



February 2023

Dear all,

I hope you are well and have been enjoying the recent sunshine. It will be nice to enjoy some warm weather and longer days after half term.

At the time of writing, the school production 'Popstars' has just finished its run. Everyone who watched it was amazed by the energy the students brought to this wonderful production which was enjoyed by all. Well done to all of the young people involved and a massive thank you and well done to all of the staff involved, led so well by Mrs Robertson.

We also enjoyed other events this half term including, poetry, art, and dance workshops, a public speaking competition and an apprenticeship information day.

Character Day was also a great success. Years 7-11 followed an alternative curriculum for the day which engaged them in different aspects of Downlands ROCKS character education. This included focus on themes of community, global awareness and future careers.

The ski trip to Obertauern, Austria, leaves today and we are looking forward to more wonderful events next term including school trips, a dance show and the annual spring concert.

The Year 11 mock examinations begin immediately after half term and our Year 11 students have been working really hard in preparation. A massive thank you to our Year 11 prefect team who have performed so well and will now hand over the reins to Year 10. Congratulations to all prefects and particularly to the Head Prefect team who are: Amelia Black, Emma Ludnow, Flynn Sawyer and Alice Perrett. All of the new prefect teams will be receiving leadership training so they can carry out their duties effectively after half term.

There are three further strike days scheduled for the next half term (2nd, 15th and 16th March). At the time of writing, we do not know if the industrial action will be going ahead or not, but again the health and safety of the students is paramount and a decision will be made nearer the time about how the action will affect the school. I will endeavour to communicate any decisions to parents in good time to help planning in case of disruption.

The lockdown practice went very smoothly and I would like to thank everyone in the school community for their help and support. A reminder that after half term it will be optional to wear jumpers but they must be brought to school in case the weather turns cold.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mark Wignall'.

Mark Wignall
Headteacher

USEFUL INFORMATION

INSET Days

INSET days for the remainder of this academic year 2022-23 are as follows:

- Monday 17th April 2023
- Wednesday 21st June 2023

Bank Holidays

- Friday 7th April 2023
- Monday 10th April 2023
- Monday 1st May 2023
- Monday 8th May 2023
- Monday 29th May 2023

Timings of the School Day

- 08.45 – First (warning) bell
- 08.50 – Registration
- 09.10 – Lesson 1
- 10.05 – Lesson 2
- 11.05 – Break
- 11.25 – Lesson 3
- 12.20 – Lesson 4
- 1.15 – Lunch
- 1.50 – End of lunch
- 1.55 – Lesson 5 (including 10 minutes DEAR Time** for Key Stage 3)
- 3.00 – End of school day

** Drop Everything And Read – all Key Stage 3 students are required to bring a reading book.

Students will not be able to enter the school before 8.45am (unless the weather is inclement). Years 8 to 11 will assemble on the playground, Year 7 at the amphitheatre. The gates will be locked at 8.49am and students will be marked 'late' after this.

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CHARACTER DAY

ROCKS

Resilient • Optimistic • Community • Kind • Self Aware

Year 7: On Friday, our wonderful Year 7s took part in Character Day with the focus on COMMUNITY..

They played a number of inter-community sports competitions in netball, catch the flag and football. We look forward to finding out who was the winning community! Students also had a dance lesson creating a dance for their community. Finally, the students focused on their Community Identify, designing a mascot/logo and motto. The Year 7s were absolutely amazing throughout the day throwing themselves into every aspect of the day!!!

Year 8: Were engaged in a thought-provoking day developing their global awareness through a variety of activities and lessons centred around the recent World Cup in Qatar.

Year 9: Were looking at their own futures with an exciting careers and options day. This introduced students to a variety of interesting future career paths as well providing them with an Introduction to the Key Stage 4 options process.

Year 10: Were engaged in an apprentice style enterprise task where they worked together in teams to plan a marketing strategy.

Year 11: Were immersed in their English speaking exam as well as being supported with sessions about how to prepare effectively for their February mock exam.

Year 9s Careers Fair



NEWS FROM PUBLIC SPEAKING



You will be delighted to hear that both teams performed well at the preliminary rounds at Oathall Community School. The Intermediate Team would have had the audience's vote for sure. Lila was mesmeric, Frank a sensation and George...funny and outrageous!



Maria, clearly a force to be reckoned with won Best Proposer for the Senior Team, while Ayla's performance was equally compelling - forthright and full of punch. Their Chair Gwennan, new to the role, was calm and composed.



Thanks, must also be given to Mr Champkins who coached both groups to stardom.

Humbling for me too, to see an ex-Downlands pupil and competitor turn coach!

You were all brave and courageous well done.

