting – Monthly meeting at The Old Mill, Canterbury Road –** parents/carers are invited to come along and join the Friends for a drink and help with ideas for their next fundraising events.
Wednesday 11th	• **Young Carer's Action Day –** Please see information below • **Mother's Day Sale –** further information below
Tuesday 17th	**Themed Lunch Menu – Around the World Brazil –** further information below
Friday 20th	• **Comic Relief -** further information to follow • **World Storytelling Day**
Monday 23rd	• **Book Fair -** in School Hall after school – there will be lots of different books that you can purchase (we can only accept cash payment for the books) • **World Maths Day**
Tuesday 24th	• **Book Fair -** in School Hall after school – there will be lots of different books that you can purchase (we can only accept cash payment for the books)
Wednesday 25th	• **Book Fair -** in School Hall after school - there will be lots of different books that you can purchase (we can only accept cash payment for the books)
April	
Wednesday 1st	**2.15pm - irock concert -** parents/carers of children who attend these sessions are welcome to attend.
Thursday 2nd	**Last Day of Term**
Monday 20th	**Children return to school start of Term 5**

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.

Well what a fantastic week, where we have celebrated Book week. World Book day yesterday was a particular highlight both children and staff got into the spirit by dressing up as a favourite character or wearing their pyjamas and sharing their favourite book. There has been a variety of different activities across the week, including the Readathon, visual Literacy, story swap and the competition to design a superhero for a new story book. The children really have had a great week, exploring and appreciating the gift of reading! Thank you to Mrs Smith and Miss Stanley for organising such a fantastic week!

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	**Freya**	Consistently showing all the values particularly for always being one of the first to be ready for teacher time.
Bee	**Ollie**	Continuously demonstrating all the school value particularly being respectful to his friends and teacher.
Ladybird	**Elizabeth**	Being ready to learn in maths by being able to recall which number was more and which was fewer.
Ladybird	**Rijker**	Demonstrating readiness to learn during our reading sessions which has enabled Rijker to read with confidence and fluency.
Turtle	**Mateusz**	Brilliant contributions to our lesson about Henry Rousseau.
Turtle	**Avantica**	Showing kindness to others in the classroom and around the school.
Dolphin	**Lucas**	His amazing effort in PE this week. Displaying his readiness to learn by listening to the class teachers and working hard with his partner to develop his throwing and catching skills. Well done Lucas!
Dolphin	**Elsie**	Showing amazing respect all week to her peers. Elise saw a friend who was feeling sad and stayed by their side until they felt happy again. Well done Elsie!

Starfish	**Tito**	Being respectful and always bringing in the chairs after play time.
Starfish	**Lexi**	Being ready to learn in phonics this week.
Snow Leopard	**Finn**	Being ready to give new things a go and showing resilience in learning
Snow Leopard	**William**	Being ready to learn and subitising numbers in Maths.
Penguin	**Kataleja**	For writing an incredible dragon story using powerful adjectives and a range of punctuation.
Penguin	**Freddie**	For working hard in Maths to make different amounts using coins and notes.

Weekly Class Achievements and updates

EYFS

This week in our math's learning we have been looking at the ordinality of numbers (considering where numbers to 8 are in relation to each other). We have been encouraging the children to develop their own mental number line, as well as the ability to understand which number is more or less than another. To help consolidate this try playing some track games at home and ask the following questions:

Who has rolled more on the dice?

Who mas moved the most?

Who has landed on the largest number?

How many more do I need to roll to get to the finish line?

Year 1

What a busy week we have had in school this week! We have been celebrating world book week and completed fun activities each day to inspire us to read more books and continue our love of reading. Some of these activities included designing our own superhero character, thinking of a cool superhero name and what special powers they behold. We have also had fun completing the readathon challenge and telling our teachers what books we have read at home each day. World book day was so much fun and we loved dressing up in our costumes and telling our friends which book character we have dressed up as. Alongside fun book week activities we have been enjoying the lovely weather that Spring has bought our way. While out enjoying the sunshine, we had lots of fun practicing our throwing and catching skills in PE. We first practiced an underarm throw with a beanbag and then with a tennis ball. Could you practice this skill more at home? We have also continued to develop our knowledge of addition with numbers to 20 using the 'counting on' method (for example 15 + 3, I count on from 15 to find the answer is 18).

We can't wait for another fun-filled week next week and we hope the sunshine is here to stay!

Year 2
This week Year 2 have been making amounts and comparing money in Maths. We have added different amounts and compared amounts using the language more, less and equal to. Ask us how many different ways we can make 26p.

World Book Week Competition – Design a Superhero
The children were very innovative with their designs for their Superhero characters and it was extremely tricky to choose the winners. Well done to those children listed below, they have all received a book token that they can use to choose a book at the book fair in a couple of weeks' time.

