



WHAT TO ASK YOUR CHILD...

At Downsview, we know how important it is for every child to develop strong reading skills and a love of books. Research from the Department for Education and OFSTED shows that daily story time and reading aloud to children from Nursery through Year 6 helps build their vocabulary, confidence and understanding of the world. Whether it's fiction, non-fiction, or poetry, sharing stories together is a wonderful way to support your child's learning and enjoyment.

We also want to help you have meaningful conversations with your child about their day at school. Instead of the usual "How was your day?", try asking open-ended questions like:

- What was the most interesting thing you learned today?
- What made you smile or laugh?
- Did you do anything that made you feel proud?
- Who did you sit with at lunch, and what did you talk about?
- What was the hardest thing you had to do today?

These questions encourage children to think about their experiences, share their feelings and reflect on their learning. Building these conversations at home strengthens their communication skills and supports their progress in school.

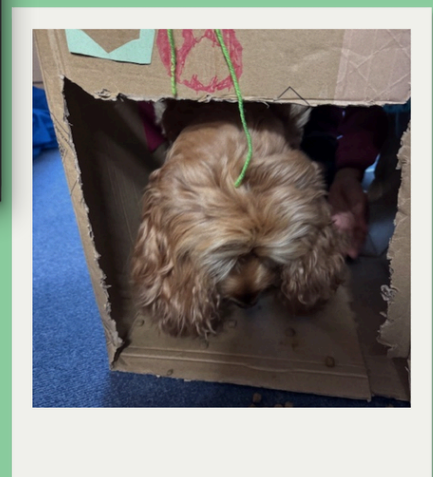
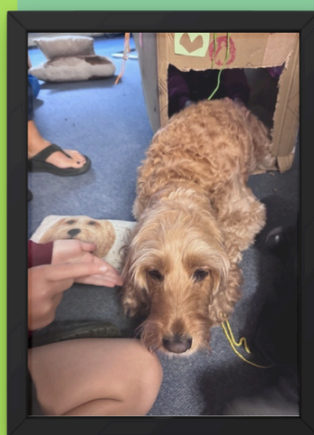
If you want to explore more questions to ask your child, please visit our [website](#) or ask your child's teacher for ideas.

Thank you for working with us to make reading and talking a special part of every day.

Fun WITH JOEY



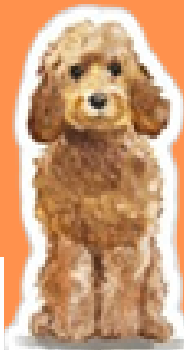
During afterschool club, the children were excited to create a special home just for Joey. They thoughtfully furnished it with a cosy doggie mat and decorated it with lovely pictures. The children enjoyed helping Joey settle into his new space, encouraging him with plenty of doggie treats. A big thank you to Viola, Ziva, Freya, and Anusha for their wonderful care and creativity!



DATES FOR THE DIARY...



[LINK TO WEBSITE CALENDAR...](#)



[Sustainability Calendar LINK](#)

- Mon 15th: Clubs start
- Tues 16th: Junior Governor election
- Fri 19th: Whole school BBQ
- Wed 24th: Y6 Imperial War Museum
- Fri 26th: Friends of Downsview - Coffee Morning
- Mon 29th: At the beginning of the day, Reception children come up on their own
- Weds 1st Oct: Y5 EI workshop with parents (PM) - KS2 Hall - 3.30pm
- Thurs 9th Oct: SEN Coffee Morning (AM)
- Fri 10th Oct: Reception welcome service with Y5 (10.30 am)
Come Dine with Me - Reception

JOIN OUR
TEAM

SCHOOL CARETAKER



Why Downsview? Join a supportive team dedicated to providing the best learning environment for our children. If you're ready to make a difference, visit our website at: www.downsview.croydon.sch.uk for the full advert and job description.



1st Sept - 24th Oct 2025

Half-term:

27th Oct - 31st Oct

3rd Nov to 19th Dec 2025

Inset days: 1st & 2nd Sept 2025

Term Dates



5th Jan - 27th March 2026

Half Term: 16th- 20th Feb

Easter holidays: 30th

March - 10th Apr 2026

Inset days: 5th Jan 2026



13th Apr - 22nd May 2026

Half Term: 25th- 29th May

1st June - 20th July 2026

Inset days: 20th July 2026

Bank Holiday:

4th May 2026

Nursery

OUR FIRST WEEK...

