

Downsview Primary and Nursery School Has A New **facebook** Page!

We are excited to announce the launch of the official Downsview Primary and Nursery School Facebook page!!

This will be a vibrant new space where we share updates, celebrate achievements and keep our school community connected.



We would love for all parents, carers and families to follow, like and share our page to help spread the word.



Our Facebook page will allow us to:

- **Celebrate our School** by sharing highlights from school life.
- **Keep families informed** about important dates, events, reminders and notices.
- **Showcase the amazing work** happening in classrooms and across the school.
- **Strengthen our community** by reaching both current families and prospective ones.
- **Promote school events and initiatives** more effectively and instantly.

A strong online presence helps us share the wonderful atmosphere, creativity and learning happening every day at Downsview Primary. By following and sharing our posts, you help us reach more families, build pride in our school and show the wider community what makes Downsview so special.

Please take a moment to visit our new page, click Follow and share it with friends and family. **Thank you for helping us celebrate our fantastic school!**



[Click Here to Visit our New Facebook Page!](#)



Tribute

Mr Cooke

Tribute video to Steve- Have a watch if you fancy.



It all began on a chilly day in January 1994, when a young man in his late 20s arrived at Downsview for his first day as a caretaker. Eager and perhaps a little naive, he was buzzing with excitement at the thought of making a difference. Little did he know just how much of an impact he would have. Over the next 30 years, Steve Cooke would put his heart and soul into this school, becoming part of the Downsview family in every sense.

It's hard to sum up everything Mr Cooke has done for our school community. He has worked under four very different Headteachers, each with their own style and ideas (though we won't ask him to pick a favourite!). From leading building projects and organising essential maintenance, to conducting countless fire alarm tests, greeting prospective parents with his signature enthusiasm and humour and supporting our many events—from firework displays to summer fairs, pond projects, and the formidable **SMOOGAS**—he has truly been the backbone of Downsview.

One of Mr Cooke's favourite days of the year is **Sports Day**. In the lead-up, he hypes up the teachers' races with a bit of 'healthy competition' and on the day, he commentates on every race, even encouraging parents to join in—all while entertaining the crowd with his witty one-liners. Whether it's a spoon race, bouncing on space hoppers, or the latest tug of war, his energy and enthusiasm are infectious.

Did you know that Mr Cooke once lived in what is now the Nursery, sharing the space with his beloved dog, JJ? They enjoyed many happy hours playing in the school playground—perhaps the original school dog! It's no surprise that when the idea of having a Downsview school dog was proposed six years ago, he was the first to support it.

Beyond his many roles, **Mr Cooke** has been our go-to IT troubleshooter, quietly ensuring everything runs smoothly behind the scenes. From fixing technical glitches to making sure the sound system worked perfectly for assemblies and events (you could always hear a bit of Queen blasting during the summer holidays!), his contributions have been invaluable.

What truly stands out, however, is Mr Cooke's **remarkable connection** with the children. Over the past seven years, I have witnessed him build genuine, caring relationships with our pupils. Parents know him as the friendly face in the high vis jacket who welcomes them at the gates in the morning and is the last person they see at the end of the day. He is more than a site manager—he is a trusted friend, a supportive colleague, a helper, a joker, an entertainer and even a bodyguard when needed. He is someone the whole Downsview community has always been able to count on. We will miss his booming voice (the loudest member of staff!) and that unforgettable laugh that carries down the corridors.

Today, as we say goodbye, we do so with **immense gratitude** and fond **memories**. Mr Cooke has touched the lives of staff, children and families in ways words cannot fully express. So here's to you, Mr Cooke—our site manager, paint expert, IT troubleshooter, bouncer, loudest yet softest guy in the room and an all-around legend. We will miss you more than you know and we are incredibly thankful for everything you have done.

I've heard that one of Mr Cooke's favourite moments at Downsview (besides time with Joey) is when the school is quiet, everyone has gone home and he stands on the hill, looking out over the grounds—the view stretching into London as the sun sets, taking it all in. Now, Mr Cooke, it's your time to find a new favourite place beyond **Downsview**—wherever that may be. Just don't forget us.

Thank you, Steve and enjoy your next chapter—you've truly earned it.

DATES FOR THE DIARY...

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



NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER

[Sustainability Calendar LINK](#)

Weds 19th EYFS Prospective parents tour 9am - 10.30am

Thurs 20th Yr 6 Come Dine with Me!