Ms Kashmiri

Ayla, Maria, Gwennan, George, Lila, Frank

NEWS FROM PUBLIC SPEAKING

Public Speaking:

Ayla, Maria, Gwennan, George, Lila, Frank

Public Speaking Run by Ms Kashmiri, aided by Mr Champkins (for performance advice), the public speaking club (Monday lunchtimes) is marvellous fun, open to any students wishing to develop their debating skills. With a lot of very enjoyable hard work, we first develop our arguments into a 'written' speech. We then focus on the dramatisation and performance of our speeches, which usually involves much rewriting, editing, and often shortening of our original ideas, before we can start to memorise and deliver the six or so minutes of what is now the final 'spoken' speech, in preparation for entrance into the annual Rotary Competition. On Thursday the 26th January, we will be competing against teams from other schools in the area, at Oathall Community College. The competition is divided by age, with an intermediate section (years 7 - 9) and a senior section (years 10 - 11). Our intermediate team are entering a debate on the importance and relevance in modern life of age ratings - When Age Matters. These are those things we seen on films (12, 15, 18) and on the spines of books (T, T+), but does that age really matter? After all, these ratings are often based on outdated societal taboos - and today, they are very different from when the film was made - or even to another modern culture elsewhere in the world! Prompted by their recent irritating encounters of Age Mattering, the team of three feel this is a subject close to their hearts, and public speaking has provided an opportunity for them to articulate and give voice to their thoughts. And more, they hope to bring the audience along with them, convincing them - or, at least, leaving them thinking long after. The senior team are discussing another subject drawing on philosophical concepts and moral ideology - whether or not we, as individuals, but also as a society, should feel sympathy. Inspired by a recent English Literature GCSE mock question ('how does Stevenson present Jekyll as a character the reader feels sympathy for?'), we turned our essays into speeches. Using 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' as our case study, we invite the audience to consider different viewpoints on the concept of sympathy. We hope to leave our audience pondering what they believe sympathy to be, and from that, whether or not it is something we should cultivate in society. Through analysing its connotation to pity, and comparisons to empathy and compassion, we propose the question of whether sympathy actually causes more harm than good - a highly philosophical, moral question. Even if not at the beginning, by the end, we often believe our own viewpoints, not just taking the stance to play devil's advocate for the purpose of debate. And hopefully, with our speeches, we shall bring the audience along too! And most importantly, leave the judges thinking...

NEWS FROM TEXTILES

Textiles Club

We have been busy since the start of this year designing and making Koinobori (Japanese windsocks). Also making a lot of Christmas decorations and stockings



Edie & Lily



Sylvie



Matilda



Alfie



NEWS FROM TEXTILES

We are currently making bags for McMillan to hold the drainage pouches after surgery so patients can have freedom of movement



Ruby, Maya, Emilia,
Edie, Rosa, Sylvie,
Erin, Nick, Natalie,
Lila, Orla, Connie,
Lily, Alfie, William,
Glesni.

As well as some
'remote workers'
who couldn't make
club night



NEWS FROM ART



Congratulations to Jessica, Erin and Matilda who were all winners of the Stephen Wiltshire Art Competition.

Stephen is an internationally acclaimed artist who draws cityscapes from memory! The pupils were privileged to meet Stephen at his London studio where they received lots of fantastic gifts from the artist.

Y11 are now completing their Externally Set Assignment. They are a third of the way through their preparation time. Keep up the good work!



Y10 have been working with local artist and educator Mr Le Grice on a BIG AND BRAVE WORKSHOP. Pupils were experimenting with scale using oil pastels and inks.



Ellie



Ellie

NEWS FROM ART



Y10 GCSE Art students have been making and glazing clay pumpkins. Here are some of the results.

Ariela

Abbey



CALLING ALL BUDDING ARTISTS

THE ROYAL ACADEMY YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER SHOW IS NOW OPEN FOR ENTRIES. HAVE YOUR ART WORK EXHIBITED IN THE FAMOUS GALLERY. DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY 22ND MARCH.

SEE MS MOSS FOR MORE DETAILS.

RA

Young Artists' Summer Show

2023

Royal
Academy
of Arts

Call for entries

An exciting opportunity for students aged 4–19 to exhibit their artwork online and at the Royal Academy of Arts

Open for submissions
9 January – 29 March 2023

Find out more and enter
royalacademy.org.uk/youngartists

See Miss Dabbs or visit
edrhq.art on Instagram
for further details.

Made possible by Robin Hambro

OUTDOORS AT DOWNLANDS

FOREST SCHOOL



**7MSM ENJOYING
FOREST SCHOOL ON A FRIDAY.
WHO WOULDN'T?**



NEWS FROM DRAMA



Thank you for all your energy, creativity and commitment that went in to making POPSTARS the incredible, successful show it was. We're so proud of you all.
Mrs Robertson.



