



Newsletter Summer 1

Kind | Respectful | Safe

22nd May 2026

Special points of interest:

- Egg Drop
- Computing
- Dell Quay
- Victorian Day
- Cinema trip
- Beach Trip
- Sporting updates
- Football
- Dance House
- Swimming

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Headteacher update



What a busy and exciting half term we have had at Downview Primary School.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the exciting activities and learning experiences the children have been involved in. Many trips and visitors have taken place this half term, providing memorable experiences and valuable learning opportunities for all pupils.

The Year 6 SATs are now finished, and we are incredibly proud of how positively the children approached them. They demonstrated resilience and a fantastic attitude throughout—we are proud of each and every one of them.

I know many of you would have been disappointed that the Spring Fair had to be postponed, but we are very hopeful that the weather will be much kinder to us on Thursday 11th June, which is the proposed new date. Thank you to everyone for your support with the cake sale and raffle. The raffle was drawn electronically, and the Friends of Downview (FOD) have notified the lucky winners.

Please note the change of dates for Years 3 & 4 & 5/6 Sports Days this is due to the availability of the FFC Sports Leaders.

I would like to wish you all a warm and enjoyable half-term and look forward to seeing what the last half term holds in store for us all. Mrs Purkis



Attendance is a slightly improving picture with whole school attendance currently being 93.5%. Thank you for your continued support with ensuring that your child attends school.

Please remember that absence from school for holidays for 5 days or longer (10+ sessions) during the term, will result in a fine from the Local Authority.

Classes that have achieved over 96% attendance this half term are:

In EYFS Strawberry class 96.5%

In Key Stage 1 Cherry class 96.2%

In Key Stage 2

Elm class 97.1%, Laurel class 96.8%, Oak class 96.4%

Well done everyone in these classes and to all of those children

who attend school regularly – congratulations and keep attending!

Attendance Matters



Reception

We called the yellow chick Sonny. He was so cheeky!

We have been learning about farm animals and have had some very egg-citing visitors! We have been looking after some special eggs and with all our love and care, 6 little chicks hatched!

They were very sweet and fluffy, and we loved watching them grow and learn to walk and jump around. They were very messy, and loved to cheep and join in with our learning!

We even got to give them little strokes and let them explore our carpet, before they went together to their Forever Farm.

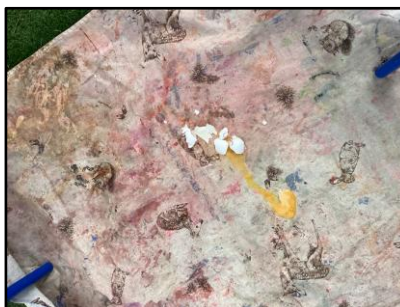


Egg drop!

After reading 'Egg Drop' by Mini Grey, we decided to make Egg's dream come true and build him flying machines. We used tape, glue, string, plastic bags and recycled cardboard to build all sorts of amazing machines, including planes, hot air balloons and gliders!

We then tested our designs outside using real eggs. So many were very successful and kept Egg safe during his flight!

Well done Reception!



Woven Wonders in Year One!

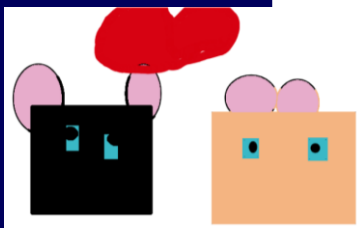
In Art this half term, the children have been learning about artists Judith Scott and Cecilia Vicuna. They have practised wool wrapping, making knots, plaiting, threading and weaving! They have also learnt the difference between 'warp' and 'weft' and have worked hard on individual pieces to join together into a final group piece of art.

"Plaiting the wool was hard to start with but I just kept trying and didn't give up!"



Creative Computing

In their Computing lessons, the children have been looking at the difference between digital and non-digital art. They then used 2Paint on Purple Mash to create their own fantastic pieces of digital art!