Book Fair ENDS

Fri 21st Yr 6 Height & Weight checks

Mon 24th LAST WEEK OF CLUBS

FOD - Santa/Grinch Breakfast

Thurs 27th Bring You Parent To School Day (BYPTSD)- Oracy- pg4 for more detail

Fri 28th Winter Fair Donations - Mufti Day

Tues 2nd EYFS Prospective parents tour 9am - 10.30am

Fri 5th Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Lunch (check out the website for the menu)

FOD - Winter Fair (2pm-5pm)



Autumn

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

Spring

**5th Jan - 27th March
2026**

Half Term: 16th- 20th Feb

Easter holidays: 30th

March - 10th Apr 2026

Inset days: 5th Jan 2026

SUMMER

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

We want to hear from you!

Please take a few minutes to fill out our questionnaire and share your thoughts - especially constructive suggestions that can help us grow and improve.
Your voice really matters!

Please click the below link ✨

[Downsview Parent Questionnaire](#)



REMINDER

To enter front gates at Biggin Way, press Bell icon.

If you need to reach the Extended Schools Team directly, please use our new contact number: 07857 500544.

Parent

Governor

Opportunity

An email has been sent out with a detailed letter explaining all the steps to follow if you'd like to become a Parent Governor.

Be part of something meaningful —help make our school the best it can be! 💛

Help Us GO VIRAL

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Now sit back and enjoy the film!

[CLICK ME!](#)

Dont forget to follow us on Insta, Facebook & subscribe to our Youtube page.



Instagram: [Downsviewprimary_croydon](#)

Facebook: [Downsview Primary and Nursery School](#)

Youtube: [@meghanpughandjoeytheschool9677](#)



Thursday 27th November

9am - 10am

***if you have more than one child, please choose one classroom to visit only**

Reception

Come and see us learning our phonics

Come into school with your children for register and enjoy a session with an oracy focus

Year 1

Come and see us learning our phonics

BYPTSD

**Year 1-6 parents
KS2 hall
9.25-10am**

Oracy workshop on how to encourage your child at home

Year 2

Come and see us reading and learning fluency



**Reception
parents KS1
Hall 9.25-10am**

Phonics workshop

Year 4-6

Come and see us in our reading lessons and how oracy is encouraged

Year 3

Come and see us in our reading groups and how we are encouraged to read with expression



BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATES



Can technology ever help us too much?

Nike has revealed a new type of powered shoe, called Project Amplify, which uses small motors to boost a person's walking and running movement. The shoes are designed to reduce tiredness and make everyday movement easier, especially for those who need extra support. Nike says the aim is to help people stay active, independent and mobile in their daily lives.

Things to talk about at home.

Explain and share your thoughts with someone at home about the new shoe design.

Do you believe everyone should be allowed to use the same technology, or should some things be only for people who really need them?

Can you think of other technologies designed to make life easier? Which do you use?

[CLICK HERE](#)



Positive NEWS



The Earthshot Prize revealed its winners

The Colombian capital Bogota has been crowned one of this year's Earthshot Prize winners, following the city's ambitious - and successful - efforts to cut air pollution.

Bogota (main picture) has laid the biggest cycle network in Latin America, deployed one of the world's largest electric bus fleets, and greened swathes of the city. These efforts have reportedly helped cut air pollution by 24% since 2018 - an achievement acknowledged by the Earthshot Prize.

Launched in 2020 by Prince William, the award showcases solutions to environmental problems and helps their creators scale up by awarding them £1m each. The latest winners were announced at a star-studded event in Rio de Janeiro on Wednesday, ahead of the Cop30 climate conference.

The other victors were: re.green, a project that's restoring Brazil's Atlantic Forest (pictured); The High Seas Treaty, a global agreement to protect international waters; Lagos Fashion Week, which is making sustainable clothing cool; and Friendship, an initiative to help vulnerable Bangladeshi communities prepare for natural disasters.

"Their work is the proof we need that progress is possible," said Prince William. "Their stories are the inspiration that gives us courage. There's a great deal we can learn from their determination, their vision for scale, and their unyielding belief that we can create a better world."

[Click here for the clip](#)



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

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 19TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 9.00AM - 10.30 AM

TUESDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2025 AT 9.00AM - 10.30 AM



Have you applied yet?

Primary School Admissions 2026/2027



Was your child **born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022?**

Then you **MUST APPLY** now!

www.croydon.gov.uk/admissions

1. Find out about schools in Croydon.
2. Check the admissions criteria for your preferred schools - most schools receive more applications than available places.
3. Don't delay, apply online today! Closing date 15 January 2026

9 out of 10 parents apply on time.
Parents who apply on time are more likely to secure a place at a preferred school.

