

Downs View Newsletter

Friday 31st March 2023

General Information Newsletter: No.4



Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider



Term Dates

Summer Term 2023

17th April-20th July

Half Term: 29th May-2nd

June

INSETS

Monday 5th June 2023

Friday 21st July 2023

Bank Holidays

Monday 1st May

Monday 8th May

Notices

DVLC Fab Café

Tuesdays at 10.15 -
11.00

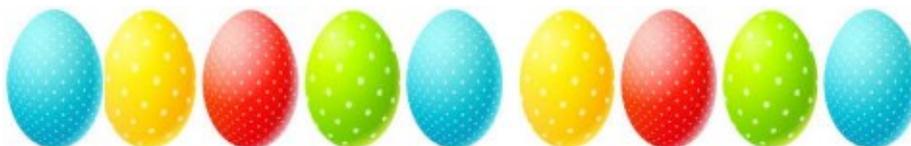
Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the lighter evenings.

We have had a very busy term across all of our sites this term as you will see from the lovely photos in this newsletter.

We will sadly be saying goodbye to 3 of our staff members at the end of this term. Rae Casoria from the admin team will be leaving us for a role with the council. Aisling French who works with our children in Owls class will be moving on and Tania Banks a teacher at DVLC will be taking up a Deputy Head role at a school in Eastbourne. I would like to thank them all for their excellent work over their time with Downs View and I wish them all the best for the future. We will miss them.

I hope you all have a lovely, restful break and enjoy lots of chocolate! We look forward to seeing the students/learners back in school/college on Monday 17th April. Best wishes, Vanessa



Absence From School/College

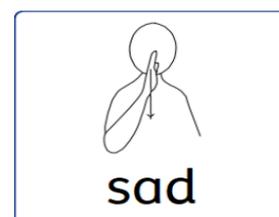
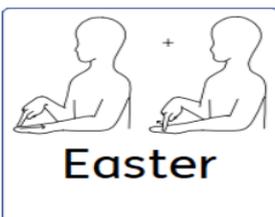
If your child is going to be absent from school/college please call on the numbers below and leave a voicemail before 8am. It is important that you do this so that we can arrange safe staffing levels for every class.

School—01273 601680

Link College—01273 507719

Life Skills - 01273 551028

Makaton Signs



Downs View School

Hello all,

Where did that term go! Thank you to all staff and students for their creativity and energy throughout this term. It has been great to have some sunny days and see the children enjoy the outdoor learning environment. Everyone is also very excited about the playground renovations that will happen later in the year. The children and staff have enjoyed looking at the new plans and we can't wait to see it in action. Some of our highlights this term have been : 'World Book Day ' seeing such a great range of costumes and everyone enjoying the disco. Really good that the students councils – primary and secondary have restarted The Year 11 students develop in their work experience supporting the MDSAs at lunch time, the admin team and the site team, such a great step on their pathways to adulthood. Watching the students engaging in phonics sessions. Students being able to share their interests in collaborative sessions including football, drama, dance and play! And as always watching the children arrive every morning keen to get into school and start their day. Best wishes, Jackie and Rachel



World Book Day



Downs View Link College

Hi everyone

We have had another busy term at DVLC and everyone is ready for the Easter holiday.

I was lucky enough to drop into the 'Art Active Naturally' workshop linked to our work on sustainability earlier this term and it was great to see the students engaging and working well either in the workshop or back in class. There was some fantastic mark making and printing going on and the students produced some lovely work.

The weather has improved and we are looking forward to lots of outdoor activities in the summer term. We are getting some planting done outside the college thanks to Nick for his work on this.

Happy Easter.

Juliet



Schools Without Walls Art Workshop

Caroline from Schools without Walls led a fantastic poly printing workshop at the Link College where every student had the opportunity to use nature as an inspiration to create fabric and tissue prints that will be put together to create a large-scale construction as part of a summer Art trail (details to be confirmed). Many of the students chose birds and feathers and penciled these on their boards and then selected a colour in which to print. Each young person put their own personal spin on their design creating unique images from people made of sticks to flowers to their favourite wild animal. It was lovely to see students coming together to collaborate on a whole college project.



