



Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and holds great significance for Muslims around the world. This year, Ramadan will be observed from 18th February 2026 until 20th March 2026.

During Ramadan, Muslims fast daily from before sunrise until after sunset, as fasting is one of the Five Pillars of Islam and a key spiritual practice. However, Ramadan is about much more than abstaining from food and drink. It is a time for reflection, self-improvement, and spiritual growth.

This month marks the period when the Holy Quran was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Throughout Ramadan, Muslims focus on becoming better individuals by performing good deeds, giving charity, reading the Quran, and working on their character. It is also a time to appreciate their blessings and remember those in need.

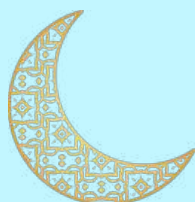
Fasting during Ramadan helps build self-discipline, commitment, and greater self-awareness.

For families with children who will be fasting after half term, please refer to our school's Fasting Policy, which provides guidance and support to ensure children's well-being and learning are balanced during this important period.

On behalf of everyone at Downsview, we wish all those observing Ramadan a blessed and peaceful month.

Ramadan Mubarak.

Ms Gangat-Baig and Ms King



World Book Day STEM Week at Downsview



At Downsview, we always strive to provide our pupils with enriching opportunities that **inspire learning and enjoyment**, while ensuring minimal disruption to classroom routines and family schedules.

Next week, we are excited to **celebrate STEM Week**, a highlight of our academic calendar filled with **engaging** activities, special **assemblies**, and **educational trips**. Given the importance of STEM learning, this year we have chosen to prioritise STEM Week, which coincides with **World Book Day**.

As many of you know, Downsview is proud to be a school that **champions reading**. Our dedicated **Reading Ambassadors** lead a variety of exciting book-related activities throughout the year. Although we will not be dressing up for World Book Day this year, pupils will still take part in a range of reading events across the school.

A particular highlight will be a visit from acclaimed London author Abiola Bello on **Wednesday 4th March**. Abiola has written many beloved books, including *Wild Magic* and *Love in Winter Wonderland*. We are thrilled to **welcome** her to Downsview and encourage you to learn more about her work here: [Abiola Bello's Website](#).

We look forward to a fantastic week of **learning, reading and discovery!**



2026

DATES FOR THE DIARY

LINK TO WEBSITE

CALENDAR...



MARCH

[Sustainability Calendar LINK](#)



Careers (STEM Week)

Mon 2nd Year 5 - Whitgift ALL WEEK

Weds 4th

Author **Visit**

Thurs 5th

World Book Day Lunch

Book Fair - **Ends**

Fri 6th

BYPTSD - **DT-Exhibition 2:30-3:45pm KS2 Hall**

FOD - Decorate a peg competition entries

Fri 13th

FOD - Mother's Day Gift Shop

Mother's Day Event (**N-Year 2**) 2.30pm-3.15pm

Tues 17th

Year 6 - CLINK MUSEUM TRIP

Mon 23rd

Last Week of Clubs

Individual photos

Tues 24th

Individual photos

Tues 24th

Downsview's Got Talent

Thurs 26th

Year 5 Trip to London Eye

Fri 27th

School **finishes** at **1.15pm** for **ALL** children

Mon 30th March - Fri 10th April - Easter Holidays

Mon 13th - Fri 17th - Year 4 Cricket Swimming - ALL WEEK

Tues 14th

Dance Squad - Regionals

Sat 18th

FOD - Boot Fair

Mon 20th - Fri 24th Year 4 Ladybird Swimming - ALL WEEK

Mon 27th

Joey's Birthday week

Fri 1st

Joeys' Birthday BBQ

Mon 4th Bank Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

Thurs 7th

Year 5 - Come Dine with Me!

Year 1 Squirrel - Trip to Pizza Express

Sat 9th

FOD Jumping Jacks

Mon 11th - Fri 15th Year 4 Dragonfly Swimming - ALL WEEK

Mon 18th - Fri 22nd Year 4 Goldfinch Swimming - ALL WEEK

Weds 20th

Year 2 - Come Dine with Me!

