



23 September 2022

This Half Term's Value is - Ambition

## *Message from Dr Mitchell...*

We now have all our year groups in school and I am so impressed with their attitudes to learning. I see children skipping into school every day which makes my heart sing! Our new members of staff have also settled in, and it is a privilege to work alongside every one of them as part of the Downs Infants team.

A reminder that our policies and prospectus are on the school website, and that I can only authorise absence in exceptional circumstances. **After consultation with Downs Junior School, we now think it is reasonable to expect that any rescheduled Covid holidays have now happened and so will not authorise any requests for these absences.**

Thank you all for being so brilliant about vacating the school site after pick up and preventing your children playing on equipment – we have had yet another after school accident on the play equipment, so it is really important that we stick to this.

## Diary Dates

*(new dates will be in red)*

- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct  
Bedtime Story Club
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Oct Harvest collection for foodbank
- Wed 12 Oct Individual School Photos
- Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Oct Bedtime Story Club
- 24 Oct-28 Oct Half Term
- 31 Oct INSET
- Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Nov Bedtime Story Club
- Fri 4 Nov Film night TBC
- Tues 15/Wed 16 new parent tours

## Cleaners Needed!

We urgently need cleaners for after school. If you are interested, even if for one or two evenings a week, please ask in the school office.

## Learning Round-Up



**Year 2** have been learning about their class birds, writing fact sheets and painting them – aiming for excellence in their art. They have been set 3 challenges which they need to do by the end of the week and are showing their independence and time management skills by completing these. Well done, Year 2!

**Year 1** have been learning about different classifications of animals and putting all of the class animals into groups of Mammals, Insects, Birds, Fish and Reptiles. In music they played the chime bars to accompany the song 'Hey you!' And it sounded FABULOUS!

They have been looking at the story of creation in RE, and have also been thinking about how to take turns and share in a game. In PSHE lessons they have been thinking about how everyone is good at different things.



**Reception** have been drawing family pictures and talking about who is in their family. They have started 'magic movers' developing their motor skills and learned the sounds S A T P in phonics. Please look for the phonics packs coming home in zippy wallets either Friday or Monday depending on when our treasury tags arrive!



## Chair of Champions

**Kingfisher:** Arthur, Erin, Inigo, Hibba; **Hedgehog:** Lily, Harper, Iris, Nicholas;

**Fox:** Frankie, Phoebe; **Squirrel:** Maisie, Raffy, Nana, Iris H; **Puffin:** Aadhvika, Charlie;

**Robin:** Jessica, Georgia; **Turtle:** Dilara, Rex; **Starfish:** Ella, Burt

**Dolphin:** Marla and Jamie; **Seahorse:** Arlo, Evie M