Our first full week at Nursery and already the children have done so much. They have deepened old friendships and created new ones. They have worked together, got muddy, painted, shared, explored, created great games and have been creative.



They have practiced writing their names, shown us how good they are at counting, sung songs, made music and laughed a lot. I know some find it hard when they come in but they really do have a lovely day!



DOWNSVIEW PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A RECEPTION PLACE 2026?

02087644611 or sec1@downsview.croydon.sch.uk

- ✓ Do you want to be part of a community school who cares about the whole child?
- ✓ Are you as passionate about sustainability as we are?
- ✓ Are you looking for a school that has fantastic facilities and massive grounds with green spaces and wooded areas to explore? We have an exceptional Forest School where all teachers have Level 3 Forest School's accreditation.
- ✓ Do you want to be part of a school who celebrates diversity and inclusion?



We even have
our own School
Dog- Joey!



Here is what some of our Nursery and Reception parents have said:

"I highly recommend Downsview . The structure and their ethos is amazing. The children have a wide variety of learning resources which are always fun for them. The staff are amazing with the children and the school has so much to offer."

"We are incredibly pleased that we chose Downsview for our child. She has settled well, loves her teachers and has made a lovely group of friends. She is thriving at Downsview, and is boosted by the encouragement that is given to all children - effort is rewarded daily, and the children are taught to celebrate their own successes as well as those of their friends, however big or small. The enthusiasm, friendliness and kindness of the teachers are seen across the school from the Headteacher through to the Support team. The grounds and facilities are also fantastic - a huge grass playing field and playground, set back from the road - not seen within many London schools! I can't recommend Downsview enough." [Click here for more...](#)

WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 9.00AM -10.30 AM

TUESDAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 9.00AM - 10.30 AM

WEDNESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 9.00AM - 10.30 AM

TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2025 AT 9.00AM - 10.30 AM



OUR UNIFORM

The nearest local supplier is Bubblegum School Wear, 113 High Street, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 8RZ.
Telephone: 020 8683 2773

We are proud of our school uniform, which makes the children look smart and fosters a sense of belonging to the Downsview family. All children are expected to wear school uniform, with adaptations for children attending the Nursery. The cost of this is kept as low as possible by not specifying a particular design from one retailer.

Reception, Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)

The standard uniform is based on the colours burgundy and grey and comprises the following items:

- Grey trousers, shorts, or skirt/pinafore
- White shirt or white polo shirt
- Burgundy school jumper or sweatshirt (with or without school logo) or cardigan
- Hijabs, if worn, should be in plain black or burgundy
- Summer dress in pink and white or red and white gingham
- Black closed shoes with flat heels or dark trainers (black, navy, or dark grey) only (no open-toed sandals). Shoes or trainers should be suitable for school wear for safety reasons.
- There is also an optional school fleece and sweatshirt available only from Bubblegum.

Nursery- not required to wear the formal school uniform

Children should wear the school navy tracksuit bottoms with a white polo shirt or house coloured t-shirt. They can either wear the Downsview navy tracksuit jacket or burgundy school jumper/cardigan. They must wear trainers or shoes which are suitable for outdoor play. They will require at least one house coloured t-shirt to wear at sporting events, such as the school Sports Day.

PE Kit – Nursery to Year 6

Games and PE (including swimming when appropriate) are compulsory subjects and children are required to wear the correct kit, comprising:

- Red, Blue, Yellow or Green House T-shirt (with or without school logo)
- Downsview navy blue tracksuit bottoms and jacket – they can either wear the Downsview navy tracksuit jacket or a burgundy school jumper/cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Black shorts or plain black leggings (under tracksuit if appropriate)
- Black trainers or plimsolls (please note that gymnastics is done barefoot)

Every pupil at Downsview belongs to one of the following school houses: Red, Blue, Yellow or Green and parents will be informed of their child's house colour once admitted to the school. House coloured T-shirts with a school logo are optional and available from Bubblegum.

Summary of Uniform Requirements:

Compulsory Branded Items: Downsview navy blue tracksuit (bottoms only – *jacket optional*).

Optional Branded Items: PE House coloured t-shirts, school jumper/cardigan, school fleece, school sweatshirt, Downsview book bag or satchel (if opting for non-branded, must be burgundy).

Non-Branded Options: Burgundy school jumper or cardigan, burgundy sweatshirt and house coloured T-shirts which can be sourced from other retailers.

