5th September 2025 Newsletter

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

September	
Monday 8th	**Welcome to our New Year R children –** they will be joining us for either morning or afternoon sessions this week
Monday 15th	Reception children stay for morning and lunch until 1.30pm
Tuesday 16th	Reception children stay for morning and lunch until 1.30pm
Wednesday 17th	Reception children start full days – 8.40am – 3.10pm (gates close at 8.40am)
Friday 26th	School Nursing Team conducting Health Screening for Year R children – further information will be sent to parents/carers via parentmail
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.

Other key events for the year ahead have been sent via Parentmail.

Your views, compliments or suggestions…….

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

Welcome back to Year 1 and 2 families.

It has been lovely to see the children back in school with smiles and having fun with their friends.
They are adapting well to their new classrooms and beginning to build relationships with the new adults in their class.

Thank you to all staff who have worked hard during the summer break to get everything ready for the new year and term.

Awards/School Value and Behaviour System
This week we have sent you information about our new values and behaviour system. As part of the changes we are no longer having individual awards each week but will be celebrating what the class as a 'whole' have received recognition for from the adults in the class. Each class will be celebrated in assembly on a Monday and each class' achievement will be shared with you in the newsletter on a Friday. This will start from next week.
The children will continue to have the opportunity to have lunch with Mrs Collins or Miss Stanley during the year, throughtout the year all children will have a turn.

Current Vacancies
Downs View Infant School is looking to recruit a temporary cleaner to cover staff absence. This position will be fixed term until December 18th 2025 however this will be reviewed and the contract may be extended.
The hours of work are 4pm – 6.30pm Monday to 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 by Friday 12th September.

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 of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

12 Top Tips for BUILDING CYBER RESILIENCE AT HOME

As a society, we're increasingly using technology and tech services in the home. Digital assistants which can adjust the heating or turn lights on and off; streaming services for shows and movies on demand; games consoles; smart speakers; phones; laptops ... the list goes on. As we introduce each new gizmo to our homes, however, we increase the level of threat from cyber criminals. It's essential, therefore, that we learn to become more cyber resilient in relation to the devices and digital services that the people in our household use.

WHAT IS 'CYBER RESILIENCE?'

*Cyber resilience focuses on three key areas: reducing the **likelihood** of a cyber attack gaining access to our accounts, devices or data; reducing the potential **impact** of a cyber incident; and making the **recovery** from a cyber attack easier, should we ever fall victim to one.*

1. PASSWORDS: LONGER AND LESS PREDICTABLE

The longer, less common and predictable a password is, the more difficult it becomes for cyber criminals to crack. The National Cyber Security Centre's 'three random words' guidelines are ideal for creating a long password which is easy to remember but hard to guess.

2. AVOID RE-USING PASSWORDS

When you use the same password across different logins, your cyber resilience is only as strong as the security of the weakest site or service you've signed up for. If cyber criminals gain access your username and password for one site or service, they'll definitely try them on others.

3. USE A PASSWORD MANAGER

A good way to juggle different passwords for every site or service you use is to have a password manager. This software stores all your passwords for you, so you simply need to remember the master password. LastPass, Dashlane, 1Password and Keeper are all excellent password managers.

4. BACK UP YOUR DATA

Keep a copy of your data using OneDrive, Google Drive or another reputable cloud-based storage solution. If it's extremely important or sensitive information, you could even decide to keep more than one back-up version – by saving it to a removable USB drive or similar device, for example.

5. ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication is where you need access to your phone (to receive a code, for example) or another source to confirm your identity. This makes it far more difficult for cyber criminals to gain entry to your accounts and your data, even if they *do* manage to get your username and password.

6. CHOOSE RECOVERY QUESTIONS WISELY

Some services let you set 'recovery questions' – such as your birthplace or a pet's name – in case you forget your password. Take care not to use information you might have mentioned (or are likely to in future) on social media. More unpredictable answers make cyber criminals' task far harder.

7. SET UP SECONDARY ACCOUNTS

Some services provide the facility to add secondary accounts, phone numbers and so on to help with potentially recovering your account. Make sure you set these up: they will be vital if you're having trouble logging in or if you're trying to take back control of your account after a cyber attack.

8. KEEP HAVING FUN WITH TECH

Consider our tips in relation to the gadgets and online services your household uses. Protect yourself and your family, and don't let the bad guys win: devices are not only integral to modern life but also a lot of fun – so as long as you keep safety and security in mind, don't stop enjoying your tech.

9. CHECK FOR BREACHES

You can check if your personal information has been involved in any known data breaches by entering your email address at www.haveibeenpwned.com (yes, that spelling *is* correct!). It's useful if you're worried about a possible attack – or simply as motivation to review your account security.