NEWS FROM DANCE

Amy Morvell Intensive Workshop – Saturday 21st January 2023

This half term, Year 9 Gifted and Talented Dancer came in on a Saturday to take part in a full day intensive workshop with performer and choreographer Amy Morvell. The workshop allowed the students to develop their technique and learn an entire piece ready for the Dance Show in March. The students worked incredibly hard over the seven-hour workshop and demonstrated high levels of professionalism and positivity. Well done G.T.D.P!

DANCERS: Isla, Beatrice, Leila, Edith, Lottie, Jessica, Rosie, Molly, Emily, Isabel, Isabella, Keryn, Grace, Zoe, Melissa



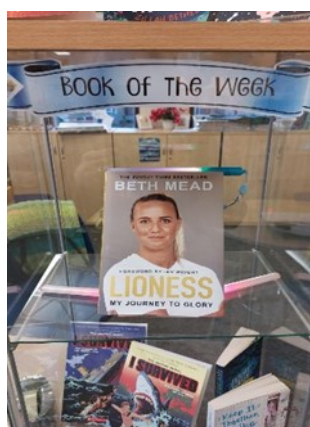
DANCE SHOW

**THE ANNUAL DOWNLANDS DANCE SHOW WILL BE HELD ON:
20TH AND 21ST MARCH.
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU !**

Hello from the library



It has been busy again in the library with lots of pupils visiting during break and lunchtimes to read some of our amazing new titles that have been purchased this term. The shelves are bursting with books celebrating different dates in the diary. Love is in the air, this month with Valentines and the romance section.



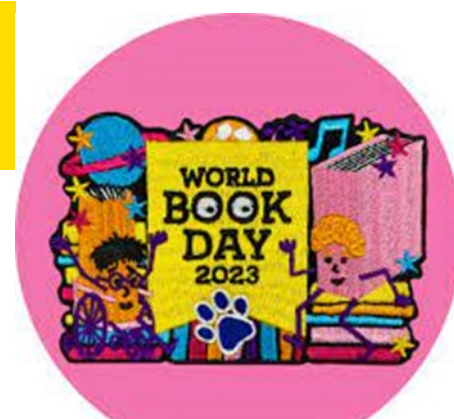
We also have the 'Book of the week' shelf; pupils can see new releases and reserve the book. This week's choice is the fabulous autobiography by Beth Mead. One of the world's most talented footballers



Just a quick reminder that World Book Day is fast approaching on 2nd March, and here at Downlands we like to join in and celebrate. Students are encouraged to dress up as their favourite book character. The costumes **must** be recognisable.



Library Opening Times			Stationery Shop: Available in Library 08:00-16:00 Break, Lunch & after School.	
Monday	Break Lunch	Open to All Yrs 7,8,11	<u>Price List</u>	
Tuesday	Break Lunch	Open to All Yrs 9,10,11	12Felt Tip Pens	£1.50
Wednesday	Break Lunch	Open to All Yrs 7,8,11	12Coloured Pencils	£1.00
Thursday Break	Lunch	Open to All Yrs 9,10,11	Clear Pencil Cases	£1.00
Friday	Break Lunch	Open to All Yr 7	Glue Stick	50p
Open every morning from 08:30 for homework, reading & Printing.			Berol Handwriting Pen	50p
Monday to Friday open after school until 16:00 for Independent study.			Biro pen	30p
			30cm Ruler	40p
			Protractor	30p
			15cm Ruler	30p
			HB Pencil	20p
			Eraser	20p
			Revision Cards (Pack 10)	20p



5p Black & white

10p half page Colour.

25p full page Colour

(Background colour or photographs)

Stationery, Printing & Fines may be paid online in Scopay You may put money on your child's account to cover any printing or stationery purchases they may need to make. Please show evidence of account from Scopay.

POETRY COMPETITION

THE SIMON POWELL POETRY PRIZE

Simon Powell, the founder of Poetry Live, was always a champion of new poetry. Before he died in 2009, he started a poetry competition for students attending Poetry Live. The competition now carries on in his memory.

Entry requirements

The only entry requirement is that each applicant is a GCSE student who has attended Poetry Live with their school in the academic year 2022/2023.

