

DOWNLANDS NEWS



19 April 2024

Dear Parents, Carers, and Students

Thank you once again for your support this term. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with your wonderful children. Firstly, a huge well done to our Year 11's who successfully completed their mock examinations in February and March. All of the invigilators were full of praise for the conduct, resilience, and commitment of the students. Thank you also to everybody involved in organising the examinations in a professional manner. We wish our Year 11's the very best for their upcoming GCSE exams – the first one is on Thursday 9th May.

Well done to all of our new prefects, senior prefect team, and Head Prefects. They are doing a brilliant job in helping us manage the school and have made an excellent start. Thank you very much to the outgoing prefect team who have served us brilliantly.

It has been lovely to attend a number of whole school events recently – thank you to all of the parent/carers who attended. The Dance Show and Spring Concert showcased our students at their very best. Well done to them, to the staff involved in producing such excellence, and to all other staff involved in the many extra-curricular activities we offer.

Our ROCKS programme is dedicated to creating further enrichment opportunities and our aim is that every student is involved in one of these activities at the very least. We are all looking forward to our next Character Day on the 17th May which includes:

- Trips to Wakehurst Place and The Arundel Wetlands Centre
- Volunteering at Shoreham Beach and South Downs National Park
- History trip to the Opal Coast, France
- Trip to the University of Sussex

Thank you to all who were involved in our School Council. All of the tutor group representatives discussed matters raised which then fed into a Year Group Council meeting. Once this had been completed a whole School Council was held on 15th April. I am letting students know the details in assemblies – one of the outcomes is that we are planning to increase the number of water points available to students around the school.

The Iceland trip was a great success and we are looking forward to more wonderful extracurricular events this term.

Thank you to our incredible community at Downlands who have donated Easter eggs for children at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital, as well as to fantastic causes such as Comic Relief and the Readathon. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Wignall'.

Mark Wignall
Headteacher

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ROCKS CHARACTER



SPRING TERM

ROCKSTARS



Resilience

Farrah 7BC
Poppy 7OC
Harry 7ETH
Jasmine 7NK
Poppy 7MLO

Posy 8PK
Lily 8CBL
Sylvie 8ANE
Rosa 8TBL
Evie 8ID

Hayley 9NCo
Wilfred 9SGR
Rose 9SGR
Frank 9SGR
Isabelle 9HBR

Tabitha 10AE
Ernest 10AE
Lottie 10AE
Elodie 10GW
Charlotte 10GMC
Orla 10CHW
Lucy 10AE
Naomi 10FS

Optimism

Alex 7CT
Artem 7CT
Kingsley 7BC
Harvey 7BC
Ryan 7BC

Isla 8KRO
Oscar 8KRO
Jamie 8GCH
Elizabeth 8KRO
Will 8MSM

Alex 9KBI
Andrii 9SGR
Ben 9KBI
Bailey 9NCo
Thomas 9NCo

Lily-Ella 10NHO
Beth 10CHW
Oscar 10GW
Emily 10AE
Sophia 10AE
Evie 10FS
Fern 10GMC