Apply Now

[f /ilovecroydon](https://www.facebook.com/ilovecroydon) [t @yourcroydon](https://twitter.com/yourcroydon)

Delivering for Croydon | **CROYDON**
www.croydon.gov.uk

Special Menu
Christmas

Friday 5th December

Roast Turkey with Sage & Onion Stuffing and Chicken & Beef Sausage
Halal Roast Turkey with Sage & Onion Stuffing and Halal Chicken & Beef Sausage
Vegan Cranberry & Roasted Vegetable Wellington

Served with Roasted Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Peas, Carrots & Gravy

Dessert
Gingerbread Brownie

DM2HalalNon Downsview Primary School

pabulum
HOMESTYLE GOOD FOOD

REUSE • REPURPOSE • RECYCLE

Bring and Swap your old Christmas Jumpers in November's EcoLiving Fest

CHRISTMAS JUMPER BIG SWAP

From the Community to the Community
15th November 2025 • From 1pm to 4pm
• Holy Innocents Church Hall

Eco Living Fest!

A bi monthly event run for the community by the community

free entry

SAT 15TH NOVEMBER
1-4PM
HOLY INNOCENTS
CHURCH HALL
SOUTH NORWOOD
192A SELHURST ROAD
SE25 6XX

ELECTRICAL REPAIR • KIDS ZONE
LEARN CLOTHES MENDING • BICYCLE REPAIR
SWEET & SAVOURY VEGAN FOOD & DRINKS
ENERGY ADVICE • ETHICAL FINANCIAL SERVICES RANKINGS • CLOTHES SWAP
CLEANING & BODY CARE REFILLS • FOOD GROWING INFO & ADVICE • PLANT-BASED DIET INFO & ADVICE • DROP OFF TERRACYCLE ITEMS

festive edition

FREE WORKSHOP!
NATURAL WREATH-MAKING!

learn more about our events and how to get involved at sustainablethorntonheath@gmail.com

Polish for an A+

Preparation for GCSE and A Level Polish exams.

Teacher with over 20 years of experience working with bilingual children.

- ✓ Learning Polish from scratch.
- ✓ Support with returning to the Polish education system.
- ✓ Certified AQA examiner.

AQA Approved Examiner 2025

Have questions?
Call and find out more.
+44 7925 413745

INDIVIDUAL APPROACH • EFFECTIVE METHODS • FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE

Location: South West London, student home visit.

0191 20 • 0191 21 • 0191 22 • 0191 23 • 0191 24 • 0191 25 • 0191 26 • 0191 27 • 0191 28 • 0191 29 • 0191 30 • 0191 31 • 0191 32 • 0191 33 • 0191 34 • 0191 35 • 0191 36 • 0191 37 • 0191 38 • 0191 39 • 0191 40 • 0191 41 • 0191 42 • 0191 43 • 0191 44 • 0191 45 • 0191 46 • 0191 47 • 0191 48 • 0191 49 • 0191 50 • 0191 51 • 0191 52 • 0191 53 • 0191 54 • 0191 55 • 0191 56 • 0191 57 • 0191 58 • 0191 59 • 0191 60 • 0191 61 • 0191 62 • 0191 63 • 0191 64 • 0191 65 • 0191 66 • 0191 67 • 0191 68 • 0191 69 • 0191 70 • 0191 71 • 0191 72 • 0191 73 • 0191 74 • 0191 75 • 0191 76 • 0191 77 • 0191 78 • 0191 79 • 0191 80 • 0191 81 • 0191 82 • 0191 83 • 0191 84 • 0191 85 • 0191 86 • 0191 87 • 0191 88 • 0191 89 • 0191 90 • 0191 91 • 0191 92 • 0191 93 • 0191 94 • 0191 95 • 0191 96 • 0191 97 • 0191 98 • 0191 99 • 0191 00



KNITTING & STITCHING OLD JUMPERS

Prepare for winter and bring your old jumpers to our dedicated stall. Come to our Bimonthly EcoLiving Fest
Saturday, 15th November 2025,
at Holy Innocents Church in South Norwood

Dreaming of a greener

CHRISTMAS



I'M DREAMING OF A GREENER CHRISTMAS

5 QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF BEFORE BUYING A NEW ITEM:

- 🌱 Do I need it?
- 🌱 Could I buy this secondhand or borrow it?
- 🌱 Will I use it regularly and have room to store it?
- 🌱 If the item was full price, would I still buy it?
- 🌱 What kind of company am I buying from?

7 SUSTAINABLE GIFT IDEAS:

- 🌱 Secondhand and homemade
- 🌱 Experiences and activities
- 🌱 Gift vouchers
- 🌱 Charity donations
- 🌱 Sponsor a tree, woodland, animal, farmland
- 🌱 Subscriptions or memberships
- 🌱 Time together, not more stuff.

ONE CHANGE TO MAKE:

Use furoshiki or reusable gift bags for wrapping.



Gifts



I'M DREAMING OF A GREENER CHRISTMAS

1 billion Christmas cards

1,          

Will end up in the bin.