To enter, a student must submit by post a single poem of not more than 25 line. Only a poem on paper will be accepted – not an email. It should be accompanied by the following details, which must be on separate sheet of paper (not on the same sheet as the poem):

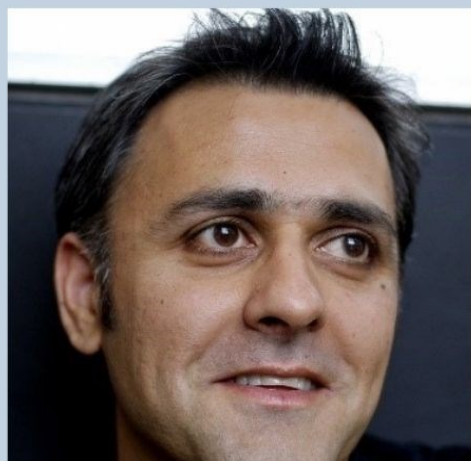
- Full name
- Age
- Full address including postcode
- Telephone number
- Email address
- Name of school
- Name of English teacher who organised the Poetry Live Trip
- Date of the Poetry Live trip

All entries must be received by Monday 17th April 2023. The address is: The Simon Powell Poetry Prize, Poetry Live Ltd., PO Box 29, Denbigh, North Wales. LL16 3YE

Every entry will be read by the judging panel – all distinguished poets – a shortlist will be drawn up and from this ten will be chosen. The winners will be announced on Thursday 1st June 2023.

The Prize

The prize will be an invitation to a workshop with Daljit Nagra and a chance to read your winning poem at a Poetry Live event. You will also receive a set of poetry books from the poets.



CROSS COUNTRY

We had a superb showing at the Sussex Schools Cross Country event at Waterhall on the 17th January 2023. Our 11 runners ran with such grit and determination. Here's how we got on:

Junior Girls (Yr8/9): Izzy was our highest placed girl, finishing in 77th. Jess

running again this year finished 120th. It was a debut run in this event for Edie (124th), Evie (153rd) and Izzy (156th).

Junior Boys: Remi, the youngest of our Junior Boys and one of two year 8s, had the highest finish in 76th of 253 runners. Next came Oscar in 87th, Ewan the other year 8, finished in 112th immediately followed by Samuel in 113th.

Inter Girls (Yr10/11): Only one runner across this race but our distinguished distance runner proved her class. Imogen finished in 32nd.

Inter Boys: One boy representing Downlands, Owen. Getting out-sprinted in the last 150m, finishing 2nd overall. A time of 21:04 for a 6km is a phenomenal time. Owen goes on to represent Sussex at the English Schools Cross Country later this year.

All our runners were magnificent on the day, especially with a challenging course at Waterhall they kept going and definitely shocked themselves with how well they performed, well done to all involved.



TEAM MATCHES

YEAR 7 GIRLS FOOTBALL

The year 7 girls football team have continued their successful league campaign with wins against Tanbridge (3-0) , Oriel (6-0) and a draw (0-0) with Millias. Well done girls, keep it up!



YEAR 9/10 GIRLS' BASKETBALL

The year 9/10s represented Downlands at the Mid Sussex girls' basketball tournament, finishing 3rd overall, with wins against Millais and Sackville teams. MVP – Lily with the most baskets scored!



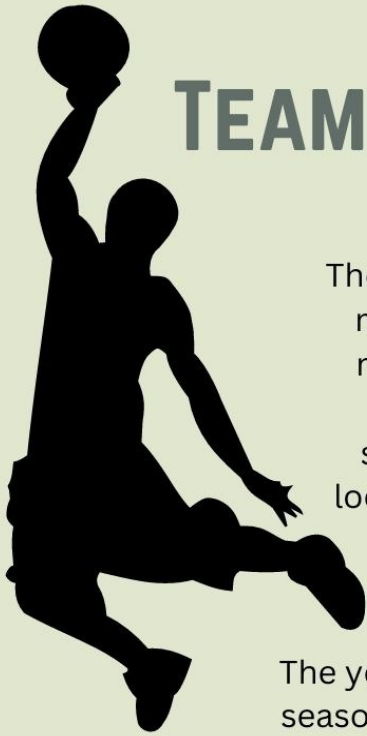
YEAR 7/8 GIRLS' BASKETBALL

The year 7/8s represented Downlands at the Mid Sussex girls' basketball tournament and finished winners! They did not lose a game the whole tournament, beating a range of schools in Mid Sussex. MVP – Freya with the most baskets scored. Well done!



NEWS FROM PE

TEAM MATCHES



YEAR 8 BOYS BASKETBALL:

The year 8 Boys Basketball team have continued to work hard in their matches and in training. The team have now won two of their four matches and narrowly lost the other two matches. They have one more game before half term and if they win, they will move into second position in the league. Keep up the great work and we are looking forward to seeing the progress this team continues to make.

YEAR 9 BOYS BASKETBALL:

The year 9 Boys Basketball team have continued their great start to the season. They have now won three out of their four league matches. The most memorable win was against St Pauls in which the team were missing 5 members of the squad and the starting 5 had to play the entire match with no subs. Due to their hard work and determination, they managed to win the game. The team have one more group stage game, and if they beat The Weald after half term then they will progress onto the semi-finals of the Mid-Sussex competition. Keep up the great work!

