

Downs View Newsletter

Friday 16th December 2022

General Information Newsletter: No. 3



Term Dates

Spring Term 2023

3rd Jan-31st March

Half Term: 13th-17th Feb

Summer Term 2023

17th April-20th July

Half Term: 29th May-2nd June

Insets

Monday 5th June 2023

Friday 21st July 2023

Parent/Carer Progress Meetings

DVS: 25th Jan 2023

Notices

The Immunisation Team will be coming into school on Wednesday 4th January 2023. Look out for details on School Ping.

Our PMLD class (Room 6) at DVLC are looking for an old keyboard. If you have one that you can donate please contact the college.

Parent/Carer Coffee Morning—16th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of another very busy and exciting term. After the last couple of years it has been wonderful to be able to enjoy the full variety of Christmas activities again.

We will be saying goodbye to Freja Bhreathnach our Rabbits class teacher at the end of this term. We wish her the best of luck for the future—we will miss her. On the 16th January 2023 we will be holding a parent/carer coffee morning with PaCC. We do hope that some of you will be able to make it. Please look out for reminders on Ping.

Also, parents/carers are very welcome to visit the Fab Café at DVLC. Please just check on the morning that it's open and let them know you are coming. It's open from 10.15 - 11am on Tuesdays.

Please can I remind parents/carers to call in when your child is going to be absent. The numbers to call are below.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and New Year and we look forward to seeing the students/learners back on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.

Best wishes, Vanessa



Absence From School/College

If your child is going to be absent from school/college please call on the numbers below and leave a voicemail before 8am. It is important that you do this so that we can arrange safe staffing levels for every class.

School—01273 601680

Link College—01273 507719

Life Skills - 01273 551028



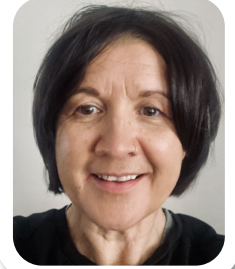


Downs View School



Hello all

We have had a fun packed term with the students now happily settled into the school routines and enjoying a range of exciting learning opportunities. Weekly assemblies have continued with many topical focuses including anti bullying, how we recycle at school, Guy Fawkes and healthy eating to name a few. This term we have welcomed back Rachel McDonald-Taylor as Assistant Head who will focus on our primary department, as well as Helen returning from maternity to Foxes. In the new year we also have the return to 3R of Rachel Gumbrill Roberto—thankyou to Jean who has covered her maternity and now moves to the classroom next door covering the maternity in 3E.



The last few days have been filled with many fun events including a visit from Santa, watching the amazing class Christmas videos and the Christmas discos!

Wishing you all a healthy and happy New Year .

Take Care, Jackie

Makaton Signs of the Term

Each term we thought we would share with you some Makaton signs. Below are the ones for this term.



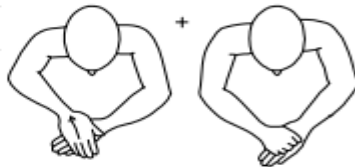
Winter



For cold food
make sign closer
to mouth

Cold

Slide right hand
over back of left
hand towards body,
then close right
hand and place on
back of left hand



Christmas



Holiday



Downs View School



Father Christmas came to visit Downs View on the 13th December. Here is 3JC receiving and enjoying their gifts.





Downs View Link College



Hi everyone

The Christmas holidays are almost here and it has been another busy term at DVLC. The students have been working hard on individual targets and in lessons in class and in the local community.

The Fab Cafe reopened this term and the students have really enjoyed visiting the Fab Cafe on a Tuesday morning. Well done to the students who have visited the cafe and also to the students who have been doing their work experience too.

The beach clean and the follow up art workshop this term were both a great success and linked well to our ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental issues. Each class at college has made an environmental pledge for the coming year.

The first Student Council meeting of the year was held earlier in the term and representatives from all of the classes across the college got together to meet and think about what we like to do at college and what makes us happy and feel safe at college.

As part of our PSHE focus this term, students were then supported in class to complete the health and wellbeing survey which showed the importance of a varied and diverse curriculum and one that particularly includes community trips, opportunities for movement and physical activities and of course time with friends.

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support this term and would also like to thank staff for their hard work and commitment.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone back at DVLC in the new year.

Best wishes , Juliet





Downs View Link College



Year 12 Activities

Year 12 have been studying the story of Greta & the Giants which explores Climate Change through animals who have their homes destroyed by the selfish Giants. They are helped by a young woman called Greta who takes a stand against the Giants. Students have undertaken lots of literacy work on the story and created a wonderful display to celebrate all their hard work.



All of the students at the Link College took part in an Art workshop with Denise with the theme of Under the Sea for an exhibition at the Grange in Rottingdean. Year 12 went on a trip to see their work & the work of other young people in the City. They felt so proud of their work that many of the group took their families to visit during half term, which was wonderful.



Part of the Year 12 curriculum involves taking part in & organising events so the group decided to host a Halloween party. They made spooky food & decorated the classroom. Year 14 provided the entertainment by leading fun games such as pin the tail on the witches' cat & putting your hands in a bowl of slimy spaghetti to hunt for sweets! The party culminated in a high energy disco with everyone enjoying the party atmosphere and the Monster Mash!



Link College Students Beach Clean

As part of our efforts to make the world a better place to live, on Tuesday 29th November 32 students from Downs View Link College, in partnership with Marine Conservation Society (MCS), undertook a beach clean and photography project on Brighton beach. The students, travelled from Link College to Brighton seafront and back on the 5b bus. The tickets were kindly donated by Brighton & Hove Buses. The students also took photographs highlighting the impact humans have on our coastline. The following Tuesday in partnership with PhotoWorks (a local arts charity) the students used photos to create an art display reflecting Brighton beach and the marine environment.



The project is funded by Marine Conservation Society (MCS).



Downs View Link College



Dear learners, parents and carers,

The autumn term has come to an end. In the last weeks learners have been working together and participating actively in the community. We celebrated the 1st Christmas Fair at the Patchman Memorial Hall. It was a fantastic team effort from learners, staff and families. A massive thank you to everyone who made it possible and donated clothes and items. Learners have been busy making soap bars, decorations, Christmas cards, baking and growing plants to sell. It was a huge success with many visitors including members of the public and families. We raised more than £250 towards the learner's enterprise projects!



On top of that, all learners prepared together our traditional Christmas chutney, "stirred" the pot and "thought" of a wish... We hope you enjoy it! We all enjoyed celebrating diversity and events together to support everyone to feel part of the college community.

Involvement and participation with the wider community continue to be essential to enhance the skills of the learners. We had the inclusive theatre "Face Front" performing at college. Learners felt inspired by the actors, who have learning disabilities, and engaged in a workshop and discussion about transitions after the show.

The art partnership with an artist from Brighton University is coming to an end after 6 weeks. The collaboration work has been fantastic and has made an impact on both learners and staff across the college. This will be an essential part of the Art Awards for learners and the Open House. Thank you to the artist, Isabella, for the support provided and for challenging the learners to express themselves through art. Additionally, some learners continued with the work renovating Portslade train station and we set a new plant bed.

To finish, well done to all the learners for working hard to achieve their goals this term and thank you to all staff for their passion and hard work during this term.

On behalf of all staff, have a lovely festive time!

Raul



Downs View Life Skills College
7 Old London Road
Patcham
BN1 8XR

Tel: 01273 551028
Email: DVLSC-ADMIN@dvpsc.schmail.uk

Downs View Life Skills College

Learners from all rooms participated either at college or in the venue to help make 45 present boxes for 45 children! Amazing target!
Learners are actively involved in helping others and the community!



Some learners continued with the work renovating Portslade train station and we set a new plant bed.



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Downs View Life Skills College



ROOM 7

Learners from room 7 have been working very hard this term. We have been part in different activities, such as cooking, sensory stories, math, English, etc., as well as we have worked on our individual targets. We wish you all Merry Christmas .





Downs View School



Our City, Our World Project



Creating with Uncertainty, University of Sussex Project

We have been working for the last 6 months on a project with the University of Sussex looking at the climate emergency through engaging in creative workshops. We had our last session in October where we got to see an exhibition of the work that we had created. We also discussed our thoughts and feelings on climate change and came up with ideas we'd like to see at home and at school/college. Students stated that they would like to see timers on lights or computers so that they could only be used when needed as people often forget to turn things off or turn them on when they are not needed e.g., when light outside. They would like to see things like tin foil which never biodegrades, banned from being sold and they would like there to be less food waste and to learn more about foods grown locally to reduce food miles.



One Tree Day Cake Sale

Year 12 decided to host a cake sale to raise money as part of the annual One Tree Day where participants across the world are asked to raise money by wearing or green or taking part in green activities to raise money to plant trees. They set each class at the Link College a challenge to bake a cake from something that grows from trees. Every class rose to the challenge and we had apple cakes, lemon drizzle and pear tarts to name a few. This raised £71.00, thank you to everyone who donated and to Year 12 for coming up with the idea and hosting the sale!





Downs View School



Our City, Our World Project



Butterfly Haven

Downsview Link College students who have shown an interest in Biodiversity attended the re-opening of the Butterfly Haven nature reserve where we met the Mayor and representatives from all of the Surrenden campus school and colleges. We learnt about the history of the site and the plans for the future including a successful funding bid of £10k to plant more trees across the campus. Students got to meet the Mayor and have refreshments in the environment centre where we were surprised to see the walls insulated with corks, human hair, dog hair and even sheep hair! We look forward to sharing more news about the tree planting project once the details have been confirmed.



Wildlife Count

As part of our work on Sustainability we have been using our senses (sight this term) to connect with our school and college grounds to notice who and what type of Wildlife we co-exist with. This term we are looking at what species we can spot on our sites in Autumn and Winter. We have noticed that we do not see as many Bees or Butterflies but that we still have a large presence of birds, squirrels and even Sheep at the Link College! We will do the Wildlife count each term to notice the differences in species as well as using our other senses, for example what wildlife we can hear.



Swap Shop Returns to the Link College

Last year the Link College hosted a very successful swap shop to reduce the number of items going to landfill. This will take place at the college in December but we are looking for donations for the 'shop'. Therefore if you have any clothes, toys, books, DVDs (no electrical items) that you no longer use at home please could you donate to the link college by dropping off between 9.30am-2.30pm during term time or sending in with your child in a bag labelled Swap Shop or email taniabanks@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk as we may be able to arrange collection from the local area. Thank you for your support.



FRIENDS OF **DOWNS VIEW SCHOOL & LINK COLLEGE**

Friends of Downs View News

Another term done! They do go by quickly.

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Raffle by buying tickets and sending in donations. It was greatly appreciated, especially when we are all watching the pennies. Well done to the lucky winner of our fantastic hamper!

We held our AGM recently and it was a positive, forward looking meeting. Post holders remain as before -

Lisa Burgess, Chair

Peter Mapledoram, Treasurer

Michelle Edser, Secretary

A phased redevelopment of the school playground will be our main project, broken down into manageable 'mini' projects, pending quotes and delivery times for the equipment. We are very excited about this and will keep you informed when we know more detail.

We are hoping to hold an evening event for parents/carers and staff next term, so keep your eyes peeled for more on that!

But for now, on behalf of the Friends, have a fantastically festive holiday and stay well and warm!

Lisa Burgess

Chair of Friends of Downs View

EMAIL: friends@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk • www.friendsofdownsview.org.uk



Charity no: 1013621 • www.justgiving.com/FriendsofDownsViewSchool • www.facebook.com •



SEND DANCE CLASSES



SIGN UP TODAY!

ALLDANCEABILITIES.
CO.UK/CONTACT-US
ADELAIDETHOMAS@
ALLDANCEABILITIES.
CO.UK
OR PHONE/MESSAGE
07947654307

ADA

ALL DANCE ABILITIES



WE OFFER LESSONS FOR BOTH SEND ADULTS AND CHILDREN!

3-8 YEARS OLD: 4:30 - 5:15PM

9-15 YEARS OLD: 5:30 - 6:15PM

16+ NO AGE LIMIT: 6:15 - 7:15PM

HOOKWOOD
MEMORIAL
HALL
HORLEY,
RH6 0AZ

EVERY
FRIDAY
TERM
TIME!

WHEELCHAIR
ACCESSIBLE
FOR ALL
MOBILITIES!

IMPROVE
PHYSICAL &
MENTAL
HEALTH

extratime 

PORTSLADE
VILLAGE CENTRE

monthly gaming night

Support
with
travel
costs!

with



Tuesdays
4.00 - 6:30 pm

Are you aged 14-25 and
love retro games?!

We are bringing back our
inclusive, welcoming
monthly Gaming Night.

Play retro games with
friends, supported by
Extratime staff & Gaming
Retro-Bution experts!

Tuesday 27th September
Tuesday 18th October
Tuesday 29th November
Tuesday 13th December
Tuesday 31st January
Tuesday 28th February
Tuesday 21st March

Contact us using the
details below
to book a place.

Portslade Village Centre, 3 Courthope
Close, Portslade, BN41 2LZ
*If using Sat Nav use BN41 2LY

Suggested
donation £5
per young
person

*"A club to make new friends
and meet other people who
like the same games"*

For more information please contact hello@extratimebrighton.org.uk
or call us on 01273 420 580


Brighton & Hove
City Council



New accessibility improvements to Brighton's beaches and seafront

A number of improvements have been made to make access to the city's beaches easier for people with mobility issues. Recent improvements to the seafront include:

- A new Changing Places facility alongside the public toilets near the refurbished Shelter Hall.
- A new wheelchair-accessible beach deck near the Palace Pier. This accessible seating area gives priority to disabled people to enjoy spending time with friends and family on the beach, and includes picnic tables and sunshades.
- Three beach wheelchairs are now available to borrow from Brighton's Seafront Office, at no charge. The chairs, which range in size and style, have balloon wheels and can be used on the shingle beaches.
- Parking for Blue Badge holders has been improved, with the new road layout at Madeira Drive offering almost double the number of spaces.

Further accessibility improvements are also in the works, including a new wheelchair-accessible beach pathway at the Undercliff walk in Saltdean, accessible pathways and Changing Places facilities on the coastal stretch from the King Alfred Leisure Centre to Hove Lagoon, and additional Blue Badge bays for the seafront near the King Alfred.



Book your place now!

Winter HAF 2022

Funded by the Department of Education (DfE), HAF offers free enriching holiday activities with a healthy meal included.

Dates: Monday 19 to Friday 23 December, with a more limited offer between Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 December

Eligibility: Children and young people in Reception to Year 11 who receive benefits-related free school meals (FSM)

The offer includes everything from playschemes to sports providers, and drama schools to family cooking sessions.

Get involved! Visit www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/haf to view the full events calendar and book directly with your chosen activity providers.