

THE DOWNSVIEW TIMES

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT! STUDENT LED NEWSPAPER HITS STANDS TODAY



Meet the Team!

MRS PERRYMAN

In an exciting milestone for The Downsview Times, the school's very own newspaper. The dedicated team has successfully released its inaugural article just in time for the Christmas break.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Perryman, a group of 12 enthusiastic students from Year 4 and 5 took on the challenge of becoming journalists and worked tirelessly to deliver a piece that reflects their hard work and commitment.

Mrs. Perryman expressed immense pride in the team's efforts, highlighting the serious approach the young journalists took in their new found roles.

The process of selecting the team members began in early November when teachers were tasked with identifying standout students who would thrive as journalists. Choosing from a pool of talented individuals proved to be no easy feat, but after careful consideration, the 12 students were chosen to form The Downsview Times team.

The students embarked on their journalistic journey by brainstorming ideas collectively during their initial meeting. Arianwen, one of the team members, shared, "we started our first meeting by brainstorming some ideas of what we could write about all together and then we went from there."

Meet the Downsview News team:

Year 4: Arianwen, Zara, Saima, Safiya Hazel, Daisy

Year 5: Jasmine, Umberto, Felix, Rebecca, Joshua, Gaby

Edited by the Headies



Joshua, another team member, added, "the next step was to come up with 5 questions that we would want to ask the person we interviewed".

With a set of intriguing questions in hand, the team then conducted interviews with various staff members to gather the information needed for their articles. The students showcased their curiosity and determination, seeking out answers to provide their fellow students with engaging and informative content.

Once the interviews were completed, the young journalists delved into the writing process, each crafting their own unique article. The final stage involved bringing it all together, and for this, the team enlisted the assistance of the Headies, who played a crucial role in the editing

and final layout of the newspaper. Mrs. Perryman commended the students for their hard work and effort, emphasizing the collaborative spirit that fuelled the creation of the first article.

The Downsview Times team is excited to share their achievements with the school community and looks forward to bringing more insightful and entertaining content in the future.

As readers eagerly dive into the pages of The Downsview Times, they are sure to discover the passion and dedication that went into creating this inaugural article. The school can undoubtedly anticipate many more engaging stories and features from this talented group of young journalists in the years to come.

PGL, a Platinum Disco AND a Christmas fair! How can they fit it all in?

PGL – a Trip of a Lifetime

JASMINE, 5 ZAHA

A few weeks ago, some of our Year 6 children had a fabulous time going to Merchants Hill, on their annual PGL trip. They travelled all the way from Downsview to Merchants Hill and loved it from the moment they arrived.

During PGL, the group did a variety of activities, including zip wire, obstacle courses, trapeze, archery, rifle shooting, a giant swing, silent discos, and campfires. Miss Morgan's personal favourite was the giant swing!

The week for the Year 6 troop was jam-packed; there were exactly 51 out of 90 children and five adults—the adults being Miss Morgan, Mr. B, Ms. Hussey, Ms. Ali, and Ms. Patel. Every single one of them had the best time ever.



The PGL gang and of course our furry friend Joey too.

“PGL was an amazing experience,” Miss Morgan shared, “it was my favourite week of the whole year, and probably everyone else's too. Although it was very tiring, it was a perfect experience for the adults to get to know the children more.”

A quote from Miss Morgan: “I obviously miss my bed; going from king size to a single isn't fun, but I wouldn't change it for the fun that we had. It was extremely fun for all of them, but some days were very, very wet. It was a very fun way of getting to



The PGL staff team: Ms Ali, Ms Hussey, Mr B, Ms Patel and Miss Morgan

know everyone through teamwork and getting out of their comfort zones. Some of PGL can be scary or challenging but it is highly recommended.”



The Platinum Disco: A brief history

UMBERTO, 5 ZAHA

Every term we have a Platinum Disco to celebrate all the children who were platinum for their impeccable behaviour over the term. It is a great afternoon and lots of fun!

When asked why Ms Pugh started this tradition, she said, “We love to party, children love dancing and being free! I asked the children what they wanted as a prize, and most of them asked for a disco.”

The Christmas Fair

ARIANWEN, 4 KENNY

On Friday, the 8th of December, Downsview held its 2nd annual Christmas Winter Fair!