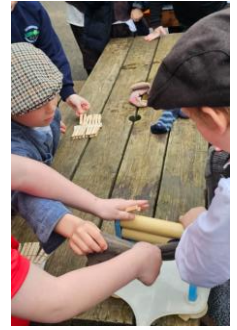
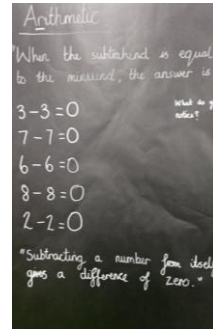
Year 2 Delightful Dell Quay!

This term Year 2 had a brilliant trip to Dell Quay near Chichester. We have been learning about different habitats in our science lessons and Dell Quay was the perfect place to explore some of them! We went to the shore and hunted for crabs and made crab homes, we walked to Fishbourne and went stream dipping and we got huge nets and did some meadow sweeping. We found fish, shrimps and even a baby eel! It was so much fun! We'd like to thank all the Mums, Dads and Nans that came with us – we couldn't have done it without you!





Victorian Day



We loved learning about the Victorians! We explored Victorian jobs, Victorian school and Victorian chores! Being a child back in those days was tough, but we enjoyed the role play for a day!

"I loved the Rainbow Theatre. Did you see when someone got stuck up the chimney?!"

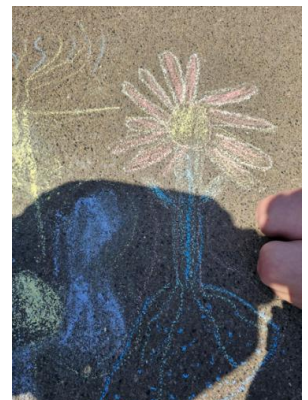
"My favourite part was making the butter. I didn't know it was made of cream. Tasting it was my best bit!"

"I loved doing Victorian PE outside. The teachers were really funny and strict!"

"I loved making lemonade and drying the socks in the mangle."

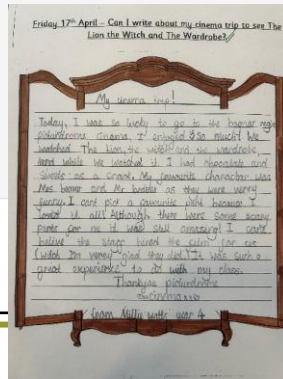
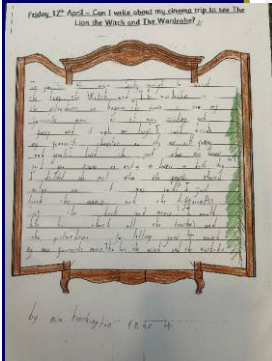
Science

We are learning about plants this half term. We have explored parts of a flower through dissection, taken learning outside to demonstrate the transportation of water, and role played being pollinating bees. Our teachers have been really impressed with our use of scientific vocabulary.



Year 4 trip to the Cinema

Year 4 enjoyed a special trip to watch *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* after studying the story in literacy. The children were treated to a private viewing at Bognor Picturedrome complete with sweets and drinks, which made the experience even more exciting. They walked to the venue beautifully, showed excellent behaviour throughout, and had a wonderful time. We were incredibly proud of them all.



FCC - Multiskills

Year 4 were lucky enough to take part in a team games event with the Felpham Community College Year 9 sports captains.

The children participated in a variety of skill based activities collecting points for their teams. The children enjoyed taking in running, jumping, skipping and throwing activities. The afternoon was run brilliantly and all the children had a wonderful time competing.



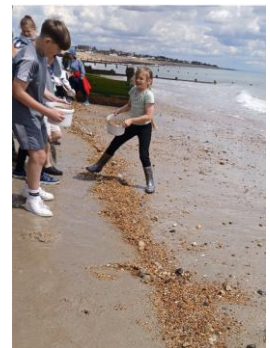
“This was such a fun PE lesson”

Year 5 Felpham Beach Visit

On Thursday 14th May, a group of Year 5 children were lucky enough to visit the beach in Felpham. The children took part in a number of different beach activities, which were all led by the Sussex Wildlife Trust. We had the opportunity to collect a variety of beach life, paint using scuttle fish, design beach jewellery and create beach artwork. It was a very busy and fun afternoon.



