



# Downe Primary School Weekly Newsletter



Week ending  
29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## DIARY DATES

Date	Event
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Oak to Pizza Express, St Mark's Square
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	BREAK UP FOR 2 WEEK HALF TERM
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET DAY
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Children back to school
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Sycamore to The Golden Hinde
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	10am Oak to Cinema- INTO film festival
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evening 3.30-630pm
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	10am Willow and Sycamore to cinema- INTO Film Festival
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evening 3.30-630pm
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Oak to Science Museum
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	8pm- FDS Quiz Night
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Child In Need- more information to follow
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	E Safety Talk with Miss Dolan at 3.30pm
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December-	Christmas Crafts Day in school
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	FDS Christmas Fair- 1-4pm
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	6pm- FREE Family Christmas Dinner in school
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Willow and Sycamore Nativity Show to parents @1.30pm
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Willow and Sycamore Nativity Show to parents @9.30am
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Film Night from 3.30pm- Film to be confirmed
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	12.30pm Whole School Pantomime trip to Fairfield Halls- collection time TBC
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm School Breaks up for Christmas

### A message from Miss Dolan

What a fantastic start of term we have had. The well needed refurbishments to the school have provided us with a learning environment we can all be extremely proud of as a community.

The children have come back to school full of life and eager to learn. Our new reception children have been welcomed by everyone and are settling in beautifully with the help of the older children.

We have a term full of exciting events and activities for all to get involved in so please have a read of these on this newsletter. Newsletters will now be monthly and all other updates/important information via dojo.

### Head Pupils and School Council

Last week, our candidates spoke to the school about how they would support Miss. Dolan with changes to make Downe Primary an even better place to be. A big well done to Betsi, Maisie, Ellie, Zac, James and Rocco who did themselves proud. The whole school cast 2 votes each and these have now been counted and verified!



### Our Head pupils this year are ... Maisie and Rocco

School council representatives were voted for by their classes. Our representatives for the year are:

- Sycamore- Olivia and Boo
- Oak- Poppy C, Clara, Max and Louie
- Cedar- Alexander and Isabelle

Our next School Council meeting will be on Monday.

**Second-hand Uniform and Fancy Dress Sale**  
This will be held in the hall on Thursday 12th October 3.20pm

**We break up for October half term on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October and have 2 weeks off. Children return to school on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.**

**We encourage healthy snacks in school at morning break time. Please refrain from sending in crisps and chocolate biscuits.**



**Sunday 8th October 2023  
2pm to 4pm  
in Downe Village Hall**

**Come along and join us for:**

- \*The Great Downe Apple Bake-off
- \*Local Stalls
- \*Apple and Cider tasting
- \*Downe Art Group display in Church
- \*Kids Activities
- \*Music

Friends of Downe Orchard

### Open Mornings for New Reception 2024

We are delighted to already have over 15 families booked in to our open days. Please encourage any friends and families to get in touch if they are looking for spaces for their children. We would love to show them around. Spreading the good word really helps and a big thank you to those who already have!



## Safeguarding focus



# WhatsApp safety guide for parents



**16+**

WhatsApp's  
minimum age  
in the UK

**58%**






Kids aged 3-17  
who use  
WhatsApp

**37%**

Kids under 13  
who use  
WhatsApp



## 5 tips to keep kids safe on WhatsApp

-  **1 Review privacy settings** WhatsApp has a range of privacy and security settings to keep users safe. Customise groups, app access, live location and more.
-  **2 Customise contacts** Show your child how to report and block unwanted contacts. Then, work with them to add their friends and family. Review and talk about their contacts regularly.
-  **3 Talk about personal information** Make sure your child understands what personal information is. Talk about the importance of keeping that information private on WhatsApp.
-  **4 Show them where to get support** If something goes wrong or they see something worrying on WhatsApp, make sure they know to come to you, and talk about other sources of support.
-  **5 Check in regularly** Once you've done all of the above, check in with them regularly to review settings and how they use WhatsApp.



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