



The Downley School

"Learning, Growing and Succeeding Together"

March 2023



Head Teacher's Comment

This term has been extremely busy, the children and staff have maintained the momentum from the autumn term. It has been wonderful to see the everyone really settled and striving forward with their learning. In exciting news, we have now completed the necessary updates to the outdoor learning areas and hope to restart our forest school provision imminently! More news soon ...

As we reached the second half of this term, we have been working closely with the ODBST and Miss Dandridge to ensure that the school has a smooth transition from our leadership. It has been key for us that the progress the school has made to date continues and the positivity that has grown throughout this school year is maintained.

We all know that change is difficult and can be unsettling, however, are certain that the community will continue to stand together and move forward.

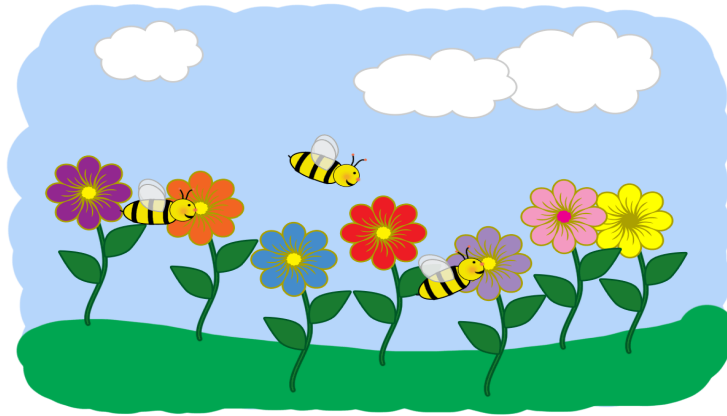
As this month's value is kindness, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents, staff and pupils for the kindness they have shown us during our time at the school. We have grown fond of The Downley School community.

We are looking forward to seeing how the school continues to flourish and hopefully finding ways where both TDS and GKCS can work together in the future.

Next week marks our last week in school and although we have only been here a short time, a lot has been achieved and we will miss the whole school community.

Miss Garlick and Mrs Best

Reception



March has been an interesting month, with Spring on our minds we were not expecting snow! The children and teachers had lots of fun running, twirling, and laughing in the snow fall and we even got lucky enough to have a snowball fight! We have enjoyed being able to play some football and 'shoot some hoops' with the basketball hoop. We have enjoyed immersing ourselves through role play with our themes of doctors/nurses, emergency services (police, firefighters, and paramedics), postal workers and people who help us at school.

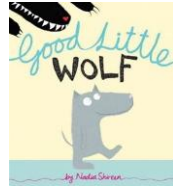
We were able to use our newly found writing skills and phonics to write Mother's Day cards and even our invitations to our Spring celebration. Listening to the children read and identify words and phonics sounds is an absolute pleasure!

In maths we have covered bonds to 10, subtraction within 10 and even patterns! It's been a busy maths month and the children have loved exploring these topics.

We would like to wish you a wonderful Easter break and we will see in the term!

Year 1

English – We have been reading *Good Little Wolf* by author-illustrator Nadia Shireen. It has been great discussing traditional stories with wolves in them and exploring the ‘typical’ character of a wolf. The children have been encouraged to think about alternative words for ‘good’, ‘bad’, ‘big’ and ‘little’ and they have also been thinking about what the characters might be feeling at certain times in the story.



Here is our ‘grow the code’ chart for Year 1. Remember to encourage your child to practise their graphemes over the holidays as two weeks without phonics is a long break.

Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5										Grow the code grapheme mat Phase 2, 3 and 5									
s	t	p	n	m	d	g	c	r	h	ai	ee	igh	oa	oo	yoo	oo	ar		
ss	tt	pp	nn	mm	dd	gg	ck	rr		ay	ea	ie	o	ue	ue	u	a		
c			kn	mb			cc	wr		a	e	i	o-e	u-e	u				
ce			gn				ch			a-e	e-e	i-e	ou	ew	u-e				
ce										igh	ie	y	ow	ou	ew				
st										ey	y			ui					
sc										ea	ey								
b	f	l	j	v	w	x	y	z	qu	or	ur	ow	oi	ear	zh				
bb	ff	ll	jj	vv	ww			zz		aw	er	ou	oy	ere	su				
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		al	ge					se		aur	or			ear					
								ze		oor									
ch	sh	th	ng	nk	a	e	i	o	u	al									
tch	ch				ea	y	a	o-e	ou	ore									
ture	ti																		
ssi	si																		
ci																			

Maths – We have been learning about weight and length in our maths lessons and have now started to learn about time. Over the holidays, perhaps you could keep a diary of things you do and send this in to for your child to share in order to consolidate the language used to talk about time.

Unit 17

Time

In this unit we will ...

- Say if things happen before or after
- Use a calendar
- Tell time to the hour and the half hour
- Compare time
- Solve time word problems

This is a calendar. Can you use it to find how many days are in a week?

We will need some maths words. You may know some of these.

before after yesterday
today tomorrow day week
slower faster month year
calendar date minute hand
hour hand o'clock half past
second minute hour

There are lots of different types of clock. Do all of these show the same time?

Science – After the Easter break, we will be learning about plants. It would be great if you could talk about the plants, you see whilst out and about, you could even take some photos and send them in using the Class Dojo.

Thank you so much for your support with our fundraising events this half term. We are all looking forward to the summer term and wish all our children and their families a fantastic Easter break!

From the Year 1 Team

Year 2

This past month has been a busy one. We have experienced World Book Day, Mufti to raise money for the Turkey earthquake and Red Nose Day where the Year 2's kindly made sweet cones which were sold to contribute towards comic relief, in addition to a lot of learning.

In English, we have been looking at what makes up an instruction and how to write our own. We then put our words into action by making our very own cheese or cucumber sandwiches which were delicious! We have also been looking at the art of persuasion and what this means. We are looking at how to write letters of persuasion within the context of conservation and sustainability based on the book *The Last Wolf* by Mini Grey. Our learners are writing their own letters detailing why we must not cut down the trees and providing reasoning as to why they are important.

In mathematics, we have covered the units; 'Properties of Shape', 'Length and Height' and now we are currently covering 'Fractions'. Our learners have been able to practically explore the properties of shape using physical resources which they were able to manipulate and learn from. When covering length and height, our learners were able to make use of a clear day where we went outside and used our metre sticks to measure objects that were below a metre, above a metre and exactly a metre. Within fractions we have begun to demonstrate equal and unequal parts by folding pieces of paper to create a visual representation.

In science, we have started our new topic 'Animals and their Habitats' which relates to our upcoming field trip. We have been looking at what animals need to survive and how their habitats have aided in their evolution and survival. We have made penguin masks to bring out our inner animal and we have touched on categorising as we sorted different animals into different habitats.

In PSHE, we have been looking at 'Safety and the Changing Body'. In this topic we have looked at internet safety and how to safely communicate online, secrets and surprises, appropriate contact and respecting boundaries. We designed our own pants while listening to the PANTS song which has now become a Year 2 favourite. Additionally, we have also had the chance to draw our invisible (but still important) personal boundary lines around ourselves which we then described to each other so that we can help ourselves and others understand that everyone's boundaries are different.

In Geography, we have started the topic 'Why is our world wonderful?' by looking at features and characteristics of the UK. We have covered the countries that make up the UK and their capital cities. Additionally, we have also looked at the difference between physical and human features and some examples that we can find within the UK. This prompted some very interesting discussions about what we have seen and where we have been.

The Year 2 team thanks you for your continuous support.

Kindly

Year 2

Year 3



Year 3 enjoyed dressing up and taking part in World Book Day activities. 3H have also created their own class library whilst we wait for our new library to be finished.

We would like to thank everyone who donated books to our Comic relief book stall. We'd also like to thank those who supported us and left a donation in exchange for a book. We managed to raise at over £80 in cash and we also had some online donations.



This term we have been enjoying studying light in science. In this picture you can see some of our World Book Day characters investigating how light travels in straight lines. We have made silhouettes of each other and tried to make light travel around corners using mirrors!