Ladybird - Isabelle

Bee - Gabriel

Turtle - Theodora

Starfish - Willow

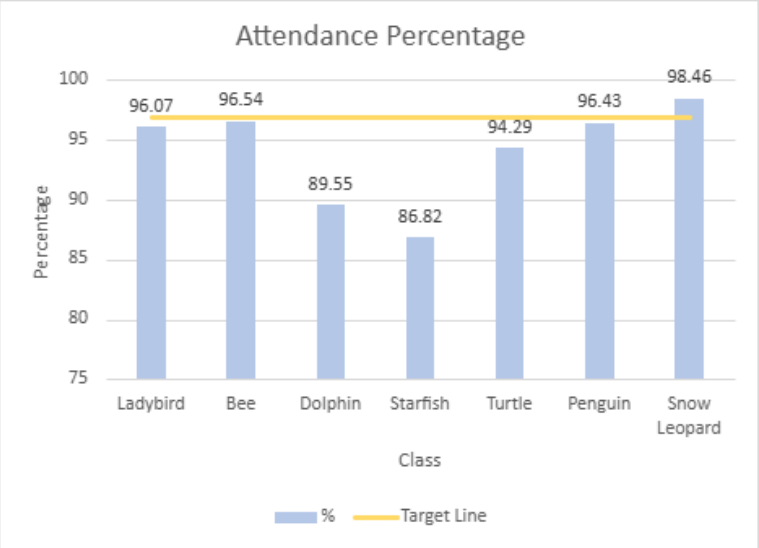
Dolphin - Megan

Penguin - Kataleja

Snow Leopard - Bella

World Book Day Token and Book Fair Information on Monday 23rd until Wednesday 25th March.
There will be the opportunity to purchase books from £2.99 (cash only) in the hall straight after school. All children received a £1 World Book Token this week, this token can be used at the book fair. The school receives commission for every book purchased which will be used to purchase more books for class libraries and share together books for home. We will only be able to accept cash payments at the book fair

Attendance



Our school attendance for this week is **94.3%,** which is nearly **3%** lower than last week.

This week's attendance has been significantly affected by illness.

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 **172** minutes of learning has been lost, this is double the lost learning time of last 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.

Term Dates 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)

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 are celebrating mother's day

Gifts will be availble for the children to buy on **Wednesday 11th March** in school.

Buy online via the QR code or send £3.50 cash in with the below form

Childs Name..... Class.....

I have enclosed £3.50 for the sale to celebrate Mother's Day.
Please return money to the office by Monday 9th March at the latest.
Thank you

Friends of Downs View - £26 for 2026 – Sponsored Activity/Challenge – Just a reminder that sponsored forms are due back in by 27 March.

£26 for 2026

Sponsored Challenge!

Every pupil is invited to join in with this sponsored activity. The idea is simple: children aim to raise up to £26 by asking friends and family to sponsor them – parents, carers, grandparents, aunties, uncles, neighbours... anyone who'll cheer them on!

Any donation is very welcome (more than £26 is amazing too!), but there's absolutely no pressure – we know not everyone can reach £26, especially families with siblings in school, and that's totally fine.

All the money raised goes straight back into school to fund things that make pupils' school experience even better.

Activities could include things like baking, sponsored walk, scoring goals, chores at home, tidying gardens, or even a sponsored silence!
The fun part? Try to include 26 in the challenge – for example: 26 star jumps, 26 cakes baked, 26 keepy-uppies.

All sponsorship forms (sent home with pupils) and money needs to be in by 27th March 2026.

Thank you so much for joining in the fun – we really appreciate it!

Young Carers Action Day

Wednesday 11th March 2026

#fairfuturesforyoungcarers

We support young carers to reach their full potential in education, training and employment to ensure a brighter future!

CARERS TRUST

www.imago.community

Football Camp for 4 – 12 year-olds this Easter break

Here's an opportunity to sign your child up for a few days of active fun during the Easter break with Premier Football School. PFS are running a football camp for boys and girls aged 4 - 12 and welcomes all abilities. This activity camp will run from Monday 13th – Wednesday 15th April at Ashford Independent School. Parents simply drop-off at 10.00am and pick up at 3.30pm. The fee is just £13 per day and children receive a trophy to take home! Children play in groups according to their age and ability in a fun and safe environment. To reserve a place or find out more, visit www.premierfootballschool.co.uk or contact 07821 573837 / premierfootballschool@gmail.com.

Now showing, CONFIDENCE!

Drama, dance & singing classes
designed to help 4–12 year olds shine

❝ My son has adored his first term at Perform. He has blossomed and I've seen his confidence grow every week.❞
Pippa Wotton

PERFORM
WATCH YOUR CHILD SHINE

Play is a POWERFUL THING

Perform classes help boost children's **confidence, concentration, coordination** and **communication** skills, as well as being lots of fun.

Our expertly designed drama, dance and singing sessions for 4-7s and 7-12s are run by experienced teachers, hand-picked for their warmth and approachability. They'll be with your child every step of the way – inspiring and encouraging them to develop vital life skills as they discover the joy of performing.

What does Perform offer?

- Performing arts-based games and exercises
- Focus on a different social skill each week
- Small classes and feedback on your child's progress
- Specially created scripts, videos and apps
- End of term presentation for family and friends

❝ Perform helps develop all key areas of a child in a fun, supportive and engaging way. It gives my daughter a brilliant sense of fun, community, purpose and pride in her achievements.❞
Begum Bari

Ready to try for free?

Your child's first class is free, so why not give it a go? Classes take place all over, have a look online or call us:

perform.org.uk/try 020 7255 9120

Your Space
THERAPIES
Secure attachments
Robust learners • Building futures

www.yourspacetherapies.org

Easter Holiday Mindfulness Pony Day for Kids!

Dates: Thursday 2nd April and Friday 10th April
Time: 9.30am- 2pm
Location: Hill Crest Farm, Horsham

Join us for a magical day of ponies, riding, art, friendship, and mindfulness!

What to Expect:

Mindfulness Time with Ponies

Pony Care

Riding and Mounted Games

Connect with Arts and Nature

Make New Friends

Click the links or scan the QR code to book the day of your choice:

Thursday 2nd April- Mindfulness Pony Day- Book Now!

Friday 10th April- Mindfulness Pony Day- Book Now!

Cost: £140 per child

BY PURCHASING A TICKET VIA EVENTBRITE, YOU ARE PAYING £40 DEPOSIT. YOU WILL BE INVOICED VIA EMAIL FOR THE OUTSTANDING AMOUNT ON 27th MARCH.

Spaces limited to 10 children per day

We are an inclusive team and warmly welcome children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We celebrate diversity and are committed to providing a supportive environment where every child can thrive.