

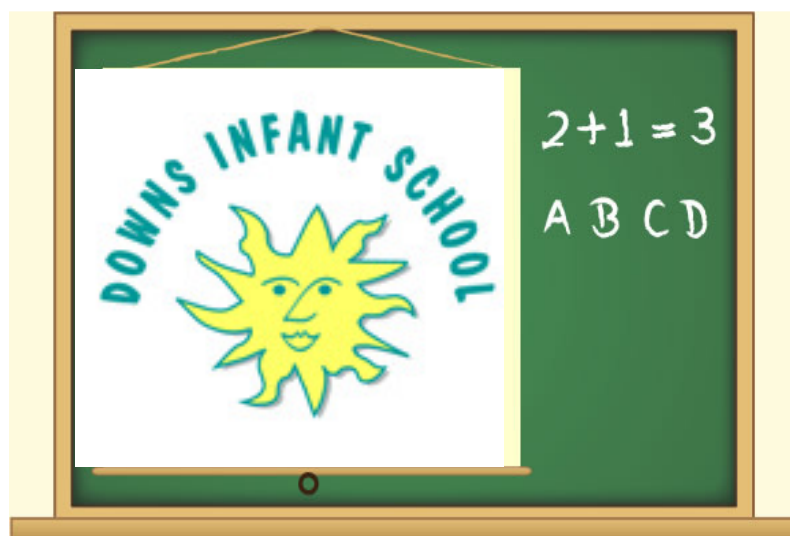
Downs Infant School Newsletter

January 15th 2018

A big welcome back with the first newsletter of the new year!

I hope you all had a restful Christmas holiday. The children have certainly come back enthusiastic and ready to learn, and over the last week and a half have enjoyed the 'stunning starts' that their teachers have used to introduce their Spring topics.

Dr Mitchell

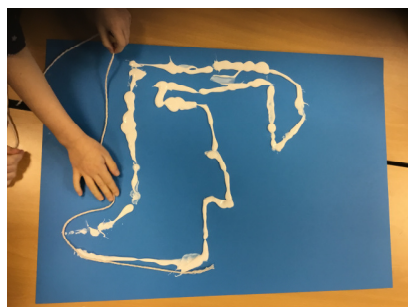


Learning Round Up

What an exciting start to the year! Reception children came in to find a network of roads all over their classrooms and the Ocean. They have been looking at all kinds of vehicles: lorries, cars, fire engines, and on Monday 'Bike It Ben' came in with his bike. He happens to be great friends with Mrs Armitage, and the children thought of lots of ways that she could improve her bike.

In year 1, the children have been immersed in a fairy tale world. They've been reading lots of fairy tales: The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and The Gingerbread Man. They have enjoyed using drama to really get into the characters and help them remember the stories so they can retell them, like traditional storytellers.

There was a strong minty smell in year 2 this week as the teachers set a really tricky challenge: can you measure how much toothpaste there is in a tube? The children got to practise their measuring skills, their problem-solving, and their thinking skills. How do you measure the length of something that isn't straight? How many centimetres in a metre? Is length the best way to measure the quantity of toothpaste?



After School Supervision

Please be reminded that once children have been released to parents/carers at the end of the school day, they are your responsibility. **They must not be allowed to play on school equipment, including the climbing wall in the bottom playground.**

Dates for your diary

(New/changed dates in red)

- 29 Jan Otters trip to Preston Manor
- 31 Jan Squirrels trip to Preston Manor
- 1 Feb Hedgehogs trip to Preston Manor
- 2 Feb Badgers trip to Preston Manor
- 7 February Year 1 Victorian Day (Please speak to teachers if any questions)
- Monday 12 – Friday 16th February, Half Term
- 6 and 7 March Year 2 trips to Lewes Castle
- Lets Dance at the Dome 19 March
- 27 March CD recording – info to follow
- 30 March to 11 April – Easter Holiday, INSET 12 April (School closed to children)

We have received a report about threadworm in Reception. Please be aware and follow NHS advice.
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

★ MVYFC ★

MONTPELIER VILLA FOOTBALL FUN!



Is your son or daughter going to be aged 5 in 2018?

Then come to our Montpelier Villa Youth football fun sessions with our qualified coaches from spring 2018!

- Visit our website to find out more about us.
- Register your interest at montyvillayouth@gmail.com.
- Call Gary on 07989159984 for more information.

montpeliervilla.co.uk

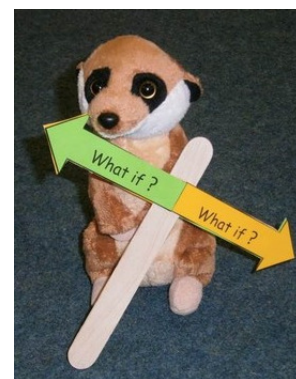
[@MontyVYouth](https://twitter.com/MontyVYouth)

Values Learning

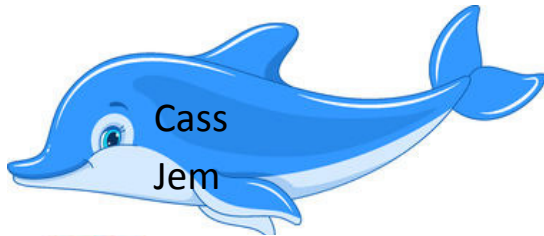
This half term we are finding about our learning heroes Wonder the Meerkat and Boggle the Better Bear. The School council are helping by being 'ambassadors' for Wonder and Boggle.

We will also be looking at Responsibility: How do we take responsibility? How do rules and laws help?

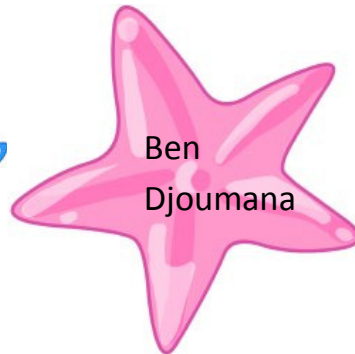
For more information about all our values go to <http://downsinf.schooljotter2.com/>



This week's Bench of Brilliance...



Cass
Jem



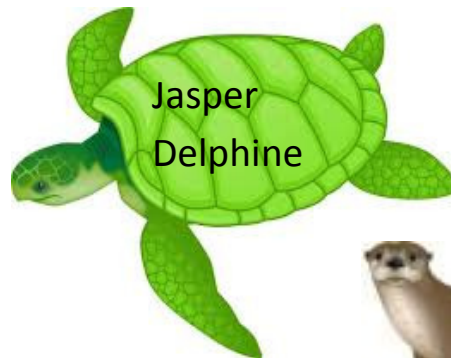
Ben
Djoumana



Isla
Teddy



Emily
Mia



Jasper
Delphine



Pollyanna
Ben



Talyssa
Teddy



Finch
Stanley



Ayura
Marvel



Otis
Dash



Edith
Darcey



Carmon O
Adrijana