



Downham Preparatory School and Montessori Nursery

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Newsletter to Preparatory & Nursery School Parents – Tuesday 23rd January 2024

UPCOMING DIARY DATES

Wednesday 24th January

Class 5 Parents' Evening (4:00pm)

Monday 29th January

Chinese New Year Assembly

Other Parents' Evenings

Thursday 1st February

Class 4 4:00pm onwards

Tuesday 6th February

Class 3 4:00pm onwards

Wednesday 28th February

Class KS1 4:00pm onwards

Nursery Parents' Meetings

Friday 8th March

Miss Richardson 1:30pm onwards

Friday 15th March

Mrs Hmaied 1:30pm onwards

Friday 22nd March

Miss Stannard 1:30pm onwards

Parents' Evenings

Please note that Prep School Parents' evenings all start at **4:00pm**. There may still be some dates on calendars that show 4:15pm. We apologise for any confusion.

Google Calendar

We have been working closely with a member from the Friends of Downham Prep to improve communication between school and parents. As part of this, one step has been to introduce Google Calendar.

This will allow you to add it to your own devices and easily see events that are happening in school. We will provide dates, reminder notifications and information about what may be required for specific events.

This is a working document and will be updated all the time.

Please use this link if you have an Android or Google phone, or if you are using a computer: -

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=6e4c485bfb5bf1e8cb3e021bd38c4e6786d0eba84c19ff00141eb3fe4757de2d%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Europe%2FLondon>

Please use this link if you have an Apple iPhone: -

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/6e4c485bfb5bf1e8cb3e021bd38c4e6786d0eba84c19ff00141eb3fe4757de2d%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>

Newsletters

Until now, we have been sending the weekly Newsletter via email as a PDF attachment. We are looking at a better way of doing this. In the meantime, if you wish to look at any Newsletter from the past 3 or 4 weeks, you can always read them on our school website, under Parents/Essential Information/School Newsletter: -

<https://www.downhamprep.co.uk/parents/essential-information/>

Staff Training

Miss Lovick (Nursery) has recently completed 2 Webinar training sessions - Communication & Language for 2024 and Personal, Social & Emotional Development for 2024. She has also completed the Department for Education Module 6 Mathematics online course for Early Years.

House Points

We like to reward the children for good work, behaviour and other achievements and give them house points. We keep a tally of all the results. We have now introduced a further individual incentive, with special certificates to be awarded in Monday Assemblies – Bronze for 25 points, Silver for 50 points, Gold for 75 points and Platinum for 100 points.

Homework

Please ensure that your child returns their completed homework on the correct day. Please encourage your child to put their returned homework in the correct Teacher's box. If a box is missing, it means the teacher has already taken it to their classroom. Please then ask your child to take their homework to that classroom and put it on the teacher's desk. Thank you.

Cross-Country Report - by Mr Lane

The 4th race of the Ryston Runners Cross Country Grand Prix season took place at Shouldham Warren on Sunday 14th January.

First home for us in the Under 9 Girls' race was Freya, in her highest ever finishing position of 14th. She smashed 26 seconds off her previous fastest time, to finish in 4 mins 31 seconds. Frankie was 17th in 4.46; Violet was 23rd in 5.50; and one place behind her was Isabella in 6.02.

Once again it was a close battle between the two boys in their Under 9's race. This time, however, Benjamin got the better of Archie. Benjamin finished 16th in 3.48 and Archie was 17th in 3.53.

Our sole competitor in the Under 11's races was Ezra, who completed in his highest ever finishing position of 7th, in a time of 10 mins 21 seconds.

Well done to everybody who came and braved the chilly temperatures.

The penultimate event of the season is on Sunday 11th February. We look forward to maybe seeing a few more next time?

Sports Report

Unfortunately, our U11 Football match against the Glebe school last Friday was cancelled, due to the bad weather – the pitch was frozen! We are hoping to reschedule the match later this term.