YEAR 10 BOYS BASKETBALL:

The year 10 basketball season has just started and the boys opened their league campaign with a great win over Tanbridge House. The game was very close with both team scoring great baskets but the year 10's were able to work well collectively to secure the win. The team went onto play St Pauls in the second game of the season in which the game was tied 35-35 in full time and unfortunately, they lost in overtime. The team have three more league games to go and if they win two out of the three, then they will progress onto the semi-finals. Keep working hard boys!

YEAR 11 BASKETBALL

The year 11 Basketball team have continued their impressive win percentage in their time at Downlands. The team have won all of their matches, except one against St Pauls. They have scored some of the best team baskets we have seen and every player has a very important role in the team. The team will progress onto the semi-finals of the Mid-Sussex competition after half term and we are hoping to secure a place in the finals again this year. Keep working hard boys!



NEWS FROM PE

TEAM MATCHES



YEAR 9 NETBALL

The year 9A netball team came 2nd in the Mid-Sussex District League after winning all but one fixture. They also achieved the highest goal scoring record in the league.

The year 9A and B netball teams played a very competitive fixture against Hurstpierpoint College. They narrowly lost but fought until the end and played their very best netball.

YEAR 10 NETBALL

The Year 10 netball teams had some excellent matches recently at Hurst College. Congratulations to all players for an excellent standard of play and POM's Maisy and Xanthe.

YEAR 11 NETBALL

The Year 11 netball team played Warden Park in a GCSE moderation game and narrowly lost by 1 goal.

U15 GIRLS CRICKET

The U15 Girls cricket team recently played Roedean and Sackville in a tournament and were runners up. Congratulations to Milly D for being an excellent captain.



THE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Leadership Academy have continued their excellent work in primary schools working with younger students. They have recently been to Woodgate and Balcombe Primary Schools to deliver inclusion activities of Boccia and New Age Kurling. It is so lovely to have such rewarding comments from staff and students telling us how amazing Downland's leaders are.

Downlands dance leaders have been visiting many primary schools, working with their students and preparing them for the primary dance show to be held at Downlands on Wed 22nd March. Schools that will benefit from our fantastic leaders are: Windmills, St Marks, Balcombe, St Lawrence and Gattons Infants.

NEWS FROM CAREERS

Whole School

Monday 6th to Friday 10th National Apprenticeship Week

#NAW2023

The whole school has taken part in activities to explore the many options that now exist for students post 16 within apprenticeships. No longer just limited to traditional hands-on trades, apprenticeships are available in every sector you can think of, and can be studied at any level from the equivalent of GCSEs right through to Master Degree level. The year groups have had assemblies from experts explaining opportunities, and various tutor time activities looking at the range available and what they entail.

Unifrog

I am delighted to say that we have started to use Unifrog as a school to assist with our careers programme. Unifrog is a one-stop careers app which brings together all the latest information on careers, all the live opportunities in UK colleges, Universities and Apprenticeships, as well as a wealth of resources on all things careers to explain and educate. Years 9 and 10 have access to this app already, and the other year groups will be receiving their log ins shortly. All parents will also be given a log in in due course should they wish to explore this resource for themselves.

NEWS FROM CAREERS

Year 11

Lots of our Year 11s have now been for their college interviews and have been offered placements, with more coming up after half term. Remember you can accept more than one placement for now if you are still not 100% sure where you want to go.

Year 10

Work Experience was launched with an evening presentation which was well attended by students and their parents/carers. Year 10 will be using their Unifrog accounts to complete their placement forms. Remember to keep looking for a placement if you have not yet got one organised as the sooner you can get something arranged the better!

Year 9

Year 9 had a whole day of careers related events on Friday 27th January as part of our Character Day. They experienced Careers Speed Dating, visited the Careers Fair and met lots of our local 16+ providers. All of the visitors to the school complemented the students on being polite and engaged in the activities. During the day students also logged into their Unifrog accounts and began exploring where their favourite subjects could take them in the future, and they finished the afternoon by hearing from the University of Sussex and a former apprentice about those post 18 pathways.

Years 7 & 8

These year groups will be able to log into their Unifrog accounts shortly, where they will begin to find out more about themselves and what sort of pathways they might want to consider in the future.

NEWS FROM CAREERS

Can you help?

As always, if you are interested in supporting our Careers programme here at Downlands in any of the following ways, please do get in touch with me, Ms Hollingdale, at

careers@downlands.org

***Work Experience Placements** for year 10 students

18th 19th & 20th July – you would need to have Employers Liability insurance covering under 16 year olds.

*** Mock Interviews** – If you have experience of interviewing we would love for you to help us run a Mock interview morning on Monday 17th July for our Year 10s

*** Work Place Visits** – Are you interested in allowing groups of students to visit your work place for a tour of the environment and a Q &A opportunity about the field you work in

***Talks** – Given either in-person or prerecorded to a whole year group or much smaller groups.

All of these opportunities are invaluable in helping our students to connect with the world of work and be equipped to face their futures.

