

## Message from Mrs Walker...

As we reach the end of term, I'd like to thank you for all the lovely messages of congratulations that I've continued to receive since my appointment as permanent Headteacher at the end of February. I'm absolutely delighted to be part of the Downs Infant community and have felt warmly welcomed by everyone. I look forward to continuing to build relationships and working with you all. Thank you also to so many of you for taking the time to complete our survey at the recent parents' evenings. Your feedback is appreciated in helping us to progress the school further. The responses were all anonymous, but if you would like to discuss any of the matters raised in the comment section, please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office. Have a wonderful Easter break.

## Friends of Downs Infant School (FODIS)

Thanks to the tireless fundraising efforts of FODIS, we thoroughly enjoyed an amazing Book Week, which culminated in a visit from the inspirational non-fiction author, Vicky Woodgate. FODIS have also provided each class with a £100 Amazon voucher to buy resources that will directly benefit the children. The work of FODIS is all voluntary and is hugely supportive to the school.



## Rainbow Theatre

Our Year 2 children enriched their History learning about the Great Fire of London through an immersive theatre experience, all thanks to FODIS. There are activities in the pipeline for Year 1 and Reception too!



## Olympic Gymnast



The school was buzzing with physical activity, with our visit from Olympic gymnast, Courtney Orange. As well as enjoying an engaging and motivational assembly with Courtney, the children took part in the fun fitness circuit, which has raised a whopping £6,496! 60% of this will be used to develop physical activity in school, and the remaining 40% goes to Sports for Schools to fund the athletes and support the work of the scheme. Thank you to Miss London and Miss Pelling for organising the event, and to you all for the incredible support.

## Diary Dates

*(new dates will be in red)*

- Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April – Summer term begins
- Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> April – class photos
- Fri 24<sup>th</sup> May – INSET day (school closed to children)
- Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May – Half term
- Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Last day of term

## *Resources Shout Out*

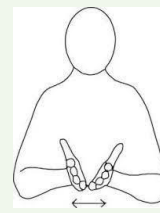
Your trash is our treasure! Please save your recycled packaging, send it into school, and who knows what fabulous creations will become of it?!



We'd like to say an enormous thank you to Sam Musker, dad of Ivy in Puffin, who has very kindly carved, created and gifted these fabulous class signs to complete our collection.

## **Makaton**

In school, we are learning Makaton, a language programme that uses signs and symbols to support communication and literacy. This term, we have learnt the signs for...



## **Shooting Stars**

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 12 of our Year 2 girls attended a football event at the University of Brighton. They took part in a range of Disney themed activities developing their football skills. They also loved meeting the Brighton University Panther mascot!



## **Parking**

It would appear there are some issues with parking around our school. We have recently been made aware of some of our parents parking illegally in the parking areas reserved for the residents of the high rise flats (Dudeney & Nettleton Courts), opposite Downs Junior, on Ditchling Road. Please note that these are not open to the general public. Please refrain from parking in these restricted zones and show common courtesy to our neighbours, as it is important that we maintain good relationships within our community. The latest issues brought to our attention have been a car pulling up on the pavement and a near miss as a parent attempted to park in a motorcycle bay. Please consider the safety of children and adults at all times. Thank you for your support in this matter.





We have seen lots of amazing learning coming out of the Our City Our World challenges. Look out for our new focus for the challenges next term!

Kidical Mass is a free event in support of our planet...



### Safeguarding

If you would like to speak to a member of our safeguarding team in confidence, please email [DSL@downsinf.brighton-hove.sch.uk](mailto:DSL@downsinf.brighton-hove.sch.uk)



#### NSPCC Website and Support

You may be interested in the support that the NSPCC can offer through their website at <http://www.nspcc.org.uk/> In the section on 'Keeping Children safe' they provide a range of information, advice, and child-friendly animations and activities covering areas such as e-safety, anti-bullying, social networking, safe relationships, advice on talking about difficult topics...and much more! They also run a helpline for parents for help and advice, as well as for reporting concerns about children.

The Outdoors Project

OFSTED REGISTERED

# EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS

"Childcare during the holidays they want to go to"  
Fresh air. Fresh activities. Fresh attitude.



ANIMAL AMBASSADOR

## WEEK 1 - LANCING PREP HOVE THE DROVEWAY, HOVE, BN3 6LU

- TUE 2 APR EXPLORE EASTER ISLAND
- WED 3 APR NERF ADVENTURE GAMES
- THU 4 APR SUPER MARIO DAY
- FRI 5 APR CAMPFIRE COOKOUT: EASTER TREATS

## WEEK 1 - COTTESMORE ST MARY THE UPPER DRIVE, BN3 6NB

- TUE 2 APR NERF ADVENTURE GAMES
- WED 3 APR CAMPFIRE COOKOUT: EASTER TREATS
- THU 4 APR EXPLORE EASTER ISLAND
- FRI 5 APR THE BIG WILD EGG DAY

### CAMPFIRE COOKOUT EASTER TREATS

We'll be making our own batch of Mini Egg armpit fudge, then gathering around the campfire to toast hot cross buns & marshmallows, before diving into bushcraft fire lighting skills for Easter adventurers

### EASTER NERF: THE BUNNYNATOR & KIDS VS INSTRUCTORS

For all those Nerf crazy bunnies out there! Teamwork is encouraged, as we play our Golden Egg Battle Royale & Easter Bunny Rescue before taking on the instructors in the Kids vs Instructors shake down! Watch out for the Bunnyinator, she wants her chocolate eggs back! "Hasta La Easter Baby!"

### SUPER MARIO DAY: YOSHI EGGS & BOWSER'S FURY

Tech meets nature, in a positive spin on tech! A day inspired by our favourite Italian plumber, Mario & friends. The kids will build their very own Yoshi Egg, play Bowser's Fury, & take on the Super Star Cornhole Challenge

### THE BIG WILD EGG DAY

This is the BIG ONE! Join us for eggciting Easter fun with our eggplosive egg drop challenge, a spring scavenger hunt, & the giant team egg hunt. Plus loads of fun high-energy games & laughter, to burn off the easter sugar in the fresh air

### EXPLORE EASTER ISLAND & BIG HEADS

Step back in time & discover one of the world's wonders, as we go on an ecological adventure to this beautiful & strange land, Rapa Nui (Easter Island). Learn how to move mountains, build Moai 'big heads' with clay, replant an ecosystem, & celebrate Tapati Festival by making traditional headdresses

"BEST HOLIDAY CLUB AROUND"  
★★★★★



For more info on dates, locations, how the clubs run & to book: [theoutdoorsproject.co.uk](http://theoutdoorsproject.co.uk)

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# EASTER HOLIDAY CLUBS

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ANIMAL AMBASSADOR

## WEEK 2 - LANCING PREP HOVE THE DROVEWAY, HOVE, BN3 6LU

- MON 8 APR THE BIG WILD EGG DAY
- TUE 9 APR EXPLORE EASTER ISLAND
- WED 10 APR CAMPFIRE COOKOUT: EASTER TREATS
- THU 11 APR NERF ADVENTURE GAMES
- FRI 12 APR SUPER MARIO DAY

## WEEK 2 - COTTESMORE ST MARY THE UPPER DRIVE, BN3 6NB

- MON 8 APR CAMPFIRE COOKOUT: EASTER TREATS
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- THU 11 APR EXPLORE EASTER ISLAND
- FRI 12 APR THE BIG WILD EGG DAY

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"NO SCREENS, JUST GOOD FUN OUTSIDE"  
★★★★★

