

Downs View Newsletter

Friday 21st July 2023

General Information Newsletter: No.5



Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider



First day of Term Wednesday 6th September Term Dates

Summer Term

6th June-20th July

Autumn Term

6th Sept-15th Dec

Spring Term 2024

2nd Jan-28th March

Summer Term 2024

15th April-19th July

INSETS

Friday 21st July 2023

Friday 1st Sept 2023

Monday 4th Sept 2023

Tuesday 5th Sept 2023

Friday 23rd Feb 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the lovely weather. It is hard to believe that we have already reached the summer holidays. We have had an incredibly busy term with lots going on across all of our sites and I hope you enjoy seeing some of the things we have been doing in this newsletter.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their hard work over this year and I would also like to say thank you to all parents/carers for their support. I would like to say a huge thank you to all of our students for being brilliant all year and good luck to the students that are leaving us at the end of term.

I would like to thank the Friends of Downs View for all they have done this year and for the fantastic fun day that was held recently. Also, the playground work that they are partially funding is now underway and will be complete by September. I would like to thank our school governors and in particular David Rafferty, our Chair of Governors who will be stepping down from this post at the end of term although he will be continuing as a governor. Jacqui Shepherd and Ro Stjohn will be taking on the role as joint chairs starting in September.

I would like to thank the staff that are leaving for all for their hard work and commitment to Downs View over their time here and wish them all the best for the future. I hope you all have a great summer and we look forward to seeing all our children and young people on **Wednesday 6th September**. 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



garden

Makaton Signs



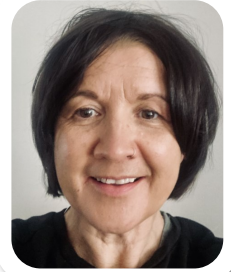
Fork turns food
over wide shallow
fire

bbq

Downs View School

Hello,

Another exciting fun filled year comes to an end. I want to thank all students, staff and families for their enthusiasm and hard work for another successful year. I also want to say good luck and good bye to the students and staff who are off to new adventures. I hope you all have a lovely break and I look forward to seeing you in September, where we will also be joined by new pupils and staff and a renovated playground! Enjoy all, Jackie



Easter Fashion Show



Sports day fundraising



We wanted to give Alfie a shout out as he has raised £280 from sports day sponsorship money for the Happy Days Childrens Charity. Such an amazing amount! Well done Alfie!

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Warren Road
Woodingdean
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Downs View Link College

Hi everyone,

We have had a fantastic summer term at DVLC and we are all looking forward to the summer holiday. There have been lots of fun activities happening over the last few weeks which everyone has enjoyed.

It was lovely to see our students receive their certificates on Friday and a big well done to all for their achievements this year. I want to wish our Y14 leavers lots of luck for the future, have fun.

Thanks to all the staff at DVLC for their continued hard work and support for the students. Wishing everyone a fantastic summer. Best wishes, Juliet



The pupils from room 6 enjoyed a trip out to the immersive Van Gogh experience at the Brighton Dome in the summer term. They liked feeling the sunflowers, looking at the images and listening to the music as part of the exhibition. It was a grand out day out.



Sensory Garden at DVLC The sensory garden at the front of Downs View Link College has making good progress this term. We are pleased to say we have some high raised planters, wood chip paths and low-level planters in place. We are waiting for the meadow flower to hopefully take root soon! Many thanks to all who have supported so far.



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Brighton
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Email: office@downsview.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Downs View Link College

Competition Winner!!!

Dear parents / carers

Some great news. We are competition winners!!!

This year we took part in an art competition ran by Virtual Schools for young people in care. We entered as a class and created a single piece of collaborative art. Below is the email I sent with details of the art we submitted which is followed by an email I received informing us we won! We will spend the prize money in class. Either buying some nice items for the classroom or we may use it as an experience for next year. I am really proud of this work, we all worked together to create it which is one of the main ethos strands of my class. Collaboration, Creativity and Exploration. The piece of art does have the wow factor too. Once it has been displayed in galleries in Brighton we look forward to displaying it by our classroom at college. A massive well done to the students in Room 8.

Daniel Whiley

To Hadia (Virtual Schools)

We have completed our art project!

We were inspired by encouraging collaboration between our learners on the Autistic spectrum. Therefore, we have created a single art piece - it is very large and measures nearly 2m x 2m. We were inspired by the Japanese artist Kiyoshi Yamashita as he also had additional learning needs. He created art by using torn paper and often used items, paper and material he found. We feel this links to sustainability so we challenged ourselves to create an art piece using only recycled materials. The sky, ocean and sand are all small pieces of recycling from the college. The students were able to tear the materials and sort them into the colour groups. Over a series of weeks we gradually created a night sky, ocean and beach by gluing and layering the torn paper. There is more than 1000 pieces of torn paper and material on this art piece! Kiyoshi Yamashita made wonderful scenes with fireworks and we wanted to incorporate this in our art. The fireworks were made by painting the blank side of recycling and then shredding it. The students did well gluing these coming from a circle, as can be seen in the photos. To finish the art we had to incorporate ourselves! So those with a keen eye for detail may spot the students on the beach gazing up at the fireworks. Thank you again for this project and competition. We have been busy making our piece for three months and have all enjoyed working together and focusing on the same thing. It has brought communication and problem solving opportunities as well as the chance to engage in creative and sensory exploration.