All items should be clearly marked with your child's name. We cannot use valuable time searching for un-named articles. Property, including money, is not insured by the Local Authority. In their own interests, parents are advised to obtain insurance cover against loss of or damage to their property while on school premises or elsewhere.

COMPULSORY BRANDED ITEMS



PE TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS

Compulsory branded items and optional branded items can be purchased from our uniform supplier Bubblegum Schoolwear, 113 High St, Thornton Heath, CR7 8RZ. The school often hold second hand uniform sales once a term where all items listed can be purchased at a reduced price.

OPTIONAL BRANDED ITEMS



SWEATSHIRT



JUMPER



CARDIGAN



FLEECE



PE T-SHIRT



PE TRACKSUIT JACKET



SACHEL



BOOK BAG

NON-BRANDED OPTIONS



SWEATSHIRT



JUMPER



CARDIGAN



FLEECE



PE T-SHIRT



SACHEL



BOOK BAG

WHITE HOUSE



NORWOOD GROVE

OPEN HOUSE FESTIVAL

**13TH
SEPTEMBER
2025
12-3PM**

TREE TRAIL
MEET DESIGNERS
SHAPE STABLE BLOCKS
FAMILY CRAFT WORKSHOP

FREE ENTRY

WHITE HOUSE & LAWN,
NORWOOD GROVE,
NORBURY, SW16 3EA

For more info:
programme.openhouse.org.uk/listings/13326

OPEN HOUSE
FESTIVAL
13-21.9.25



Spa Hill Allotment Society

Sat 13 Sept 2025

FUN DAY

11am - 4pm



**Free
entry**

Fun for all the family

**Bouncy Castle • BBQ
Games • Stalls • Fruit & Veg
Refreshments**

Spa Hill Allotments • 180 Spa Hill • SE19 3TU

Established since 2004

Learn an essential skill for life

Children's lessons ages 3 to 14
Parent and Toddler
Non-swimmers, beginners
and improvers
Small Groups

Distance Awards
Swim England Learn to Swim
Stages 1 - 6
Personal Survival
Level 1 & 2

Royal Life Saving Society
Our aim is to teach individual the
fundamentals of swimming, following a
structured programme in a non-competitive
fun environment, safely.

Call us Directly:
07765 258 438

splish.splash@hotmail.co.uk | www.splishsplashswimschool.co.uk

NHS

Flu can be serious.
Protect yourself and
others. Get the flu jab.

As part of the preparation for the flu vaccination campaign, We will be hosting two parents webinars to discuss the children's flu vaccine:

- Wednesday 10 September, 14:00 - 14:45
- Monday 15 September, 18:00 - 18:45

During these webinars, we will cover the importance of the flu vaccine, the difference between the nasal flu and the injectable flu vaccine, the MMR vaccine, and how to complete the consent form. There will also be a chance for parents to ask questions at the end.

Parents can sign up to attend the webinars using the following links:

- Wednesday 10 September, 14:00 - 14:45

Children's flu vaccine webinar: [Click link](#)

- Monday 15 September, 18:00 - 18:45

Children's flu vaccine webinar: [Click link](#)

Croydon Immunisation Team
South London Children and Young People's Community Immunisation Service
Kingston and Richmond NHS Foundation Trust



BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATES



Why do we vote?

Schools in the UK will soon need to give more lessons on democracy, how voting works, and how the country is run. This is because the voting age for the general election is being lowered to 16. Many agree that young people need to be ready to make informed decisions. At first, these lessons will be for children aged 14 and over, but the plan is to begin teaching these issues from 11 years of age, so everyone has plenty of time to learn.

Things to talk about at home..

Talk to someone older at home, and ask them to share their experiences of voting and their thoughts on the news that 16-year-olds will be able to vote.

Can you think of times when you have taken part in a vote? What was the outcome?

Do you believe it's important for young people to learn about voting and democracy? If so, what age do you think the lessons should start?

[CLICK HERE](#)



Positive

NEWS



Another country called time on smartphones in schools

South Korea has become the latest nation to outlaw smartphones in school, amid growing evidence of a link between early use and poor mental health.

The country's government passed a bill this week outlawing the devices in schools. It comes after research from the Netherlands suggested that its ban on smartphones in school has made students more sociable, improved their focus and boosted academic performance.