Community

Maisie 7NK
Eliza 7MLO
Ruby 7MLO
Alberta 7CP
Alicia 7CH

Milo 8GCH
Lottie 8ANE
James 8ID
Lois 8ANE
Jack 8ANE

Orla 9NCo
Romey 9SGR
Mia White 9AW
Leonie 9NCo
Olivia 9KLB

Edith 10FS
Leila 10CMO
Enrico 10CMO
Grace 10CMO
Keryn 10CHW
Maja 10FS

Kindness

Katy 7CT
Declan 7CBA
Stanley-Ray 7NK
Olive 7CT
James 7CBA

Florence 8CBL
Daniel 8MSM
Maisie 8CBL
Finley 8CBL
Tabitha 8CBL

Kimberley 9HBR
Eve 9KBI
Ava 9HBR
Minnie 9HBR
Jasper 9HBR

Joshua 10GMC
Evelena 10GMC
Allegra 10CMO
Polly-Anna
10GMC
Brooke 10GMC

Self Aware

Jessica 7MLO
Jessica 7CBA
Cecily 7MLO
Joe 7MLO
Nancy 7MLO

Freya 8GCH
Eliza 8TBL
Lily 8PK
Larna 8DS
Dewi 8KRO

Hugo 9KBI
Veronica 9HBR
Lewis 9SGR
Hazel 9KBI
Frankie 9THU

Callum 10NHO
Tom 10AE
Evie 10NHO
Ethan 10NHO
Katie 10GMC

Highest ROCKS Points Achievers

Eli 7MLO
Jasmine 7NK
Stan 7MLO
Poppy 7MLO
Emma 7CT

Idun 8CBL
Lewis 8MSM
Eva 8PK
Jasper 8MSM
Matilda 8DS

Molly 9NCo
Blake 9KLB
Lara 9KBI
Chris 9KBI
Hagar 9KLB

Orlaith 10CMO
Billy 10GMC
Maisie 10GW
Jasmine 10FS

Anastasia 10AE
Ethan 10GMC
Thomas 10NHO



YEAR 11 CHARACTER AWARDS COMMENDATION



ACADEMIC

ENGLISH

Katie 11DW
Lucas 11DB
Rosie 11DJ

GEOGRAPHY

Alice 11MV
Theo 11MV
Kai 11MV

HISTORY

Isla 11MX
Louis 11HM
Kira 11MV

SPANISH

Clemmie 11ML
Maggie-May 11JM
Emily 11MX

FRENCH

Alice 11MV
Ava 11MX
Abi 11MX

GERMAN

A.B 11JM
Sam 11MX
Maisie 11DJ

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Bella 11DW
Flynn 11DJ
Isla 11HM

FOOD & NUTRITION

Adam 11MX
Kira 11MV

IMEDIA

Max 11ML
Leila 11MX

CLASSICS

Isabella 11DW

THE ARTS

ART

Cassidy 11DW
Lauren 11HM
Francesca 11ML

MUSIC

Peter 11DB
A.B 11JM
Gwennan 11MX

DRAMA

Harry 11MX
Honey 11DJ
A.B 11JM

TEXTILES

Leyla 11JM
Mercedes 11MV

STEM

MATHS

Patrick 11ML
Alice 11MV
Maciej 11MV

TECHNOLOGY

Elena 11DB
Mia 11HM
Chris 11HM

TECHNOLOGY

Elena 11DB
Mia 11HM
Chris 11HM

SCIENCE

Jess 11ML
Jonny 11ML
Maggie 11JM

SPORT

SPORT

Callum 11MV
Milly 11MV
Amy 11JM

DANCE

Lauren 11HM
Eloise 11DJ
Mia 11MX

COMMUNITY

Abi 11MX
Oliver 11MX
Bella 11DW
Noah 11DW
Ruby 11ML
Max 11ML
Flynn 11DJ
Honey 11DJ
Jess 11DB
Holly 11DB
Jack 11JM
Emma 11JM
Alice 11MV
Theo 11MV
Isla 11HM
Lily 11HM

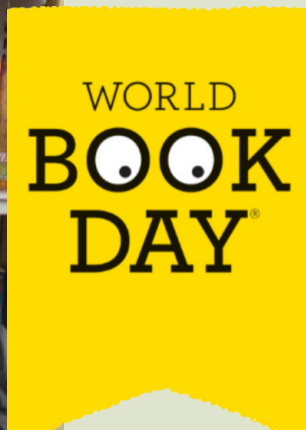
ECO

Matilda 11ML
Ruby 11ML
Isabella 11DW
Gwennan 11MX

LIBRARIAN

Ruby 11ML
Charlie 11MV

WORLD BOOK DAY



What a fantastic time we had celebrating World Book Day. Thank you to everyone who dressed up as their favourite book character!