Downs Link College
Surrenden Road
Brighton
BN1 7FP

Tel: 01273 507719
Email: office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Downs View Life Skills College

Hi learners, parents and carers,

Many things have happened to enrich the learning opportunities at college this term.

We ran our first career's week where many professionals took part and delivered amazing workshops. We hosted doctors, beauticians, staff from Asda, a taxi driver, the business owner from Eden perfume and oral hygiene nurses. We learnt how to fix bikes with Duncan from the Bike hub and Learners also learnt about internal jobs at DVLSC like the admin and premises team. Thank you to Len and Kim!



We were given a talk by an Alumni, telling us about his life after college. He is currently volunteering with local cafes and a gardening placement. His talk was very well received by our Learners, who were inspired to ask many questions.

Additionally, Learners learnt about their rights as an adult to have their annual health checks, explore some of the tools used by Doctors at a check-up, and took part in role playing scenarios. They also improved their oral hygiene techniques and awareness.

Learners took part in sports events and competitions such as the football and the table cricket tournament . Table cricket saw us as runners-up!

Diversity and respect were the key points of focus as always at DVLSC. We are continuing this core value by celebrating events like the Holi festival, Food Waste week, Autism Awareness week and World Book day with its theme of "Our Planet Earth". This supports our learners to participate actively and meaningfully in a diverse community, to enrich their awareness and understanding of the world around them.

All of this has happened thanks to the dedicated team of staff, admin and teachers. I really appreciate their enthusiasm and hard-work to make all these special events happen.

We will start the process of planning and starting transitions in the summer term. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I wish you a lovely Easter break.

Raul

Downs View Life Skills College



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Patcham
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FRIENDS OF DOWNS VIEW SCHOOL & LINK COLLEGE

Friends of Downs View,

A big shout out to our fantastic four runners taking part in the Brighton Marathon Weekend 10k run this coming Sunday. They are raising money for the Friends of Downs View and we are so grateful to them and wish them all the very best.

Becy Mudd and Arnie Strong, both staff members and seasoned 10k runners for the charity are taking part, along with Jessica Staker-bruzas who has a son at school and Carol Woodman whose nephew was a pupil until 2011.

If you can go and cheer them on on Sunday, I'm sure that would be appreciated. Let's hope the weather is kind!

Also, just to let you know, the next Friends of Downs View meeting will be Wednesday 19th April at Downs View School. All are welcome to attend.

Happy Easter

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 •





Managing Everyday Life

A series of workshops about managing everyday life for special needs parents, carers and families.

1	Thursday 27 th April	Developing communication and interaction
2	Thursday 4 th May	Using routines, visual supports and schedules
3	Thursday 11 th May	Managing anxiety and transitions
4	Thursday 18 th May	Supporting sensory sensitivities
5	Thursday 25 th May	Going out and about, managing holidays

Who is it for?

This free course is for parents/carers of children with or without formal diagnoses of special educational needs and disabilities who want to know more about how to support their children in everyday life. Relatives, personal assistants and other carers are also welcome to attend.

Jacqui Shepherd is an experienced teacher, lecturer and trainer in special needs, autism inclusion and disability, with a PhD in autism. She has a son with autism and severe learning difficulties who now attends the Life Skills College. She facilitates training for a range of education and care professionals, as well as parents and carers. She is also a governor at Downs View school.

Who is running the course?

When?

On Thursdays from 9.30 – 11am (with a coffee break!) – see above for dates

Where?

At Downs View School, Woodingdean – sign in at reception

What next? If you want to know more or have some questions – or if you would like to sign up then please contact: Jacqui.shepherd@yahoo.com