Critics claim that such bans do not tackle the root causes of smartphone addiction, but a growing list of countries are implementing them in various forms, among them France, Finland and China. Though there is no nationwide ban in the UK, many schools prohibit the devices, thanks partly to the fast-growing Smartphone Free Childhood movement.

[Click here for the clip](#)



Celebrations

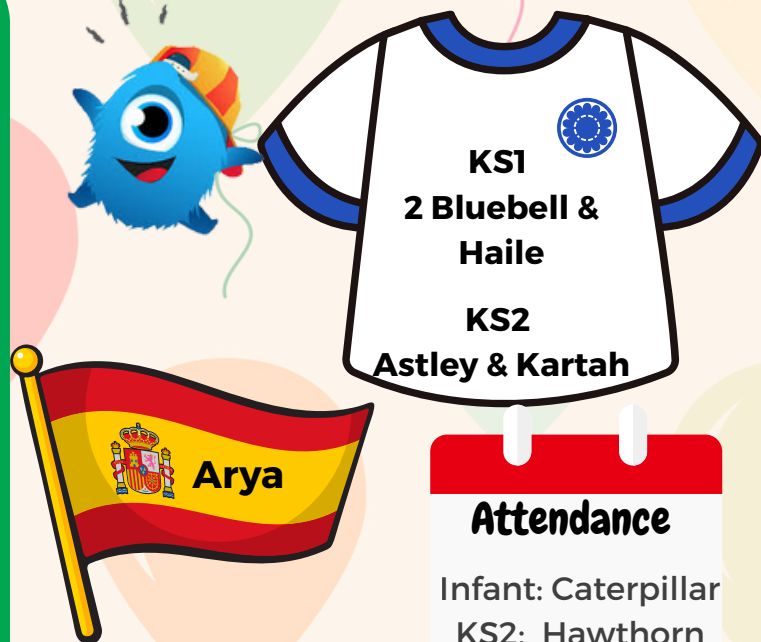
Values

Reception
Edward
Elliot
Zainab
Y1 - Mark
Y1 - Clara
Y1 - Barnaby
Y2 - Hunter
Y2 - Charter
Y2 - Innes
Y3 - Maurice
Y3 - Elayna
Y3 - Thomas
Y4 - Barin
Y4 - Amelia
Y4 - Arianna
Y5 - Petra
Y5 - Isabelle
Y5 - Fabian-Ray
Y6 - Abdullah
Y6 - Khadijah
Y6 - Zavier

Effort

Reception
Zuri
Tilly
Gabriella
Y1 - Frederick
Y1 - Hakeem
Y1 - Hugo
Y2 - Kalonji
Y2 - Nela
Y2 - Sophie
Y3 - Dexter
Y3 - Duncan
Y3 - Freya
Y4 - Aliabbas
Y4 - Ziva
Y4 - Armando
Y5 - Noah
Y5 - Creamea
Y5 - Isa
Y6 - Safiya
Y6 - Hassan
Y6 - Florence

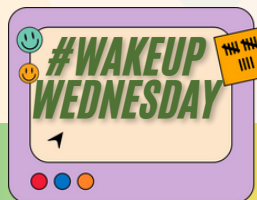
BLUE House Winners



Attendance

Infant: Caterpillar
KS2: Hawthorn

VPNS



More and more young people are using VPNs to hide what they're doing online. While these tools can boost privacy in the right context, they can also create risks if used without guidance . Our #WakeUpWednesday guide explains what every parent and educator needs to know - from why young people turn to VPNs to how they might affect safety monitoring.

With practical tips and clear explanations, this week's guide shines a light on the potential dangers of unreliable providers, hidden malware , and children bypassing safeguards. It also offers supportive strategies to start conversations, set boundaries, and ensure VPNs are used responsibly. Read more in this essential guide.

[Click here for more information](#)

More questions to ask your children after school...

1. What was the funniest thing that happened at school today?
2. What was the kindest thing you did today?
3. What are you grateful for today?
4. What did you do outside today?
5. Who did you play with today? What did you play?
6. What was the hardest thing you had to do today?
7. What books did you read today?
8. What was your favourite lesson today?
9. What emotions did you feel today?
10. What was the best thing you learnt today?
11. What did you do today that made you feel most proud?
12. What are you most looking forward to doing tomorrow at school?
13. What made you smile today?
14. What questions did you ask your teacher today?
15. What part of the day made you feel happiest today?