Year 4

Dear Parents/Carers

We can't believe how quickly this half-term has gone but Year 4 have still had lots of fun memories whilst learning. A big thank you for everyone's support and contributions during our fund-raising activities this term too!

We have worked hard on our maths unit on fractions, mixed number and fractions of quantities and been polishing our grammar skills with a focus on accurate use of commas and punctuation when using direct speech.

In science, we have enjoyed experimenting with melting food and looking at the water cycle. In DT, we have touched on adapting a recipe using our cooking skills. In music we enjoyed developing our composition skills and conducting a weather report in French and Newsround report discussed the importance of fair trade in Geography. In computing we have looked at computational thinking.

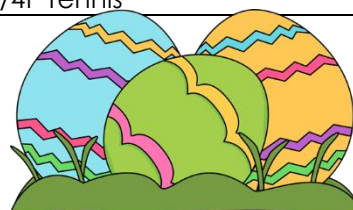
4F have thoroughly enjoyed going swimming this term and made fantastic progress wherever their starting point. However, particular congratulations to those who were not confident at all, who have developed a very important life skill. 4D will be going on Wed pm in place of their 2nd PE lesson from next term – just a reminder to wear PE kits on swim days as it will make changing easier.



	Summer 1 – Topic Overview
Maths	Decimals, Money, Time, Geometry
Writing	Clockwork
Reading	Great Women Who Saved the Planet
Science	Sound
Computing	Data handling
History	The Vikings
Geography	
RE/PSHE	Religious Buildings/Safety & Changing Body/Citizenship/Economic Wellbeing
French	Food
Art/DT	Textiles – fastenings
Music/Drama	Samba & Carnival Music/Values
Games/PE	Premier – Cricket/ 4D Swimming/4F Tennis

Have an eggcellent Easter break!

Mr Dollemore and Mrs Fyfe



Year 5

It's been another busy month for Year 5.

We really enjoyed our anti-bullying workshop, which helped us to understand the importance of being calm, confident, and brave when standing up for ourselves. We also thought about this further in our PSHE lessons where we have talked about the choices that we have as we grow up and the influences that surround these choices.



It has also been a month to think about other people, with raising money for those affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria and baking for Comic Relief. In English we are also looking at the impact our rubbish has on our environment and in Geography the devastating effects of plastic in our oceans. We even got to read our letters complaining about a local 'poison pool' to one of the local parish councillors, Mr Biggs, to see what impact our persuasive writing has.



Lastly, we have been making motorised 'Doodlers in DT'. We used our knowledge of electric circuits and investigated counterweights to create a toy that made just the right amount of mess!



Dinner table discussion:

Who has the biggest influence over the decisions we make right now? Will this change as I get older?

The Year 5 Team



WYCOMBE HOMELESS CONNECTION

THANK YOU!

MARCH 2023

NAOMI, RUBY AND HOLLY
"BUSK AND BAKE"

£213

YOUR SUPPORT HELPS:

- Stop homelessness before it starts.
- Reduce the harm homelessness causes.
- Help house people who are homeless.
- Defend the rights of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

James Boulton, CEO

Reg. charity no.: 1156211



01494 447699
contact@wyhoc.org.uk
www.wyhoc.org.uk

Year 6

March has been a busy month for Year 6 the children have been working super hard in all their subjects and we are very excited about our upcoming residential trip to Green Park.

This month in maths, we have been solving algebraic equations and writing formulae and finding patterns using algebra. This is an advanced and tricky topic for Year 6, but the children are enjoying the challenge and learning new skills.

In our English lessons we have been reading, 'The Explorer', by Katherine Rundell. This book is about a group of children who get stranded in the Amazon Rainforest. We have enjoyed researching the different sections of the rainforest and the different animals that live there. The children used this information to write non-chronological reports about the layers of the rainforest. Also, the children have been writing instructions on how to build a den to help keep us safe for if we ever found ourselves lost in the rainforest.

For Red Nose Day this year, Year 6 decided that we would take part in a sponsored run, skip, jog, walk etc. around the school field to help raise money. The children did a fantastic job and helped raise a lot of money for a very good cause!