The Friends of Downsview have had many meetings to discuss ways to raise money for the children. Last year, they made £3,500 for the school, and we wanted to do it again.

When asked if she thought it was successful last year, Mrs. Gray said, “Absolutely! We had over 100 children visit Santa and sold 350 burgers and sausages!”

This year was even better, Mrs. Gray reported, “We are changing somethings; we will be having more hot drinks and lots of stalls selling gifts.”

This fair is a lot of work to put together. To set everything up, the Friends of Downsview and staff started at 11 am and went all day until the event started at 2:15. While it is all planned and organized by the adults, we have students helping on the day too!

Thank you for reading.

Each term there is a new chance to make it to the Platinum disco, I wonder how many are coming this term. “Not all the teachers have chosen their platinum children yet,” Ms. Pugh explained “so I don't know exactly, but it's usually around 350 on average.”

When asked what her favourite song to dance to is she enthusiastically said “definitely ‘Rock This Party’.”

But was Ms. Pugh *really* the one who started it all, “Yes, 100%. Who else could have invented it 10 years ago?! It just my favourite thing, children loving life. Even shy children come out of their shells. It's just really nice to see.”

Get out of here – Trips, Forest Schools and Sensory Garden

Feeling Stressed? Come and relax in the Sensory Garden

REBECCA, 5 SIMMONDS

Downsview is proud to announce its opening of a brand new sensory garden! We made this sensory garden because we had a big empty space in our school, so we built it as a place to be calm and enjoy life. The sensory garden has a tipi for a specific reason because the purpose of tipi is to make a small calming building to relax in and de-stress by yourself.

Downsview did not make the sensory gardens by themselves, because loads of people helped build the sensory garden. It would have taken a long time to build it all on our own.

When asked if the sensory garden will be connected with the forest school, Ms Sanchez reported “Yes, we connect the sensory garden to the forest school because any outdoor learning activity is connected with that and connected to each other. If we could, we would always connect them. Also, you always need to connect with your nature side.”

A quote from Ms Sanchez “We would have made it earlier if we could have, but we couldn't because we didn't have enough money yet, and we couldn't find the free time to build up the sensory garden. But we are happy now that it is all finally done and everyone can use it.”

The school is happy to have this lovely new addition to the grounds and hopes to see you enjoying it!



Forest Schools

JOSHUA, 5 HOY

At Downsview, we are fortunate enough to have forest schools running every day! Forest schools are a very popular idea in Scandinavian countries where children spend most of their time outdoors learning. So Ms Pugh thought of the idea of bringing forest schools to Downsview.

We are lucky to have three forest school leaders: Mr. B, Mr. Linton, and Ms Dickens who has given us the inside scoop. She reported that “forest schools begin in Nursery. We do lots of activities, leading the children. These include using tools like hammers, palm diggers, bug hunting, and other activities like campfire cooking and learning about nature around us.”

At Downsview, we are lucky to have a large outdoor space and wooded areas. We also have an outdoor classroom, but forest schools can take place anywhere.

“Forest school is important” Ms Dickens said, “because we feel children should spend as much time outdoors in nature as possible, where they can be free to explore and have fun.”

Year 1 Trip

GABY, 5 HOY

On Thursday, the 9th of November 2023, the lucky Year 1 class went on an adventure, an awesome spectacular trip to the Science Museum, in London.

All the children in Year 1 went on the trip with their teachers and helpful parents. They travelled by coach and arrived at 10:00 a.m.

The children had a fantastic opportunity to learn about rockets and astronauts at the space area. The children explored the magical sensory garden and learned about home appliances. They also had fun at the Pattern Pod.

Ms Rathod reported, “this trip linked to Maths, English, Science, and History. According to the children, it was the best trip they had ever been on!”



So Many Opportunities, so Little Time: Chef Danny spills the beans, Girls football and Dancing Queens!

Chef Danny – such a *treat* to chat to...

ZARA, 4 KENNY

Hi, my name is Zara, and I am in Year 4 Kenny. I didn't realize it, but I must be good at writing because a group of us were chosen to be part of this newspaper! I am so excited to write my first article; I really do hope you enjoy it.

