

A message from the Head Teacher

Welcome back to the start of Spring 2.

We do hope you and your families have had a restful half-term break and are ready for a busy term ahead. Please keep an eye on the diary dates section in every newsletter to ensure you do not miss out on any important events / meetings taking place in school.

Our weekly newsletters will now go out on a Monday, celebrating the previous week of school. This will continue to be shared on the school website.

The recent weather has been a cause of concern for many of our families but I would like to remind you that as a school, we carry out risk assessments daily and the opening of the school is based on these assessments. This means that the weather is not a valid reason for absence. Please continue to ensure that your child is in school every day and punctual, in order for them to achieve the best possible outcomes in school.

A reminder that each year group has an allocated Senior Leader, please do say hello when they are on the school gates. They will be your first point of call, after the class teacher, if you have anything school related that you would like to discuss about your child.

EYFS Lead: Karen Britton

Year 1 Senior Leader: Farida Kerr

Year 2 Senior Leader: Mark Rasem

Year 3 Senior Leader: Heather Soar

Year 4 Senior Leader: Sansel Guvercintasi

Year 5 Senior Leader: Steve Rogers

Year 6 Senior Leader: Patius Africa

Best wishes,

D Chetty

Mr Chetty
Head Teacher

Diary Dates

If your child's attendance has fallen below 94%, you have been invited in for a meeting to discuss ways forward. Please ensure you attend this meeting or reschedule if you cannot.

Thursday 3rd March

- World Book Day

Thursday 10th March

- Attendance drop in surgery – advice, support from our EWO (please book an appointment at the school office)

Week beginning 7th March

- Careers' Week

Tuesday 8th March

- International Women's Day

Week beginning 14th March

- British Science Week

Wednesday 23rd March

- Voice in a Million

Attendance

At the end of last term we celebrated good attendance across the school. Children had their names entered into the prize draw for the following achievements in Spring 1:

Most improved attendance

96 – 99% attendance

100% attendance



Henry (Y1) and Maliha (Y1)

Two of our children who won prizes in the raffle.

Spring 2 at Downsell

As usual this term is a very busy one! We will continue to celebrate the achievements and work in each year group weekly, however this week we wanted to share with you all the whole school areas that will be linked throughout the school.

Cultural Capital

This week you will see a section titled cultural capital on your child's year group newsletter.

Cultural capital is the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours, and skills that a child can draw upon and which demonstrates their cultural awareness, knowledge and competence; it is one of the key ingredients a pupil will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work.

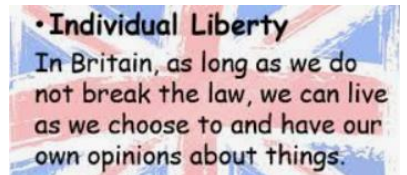
There are many cultural capital opportunities this half term, including our range of after school clubs. Please have a look at the offer for your child in their year group.

British Values and Rights Respecting (RRS)

The children will take part in lessons and assemblies exploring the following for our Spring 2 focus:

British Values:

Individual Liberty



Rights Respecting:

Article 13: I have the right to ask questions and be given information

Article 14: I have the right to follow my own religion

Language of the Half Term

Each half term we will introduce a language that is spoken by children in our school, through our Language of the Half Term. This supports our aim of broadening children's skills as well as supporting them to show a respect for other people's language and culture.

Our language of the half term is Pashto.

A national language of Afghanistan, Pashto is primarily spoken in the east, south, and southwest, but also in some northern and western parts of the country.

Children will learn to say good morning, good afternoon, please and thank you in Pashto. Ask your child to teach you!

There are 9 Pashto speakers in our school – hopefully they will be able to help us with correct pronunciation!



This week



Downsell's Got Talent
AUDITIONS
GOT TALENT?
AUDITIONS OPEN
22nd February - 25th February
1:30pm - 3:00pm
See Ms Hakeem and Ms Byrne for more details!
Downsell Primary School
Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow