



Downsview Newsletter

24TH OCT

<https://www.downsview.croydon.sch.uk/>

2025

Let's GO VIRAL

COMMENT
BELOW

Parents EVENING

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the very first screening of our new promotional video. We are incredibly proud of this film, as it truly reflects the heart of Downsview—our core values and our golden rule of respect.

This video is much more than images and words; it captures the spirit of our school community. At Downsview, we are a family. Although we don't always get everything perfect, our commitment is always to put the children at the centre of everything we do. Your partnership and support as parents are vital to making this possible.

A special thank you to the amazing team who brought this vision to life—Ms Dixon and Mrs Charalambous for their creativity and leadership and Ethan Roberts, who generously volunteered his time to fly the drone, showcasing our beautiful grounds. We are also grateful to Ben Gold and Sasha Neal for their expert work in capturing everything we hoped for and more.

And, of course, a heartfelt thanks to all the staff, parents and children whose dedication, love, and passion make Downsview such a unique and inspiring place to learn and grow.

We hope this video gives you a genuine sense of what makes Downsview so special—our nurturing, respectful, and inspiring environment.

Together, as a school family, we will continue to work hard, learn, and grow, always keeping our children at the heart of all we do.

Thank you once again for your ongoing partnership and support. We look forward to continuing this journey with you.

Now sit back and enjoy the film!

[CLICK ME!](#)

Thank you so much for everything.

Thank you and we appreciate the time to speak.

Thank you Ms King for doing a fantastic job!

Thank you for all the feedback.

Ms Becker you are the best!

Thank you Ms King, Mrs Golding, Ms Gouws and Ms Spencer! Our son loves you so much and feels so safe at Downsview.

Thank you R & Y2

Thank you to all of Y1 Ms Johnson

Thank you Ms Becker and Ms Charlton for creating a fab Nursery experience!

Thank you to Ms Becker, Ms Gray and to all the teachers, for all the amazing experiences you all are providing for kids.

Thank you Ms Francis

Brilliant thanks

How amazing to see such great progress so early in the year! Thank you team

Thanks Mrs Malik

Thank you Mrs Malik for a very detailed report

Thank you Miss Elgamal, you are amazing!

Our son is so happy in Y3-fab parent meeting

Hugest thanks as always to all you amazing teachers.

Thank you Miss Moir

Thank you, really well supported and information given.

Enjoy your half term well deserved!

Thank you for making Y4 amazing and enjoyable for our daughter Mr Stevenson.

Thank you Miss Davidson, you are fab and the kids love you!

Big thank you to you all for your hard work and dedication teaching our children! We LOVE you!

Thank you Ms Gray and Mrs Barber- Macleod
Amazing teachers- what lucky kids!



DATES FOR THE DIARY...

LINK TO WEBSITE CALENDAR...

Eco Calendar 2025

October



October

Happy Half Term!

[Sustainability Calendar LINK](#)

MON 27TH - FRI 31ST OCTOBER HALF TERM



NOVEMBER



Mon 3 rd	Yr 6 PGL - ALL WEEK
Tues 4 th	Yr 1 Come Dine with Me!
Weds 5 th	EYFS Prospective parents tour 9.00am - 10.30am
Tues 11 th	EYFS Prospective parents tour 9.00am - 10.30am
Thurs 13 th	Book Fair
Fri 14 th	Children in Need - Mufti Day
Weds 19 th	EYFS Prospective parents tour 9.00am - 10.30am
Thurs 20 th	Yr 6 Come Dine with Me! Book Fair ENDS
Mon 24 th	LAST WEEK OF CLUBS
Thurs 27 th	FOD - Wreath Making