Thurs 21st

Dare to be Different Day

Term Dates

Spring

5th Jan - 27th March 26

Half Term: 16th - 20th Feb

Easter holidays:

30th March - 10th Apr 26

Inset day: 5th Jan 26

SUMMER

13th Apr - 22nd May 26

Half Term: 25th - 29th May

1st June - 20th July 26

Inset days: 20th July 26 & 22nd May 26

Bank Holiday: 4th May 26

Autumn

2nd Sept - 23rd Oct 26

Half-term: 26th Oct - 30th Oct

2nd Nov - 18th Dec 26

Inset days: TBC

Should school uniforms be the same for everyone?

Brynteg School in Wales has said that from September, skirts will no longer be part of the school uniform. Instead, all children will wear trousers or shorts.

The school says this will make the uniform more practical and fairer for everyone, but some parents and pupils have different opinions about the change. This announcement has added to discussions about school rules, fairness, and whether uniforms should be the same for all children.

- Talk to someone older at home about your and their experiences of school uniform. Have they changed over time?
- Share your thoughts on the changes Brynteg School is making. Do you feel they are positive changes?
- If you could create your own uniform, what would it look like?



[**CLICK HERE**](#)

Positive NEWS



Colombia's deforestation rate fell. Again

Progress halting deforestation continues in Colombia, according to new government data, which points to a 25% year-on-year reduction in tree loss.

The Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies reported that around 36,280 hectares of forest were lost in the first nine months of 2025, compared to 48,500 hectares lost over the same period in 2024.

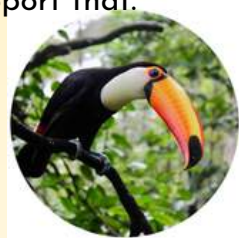
It noted that deforestation had slowed in the Amazon, as well as other regions that have historically struggled with forest loss. Officials pointed to schemes such as the Conservar Paga programme, which provides some 5,000 families with up to \$240 (£175) a month to maintain or restore forests on their properties.

"The sustained reduction of deforestation in the Amazon is the result of collaboration between the national government and communities, through ecological restoration actions, voluntary conservation agreements, strengthening of sustainable production chains and forest management," the government said in a statement.

Research has shown that one of the most effective ways to reduce deforestation is to put Indigenous communities in charge of the land. The latest Colombian data adds more evidence to support that.



[**Click here for the clip**](#)



What Parents & Educators need to know about



WhatsApp

With its end-to-end encryption and huge popularity, WhatsApp is often seen as a private and secure way to stay in touch; however, that same privacy can make it harder for trusted adults to see when things go wrong. This guide explains how features like group chats, disappearing messages, 'Channels' and location sharing can expose young users to pressure, unwanted contact and inappropriate content.

It also looks at emerging concerns such as scams, advertising and the in-app AI assistant, helping adults understand how these elements may affect children and young people. Alongside the risks, the guide offers practical advice to support meaningful conversations, encourage safer settings and build young users' confidence in navigating WhatsApp responsibly.

[WAKE UP WEDNESDAY LINK](#)


Bicycle Workshop

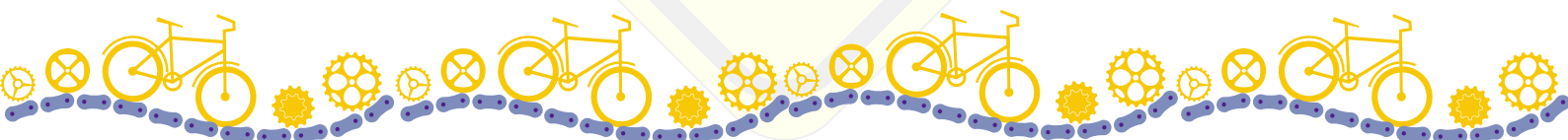
16th March (After School for 45mins)

Join us after school near the Blue Gazebo on the 16th of March for a hands-on bicycle workshop!

Children (and parents) are invited to learn the basics of bike maintenance, including how to check brakes, cables, chains, and tyre pressure to keep bikes safe and road-ready.

