



# Downton Church of England VA Primary School

Gravel Close, Downton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 3LZ

Telephone: 01725 510556

Email: [admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk) Website: [www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Paula Carlton BA (Hons) QTS NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Bates BSC PGCE QTS



Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Families,

It has been lovely to once again have our parents in school this week. This week seems to be a whole week of restarting old traditions and new meetings. Just one more step towards making even more memories as a whole school community. Thank you all for bearing with us.



### Buddies

It was lovely to be able to reintroduce our buddy system this week after so long, buddying up our Reception children with our Year 6 children. The Year 6 children love the responsibility for looking after their buddy and spending time with them, particularly at lunch times. This week they got to know each other, reading stories – it really was wonderful, a very special meeting.



### Worship Council

On Monday, Worship Council (supported by Katy), resumed their whole school responsibilities, starting with leading our morning worship. It was lovely to see them reminding children of our values and sharing the film created by last year's Worship Council. Please take a look - it really is special. <https://downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk/news/the-parable-of-the-mustard-seed>

### Year 6 football friendly

On Monday, a team of our Year 6 boys took part in our first friendly match at Alderbury Primary School. Although they did not win, they showed great determination and teamwork and it was great to have the opportunity to take part in sport against another school again after so long. Well done, we are very proud of you all!



## Prefects

We are delighted to share that our Year 6 children have once again been given prefect responsibilities. This includes helping in the school office as well as with other tasks around the school. This means that the school office will now be manned by two Year 6 prefects every lunchtime from 12:00-12:30 (an adult is there for support). Part of their prefect duties involve answering the telephone and taking messages. It has been lovely to see them grow into these responsible pupils.



## Parent View Questionnaire

Earlier this week we invited you to take part in our Parent View Questionnaire. Your views are important to us, and inform our strategic planning process. As part of our ongoing commitment to provide your children with the best education possible, we would ask you to complete our annual Parent View Questionnaire using the link below by **midday on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October**.

<https://forms.office.com/r/3Pf27LjSwV>



## Year 2 Phonics Meeting

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Year 2 Phonics Meeting this week – we hope you found the meeting informative. If you were unable to attend, or would like to revisit what was covered, this can now be viewed on our website under the Phonics section via this link: <https://downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk/reading-phonics>

# Phonics

## DT lessons in KS1

This week during DT, our KS1 children designed fruit skewers, colour coding their work so they knew which colour represented which fruit. Many of them creating a repeating pattern within their design. They then used their designs to create fruit skewers to enjoy for their morning snack!



## Year 5 visit - Wessex Rivers Trust

As part of Year 5's learning about Lifecycles, Amy Ellis from Wessex River Trust visited Year 5 this week. During the visit she explained the lifecycle of a river invertebrate (mayfly) and river vertebrate (salmon). Children were amazed to see the details of mayfly eyes, the alien bodies of damselfly nymphs and the speedy freshwater shrimp, through a microscope. As well as having great fun playing the salmon lifecycle game too! Thank you once again to Mrs Ellis for her inspirational workshop – our children really enjoyed the visit.







### Labelling Uniform

Recently we have started to see an increase of misplaced items, and more concerning uniform that is not labelled. This does make it difficult to return lost items to their rightful owner. Please could you ensure that all items of your child's uniform are clearly labelled so they can be easily reunited with them should they be lost within school. Our DPSA currently receive commission from orders places for nametags via [www.mynametags.com](http://www.mynametags.com) where you can buy and personalise nametags in a variety of designs – simply put in the school ID of 31441 when processing your order.

### Open Evening and Open Morning

We are delighted to share with you the dates of our upcoming Open Evening and Open Morning. Our Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at 6pm and our Open Morning will take place on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November with 3 time slots available. For further information, please check our Facebook page or follow this link to our website: <https://downton-pri.wilts.sch.uk/admissions>



The above photographs show our current Reception children happy in their learning. They are already in school full time and attending whole school assemblies. We are proud of them all.

### Messages from the DPSA

Our DPSA are busy preparing for Christmas and need your help. Traditions such as the secret present room and extravaganza are only successful with your support.

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October, there will be a Rainbow themed Dress Down Day. Children are to come to school wearing their favourite rainbow colour (or colours!) in exchange for a donation of chocolate or wine for the Christmas Extravaganza tombola's. This is a full dress down day so no uniform is required.

The DPSA are also looking for donations for the ever popular Secret Present Room which is due to start at the beginning of December. If you have anything you can donate, please bring to the school office.

Have a relaxing weekend.

*Paula Carlton*

Paula Carlton



FRIDAY 8TH OCTOBER  DPSA  
Downton Primary School Association  
Registered Charity No. 1072002



 DPSA  
Downton Primary School Association  
Registered Charity No. 1072002

Please drop any donations to the school office - thank you!