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

HAPPY Diwali

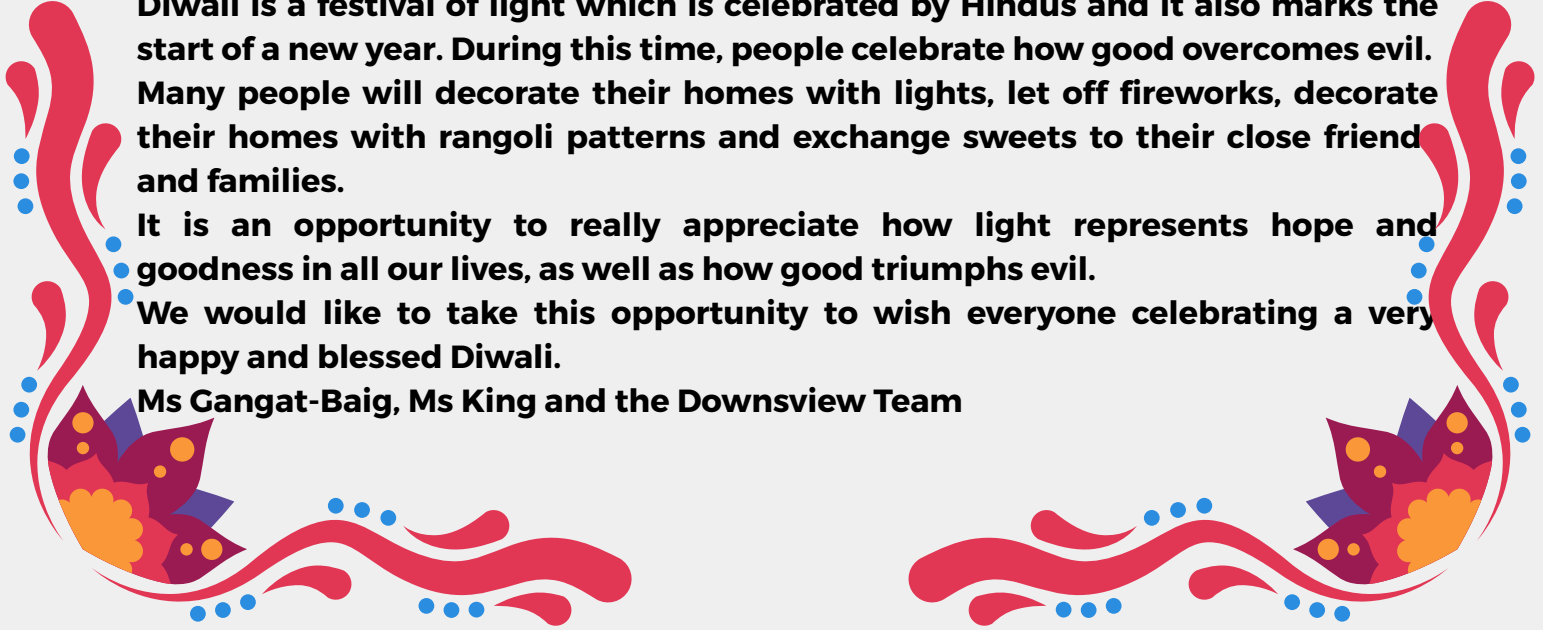
This week at Downsview, the children have been learning about the festival of Diwali, celebrated by many in our community and around the world.

Diwali is a festival of light which is celebrated by Hindus and it also marks the start of a new year. During this time, people celebrate how good overcomes evil. Many people will decorate their homes with lights, let off fireworks, decorate their homes with rangoli patterns and exchange sweets to their close friends and families.

It is an opportunity to really appreciate how light represents hope and goodness in all our lives, as well as how good triumphs evil.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone celebrating a very happy and blessed Diwali.

Ms Gangat-Baig, Ms King and the Downsview Team



JOIN OUR TEAM



School Caretaker -Grade 5 – Scp 13-15 (£33,012 - £33,987) - Hours per week: 36 hours (10.30 - 6.30pm) Full time – All Year Round - Permanent

Downsview is a vibrant, inclusive and dog friendly school – and we're looking for a reliable, proactive and hands on person to help keep our school safe, clean and welcoming for everyone. If you take pride in your work, love being part of a friendly team and want to make a real difference in our school community, we'd love to hear from you!

Part-Time School Cleaner - Grade 1 - Scp 2-3 (£28,221 - £28,617 pro rata) Hours per week - 10 hours (3.30pm - 5.30pm) Part time

Special perk: If you have a child at Downsview in Reception to Year 6, you can use our afterschool childcare free of charge during your working hours!

For full details of the roles, please visit our school website:

www.downsview.croydon.sch.uk



BEYOND THE SCHOOL GATES



What makes someone worthy of a Nobel Prize?

This year's Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to María Corina Machado from Venezuela. The Nobel Prizes are special international awards, given each year to people who have made outstanding contributions to science, literature, and peace. Machado has worked peacefully to make her country fairer and to protect people's rights. The award recognises her bravery in speaking out for fairness and freedom, and highlights the importance of non-violent action in creating change.

Things to talk about at home...

Ask somebody older than you at home about their knowledge of Nobel Prizes. Can they recall any winners from the past? Should children be able to win prizes like the Nobel Prize if they make a big difference? Discuss your response with someone at home. If you could invent a new Nobel Prize, what would it be for?