If your bike needs a little TLC, bring it along – subject to time and parts availability, we'll take a look and carry out minor repairs where we can.

We look forward to seeing you there and helping everyone ride safely and confidently! 



FA CUP ARRIVED

⚽ ✨ WHAT. A. DAY. ✨ ⚽

A huge thank you to Astley and Aniyah-Leigh's Grandma for making something truly special happen today. Having the FA Cup and the Community Shield at Downsview created so much excitement, wonder and joy across the whole school.

Watch our REEL...

The children were buzzing – and the adults loved it just as much!

An incredible shared moment for our school community!

#downsviewprimary #makingmemories #liveittolearnit



Mr B's Corner

Fun Facts

- First played in 1871 which was won by Wanderers.
- Most appearances in final: Arsenal and Manchester United both 21.
- Most wins Arsenal 14.
- First time played in new Wembley stadium in 1923.
- For the 2025-2026 season, a total of 747 teams entered the FA Cup.
- All time record 763 teams entered 2011-2012 season.
- The first women's FA cup (officially the 1970-1971 WFA Mitre Challenge Trophy) which was held at National Sports Centre.

Y5 Transport Museum



EXPLORING

Year 5 had a fantastic start to the new half term with a trip to The London Transport Museum. We explored the museum and learnt all about London transport from horse-drawn buses in the Victorian era to modern day underground trains.

TRANSPORT

The children also attended a workshop in which they learnt about the transport system and then coded trains in the way that London trains are coded. The workshop was run by professional engineers who work on the London railways - what an amazing experience!



Living the Dream...



GIRLS FOOTBALL



***“There’s really no secret to success.
You make your own success.”***

Alex Morgan

On Thursday 26th February 8 girls from year 4 were invited to enter a girl’s football competition at The Archbishop Lanfranc Academy in Croydon.



The girls played well showing determination, resilience and team work and demonstrated Downsview’s values with pride.



The girls travelled by minibus to the school where they were amongst 12 teams taking part. The competition was hosted by older students from the Lanfranc academy who helped to coach the girls and referee the games.



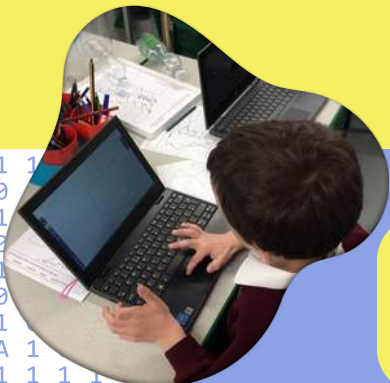
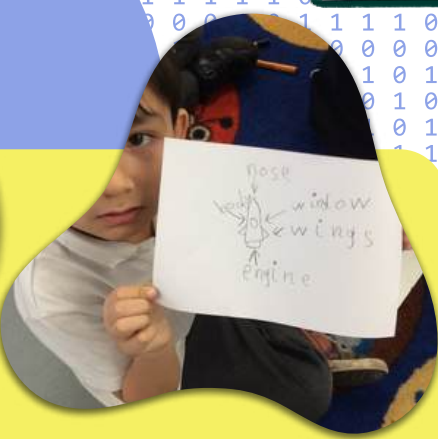
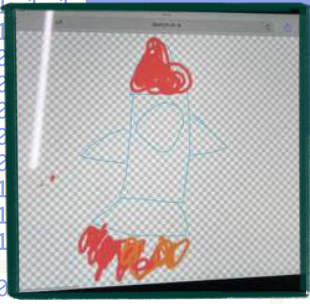
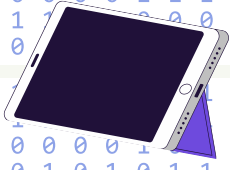
Computing Day!

What we did...

In Year 1, as part of Computing Day, we learned the importance of debugging and noticing mistakes in instructions and correcting them.

We then used these skills to design a space rocket using the app SketchPad, and afterwards we created our rockets using plastic bottles.

It was a fun and creative day for all!



CIRCUS 15th JUNE

Roll up, Roll up!

