



2nd October 2020 Newsletter

October	
Wednesday 7th	Individual School Photographs in the mobile. Sibling photos of children at Downs View will also be taken
Thursday 15th	Friends Annual General Meeting (AGM) 7.30pm. Details below. We are looking for new parents to join the Friends team. This is also an opportunity to hear about the fundraising held last year and monies raised and spent.
Wednesday 21st	Birthday assembly for children who have a birthday in October. This will be a virtual assembly in school led by Mrs Kent.
Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd	Training days – school closed to children
Half Term Monday 26th October –Friday 30th October	
November	
Tuesday 3rd and Thursday 5th	3.30- 6.30pm Virtual parent consultation meetings will be held with your child's class teacher. Further details will follow nearer the time.
Wednesday 4th	Parent Open Sessions 10am & 1.30pm for prospective Reception at Downs View and prospective Year 3 parent/carers at Kennington
Monday 23rd	Parent Open Sessions 10am & 1.30pm for prospective Reception at Downs View and year 3 parent/carers at Kennington

	<i>Weekly school attendance</i>	<i>Days missed across the school this week</i>	<i>Best class attendance for the week</i>	<i>Overall attendance for the year</i>
	98.07%	27.5	Polar Bear 100%	97.96

We are so pleased that our attendance this week is outstanding. We appreciate that it is difficult to know whether to send your child into school or not and hope that the guidance below and recent poster with a flow chart will give you some advice to help you make a decision.

	 Reading Champion	 Star of the week	 Active Award	 Star Table	 Walk on Wednesday Feet on Friday
Mrs Kent will hold a virtual celebration assembly on the Monday following the announcement of these awards in the newsletter and stickers/badges and star table event will be given out and take place on a Monday					
	Joselyn	Naomi	William Olivia	Joselyn	Raniesha
	Harrison	Kevin	Olivia Charlie	Abrianna	Chloey
	Oliver	Kiara	Jacob Amelia	Rowan	Georgia
	Tia	Mia	Tiffany Reuben	Haniya	Bella
	Gracie	Josh	Jacob Tegan	Tegan	Leo
	Emma	Teddie	Jaxson Inara	Teddie	Noah
	Freddie	Quinn	Chase Naya	Lucia	Charlie L
	Elizabeth	Dominique	Oscar Farah	Austin	Albert
	Maguire	Darcie	Finlay S Henry	Yameena	George P

Bonus Coin Winner of the Week – Dolphins

What we have been learning.....

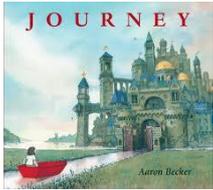
EYFS



This week in EYFS we have been continuing to listen to sounds both in the environment, sounds of animals and objects and creating our own sounds using our voices. We have also been reciting different nursery rhymes to support us with listening, responding appropriately and identifying words that rhyme. Please sing

some familiar rhymes at home as this will continue to support us with the teaching of phonics within school. We have been reading lots of new stories and familiar stories and been encouraging the children to use their recall and prediction skills throughout. In our maths learning this week we have been learning to match and sort objects according to a given and our own criteria i.e. colour, shape and size. Have a go at this at home with their favourite toys. We have also been continuing to learn the names of the other children within our class and supporting each other to remember the rules of the classroom and school.

Year 1



This week in Year 1 we were amazed to find a door painted on the side of one of our buildings. We were excited to find out what it was and why it was there. This led us into learning about the story of "The Journey". We are looking forward to exploring this book more next week. In Maths we have been learning one more and one less. We have also practised showing this using cubes and on a numberline. In phonics this week we have been continuing to practise our phase 3 digraphs. Don't forget you can access the videos Miss Thorogood did for these on our Facebook page and on our website. We had a super Geography morning on Wednesday where we learnt about the weather and seasons. The children enjoyed a whole range of exploring activities including, testing materials in wind (using a fan) and rain (the water tray). For our life skills this week we have been practising being polite. The children had a lovely tea party where they practised saying please and thank you as well as discussing other ideas about how to be polite. We hope they keep this up at home for you!

Year 2



This week in Year 2 we have been inspired by the story 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. We started off by tasting various chocolate bars to see how they can be different. We then generated adjectives to describe the chocolate bars. We designed our own brand new chocolate bar thinking about the coating, topping, layers and base. Using the plan we then wrote an advert persuading people to buy our chocolate bars. Within maths we have continued to discuss the place value of 2 digit numbers and have compared and ordered numbers. We have started to practise counting in 2s. In RE we have discussed special places to us and linked this to special places for Muslims. We talked about the significance of the prayer mat, water and Qur'an stand. Within PSHE we discussed positive play and how to resolve arguments with our friends.

Communication with your child's class teacher

We realise it is hard to adjust to not speaking to your child's teacher daily at the class door. This is a measure to keep you and staff safe. We still want to ensure that you know we are here to listen and support you as required. Mrs Kent, Mrs Collins and Sam are found on the gates daily if you need to seek advice or pass on a message. You can also contact the school office via telephone or email- 01233 632339 and office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk. In addition we will be setting up an email address for each class so that you can contact your child's teacher directly. These details will be shared soon.

Absence – reminder



If your child is poorly and unable to come to school, please ensure that you inform the office via telephone on our attendance line or via Parentmail. This should be done before school on the first day of absence. Please be aware that we will call you if we haven't heard from you or may even come to your home as we have a duty of care to ensure that all children who are absent from school are safe and accounted for. If you have taken your child to the doctors it is useful to get an appointment

card as proof of this. Remember we can administer prescribed medication so if your child is feeling better but needs medicine, this can be brought to the office and administered as necessary. If you are unsure whether your child can come to school, please call the office and somebody will be able to advise you. Our attendance leaflet has been sent out for further information. Thank you for your support.