Downs View Link College

Hi all

I wanted to say a personal congrats for your magnificent piece that you clearly worked very hard indeed to put together- it is an outstanding success. I loved that you found and took inspiration from an artist with learning needs, as well as the fact that you used recycled materials to make a more earth-conscious contribution to the art world. I especially loved the way you included yourselves in the art- like true artists! You all deserve to feel very proud- again a huge well done, it is a magnificent and beautiful piece of art 🎨!

A big thank you to your teacher Mr Whiley who no doubt played a big part in facilitating this wonderful piece!

Please can all of you and Mr Whiley of course, save the date of Sat 16th Sept, 11am for a private view and opening to an art exhibition in central Brighton where we look forward to celebrating your wonderful work with you!

Attached is your prize of £100 shopping vouchers – enjoy 🎁

I'll be in touch soon with regard to collecting the work to prep/frame for exhibiting, so please keep it in good condition until then..

Many thanks

Hadia



Downs View Life Skills College

Dear learners, parents and carers,

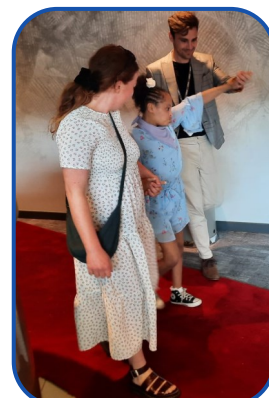
What a pleasure it has been to have spent this past year learning, having fun and working together. For this term I would like to highlight the Open House events celebrated across 3 days this term and the art week. We saw very creative work produced while provoking challenge and an awareness of climate change in our planet. We welcomed families, carers, members of the public and newcomers, it was a fantastic couple of weeks. We have also been busy with our careers programme. Our job coach ran tailored sessions for some learners, they had a workshop ran by the volunteering hub and some leavers also had their meetings with a B&H employment support officer in the job centre. They will continue working together after the college. All learners were involved in organising the summer fair. From making soap to baking cakes, selling plants, drinks, organising the clothing stand and setting a tombola. We raised more than £150. Thank you to everyone that come along!



We also celebrated the leavers prom at the Amex in a very beautiful and emotional event. I can't reiterate enough how proud we are of all our leavers. You will be fine and hopefully we will see you in our annual alumni reunion. I would like to thank all staff for the hard work and passion they put in at college on a daily basis. Without their skills and expertise the college would be a very different place. A special mention to Rory Garrett and Ben Bowra who are leaving to follow their careers and passions. Thank you for everything you have done for the college and our young people. Best regards and have a wonderful summer.

Raul and all the Life Skills team

Downs View Life Skills College Leavers celebration at the Amex.

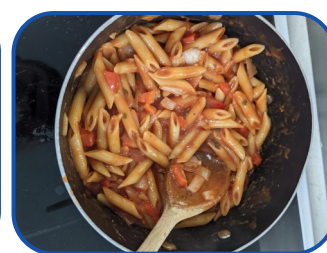
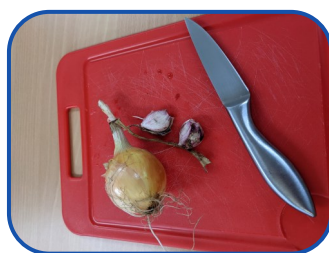


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Downs View Life Skills College

Please find below pictures from a recent cooking session in Room 4. This was significant as the onions and garlic used were grown in our very own garden!



Sussex Coast Line Hove to Littlehampton

Downsview Life Skills College is an active station partner at Portslade. This week, Students and staff enjoyed a day out on the Sussex Coast Line. The itinerary had to be changed twice, once in advance of the day, and then to cope with challenges faced by incidents on the line, causing delays and cancellations. Station staff at Portslade, Worthing, Littlehampton and Hove all stepped up to make sure the group had a fantastic experience.



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FRIENDS OF DOWNS VIEW SCHOOL & LINK COLLEGE

Friends of Downs View,

Friends of Downs View - Summer Fun Day

It was wonderful to see so many families at this event. Thank you for coming along despite the slightly unpredictable weather and making it a really fantastic afternoon.

These social events are so important to keep us all connected.

A huge thank you as always to the committee members who worked so hard to make the Fun Day happen, behind the scenes as well as on the day.

Special mention must be made of Nickie Poulton who, yet again, pulled everything together with her dedicated team of helpers. We are so grateful to them. However, after decades of supporting the Friends, Nickie has decided to step down from the committee. A huge loss to the Friends, but a well deserved rest for her! Our heartfelt thanks to her for all she has done. She really has been a star and will be missed.

A big thank you too, to Sussex Medieval Society for entertaining us with their reinactment and Sean Davies, a parent, who brought along his guitar and sang for us.

For now, from the Friends committee, have a wonderful summer and we'll see you in September!

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 •