WORLD BOOK DAY



General Knowledge

Food and Drink 641

Geography 900

Technology 600

Art Music Sport 700

History 940

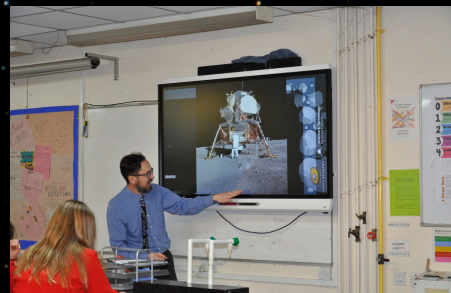


MOON ROCK

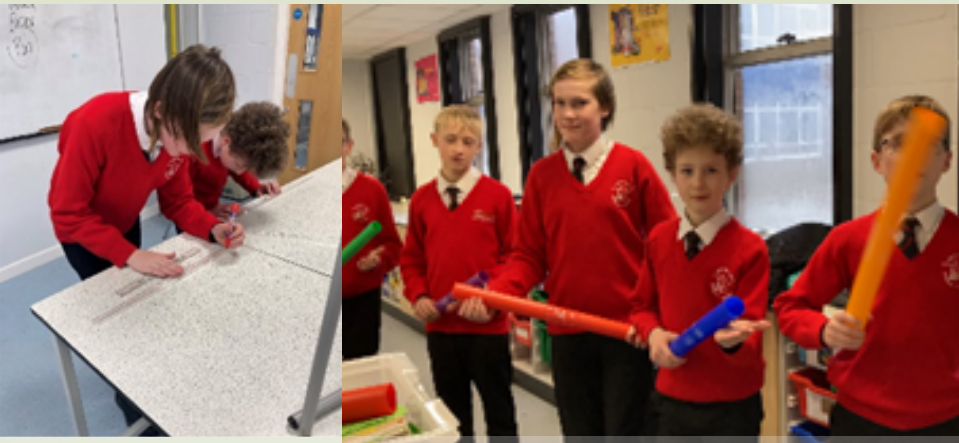
The Science Department were successful in their application to borrow part of the moon for Science Week and as part of inspiring the Year 7 students into STEM careers, especially for girls with International Womens' day also being celebrated. The moon samples were taken over several of the Apollo missions, owned by NASA and loaned for the week from the Science and Technology Facilities Council. They were used as part of a presentation for most of the Year 7 tutor groups as well as the after school STEM club which involved demonstrating hydrogen peroxide as rocket fuel and had meteorites from around the world, with one found in 1576 in Argentina and one that had journeyed from Mars following an asteroid impact.



The students worked together in groups as 'meteorite hunters' where they had to look at properties such as magnetism and density to sort a selection of meteorites from rocks or fossils from Earth. Mr Lowe then took them to Plumpton Primary School to present to Year 5 and 6 to provide outreach into primary education to engage and enthuse the student's interest in Science before making their transition to secondary school.



We have been busy making pan pipes. We used Boom Whackers as a guide in relation to length and pitch. Using this we made calculations for each length to scale down the instrument.



We are now busy making a carousel. We have cut our base for the carousel and we have been busy trying to solve problems as to how we might add the workings within our base. This may take a few weeks to finish. The older students are busy developing their Hovercraft and are grateful for the support of our STEM ambassador that supports and guides them with this task.



Women and Girls in STEM competition results.

1st Sydney, Elodie, Stanley, Josh and Harry from Mrs Shah's tutor group.

2nd 7ETH Tutor group

3rd 9EG Tutor group

Commendations to the following Tutor groups:

7CP, 8CBL and 9KBI

Science T Shirt Design WINNER !!

We had some really good entries, and all of them were submitted to PiXL/EduCake. The winner of the competition was someone from Downlands!! Congratulations to Isabella 9KBI.

MATHS NUMERACY NEWSLETTER



Welcome to this month's Downlands Numeracy newsletter on Percentages. Each month, we aim to support the learning of maths at home for our students. This month is dedicated to what year 8 have just been learning!

Definition	Fun Fact
A percentage is a measure of proportion of one whole, expressed as parts of 100. $\frac{\text{is}}{\text{of}} = \frac{\%}{100}$ or $\frac{\text{part}}{\text{whole}} = \frac{\%}{100}$	It only takes 23 people to enter a room to give you an evens chance that two of them have the same birthday. With 75 people in a room the chances rise to 99%!
"Find 20% of..." "Increase 37kg by 2.6%" "A sale takes 33% off" "Over its life, the height of a human increase by an average of 225%"	0.3 0.$\dot{3}$ $\frac{\pi}{2}$ 0.2356 sin 30 $\frac{5}{8}$ 1.4



Video tutorial

Scan me



Scan the QR code to watch a worked example video. Use the space in the following worked example to attempt the question contained within the video before then watching to see if you were right or wrong. Learn from any mistakes that were made and complete the remaining practice questions on the following page.

