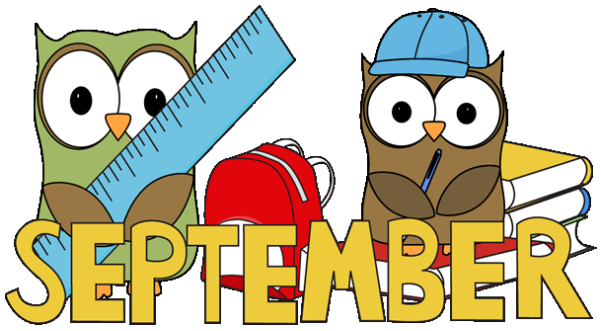
Ready, Respectful, Safe

Challenge for this week!



How many Miss Stanley's can you find in the

11th September 2026 Newsletter

Please find us on instagram and facebook:

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

September	
Monday 14th	Reception children 1st full week at school
Tuesday 15th	8.40-9am - Year 2 – Year group talks and Q&A with teachers – parents and carers from Year 2 are invited to attend – this will take place in the school hall.
Thursday 17th	8.40-9am - Year 1 – Year group talks and Q&A with teachers – parents and carers from Year 1 are invited to attend – this will take place in the school hall.
Wednesday 30th	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. 2.45pm OPAL Stay and Play presentation in school hall for new parents 3.10pm – 3.45pm OPAL Stay and Play in playground for all parents/carers and children
October	
Monday 19th	Parent Consultation Meetings – All classes
Wednesday 21st	Parent Consultation Meetings – All classes except Penguin
Thursday 22nd	Parent Consultation Meetings – Penguin class only
Half Term Friday 23rd October until Monday 2nd November (inclusive)	

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.

Message from Miss Stanley!

What a wonderful start to a new chapter at Downs View!

As I begin my journey as Head of School, I have spent this first full week soaking up the sights, sounds and spirit of our school community. It has been such a pleasure to welcome children and families through the gates each morning and to see the excitement and smiles as everyone settles back into school life.

A particularly special moment for me has been watching our children discover their new playground areas. There has been so much curiosity, creativity and joy as they explore, invent games, take little risks and, most importantly, play together. Our OPAL playtimes have been amazing this week, and it has been wonderful to see the children making the most of the opportunities available to them. There is something very special about hearing the playground filled with laughter, conversation and imaginative play.

It has also been a big week for our youngest children. Our Reception children took the exciting step of completing their very first full day on Friday — what an achievement! They have already made such a positive start, and we are incredibly proud of how confidently they are beginning to find their feet.

For our children in Years 1 and 2, it has been fantastic to see them return with such enthusiasm. Walking around school and seeing children engrossed in their learning, reconnecting with friends and becoming reacquainted with routines has been a wonderful introduction to Downs View for me.

I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new families. We are delighted that you are now part of our school community, and I hope that you already feel the warmth and welcome that makes Downs View such a special place.

Although we are only at the beginning of the school year, there is already a real sense of energy, possibility and togetherness. I am so excited about the year ahead and feel incredibly lucky to be starting this journey alongside our wonderful children, families and staff.

Here's to a brilliant year of learning, playing, growing and belonging together.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

Message from Mrs Godsell

What a warm welcome I have received to the Downs View family this term! It has been lovely meeting more of our families at the gate and saying hello to those I already know from the other side of the road! Most of all, it has been a joy getting to meet the children. Having led through-primary schools before Kennington it is joy to be working with younger children again. They never fail to bring a smile with their enthusiasm and love of learning.

Miss Stanley and I will be writing to you next week with more information around the new-look Senior Leadership Team at Downs View, but in the meantime, please do say hello if you see me at the gate!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Godsell

Executive Headteacher

New additions to our school this year

Enhancements to our nurture space, this room is called Tree tops

Our sensory space

Our new curriculum room called The Discovery room

Cleaning
History

Ready, Respectful, Safe

Special Achievements

We are pleased to celebrate with you special achievements made this week. One children from each class have been recognised for doing something that has demonstrated one or more than one of our school values. The new reception children are busy settling in so will be added to the special achievement list in a couple of weeks.