Opportunities to Discover

FREE

**Easter
HAF CAMPS**

WK1 3RD, 4TH, 5TH APRIL

WK2 11TH, 12TH, 13TH APRIL

10AM - 2.00PM
CHILDREN 5-12 YEARS OLD.
FREE TO ALL CHILDREN ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS.* PROOF MAYBE REQUIRED.

BOOKING: Please email community@hwrufc.com
LOCATION: High Wycombe RFC, 181 Kingsmead Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1JB

Powered by
**Community
Group**



EASTER HOLIDAY CAMPS

**MULTI-SPORTS HOLIDAY CAMPS
@ HAMILTON ACADEMY,
HAMPDEN ROAD SITE. HP13 6SX**

**EASTER WEEK 2
TUE 11 APR – FRI 14 APR**

**TIMING: 9.00AM-3.00
WHO FOR: RECEPTION TO YEAR 6**

COST:
ALL 4-DAYS | £90.00
CHOOSE 3-DAYS | £75.00
CHOOSE 2-DAYS | £55.00
CHOOSE 1-DAY | £30.00

BOOKING INFORMATION:
WWW.2BACTIVE.COM
(CLICK 'WHAT WE OFFER',
THEN HIT 'HOLIDAY CAMPS')

CONTACT:
CHRIS@2BACTIVE.COM
ADAM@AJDFOOTBALLCOACHING.COM

UPCOMING CAMPS...

**MAY HALF TERM
30 MAY-02 JUN**

**SUMMER '23
FROM 31 JUL
TBC**

**YOU ARE ALL
WELCOME TO ALSO
COME & JOIN US IN
WEEK 1 OF EASTER**

**@ NAPHILL &
WALTERS ASH
SCHOOL**

**MON 03 APR –
THU 06 APR**

ZKT EASTER STREET DANCE WORKSHOPS!

ZKT 'Dance in a Day' workshops are back for the Easter holidays! Come and join us for a day of dancing to all the best pop stars and Disney hits!

High Wycombe (The Downley Community Centre)

- Tuesday 11th April

AGES 4 - 12 / 10AM - 3PM / £32 PER DAY



**FOR MORE INFO, EMAIL US AT
ZKTDANCEACADEMY@GMAIL.COM**





Click on the link below to read the magazine :-

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/highwycombe/spring2023/>

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YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR DATES RIGHT UP UNTIL 14 DAYS* BEFORE YOUR BOOKING BEGINS!
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CHOICE FOR EVERY ACTIVITY

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Ofsted Good Provider

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or call 01480 467 567

I'm **BILLY** Barracuda!
Making new friends, trying new things and learning new skills are all fantastic for our mental health!

Spring CROSSWORD!

Across

1. Lots of flowers on a tree
5. A brightly coloured flying insect
6. Bees live in this
10. There is said to be a pot of gold at the end of one of these
12. You may give someone special a bunch of these
14. Holiday associated with eggs
15. When a young bird breaks out of its shell

Down

2. A baby sheep
3. The umbrella in the picture has lots of these
4. Get the dustpan and brush out for a Spring one of these
8. Something you put up when it is raining
7. When it warms up the snow does this
9. Birds build these to lay their eggs
11. The sky is this colour
13. After winter you see more of this in the sky during the Spring

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

HELP THE BEES FIND THE HONEY!

HOW MANY BEES CAN YOU SEE?

TRUE or FALSE

1. Ears are responsible for smelling!
TRUE FALSE
2. Butterflies are not birds!
TRUE FALSE
3. There are seven colours in the rainbow!
TRUE FALSE
4. Spring season is after summer.
TRUE FALSE

ANSWERS

QR CODE

SCAN ME!
to see more info about our camps!

Your Best Barracudas Memory:

Easter Holidays

at Wycombe Museum

Sunday 2 April - Friday 14 April

Easter Egg Hunt

Available 10am - 4pm • Museum closed Mondays & Saturdays • £3 per child

The mischievous Easter Bunny has hidden eggs around the museum garden! Help us find them all and claim your prize.



Seasonal fun



Best for age 3 - 11



2nd April, Sunday

Timber!