FIND YOUR PATH

NEWS FROM THE CANTEEN



Many thanks to all the canteen staff for providing a fantastic spread to celebrate the Chinese New Year



Most of the meals served in the canteen are home made on site using fresh ingredients and making good use of seasonal produce.



MORE THEMED EVENTS IN THE CANTEEN COMING SOON



REPORTING ABSENCE - STUDYBUGS

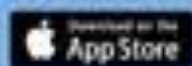
Studybugs

We're pleased to announce that Downlands has reintroduced Studybugs – the most effective way of reporting your child's absence due to illness. Please download the free Studybugs app or register on the Studybugs website if you have not already done so. Please report your child's absence as 'illness' (not medical).



Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>



Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health.

See what illnesses are going around!

Secure system, all communications encrypted



Working in partnership with:



Studybugs 

MCAS /BROMCOM (MY CHILD AT SCHOOL)

Please ensure that you remember to log on to MCAS as this is where you can view your child's school report and update their contact details and medical information.

UPDATING - MEDICAL DATA

We are currently asking parents to update their child's information (and their own if required) for medical items. Please login to MCAS, go to Data Collection and update student's details as required. We are in the process of cleaning up our database and are specifically looking at medical and paracetamol and antihistamine permission. Once you make any changes, don't forget to press Submit at the top of the page.

Updating Medical Conditions and Antihistamine/Paracetamol Consent on MCAS/Bromcom

On Mobile Phone App

1. Open the App
2. Select the child you wish to update details for
3. Open the 'Data Collection Form'
 - a. Press Edit Details
 - b. Press Student
- i. Once data has loaded up press 'Edit Medical Details'

Press on the box below Medical Conditions, a drop down list will appear, click on those relevant to your child.

Untick See Notes – the function of 'see notes' has been replaced

Once you have selected any Medical Conditions you need for your child click the back arrow at the top of the page

- ii. Press **Edit Other Details** and indicate permissions concerning Antihistamine and Paracetamol (this replaces the see notes function administrators were using)
- iii. Press the back arrow at top of page to return to Data Collection Form
- iv. PRESS RED BUTTON TO 'SUBMIT CHANGES'- This will then go through to our administrator who can approve the changes.

Troubleshooting- the above doesn't work or you do not see these options

☑ Close the App down properly/switch phone off and then reload- this will cause a refresh of all data.

On PC

1. Open the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) page and log in.
2. Below your child's photograph you will see Data Collection Form, please click on it
 - a. Scroll down and you will see '**Other Details**'- please indicate if your child can have Antihistamine and Paracetamol consent PRESS GREEN BOX 'Submit Changes'
 - b. Scroll down to '**Medical**'
 - i. Click on the Medical Conditions box and using the options select any Medical Conditions
 - ii. REMOVE 'see notes' if it appears, this has been replaced by the Antihistamine and Paracetamol section.

IMPORTANT Message from the Medical Room

- Please make sure that you are aware of the current Covid guidance, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19#children-and-young-people-aged-18-years-and-under-who-have-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19>
- Please remember to keep the medical room updated of any changes in your children's medical conditions. Your children's welfare whilst in school depends on this information being up-to-date.
- Please ensure that your emergency contact details are current. If you move home, get a new mobile number or your work number changes please remember to let us know; we need to be able to contact you in an emergency or if your child is unwell.
- Please do not send your children into school if they have sickness or diarrhoea. You should keep your child at home for 48 hours after their last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.
- Hay fever – the school does not administer antihistamine for the symptoms of hay fever. We ask that this be administered at home before the start of the school day.
- Finally, please be aware that any prescribed medicines to be administered during the school day must be provided to us in the original pharmacist's container. We would ask that where possible you ask your GP to administer a three-dose medication to avoid the impact on the school day. A 'Request for School to Administer Medicine' form must accompany it. Under exceptional circumstances, where it is deemed that their administration is required to allow the student to remain in school, the school will administer non-prescription medication for a maximum period of 48 hours. Any non-prescription medication administered in school must have been administered in the past without adverse effect. Again, a 'Request for School to Administer Medicine' form must accompany it. **Students must not carry their medication in school, apart from asthma inhalers and Anaphylaxis Auto Injectors, all other medication must be stored securely in the medical room.**



Ms Stubbs
Medical Officer

LOST PROPERTY

At the end of each half term and term we clear lost property and donate items to the local charity shops. Please ensure you label every item that your child brings to school. If a student loses an item, please ask them to go to Pupil Attendance/Services (near the Year 11 cloakroom area) at break and lunchtime



Have your circumstances changed?