[CLICK HERE](#)



Positive NEWS

Green turtles came back from the brink

A decades-long mission to save green turtles from extinction hit a major milestone this week as the species came off the 'endangered' list.

In an update to its itinerary of threatened creatures, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) reclassified the green turtle from 'endangered' to 'least concern'.

It's a huge win for conservationists who have been working with fisheries to cut turtle bycatch by deploying turtle-safe nets, and with coastal communities to protect and restore vital nesting beaches.

The reclassification offers hope at a time when more species are being added to the IUCN's red list. According to the latest update, released this week, 61% of bird species are now in decline.

"This is a major win for turtle conservation and proof that coordinated action can reverse populations at risk of extinction," said Christine Madden of the WWF, which has led efforts to save the species.



[Click here for the clip](#)



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?



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

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

 /ilovecroydon

 @yourcroydon

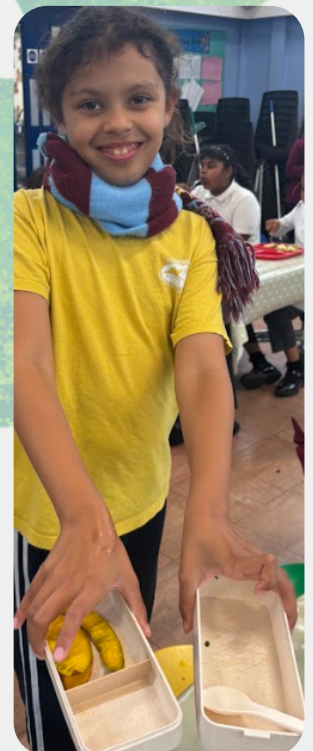
Delivering for Croydon

CROYDON
www.croydon.gov.uk

HERO ZERO



Last week, the KS2 pupils all took part in Zero Hero week. This is an initiative to help raise awareness of the importance of not wasting food and to reduce the food waste in school. Each child who finished all their food got a token which went into a box for their class. The class with the most tokens across the week is awarded with the Banana Trophy to proudly display in their classroom until the next Zero Hero week. This time the winners were.....3 Frog!!!! A huge well done to them and all the children who received tokens throughout the week .



School

FUND 25-26

Schools are constantly having to work to very tight budgets and we rely greatly on the kind generosity and support of our parents. Each school year we ask parents if they are willing to contribute to the School Fund. This voluntary contribution allows the school to purchase additional resources for the children and this year we would love to purchase some additional equipment for our outdoor learning areas.

We would like to suggest a minimum contribution of £30 per family.

Your contributions are greatly appreciated and can be made on-line using the Magicbooking website. Please log into your account, go the E-Shop and select the item School Fund 2025-2026

THANK YOU!



**PSSA HAS ARRIVED IN...
CRYSTAL PALACE**

Join us for a free workshop day learning the songs, dances and scenes from your favourite film!

KPOP DEMON HUNTERS

Wednesday 5th November
The Norwood School

5-6pm 4-6yrs
5-8pm 6-16yrs

Performance for parents at pick up!

Meet the PSSA teachers and discover expert led training for stage and screen in your area.

To book your FREE spot simply email info@pssa.co.uk but hurry - limited spaces available!



This Half Term, Miss Smith will be running another 'Fangtastic' Halloween Arts and Crafts Day, on Friday 31st October. The course will be run here at Downsview from 9am till 3pm with both pupils and non-pupils of the school welcome. For more information and bookings, visit: <https://art-yard-creative.square.site>



**BLOOM
THROUGH
NATURE
FOREST SCHOOL**

Mr B and Miss Dickens

Last Camp until Easter 2026!
Date: 27th-28th October
Time: 9am-3pm
Year Groups: Ages 5- 11
Downsview Primary School

Cost: £35 per day price includes campfire snacks and materials for bush craft

For more information or to book a place please email:

Bloomthroughnatureforestschool@outlook.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.
SW16 • SW17 • SW18 • SW19 • SW20 • SW2 • SW4 • SW9 • SW12 SE21 • SE24 • SE27 • CR0 • CR4 -and surrounding areas

AUTUMN DISCO

The kids had an amazing time at the disco — lots of dancing, jumping, and expressing themselves!

A big thank you to all the parents who made such an effort to create fabulous costumes. Every child felt special and truly in character. Here are some photos to give you a glimpse of the fun!