Shiny and glitter-encrusted cards are microplastics and cannot be recycled.



Glitter ends up in our seas and in the stomachs of marine animals and is fatal.

ONE CHANGE TO MAKE:

Send e-Cards or make a charity donation instead of sending cards.

BETTER STILL:

Use dontsendmeacard.com as an individual or a corporate to donate to charity (including Greener and Cleaner) and send e-cards.



SPORT AT DOWNSVIEW



ORIENTEERING FESTIVAL CROYDON PARTNERSHIP



On Thursday 13th November, 10 children from year 5 went to an orienteering festival at Park hill junior school. The children took part in a variety of events compromising of

orienteering skills followed by a mini competition. The children were joined by Mr Cooke for his last ever Orienteering festival at Downsview. The weather was great and the children had a fantastic time.

Victor said: "We had a great time and it was fun to spend time out with my friends."



BADMINTON FESTIVAL CROYDON PARTNERSHIP

On Monday 10th November 10 children from years 3 and 4 took part in a badminton festival at Archbishop Tenison high school, we travelled to the school by minibus. The children took part in a

series of stations and were given the opportunity to practice racket skills and different techniques. The children all had a fantastic time. Downsview made it through to the final and will be representing Croydon

Schools on the 27th November in Essex! Zion said " I loved going to play badminton and being on the minibus with other children, it was so much fun!"



FOD NEWS



Your school needs you



Join the community effort
Volunteer today

We urgently need volunteers for the Winter Fair!

If you can spare **just one hour**, it would make a huge difference.

Right now, we don't have enough parent helpers, and the **fair is at real risk of being cancelled**.

Children can be collected from 2pm, or they may stay at school until the usual pick-up time (3:15pm).

This means that if you choose to volunteer, you can help from 2–3pm and then collect your child to enjoy the rest of the fair together.



To volunteer, please sign up using the QR code linking to the Google document.

VOLUNTEER ONE HOUER OF YOUR TIME!

POCEMONS CARDS !

We collect any unwanted Pokémon cards!

If you're sick of them lying around, or your child has way too many duplicates, don't secretly throw them away at night like a guilty Team Rocket member.

Donate them to the school instead — we happily adopt orphaned Pikachus, lonely Charmanders, and flocks of identical Magikarps.



Catch 'em... and then send 'em to us! 😊



WINTER IS THE TIME FOR HOT CHOCOLATE



EVERY FRIDAY!

**AT 3.15 PM NEAR
THE SCHOOL OFFICE**

Plain Hot Chocolate.	- £1.50
"The Works" Hot Chocolate (whipped cream, sprinkles and marshmallows)	- £2.50
Tea or Coffee	- £1.00
Snacks	- £0.50
Sweet-bags	- £1.00

**FREE DISCUIT WITH EVERY
HOT DRINK**

VEGAN & HALAL options are available!



Bring your own
hot drinks cup to
get 50p discount!



CRAFTS AT DOWNSVIEW CHURCH

All children up to 12 years are
welcome to attend our free
session with a responsible adult.

**9TH DECEMBER
3:30-5:00PM**

THEME: CHRISTMAS



UNIFORM SALE!!

**12TH DECEMBER
FROM 2.45PM**

Every item £1 or fill a bag for £5

Location: School reception area

**Help us to reuse uniforms and
save the environment!**

Please donate any clean, undamaged
uniform in the red bin outside the
office at the recycling point.



**DON'T
FORGET**

DATE TO REMEMBER

- 20th November – FOD Coffee Morning
- 24th November – Santa and Grinch Breakfast 8:30-9:30 am
- 28th November– Mufti day – Don't forget your donation!
- 5th December – Christmas Fair 2-5 pm
- 12th December -Uniform SALE – Last in this Year

Every Friday, we have a hot chocolate sale and a Minimal Eco

PLAY FOR ADULTS.

THE UNFRIEND BY STEVEN MOFFAT

27TH NOVEMBER 2025 - SAT 29TH NOVEMBER 2025

DOWNSVIEW METHODIST CHURCH HALL, SE19 3XH

TICKET

ANOTHER PLANET

Streatham's premier destination
for out of this world fun!



**Mini Astronauts
(ages 0-8)**
Explore our galactic soft
play zone – zoom, bounce
and slide into a universe of
fun!



**Grown-up
co-pilots**
Unwind in our cosmic cafe
– Enjoy barista coffee and
other-worldly cakes whilst
the kids explore



**Birthday
mission?**
Book one of our stellar
party packages and let us
take your celebration to
new heights!



524-528 Streatham High Road, SW16 3QF / @AnotherPlanet_SW16
Come & see why everyone's saying Another Planet is the place to launch your next family adventure!