Starts 11am • Free

Burn your own charcoal, toast marshmallows on the fire, and use your own charcoal to draw pictures of our beautiful trees. Part of our series on the history of mills on the river Wyre with Chiltern Rangers.



Family fun day



For all



11th & 13th April, Tuesday & Thursday

Discover & Make: Plait Mad!

Sessions through the day • £4 per child

Discover all about straw plait and weave your own creations inspired by the Chilterns history of straw plaiting.



Crafts



For children 4-11



4th & 6th April, Tuesday & Thursday

Discover & Make: All About Bees

Sessions through the day • £4 per child

Learn all about bees, their hives, pollination, and how important these little creatures are. Make your own beeswax candle!



Crafts



For children 4-11



14th April, Friday

Kids' Crochet Workshop

Starts 10.30am • Tickets £8

Learn to crochet and get started on your own projects! Taught by Gen of Woollywonka's. All materials provided.



Crafts



Best for age 6 - 13





**PRO FOOTBALL
ACADEMY**



FOOTBALL EASTER CAMP

3RD, 4TH, 5TH, 6TH & 11TH, 12TH, 13TH April

We are back this Easter for PFA Football Camp – keep your children active during the holidays doing what they love with their friends.

It's a great way to get your children's minds alert, brilliant for exercise and mental health – IT'S FUN

So, book them in & away from their gaming & phones!

Lots of training designed on fitness, dribbling & shooting PLUS matches as per Government & FA Guidelines



VENUE – WOOBURN PARK

Ages 5-15 – 9.30 -12.45

**3RD, 4TH, 5TH, 6TH &
11TH, 12TH, 13TH**

£20 a day

3 day special £48

4 day special £68

Siblings offer £15 a day or 3 day £38 / 4 days £53

Payment at booking via bank transfer

AGES 5-15 years



PFA Bucks Ltd

60-02-09

60634820

OWN water bottle essential –please bring a health snack

Booking by email ONLY to maxineashman@outlook.com

For price and booking info, contact Marco Papa on:

Tel: 07940 083 790

E: profootballacademy@hotmail.com

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FA 1st aid
FA children Safeguarding
DBS Checked

Be part of the PFA community



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Book at
www.active-sport.co.uk

Holiday Camps

West Wycombe School

Age Group : 5-11 year old

Dates : 3 - 6 April

11 - 14 April

Times : 8:45am-3:15pm

£25 per day

£90 per week (4 days)



CAFE OPEN WEDNESDAYS

DURING TERM TIME 8:30AM - 3:00 PM



serving good coffee and a little cake

VIBE cafe is now open for anyone to come along on a WEDNESDAY - 8:30am til 3:00pm (term time) We have a great selection of drinks, coffee, tea, and specialty coffees. We sell some very very delicious cakes all homemade, as well as lunch. We have a simple but very yummy lunch menu available - this includes soup, toasties, and salads. If you're working from home and want a change of scenery for an hour or need to pop out for a quick lunch, you can eat in or take away.

IN AID OF WEST WYCOMBE SCHOOL

HAPPY'S CIRCUS

Even the kids will love it!



BUY TICKETS



ONLINE

90 MIN. CIRCUS SHOW • GAMES • STALLS
HOT FOOD & DRINK • FACE PAINTING • AND MORE....

BUY TICKETS ONLINE

www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofwestwycombe

WEST WYCOMBE
PEDESTAL FIELD HP14 4ES
SAT. 13th MAY

BUILD YOUR BODY BOOTCAMP

It's never too late to feel great!

1:1 & 2:1 bootcamp style sessions.
This bootcamp aims to improve
endurance & strength, whilst toning and
keeping you active.

- 4x 45 minute sessions ✓
- intense ✓
- beginner friendly ✓
- challenging ✓
- affordable ✓

Want something more tailored to your
needs?

1:1 & 2:1 sessions available at my
PRIVATE HOME GYM, located in sands/
Booker

- 60 minute session ✓
- nutritional guidance ✓
- tips on how to create a sustainable,
healthier lifestyle ✓
- multiple check ins ✓
- PT access 24/7 ✓

PERSONAL TRAINING

Don't have the time to cook?