Class	Awarded to	Recognition
Dolphin	**Rijker**	Being ready for Year 1 by following our school values all week and being an excellent role mode to his peers. Well done Rijker!
Starfish	**Daisy**	For being an amazing role model by showing that she is ready, respectful and safe.
Snow Leopard	**Florence**	Always being ready for learning and respectful to her environment, peers and teachers.
Penguin	**Heidi**	For consistently showing she is ready to learn and being a positive role model for others.

Weekly Class Achievements and updates

EYFS

We have really enjoyed meeting you all this week and can't thank you enough for your support, encouragement and patience as your child has entered into school. We have been really focusing in on routines this week. The children have all been doing so well and we are hoping that they are using some of the phrases and songs we have been reciting in school especially 'Choose it, use it, put it away!'. We have been trying super hard to use our listening ears during all times of the day but particularly during our phonic sessions. Why not use our phonic scheme Little Wandle parent section to help your child listen and respond to some familiar nursery rhymes whilst at home.
https://www.littlewandle.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabNurseryRhymesVideos

Please also remember to keep checking on Tapestry for any updates and wow moments and don't forget you can add wow moments from home too that we can share with your child in school.

Year 1

What a wonderful first week we have had in Year 1! The children have settled beautifully into their new routines and environments, and it has been lovely to see them making new friendships. In Maths, we have been busy sorting objects in lots of different ways, including by colour, shape and size. Can your child find some objects around the house and sort them into groups? You could sort toys, socks, buttons, cutlery or anything else you can find! We are so proud of how well the children have settled and we can't wait for a fun-filled year of learning, laughter and adventures ahead!

Year 2

We have had a lovely start to the new academic year in Year 2. It has been so lovely to have the children back in school and hear about their summer holidays. The children are enjoying their new classrooms and the hard work that all staff have put into making these exciting for them. In Maths we have recapped numbers to 20 and the ordinality of these numbers. Can your child practice writing their numbers to 20, ensuring correct number formation and place value e.g 20 not 02. We can't wait for next week!

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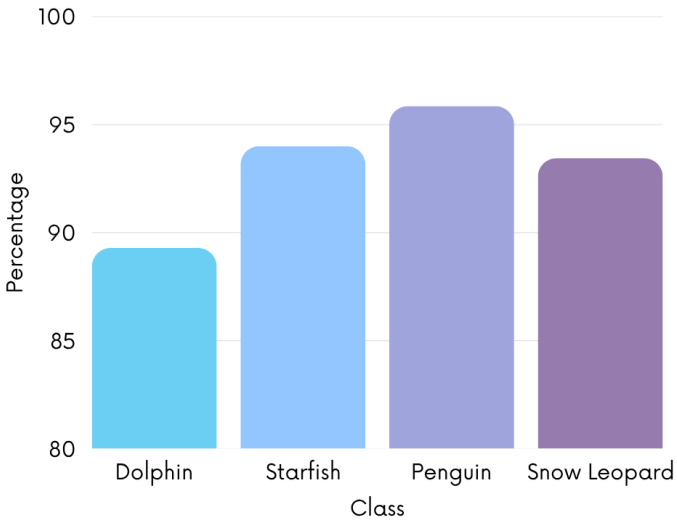
Weekly Attendance



It has been wonderful to welcome our Year 1 and Year 2 families back for their first full week of the new school year. This week's attendance was 93.2%, and we would like to thank families for their support in helping children arrive at school every day, ready to learn.

We are excited to welcome our Reception children for their first full week with us next week. Let's work together to build strong attendance habits from the very start and see if we can get closer to our attendance target of 96%. Every day in school counts and makes a difference to children's learning. ⭐

AQUILA
Diocese of Canterbury
Academies Trust