You may be entitled to
free school meals

email in confidence: FSME@downlands.org

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

Those children and families that are not eligible for FSM will be able to access urgent support for food via the WSCC Community Hub. The Community Hub can be contacted on 0330 222 7980 and is open 9:00 – 17:00 seven days a week. Further information can be found via the [West Sussex County Council website](https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/).

COMMUNITY NEWS



Burgess Hill Pantry was set up as part of the Town Council's 'No Cupboard Empty' project, to help residents struggling on low incomes stretch their household budgets a little further. The pantry is a community group, run by volunteers to help people living in Mid Sussex.

For a weekly membership of £4, residents can choose a selection of food to the value of up to £20, helping budgets stretch further. There's a variety of food available including fresh fruit and veg, store cupboard favourites, bread and dairy products.

You can find more details and sign up on the

[Burgess Hill Pantry webpage](https://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/pantry-listings/burgess-hill-pantry/)

<https://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk/pantry-listings/burgess-hill-pantry/>

COMMUNITY NEWS



20 is Plenty for Hurstpierpoint & Hassocks

What do you think about reducing the speed limits between our villages? There seem to be lots of benefits to local people:

- Little impact on journey times. In fact, encouraging cycling to schools, the train station and shops eases car congestion.
- Safety fears are what people say most puts them off cycling. Cycling casualty rates fall 20-40% with area wide 20mph limits.
- Being hit at 20mph is around 7 times less serious than being hit at 30mph.
- Can help older people remain independently mobile for longer and increases social interactions.
- 20mph reduces CO2 emissions by 26% and is 50% quieter than 30mph.
- Parish Councils can pass motions supporting 20mph where people live, work and play.
- During 2022 over 300 Parish Councils passed motions calling for their county to adopt a 20mph norm.

Please send your thoughts and observations about 20 is Plenty to hurstrethink@gmail.com or via <https://www.facebook.com/hurstrethink>
Join our Community Bike Ride to raise awareness of **20 is Plenty**. We'll meet at Trinity Road car park at 10.15am on Saturday 28th Jan and cycle to Hassocks Market. Please wear bright clothes and bike helmets.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Community Consultation 'Drop in Session'

Saturday 18th February 2023

10am -1pm Adastra Hall, Adastra Park

Join us to view the results of the recent Priorities Survey and have the opportunity to discuss how the Priorities Statement should reflect local views.



A Priorities Statement sets out what a community thinks are the most important issues for its area and how they should be addressed. This will then inform the Parish Council's work plan and how it spends its resources. It will also guide how it responds to consultations by other organisations and will help those organisations understand what Hassocks residents and businesses need when providing services and facilities.

All ages welcome!

Under 10's drawing competition

Tell us what you like about
Hassocks.

10-18 year olds

Have your say - what would
like to see in Hassocks?

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

School Lottery

Thank you to all our family and friends that are supporting our School Lottery. We are delighted with the support it has received and the money that it raises will be going towards more facilities for the students. The lottery draw takes place every Saturday evening. Tickets can be purchased by clicking [HERE](#).

Tickets are £1 and can be purchased individually or you can set up a standing order for weekly tickets.. There are weekly prizes and national prizes to be won. It's easy to take part but makes the biggest difference to our school and students.



Amazon Smile

When shopping via Amazon you can choose to shop with [Amazon Smile](#) instead. Select Downlands School Association as your chosen charity and then shop as you would do normally with Amazon. Amazon Smile then makes regular donations to our school from the purchases you make.

MySchoolFund

We have recently signed up to [My School Fund](#). This innovative scheme allows us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help. Anyone over 18 can sign up for FREE by registering a debit or credit card to the scheme. You start earning cashback on the things you buy in participating retail stores (online & in store), currently Sainsbury's and Argos, with other stores signing up all the time. As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers (Sainsbury's or Argos) that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to Downlands School on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Visit myschoolfund.org to register for free and link to 'Downlands Community School'.

MY SCHOOL FUND

Thank you to everyone who has been able to support our School Fund during this difficult time. Your support is invaluable and helps us to create a safe learning environment for our students. Over the years our pupils have benefited enormously from equipment and facilities purchased with School Fund money and additional monies raised by parents through the Parent Teacher Association.

Money donated by parents to our School Fund is used to purchase items, activities or facilities above and beyond that provided by the Local Education Authority. As an example of the spending, in previous years we purchased some more heavy duty picnic benches for pupil use to extend available eating areas as well as purchasing a new school minibus.

School Fund donations are requested annually and can be paid online, by cheque if you are unable to pay online or through the Regular Giving Scheme. The form overleaf also enables parents to set up a standing order for the amount they decide for four / five years annually or bi-annually, for their School Fund donation. There is, of course, no obligation to set up a standing order, one off donations are also possible via SCOPAY and are gratefully received.