"I had a really good time at the Beach, the best part of was finding the oyster shell"



Year 5 Ancient Greece

We had a brilliant Greek Day this half-term with many Greek activities . It was made all the better by the fabulous dressing up by the Year 5 children.

We loved having Rainbow Theatre in to school with an immersive performance which taught us more about Ancient Greek life in an exciting and humorous way.



Also this half-term we had our Ancient Greek museum which gave the children a chance to showcase their homework projects. The teachers and TAs in Year 5 were overwhelmed at how much effort the children had put in to create some truly outstanding work.

Year 6 Playleader Training

Recently, Rowan took part in Playleader training in preparation for leading active, structured playground games for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. During the training, the children learned what it takes to be an effective playleader, focusing on teamwork, flexibility and strong communication skills. They then worked in groups to create a range of simple playground games, which they confidently demonstrated to the class. Since completing the training, Rowan has thoroughly enjoyed putting these skills into practice by leading games for younger children at lunchtimes. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm, leadership and positivity in action on the playground!



Year 6 Explore Ancient Egypt

Year 6 have made an exciting start to their new topic on Ancient Egyptians. The children had the opportunity to become archaeologists for the afternoon, taking part in hands-on activities linked to discovering the past. They also learned about what life was like in Ancient Egypt, including the different jobs people had and how society was organised. It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm as they begin this fascinating topic!



It is lovely to see the children enjoying wearing their hoodies around school, they look so comfortable -thank you FOD you are amazing.

Thank You Friends of Downview!

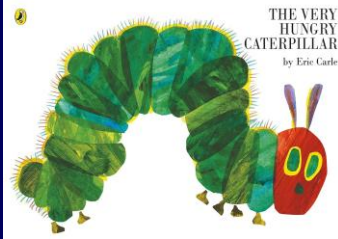
We would like to extend a huge thank you to the Friends of Downview for their incredible efforts in raising the funds to provide all of our children with their leavers' hoodies. The hoodies look fantastic, and it has been wonderful to see the children wearing them with such pride and excitement around school. These special keepsakes will help our pupils remember their time at Downview and celebrate the friendships and memories they have made along the way. We are extremely grateful for the time, energy and dedication that the Friends of Downview consistently give to support our school community. Your commitment to fundraising and creating opportunities for our children is truly appreciated. You are all amazing—thank you for everything that you do!



Bognor Regis library – story time

Bognor Regis library have asked us to remind parents that they hold a Storytime on Saturday mornings between 11 and 11:30am. They also have a series of online Storytimes as well, please see their website for mor information.

<https://libraries.westsussex.gov.uk/storytime#>



Fund raising for the Little Princess Trust

Recently Sophia in Beech class bravely volunteered to have her hair cut in order to raise money for the little Princess Trust.

Sophia, her family and Downview School would like to thank everyone who kindly donated money to this amazing cause.

Sophia raised nearly £200 for the Princess Trust and she would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made this happen.

Sophia Towers - Beech Class



Thank you Sophia and anyone else who has donated their hair to this worthwhile Trust.

Downview Swim Team Make Waves! 🏊♂️



We are incredibly proud of our fantastic Downview swim team, who took on **16 local schools** at the **Arun Leisure Centre on 25th March** and delivered an outstanding performance!

After an action-packed day of racing, Downview finished a very respectable **4th overall** – a brilliant achievement. Even more exciting, our **girls' team stormed to an amazing 2nd place overall**, showing real determination, teamwork and talent.

★ Medal Success ★

The girls – **Annalise, Abigail, Olivia and Daisy** – dazzled in the relays, winning **gold in the Freestyle relay** and **silver in the Medley relay**. What a phenomenal effort!

The boys – **Oscar, Toby, Theo and Sidney** – also put in strong performances, finishing **5th in the Medley relay** and **7th in the Freestyle relay**, competing fiercely against tough opposition.

🏆 Individual Highlights 🏆

There were some fantastic individual performances too:

Olivia swam superbly to claim **2nd place** in the final of the **one-length freestyle**

Annalise powered her way to **3rd place** in the **one-length backstroke**

Sidney showed great strength and technique, finishing **2nd** in the final of the **one-length breaststroke**



Well done to all our swimmers for their commitment, sportsmanship and hard work. You represented Downview brilliantly and should be extremely proud of yourselves!

Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament at Chelsea Training Ground



Our Year 3 & 4 footballers recently enjoyed a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity as they competed in the regional finals at the Chelsea FC Training Ground—an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

After earning their place in the regional finals, the boys were up early and full of excitement as they boarded the coach, ready for the challenge ahead. As they arrived at the training ground, they were immediately amazed by the surroundings. The facilities were outstanding—not a blade of grass out of place—and it truly felt like stepping into a professional football environment.

The tournament began with a strong and dominant draw, setting the tone for a fantastic day of football. Throughout the competition, the boys performed incredibly well against extremely talented opposition, showing confidence, determination, and resilience. In total, the team achieved two victories and three draws, an excellent record at such a high level.

Although we did not finish in the top three, the results did not reflect the quality of football played. More than one Chelsea coach commented on the impressive style of play shown by Downview, noting how unlucky we were with some of the outcomes. This feedback was a huge achievement and something the boys should be incredibly proud of.

However, the day was about so much more than final positions. The boys demonstrated excellent teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament, representing the school superbly both on and off the pitch.

To make the experience even more special, the children were able to meet some Chelsea Under-21 players and even catch a glimpse of the first team training, which was truly inspirational and unforgettable.

This amazing experience will stay with the boys for a long time and has undoubtedly motivated them to continue developing their love for football. We are extremely proud of every single player—well done, boys!



Dance House

What a fantastic performance and what an honour to open the show – you were all amazing!



On the 20th May 2026, Downview Dancers ventured to Worthing Pavilion Theatre. Our dance was inspired by the musical 'The Greatest Showman' and we have been practising for many months, perfecting every detail of our show. Dance House isn't just about dancing to some piece of music, it is teamwork, resilience and most importantly having the most fun you can possibly have. We strongly hope that we have inspired some young and talented dancers to join Dance House. Just remember.....keep dancing!



Quad kids Years 3 & 4

We are waiting to hear the overall results for the Years 5 & 6 Quad kids but we are very proud of how well they all performed.



This team of Year 4 superstars took part in the Quad Kids athletic competition at The Regis School against 9 other local schools.

They each competed in 4 events, a 60m sprint, a 400m run, a vortex howler throw and the standing long jump.

The children's effort and positive attitude was amazing! They showed great sportsmanship cheering not only their own team but other competitors as well.

Incredibly they were the top scoring school across the whole Bognor and Chichester area and have qualified for the county final next month.

Ellis O'Boyle finished as the top scoring boy across the competition and Poppy Jones finished the second highest scoring girl.

Well done team, we are so proud of your amazing achievement!



- At Downview School we grow and learn together every day -



Diary Dates

Date/ Month	Time	Activity
1st June		INSET DAY
3 rd June	11am	Year 6 to Marchants Hill
5 th June	4pm	Year 6 return from Marchants Hill
8 th June		Year 6 Bikeability (further details to follow)
8 th June		Year 3 Marwell Zoo visit
10 th June		Class Photos
11 th June		New Spring Fair date
15 th June		Year 6 Bikeability (further details to follow)
22 nd June		Years 3,4,5 and 6 Sports Day Practice
23rd June	1.15pm – 3.10pm	Year 5 & 6 Sports Day
26th June	1.15pm – 3.10pm	Year 3 & 4 Sports Day
25th June		Year 6 'Regis Ready Day transition'
1st July		Transition Day
2 nd July		Year 1 Arundel Castle
2 nd July	3:45pm	Area Athletics
6 th July	1.15pm – 3.10pm	Year R & KS1 Sports Day Practice
8 th July	1:15pm – 3:15pm	Year R & KS1 Sports Day
10 th July		Last Year 3 swimming
17 th July		Rock Steady Concert
21 st July	2:30pm	End of Term

Downview Primary School

	Website: https://www.downviewprimary.co.uk		Telephone: 01243-820511		Email: office@downviewprimary.co.uk
	https://twitter.com/Downviewprimary				facebook.com/downviewpta/

21st July

2:30pm

Last day of Summer Term – finish