Want to have a healthier diet, but don't
know where to start?

Here's your solution!
Caribbean infused meal prep delivered
to your door!

- weekly delivery ✓
- high protein meals ✓
- affordable ✓
- flavoursome ✓
- calories &
macronutrients counted ✓



For more info, please contact 07538440981
Alternatively please find me in year 1
Thank you, Miss Thomas :)

School Office

Inset Days for this academic year: -

Monday 17th April 2023

Monday 5th June 2023

Ramadan

If your child is fasting for Ramadan, please notify the school office.

Class Notes

Please can you ensure that emails regarding absence, late arrival or your child leaving School early are sent into the school Office. We will then pass your message onto the teacher. Thank you.

Absences

Reporting an Absence. If your child is absent from School, please ensure you report the absence to the school Office via the absence line every day of your child's absence.

Sickness and diarrhoea - Your child is not permitted to return to School until they have been free of sickness/diarrhoea for 48 hours from the last episode, as per the Buckinghamshire County Council's policy.

Leave of Absence Applications

*'Leave of Absence' application forms need to be completed for **all absences other than medical** if they are during school hours, excluding sickness, which is reported via the absence line. The school does not encourage holiday during term time and therefore will be unauthorised. Where possible, please complete and return a "leave of absence form" to the school Office at least one month before leave is required.*

*For **Hospital/medical appointments** 'Leave of Absence' application forms are not needed. **Please send an email into the school with evidence of your child's appointment.** Where possible please make appointments outside of school hours.*

Medical

*All medicines, including Asthma inhalers, must be supplied in **the original packaging with the dispensing label.***

Bikes & Scooters

A Polite reminder - children should not ride bikes or scooters whilst on the school site.

Drinks & Snacks

We do encourage parents/carers to provide their child with a bottle of water; squash is NOT permitted. Water bottles should be "see-through" with a sports top (to avoid spillages) and labelled clearly with your child's name. As a "healthy" school, we encourage parents/carers to provide their child with a healthy snack. Key Stage 1 children are provided with fruit from School as per the government initiative.

Please ensure that your child has a relevant healthy snack at break-time that is nut, sesame seed and kiwi free.

Uniform

A reminder to all that we change from our Spring/Summer uniform to our Autumn/Winter uniform after the October half term break. Please note that uniform is no longer gender specific.

Please note that in line with school policy, children are not permitted to wear make-up, have extreme haircuts, or wear earrings whilst at school. If your child is seen wearing earrings, they will be asked to remove them and they will be put in an envelope until home time.

Late Items

Late Items If your child forgets items needed for the school day, they can be dropped off via the office, but we ask that this is kept to a minimum. If a child forgets their water bottle, we have cups in school that can be filled. If there are any letters to be handed in, we ask that your child gives them to their teacher. We appreciate your

The Downley School Diary – 2022/2023

All dates below are provisional and subject to change.

** more info to follow

Green – PA events

March		
Saturday 25 th March	Energize Production Year 5	7 - 9.15 pm
Monday 27 th March - Friday 31 st March	Year 6 Residential Trip	
Wednesday 29 th March	Phonics Screening Check Information Workshop	9 - 9.30am or 2.30 - 3pm
Thursday 30 th March	EYFS Songs and a Snack	2.30 – 3pm
Friday 31 st March	Break up	1.15pm
April		
Monday 3 rd April - Friday 14 th April	Easter Break	
Monday 17 th April	Inset day	
Tuesday 18 th April	Back to school	
Thursday 20 th April	Year 2 Trip Mop End	
May		
Monday 1 st May	May Day Bank Holiday	
Monday 8 th May	Bank Holiday	
Tuesday 9 th - Friday 12 th May	Year 6 SATS	
Monday 15 th - Thursday 18 th May	Year 2 SATS	
Monday 22 nd - Thursday 25 th May	STEM Week **	
Monday 29 th May-Friday 2 nd June	May Half Term	
June		
Monday 5 th June	INSET day	
Tuesday 6 th June	Back to school	