NEWS FROM THE DOWNSVIEW DASHERS:



Last Sunday people ran either the **5k or 10k** and that we had several Personal Best times, new longest distances, first time runners, podium finishers and that we pretty much dominated the over 40's category.

We will be organising further runs for parents and carers and anyone who's interested should get in touch at our email or speak to:

Victor – Downsviewdasher@gmail.com"

Friends of Downsview are recruiting

 **Year representatives**

We need one person to take this role in each year group.

why is it so important?

They will help gather and cascade key school and FOD communications, ensuring parents are well-informed and collective feedback is shared effectively.
It is in everyone's best interest.

Key roles:

- Passing on information from the FOD to other parents/carers in their year group (via the year Whatsapp group)
- Spreading the word about all FOD events and answer questions about details (time, date, cost) or contacting the FOD person for help if needed
- Help raise awareness about PTA events to encourage participation and engagement from parents

More info will be in the newsletter with full description.

If you think this is your role or would like to know more please email us: friends@downsview.croydon.sch.uk.



YEAR REPRESENTATIVES

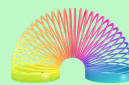
THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR INTEREST

5TH NOVEMBER

DONATIONS

WE WOULD NEED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS NOW:

- party bags, gift bags (any size, any kind)
- party bag fillers
- toys (new, used)
- xmas wrapping paper
- books (new and used)
- soft toys (new and used)



If you donate used toys, books, please make sure **they are in good condition and fully working.**



NOVEMBER

Christmas Wreath workshop



Calling the **ADULTS** only for an evening of creative fun, cakes and some bubbly!

Downsview Primary School, SE19 3XE

NOVEMBER 27th/ Thursday 5-8 pm

Festive refreshments are available (cakes, mince pie, prosecco & lemonade) to purchase.



BOOK TICKETS



Christmas Wreath Workshop

Come and join me to make a beautiful wreath ready for the festive season.

With festive tunes and creative Christmas fun, what could be a better way of getting into the Christmas mood.

All materials provided, with step-by-step guidance to take you from start to finish.

Tickets are £45/person (including a drink). Only very limited spaces available so please book yours ASAP here:

<https://pta.events/9gagvs83>

SCHOOL LOTTERY:

We are funding the Book vending machine and school library books with the income.

Currently, we have 10 Lottery ticket holders, which is not even enough to buy the books for the vending machine. You have a chance to win every week!

Please sign up and support us! It costs less than a coffee in a month.

IF YOU ACTIVELY TAKE PART IN THE LOTTERY, YOUR CHILD WILL RECEIVE 5 GAME TOKENS FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL FAIR.

[Click here!](#)



Celebrations

Values

N- Sophia

R-Sorrel

R-Felix

R-Aieda

Y1 - Hannah

Y1 - Jonathan

Y1 - Romi

Y2 - Musta

Y2 - Khadijah

Y2 - Nancy

Y3 - Dylan

Y3 - George

Y3 - Kevin

Y4 - Taran

Y4 - Marley

Y4 - Zoe

Y5 - Folashade

Y5 - Susie

Y5 - Jasmine

Y6 - David

Y6 - Adam

Y6 - Luna

Effort

N- Sisu

R - Toby

R-Salvatore

R-Malik-Josiah

Y1 -Ahad

Y1 - Annabelle

Y1 - Alayna

Y2 - Luke

Y2 - Aahid

Y2 - Ebrahim

Y3 - Elodie

Y3 - Sophie

Y3 - Rivka

Y4 - Aliabbas

Y4 - Leo

Y4 - Maxon

Y5 - Muhammad

Y5 - Valentina

Y5 - Victor

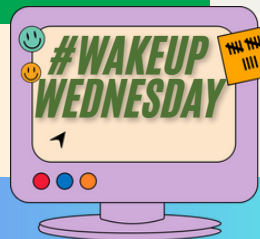
Y6 - Sofia

Y6 - Penny

Y6 - Willa



Fortnite's



Fortnite's latest season is packed with eye-catching features – but that can mean longer screen time, pressure to spend, and the lure of party chat with strangers 🎮 This week's #WakeUpWednesday guide shines a spotlight on what parents and educators need to know to help young players stay safe.

From comical dance emotes to realistic weapons and big-name collaborations, Fortnite is a cultural heavyweight. But even with its PEGI 12 rating, many younger children are joining the action. Our new guide explores the risks – and offers useful, clear advice for trusted adults.

[Click here for more information](#)