10. CHANGE DEFAULT IOT PASSWORDS

Devices from the 'Internet of Things' (IoT), such as 'smart' home appliances, are often supplied with default passwords. This makes them quicker to set up, but also less secure – criminals can identify these standard passwords more easily, so change them on your IoT devices as soon as possible.

11. KEEP HOME DEVICES UPDATED

Download official software updates for your household's mobile phones, laptops, consoles and other internet-enabled devices regularly. Security improvements and fixes are a key feature of these updates – so by ensuring each device is running the latest version, you're making them more secure.

12. STAY SCEPTICAL

Cyber criminals commonly use various methods, including emails, text messages and social media posts. Be cautious of any messages or posts that are out of the ordinary, offer something too good to be true or emphasise urgency – even if they appear to come from someone you know.

Meet Our Expert

Gary Henderson is the Director of IT at a large boarding school in the UK, having previously taught in schools and colleges in Britain and the Middle East. With a particular interest in digital citizenship and cyber security, he believes it is essential that adults and children alike become more aware of the risks associated with technology, as well as the many benefits.

Source: www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/top-tips-for-staying-secure-online/three-random-word | https://haveibeenpwned.com

National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.01.2023

WINGS & WHEELS WEEKEND 2025

| 13TH AND 14TH SEPTEMBER | 10AM TO 4PM |

RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM CT12 5DF

Climb in the Cockpits

RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM

CHARITY NUMBER: 1179982

Fire Engine Rides

Loads of Vehicles

Tank Rides

Museum Entry

NO NEED TO BOOK

USUAL MUSEUM ADMISSION PRICES APPLY | RIDE ADMISSION SEPARATE

info@rafmanston.co.uk www.rafmanston.co.uk

What Three Words - remarried.mornings.pave

Refreshments available

Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including, but not limited to, weather conditions, mechanical breakdowns and shortage of volunteers and/or exhibitors.

Story Garden

THE READING AGENCY Summer Reading Challenge

Delivered in partnership with libraries

Complete the Summer Reading Challenge and enter our competition to win an iPad!

This year, children who earn their Story Garden medal and certificate are eligible to enter our competition for the chance to **win an iPad or book tokens!**

Talk to your local library team to find out more and to enter the competition.

By giving permission for your child to enter this competition you are accepting the terms and conditions, and agree to be contacted by Kent Libraries. Alternative formats available, full terms and conditions online at **bit.ly/KentLibrariesStoryGardenCompetitionTandCs**

OverDrive Libby. Kent Libraries

Kent County Council kent.gov.uk

Summer Reading Challenge illustrations by Sapa Adebisi, and logo artwork © The Reading Agency 2025

EAT WELL, SPEND LESS & WELLBEING ROADSHOW

PROVIDING YOU WITH RESOURCES, SUPPORT AND OPPORTUNITIES TO THRIVE IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIVING

NEXT ROADSHOW

Phoenix Community Primary School

Belmont Road, Kennington, Ashford, TN24 9LS

Wednesday 10th September 2025

10.30am – 3.30pm

- **FREE** NHS health checks
- **FREE** fresh fruit & veg, food and hygiene items
- **FREE** financial, housing, benefits, health and safeguarding advice from Ashford Borough Council and local organisations

www.ashford.gov.uk/ewslwr

EAT WELL SPEND LESS & WELLBEING ROADSHOW

Funded by UK Government

NHS Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

The Hygiene Bank

Ashford Borough Council

FareShare fighting hunger, tackling food waste

NHS

Premier Foods

KENNINGTON JUNIORS FC

Saturday Morning Football Coaching - Invite to all Children in School Year Groups 1-5

Kennington Juniors Football Club are again offering the following Football Training sessions, to all children within the Ashford community.

School Year 1 Group - 08.30 - 09.35
School Year 2 Group - 09.45 - 10.50
School Year 3-5 Group - 11.00 - 12.05

A fully qualified Coach, with appropriate Child Welfare certification, will manage the sessions

Cost per session will be £6.00 cash, payable prior to the start of the session.

Sessions will take place every **Saturday Morning, commencing Saturday 13th September 2025,** to be held at the Ashford Hockey Club, Ball Lane, Kennington TN25 4EB.

KJFC ask that your Child wears Football Boots and Shin Pads to each session. The Club will not stop your Child participating if they are not wearing these items, the responsibility / accountability, standing entirely with the Parent/Carer.

If you require any further details, please contact Graham Jordan - Mobile 07934349666 or email him at **g.jordan439@btinternet.com**