EARLY BIRD - £11.50 each (after £13.50)
EARLY BIRD SINGLE AND ALL FULL PRICE
TICKETS STILL AVAILABLE

REMEMBER - This event is open to the whole community
so please invite friends/family!
Select adult/guest when booking system asks for class.

www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/

Gates open: 4.45pm Showtime: 6-8pm

This mother's day we celebrate

Wonderful women

Close to our heart

This year, we have prepared one choice of gift but can be given to any woman in your life (auntie, grandma, sister, etc.) for any occasion

This gift will be given the children on **13th March, Friday**



Each Gift is £3.50

Please buy a gift at: www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/



For any events, you can pay at:

www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/



JOEY BAR - SOLD 482 CHOCOLATE BARS!!! (RECORD AMOUNT)



We hope you enjoy the chocolate the kids took home today, and maybe even won a prize as a bonus.

Thank you for making this a very successful event again!

See the pics of some of pictures.

JOEY BAR - FUN IN PHOTOS!!!



Watch our REEL...



For any events, please pay at:
www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/

Exciting Fundraising News!!!!

Match funding record amount donated!

We're delighted to share that a generous parent from our Ducklings class has secured an amazing **£15,182.55** through their employer's match funding programme with Netflix. This means all funds raised so far this academic year have been matched, giving our fundraising a fantastic boost.

Thanks to this support, we have contributed **£9,000** towards the new ground surface under the blue playground gazebo, improving our outdoor space for all the children.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Ducklings' parents for their kindness and generosity

If your company offers match funding and you'd like to support our school, please get in touch. Together, we can continue making a positive difference for our pupils and community.



CAN YOUR BOSS HELP RAISE FUNDS FOR DOWNSVIEW?



Does your employer have a match funding scheme?
Are they willing to match fund any of our events?

Turn over for more info

MATCH FUNDING

We would be grateful if you could find out if your employer has a match funding scheme. If they are willing to match fund any of our events this could be a really large source of income for Downsview and help us raise money to support the school.

It won't cost you a penny!

HOW DOES IT WORK?



The employee runs the ice cream stall at the summer fayre.



The stall makes £128 profit

The employer matches it by donating £128
The employer can claim this charitable donation as an expense.



And just like magic your volunteering becomes twice as important!

If your employer can help please contact Mrs. Gray

FRIENDS OF

For any events, Pay at:

www.pta-events.co.uk/dvps/



Downsview Primary & Nursery
School - Upper Norwood

© Upper Norwood, London

£2,402.73 raised

128 supporters

Refer a friend and earn £1



We're registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 8,000 retailers will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely FREE! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us NOW.



10 new supporters =	Bonus £10
25 new supporters =	Bonus £50
50 new supporters =	Bonus £150

If you sign up this month the school automatically gets **£2** now and more additional bonus payments with every new supporter until **28th Feb!**

Link, QR here and promotional materials attached.

**CRAFTS AT
DOWNSVIEW CHURCH**

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

**10TH MARCH
3:30 - 5:00PM**

THEME: Easter

WORLD BOOK DAY!

Decorate a Dolly Peg as your favourite book character!



IF YOU MISSED PICKING UP YOUR PEG, THERE ARE STILL A FEW PEGS AVAILABLE WITH MRS GRAY.

Return date 6th March



Winners announced: 11th March

MARCH

- **6th** – Return your decorated pegs
- **10th** – Crafts at Downsview Church
- **11th** – Dolly peg competition winners announced

Every **Friday**, we have a hot chocolate sale and a Minimal Eco Refill shop 3:15 pm

COMING SOON

DVPS'S GOT TALENT

R TO Y6

Get ready to unleash your talent!

You can do a solo act or join a group within your year.

3 acts will be chosen to represent the Year group in the final! Might this be you?

MARCH 24TH

TAKE THE PLUNGE INTO WEEKLY LESSONS

Give your child the gift of confidence and safety in and around the water with Better Swim School.

50% OFF INITIAL PAYMENT

Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School and get 50% off your first payment with code SCHOOL50.



Better Swim School



BETTER

Terms and conditions apply. Offer open to new customers only for school children aged between 4 - 12 years. Offer ends on 07/08/2026. Full terms at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. XR43398.

