



DOWNSWAY SCHOOL NEWS

FEBRUARY 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

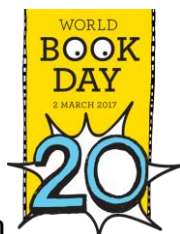
It was lovely to see so many of you in school before half-term so that we could share how well your children are doing with their learning. We are very grateful for all the support you give them with their learning at home – it really makes a difference!

We worked really hard with the children during our Road Safety week, but as the results of our questionnaire showed there continue to be issues around driving and parking behaviours in and around the school at pick-up and drop off times. The number of complaints from local residents has also risen. We have been in contact with the Council and the Police who are providing active support.

As you can see we have many exciting events in the weeks ahead – and I look forward to sharing them with you and your children.

Best wishes

Sarah Lewis



World Book Day Thursday 2nd March

World Book Day takes place next week on Thursday 2nd March 2017. It would be great if your child could dress up as their favourite book character on the day. Your child will receive a £1 World Book Day Book Token.

We are asking for the children to bring a £1 donation on the day to donate to the charity BookAid International, who every year sends up to one million brand new books to Africa so that children and young people can discover the joy of reading.



FAMILY DISCO Sat 4th March 3.30-5pm

Come along and join in with the fun at Downs Way School. Refreshments provided. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Thanks to the Friends for organising this.



BOOK FAIR 6th, 7th, 8th & 9th March

We're really excited to be holding another **Book Fair**. It will follow World Book Day running from Monday 6th – Thursday 9th March 2017 after school in the Cabin.



CAKE SALE Fri 10th March

Seahorses Class will be holding a fundraising cake sale after school.

Year 2 trip Thurs 16th Mar

Whales & Dolphins will be visiting the National Gallery in London. As they are catching an early train, please have your child in school by 8.45am



RED NOSE DAY Friday 24th March

To help raise money for Comic Relief please wear something red on Friday 24th March and bring in a donation of £1 or more.

We will be selling red noses in school for £1 each two weeks before Red Nose Day. We will also be holding a Cake sale after school. Please bring in cakes & biscuits to the Cabin before school on the Friday. If you are able to help with the cake stall please let Ms Chaudhri or The Friends know.



Class Photos Tuesday 28th March

Tempest Photography will be in school in the morning to take a photo of each class. Please ensure that your child is in correct school uniform. 😊



EASTER ASSEMBLY Friday 31st March 9.15am

Please join us for our Easter Assembly on Friday 31st March. We will be holding our traditional children's Easter Bonnet Parade. We have had some fantastic designs in the past so put your creative talents to work and help your child create a bonnet.

The parade will be followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the children, organised by the Friends of Downs Way.

Road Safety Week



At the end of **Road Safety Week**, on Friday 10th February, Angelfish and Starfish enjoyed a walk to Master Park. The children were incredibly sensible and able to put all their road safety learning into practice, thinking carefully about 'Stop, Look, and Listen'.

Parent/Carer Parking

Parking near schools is always difficult, however this can never be an excuse for illegal and reckless driving and parking. We have a collective responsibility for the care of the children in our community – and currently their lives are being put at risk! We have had a number of complaints recently from local residents about inconsiderate parking. Residents will be passing details of or taking photos of inconsiderately parked vehicles.

Downs Way School will be starting the practice of taking in the number plates of cars driving and parking dangerously or anti-socially at school drop off and pick up times, as reported to us by parents and local residents. We will publish these in our newsletters and report them to the police. The types of behaviour witnessed so far this term, which would be reported and published are:

- Stopping and dropping off at the school gates.
- Parking in the turning bay indicated by the 'Keep Clear' notice on the road surface.
- Turning into the school car park (please note this car park is a private car park for staff only).
- Blocking the driveways of neighbours.
- Parking on corners.
- Leaving litter including cigarette butts on the ground.

If you have been doing these things – then stop! If you have seen these things – then tell us! If you live within a 20 minute walk of school and have no other school run – then walk!



Second Poppy Appeal

We collected £113.35 from selling poppies at School. Thank you for your support.



Fostering Recruitment

The Fostering Team at Surrey County Council have emailed us asking for our help and support in recruiting more foster carers within the Local Authority. If you are interested please contact the School Office.



Spare Clothing

In infant schools 'accidents' can happen. Please help us by ensuring that your child has a spare set of named clothing in a bag in school so we are ready for any eventuality!



Absences

If your child is unwell or is going to be late to school for any reason, please ring or email the Office **BEFORE** 9:15am to let us know the reason for your child's absence.

Newsletter by Email

If you have received this Newsletter as a paper copy and you would prefer to receive it by email please email the Office to let them know office@downs-way.surrey.sch.uk

DOWNNS WAY SPRING TERM 2017 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day (Dress up as a book character)
Saturday 4 th March	Family Disco 3.30 – 5.00pm
Monday 6 th – Thursday 9 th March	Book Fair in Cabin – After school
Thursday 16 th March	Year 2 trip to The National Gallery
2 weeks commencing 13 th March	Sale of red noses for Comic Relief
Friday 24 th March	Cake sale and dressing in red for Comic Relief
Tuesday 28 th March	Class photos
Friday 31 st March	9.15am Easter Assembly, parents welcome

Term Dates for 2017

Spring Term 2017

Term Dates	Wednesday 4 January to Friday 10 February
HALF TERM	Saturday 11 February to Sunday 19 February
Term Dates	Monday 20 February to Friday 31 March
Easter Holiday	Saturday 1 April to Monday 17 April

Summer Term 2017

Term Dates	Tuesday 18 April to Friday 26 May
MAY DAY HOLIDAY	Monday 1 May
HALF TERM	Saturday 27 May to Sunday 4 June
INSET DAY	Monday 5 June
Term Dates	Tuesday 6 June to Friday 21 July
Summer Holiday	Saturday 22 July to Sunday 3 September

Academic year 2017/2018

Autumn term 2017

Start of term	Half term	End of term
4 September 2017	23 October–27 October 2017	21 December 2017

Spring term 2018

Start of term	Half term	End of term
4 January 2018	12 February–16 February 2018	29 March 2018

Summer term 2018

Start of term	Half term	End of term
16 April 2018	28 May–1 June 2018	23 July 2018

(5 INSET dates to be allocated)