With your consent, all donations can be “Gift Aided”. If you are a regular tax payer we are able to receive an extra 25% from the Inland Revenue. For example if we receive a £20 donation we would actually receive £25. Please print & sign the form overleaf in the appropriate place if you agree to “Gift Aid” your donation.

We usually request a £5 minimum per child contribution to School Fund but if you are able to donate more than this it would be appreciated. If you are unable to make an online donation but would like to donate please put your contribution in a sealed envelope with your child’s name, tutor group and School Fund Donation on the envelope. Your child should hand the completed form into the trips box or the school office.

Thank you for your continued support.



School Fund Donation

Name of Pupil:

Please complete 1 of the 4 options below (and Standing Order Mandate if applicable) and ALL items in bold

I will make a donation of £..... using the online payments system (SCOPAY) which is available from the first day of term in September and all year, every year.

OR

I have **fully** completed the form alongside for the school to set up a standing order for £..... **6 monthly/per annum** (please delete as appropriate) until..... (enter date and year)

OR

I have set up my own Standing Order and will pay Downlands Community School £..... **6 monthly/per annum** (please delete as appropriate) until..... (enter date and year)

OR

I enclose a donation of £..... **cheque/cash** (please delete as appropriate) Please make **cheques** payable to DOWNLANDS SCHOOL FUND

Address:

● Rectangular Snip

Post Code:

Gift Aid

In order that we may claim Gift Aid please write your full name and address. Using Gift Aid means that for every pound you give we get an extra 25 pence from the Inland Revenue, helping your donation go further. To qualify for Gift Aid what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year.

☐ I would like this donation and all future donations to be "Gift Aided" until I notify you otherwise (tick if applicable)

Parent Name (print):

Parent Signature:

Date:

Standing Order Mandate - Payment Instructions

(Strictly Confidential)

Downlands Community School will send this to your bank with a confirmation letter, therefore please complete the form fully (items in bold).

Please pay by banker's standing order, cancelling any previous instructions regarding this payee:

Pay to (Bank): **HSBC, CHURCH ROAD, BURGESS HILL, WEST SUSSEX, RH15 9AE**

Sort Code: **40-23-17**

Account Number: **81011898**

Account Name: **DOWNLANDS SCHOOL FUND**

Amount (figures):

Amount (words):

Date - First Payment:

Frequency: **6 monthly / per annum** (please delete as appropriate)

Reference: **DONATION**

Until: Further notice / or until (enter final date)

Please take payment as above and debit my account accordingly

My Bank:

Bank's Full Postal Address: (please enter full address as we post this to your bank)

Postcode:

Name of my account:

Sort code:

Account number:

I hereby authorise you to set-up this standing order payment on my account.

Signed:, Date:

Name (print):

Signature:

Address: as shown on previous page

Telephone:

PLEASE Return to Sophie Fairbank, Finance Department, Downlands School, Dale Avenue, Hassocks, BN16 8LP or email to sfairbank@downlands.org

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES



Turn your online shopping
into everyday magic for

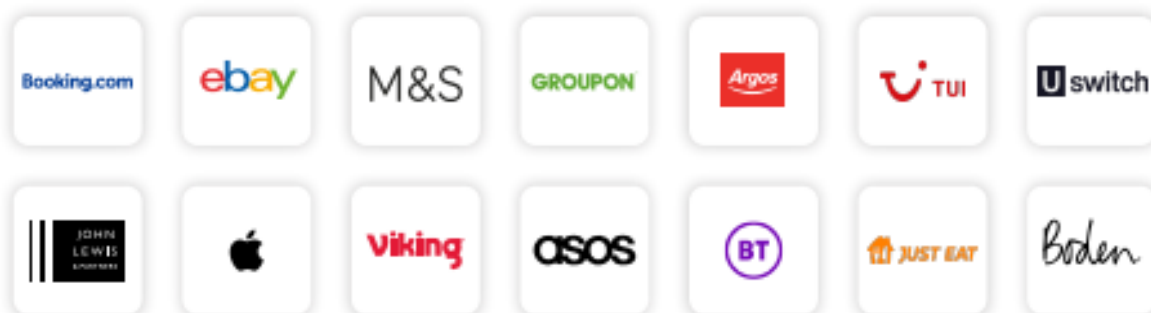
DOWNLANDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

with easyfundraising

You shop, brands donate to us.
It won't cost you any extra!

How to sign up

- 1 Visit the link below or scan the QR code
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause
- 2 Search for us
- 3 Your favourite brands donate whenever you spend with them



Download the
easyfundraising App



Excellent 
3,945 reviews on  Trustpilot

Social Media

Thank you to everyone is liking, sharing & following our social media pages. We are delighted to say that our audiences just keep on growing.



We are inviting everyone to like our LINKED IN page, but would particularly like to connect with past Downlands Students.