BUY 1 GET 1
FREE

USE CODE

CPFCWSCHOOLS

AT CHECKOUT

ENJOY MATCHDAY ACTIVITIES!

- Player signing session
- Face painting
- Arts and crafts
- Football activities
- And more!



EMPOWERMENT MATCH



WSL2



ADULTS FROM £9
JUNIORS £5

PALACE v FOREST
SUN 15 MAR • 14:00 GMT
V66 COMMUNITY STADIUM

[CLICK HERE TO SECURE YOUR TICKETS](#)

Kids dance classes

St Oswald's Parish Church Hall
St. Oswalds Rd, Norbury, London
SW16 3SB

Fun, friendly, inclusive
Classes introduce music and movement to help develop strength, coordination and mobility. All in a fun, supportive environment that builds confidence and social skills. Children will explore a range of dance styles including ballet, tap and jazz.

Little ones classes launching from Spring term 2026

Places are limited contact us to register your interest

07809582225
sandarandalschoolofdancing@gmail.com

FRIDAYS

LITTLE ONES: 2-10 YRS
4.45PM-5.30PM

BIG KIDS: 11-18 YRS
5.45PM-6.30PM

TERM TIME
£11 PER CLASS

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!



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**

TIME TO CELEBRATE

PE



Celebrations

Values

- N - Frankie
- R - Brielle
- R - Ray
- R - Bryn
- Y1 - Bayleigh
- Y1 - Hugo
- Y1 - Neel
- Y2 - Izaak
- Y2 - Beatrice
- Y2 - Ishaq
- Y3 - Serah
- Y3 - Muhammad
- Y3 - Benjamin
- Y4 - Darcey
- Y4 - Zach
- Y4 - Alice
- Y5 - Cian
- Y5 - Noah
- Y5 - Olivia-Rose
- Y6 - Inaaya
- Y6 - Florence
- Y6 - Danyaal

Effort

- N - Emmanuel
- R - Violet
- R - Magnus
- R - Ruby
- Y1 - Aiden
- Y1 - Noah
- Y1 - Kali
- Y2 - Allegra
- Y2 - Hunter
- Y2 - Aniyah-Leigh
- Y3 - Luqmaan
- Y3 - Oliver
- Y3 - Lorenzo
- Y4 - Laurie
- Y4 - Zach
- Y4 - Muaaz
- Y5 - Lincoln
- Y5 - Bilal
- Y5 - Folashade
- Y6 - Bushra
- Y6 - Kalel
- Y6 - Aden

Ella & Olivia-Rose



Blue House Winners

Attendance

Infant: Caterpillar

KS2: Juniper



Uniform Shed Information

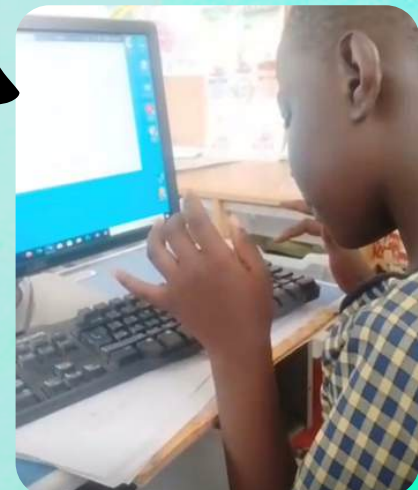
The uniform shed is located on the KS1 playground, next to the train. If you need uniform items outside of sales times, you can contact the uniform shed via email at downsview_uniform@outlook.com

Please note, this email is managed by a parent volunteer and is not a school email address, so it does not follow the school's official communication policy. Uniform items are available for **£1 each**, or you can fill a bag for **£5**.

If you are experiencing any difficulties or need support with uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school office directly. The school team is always here to help and support families as needed.



Up and running in Ghana



Downsview is proud to donate our old tech and school resources to Judah Praise Community Centre – a UK-registered charity that collects books, learning tools and equipment to support children and schools in disadvantaged communities in Ghana, helping reduce waste and boost education.

For more information:

<https://www.judahpraisecommunitycentre.com/>