We were asked to choose anyone in the school to interview. I chose Chef Danny because I think the school's food is delicious. I was lucky enough to spend some time with Chef Danny, seeing as he is a very busy man. I was keen to find out if he enjoyed cooking when he was younger. He said yes straightaway. My next question: how did you become a chef at Downsview? "I went to college, then I got my NVQ. I have actually been at Downsview for 10 years as a manager."

We all know Chef Danny has a very busy job, but I wanted to know how many meals he cooks in a month. Chef Danny thought for some time, then said, "Roughly 12,000 meals, and that doesn't even include after-school club meals too."

I love food, and because of this, I wanted to ask what his favourite meal is. Chef answered, roast beef!

Finally, I wanted to know what it was like being a chef, and he reported, "It is good but also really hectic."

As you can tell, Chef Danny is a very busy man. He makes sure everyone gets healthy and nutritious lunches; he also has a helpful team. Without them, our delicious lunches wouldn't be possible. Do you love cooking? Do you love eating? Do you think you, yes you, could be the next Chef Danny?

Girls Football

SAIMA, 4 MURRY

Is girls' football important? Well, let's find out. I had an interview with Mr. B and Sienna in Year 6. This is how it went.

When I asked why girls' football is so important, Sienna answered, saying "girls' football is good because it boosts self-esteem and improves self-confidence." She also likes to be a part of a team, and girls' football "helps with social skills and working together with a team."

Sienna likes to play football at break time and lunches. She says that she likes to watch women's football on TV as well.

While boys' football seems to be everywhere, we have to ask how can we promote girls' football? Mr B said "by getting girls to have a team for themselves and having girls' training sessions to let them get to know each other and network."

When asked if football is a good game for girls, Sienna responded by saying, "Yes, it is a good sport for girls that is getting more and more recognized for women to play. There's lots more to watch on TV".

Last week, the Downsview played their first ever all girls team match against Ridgeway Primary School and won 5-0!

Keep it up ladies, you are making us proud!

And that is it for today.

Teacher Spotlight:

Mr. Karim

FELIX, 5 SIMONDS

We all know Mr Karim as one of our amazing Year 4 teachers and the Head of Year 4. But did you know that he is a man of many talents?

Mr. Karim is not just a regular teacher; he's an artist! He is so talented and has even sold some of his work. It's like he's got a magic touch with all things creative. No wonder he leads Art and DT at Downsview.

Now, let's talk about his hobbies. Mr. Karim loves all sports, and I mean ALL sports. When he's not busy catching a Manchester United game he's watching the snooker. He's a snooker champ! Rumour has it he can sink those snooker balls like a pro. How awesome is that?

And when it comes to food, Mr. Karim's taste buds are on another level. He's all about curry chicken and roti.

So, there you have it – Mr. Karim, our artistic, sporty, curry-loving, Manchester United supporting teacher from Trinidad. We're so lucky to have him making our school days extra awesome!



LET'S GET MOVING!

Dance Team

SAFIYA, 4 MURRY

Welcome to Downsview Primary Dance Team, run by Mrs. Chamberlain. Ms. Chamberlain is our PE teacher for dance as well as the leader of the dance clubs and teams at our school.

She wanted to give the children the opportunity to showcase their talent and have experiences that they will never forget.

Let's hear what Mrs. Chamberlain's story is. "It all started when I was three years old, and I was doing ballet. My ballet teacher told me I had so much energy so I should just keep cartwheeling. This inspired me to do gymnastics at the Borough of London level and then returned to dance at 16".

Everyone needs inspiration, so who inspired Mrs. Chamberlain to dance? Let's find out. "I used to love BGT auditions, but all the music I loved, wasn't really represented on television. I wanted to change that and felt I could represent for others. Some of my favorite dancers are Laure Courtellemont and Paris Global.



The dance team performing at Downsview's Black History Month Extravaganza

Now let's see how much Mrs. Chamberlain has taught her helpful students. Zaynah is a nine-year-old girl who got onto the dance team in 2020 answered some of the questions. Everyone has a favorite type of dance. What's hers? "I like Afro Beats and Soca."

Everyone started to dance when they feel like it. Let's see how she figured it out. "I was upset once, and I wanted to be happy, so the first thing that came to my mind was to dance." That's all for today.