Further advice regarding Coronavirus self-isolation and Covid-19 symptoms is contained within the letter below from NHS Track and Trace.

Thank you

We appreciate your support in only one adult being on site for drop off and collection. This was part of our initial risk assessment and guidance for school re-opening to keep your child, you and staff safe. This helps with social distancing and limits the amount of adult traffic on site which in turn reduces the risk of germs being spread. I appreciate that wider family members enjoy coming to collect the children but I am sure you appreciate the safety reasons for us stopping

Harvest Festival Donations



This week we are focusing on harvest and what this means to people in the uk and around the world. Although we cannot hold our normal collective assembly we will still be celebrating this as a school family this week. If you would like to make a donation (non perishable food items/toiletries) to our harvest festival offering this would be appreciated. There will be a donation box situated outside the school office daily until Friday 9th October. The harvest donations are much appreciated across our community and we would like to thank you in advance for your help.

Thousand Hours



Monday is the beginning of this years Thousand Hours challenge. The challenge runs throughout the whole of October and into the beginning of November and is about completing kind actions towards each other in school, at home and in the wider community. Last year we managed to collect over a 100 hours of kindness and are hoping that this year we can do even better! Each week we will be focusing on a different area of kindness.

Week 1 5th October - School Kindness (Kindness that we do around school)

Week 2 12th October - Community Kindness (Kindness that we show to the environment and our neighbours)

Week 3 19th October - Family Kindness (Kindness that we show to family and friends)

Week 4 2nd November- Ninja Kindness (Kindness that we do when no one knows we have done it)

Week 5 9th November - Self Kindness (Shapes how we see, treat and feel about ourselves)

We will be adding up the acts of kindness the children do at school but you can help at home too. If your child completes a kind act at home please write it down and send it in with your child or take a photograph of them completing the kind act and send to office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk .We will then be able to add these kind acts in too. Have fun collecting hours and we will share with you some of the acts of kindness we have seen!

The Friends of Downs View AGM Thursday 15th October – Virtual Meeting

We are holding our AGM on Thursday 15th October 2020 and we are looking for volunteers to help run the Friends of Downs View. The Friends of Downs View are very proactive in raising funds for the projects that the school cannot fund through their limited budget.

If you or a friend would be interested in helping your school, please let the school office know and someone will contact you prior to the AGM or alternatively you can email the friends on friendsofdownsview@gmail.com. If you are unable to attend the AGM but would still like to volunteer, we can facilitate a written nomination.

Also if you would like to speak to someone for more information about the Friends and what is involved, please either email the Friends on 'friendsofdownsview@gmail.com' or leave a message at the school office and we will call you back.

All levels of commitment appreciated.

Baby News

We are pleased to tell you that Mrs Garton is expecting a baby in February 2021. As you can imagine she is over the moon as we all are but she is aware that she must be extra careful and ensure that government guidelines are followed rigorously to keep her and her baby safe. I am sure that many of you will want to congratulate her but please can I ask that you respect social distancing and avoid face to face contact with Mrs Garton unless absolutely necessary.



Flu Nasal Spray Immunisation

A parent mail has been sent home with details on how to register your child for the Flu Nasal Immunisation, which will be taking place in school on 3rd November 2020. Please remember to sign up if you would like your child to receive this.

Do you have a child in Year R-6. The Immunisation team will be attending (Downs View Infant School) on (03/11/2020) to give the FLU nasal sprays. The online consent portal is available online at <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/forms/imms-consent-form/> until 31/10/2020. Don't forget to record your consent or refusal for your child's FLU vaccine. Please use the school URN number(118523) to access the form.

Change in Weather



The colder, wetter weather is unfortunately here. Can we please ask that children bring a coat into school **every day**, as the children will still go outside during the school day.

Individual School Photographs



Vancols photography will be in school on Wednesday 7th October to take individual school photographs. The company have produced a video to reassure parents/carers of their covid-19 protocol and the link to this video is below. If you **would not** like your child's photograph to be taken please ensure you inform the school office.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPXeOo70FUA&feature=youtu.be>

Christmas Card Design



The Friends of Downs View sent a letter home last week with information from a company that are able to produce Christmas Cards with your child's design on. If you would like to participate in this all the information regarding ordering and payment are detailed in the letter. Completed designs and orders can be dropped off at the school office from 12th October until 16th October.

Relief Cleaner Vacancy

We have a position available for a relief cleaner to cover staff sickness and absence. There may be times when you are called upon at short notice within this role. The daily hours are from 3pm-5.15pm as and when required. If you are interested in this position please contact Emma Letchford, Business Manager either via email 'office@downs-view.kent.sch.uk' or telephone the office on 01233 632339.



Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We also have a position available for a Midday Supervisor everyday from 11.35am-1pm. If you would like an application form please contact the school office. Applications close at 10am on Monday 5th October with interview on Tuesday 6th October.

Prospective Parents/Carers and Year 2 Parents/Carers

We will be holding prospective parents/carers tours of the school in line with government guideline in November, details of dates and times are above. If you would like to book a place please contact the school office, spaces will be limited. As we are an Infant School, once your child finishes in year 2 they will move on to Kennington Academy or another school. There is an admission process which parents need to go through to secure a place for year 3 which involves completing an application form on line and submitting this by January. Kennington will also be hosting tours on 4th and 23rd November. You can apply online for a place for year 3 from **5th November** until **15th January 2021**.

Applications open online
5 November 2020

Starting at primary
school

Do you have a child born between
1 Sept 2016 and 31 Aug 2017?

Apply for their place at primary school at:
kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

The full information booklet can be viewed online at: kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions
If you require a paper application form or information booklet call 03000 41 21 21

You must submit one application per child **before 15 Jan 2021**