MATHS NUMERACY NEWSLETTER



Worked example

I DO

An amount increased from 50 to 85.
Calculate the percentage change (to 1dp where needed).

Percentage change can be found using:

$$\frac{\text{The difference}}{\text{Original amount}} \times 100$$

Positive difference

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Percentage change} &= \frac{85-50}{50} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{35}{50} \times 100 = 70\% \end{aligned}$$



Scan for answers

Now practice the skill



QU 1

An amount increased from 30 to 50.
Calculate the percentage change (to 1dp where needed).

QU 2

An amount increased from 65 to 75.
Calculate the percentage change (to 1dp where needed).

QU 3

An amount increased from 30 to 80.
Calculate the percentage change (to 1dp where needed).

QU 1 Ans

Answer:
166.7%

QU 2 Ans

Answer:
15.4%

QU 3 Ans

Answer:
66.7%

A well-educated mind will always have more questions than answers.

Helen Keller

MUSIC



The Spring Concert was a lovely event, showcasing the musical talent that we have at Downlands. It featured a variety of performances including music from The Orchestra, Steel Pans, Jazz and Choir. Well Done to all involved!



MUSIC LESSONS

If your child would like additional music lessons with one of our visiting music teachers (VMTs) their contact details, along with the discipline they teach, are listed here and they are more than happy to answer your questions and add your child to their timetable.

Trumpet, Trombone, Horn - Mr Roff Nroffbrass@gmail.com

Cello, Double Bass - Mr Merrick ethanmerrick@msn.com

Drum Kit - Mr Hodgson tom@studiomuso.co.uk

Guitar, Bass Guitar - Mr Paton Ferguspatonguitarschool@gmail.com

Keyboard - Mr Bedford Hu.bedford@gmail.com

Piano - Mr Kew charlie.kew@westsussexmusic.co.uk

Violin, Viola - Miss Wardrobe blwardrobe@hotmail.co.uk

Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone - Ms Lavelle Lavellewoodwind@gmail.com

DANCE

Downlands Dance Show 2024



A massive well done to the 164 students who took part in the in this year's Downlands Dance Show. The show was a huge success and for the first time was performed over three nights. The students determination and resilience ensured for an outstanding performance with everyone showing high levels of professionalism. Well done everyone, keep up the good work! Miss Nee.



DANCE SHOW PHOTOS

Photos will be available to purchase via Horizon Photography until 30th April.

NEWS FROM PE



YEAR 7 FOOTBALL TEAM

The Year 7 Football Team have had an excellent season so far. They topped their group in the District and won their semi-final to take them through to the final.

Unfortunately, they just lost in the final to a very good Forest School team 2:1.

However, this isn't the only final that the Year 7 team will be involved in, as they emphatically won the County Cup semi-final 6:1, with Angus scoring 5 goals in one game! The final of the County Cup will be played at Lancing FC's home ground at Culver Road.

We wish the team all the best in the final and want to say well done on an already amazing season.



YEAR 7 RUGBY TEAM

The Year 7 Rugby team have had a brilliant start representing Downlands. The team managed to come second in their County Cup group with outstanding victories over Seaford and Lewes Priory. They progressed to the County Cup Finals day at Brighton Rugby Club in which they managed to win their final with an amazing 8:2 victory in tries, securing them third place in the County.

There were outstanding performances on the day from Rhys, who managed to score four tries, James who managed to score two and Ethan, whose defensive work in the game was fantastic. With the district coming up very soon, we are hoping for more success from this team. Well done!



SOUTH AFRICA RUGBY & NETBALL TOUR



It won't be long until the 87 students and staff leave to go to South Africa for the Netball and Rugby tour in July. They have done some excellent fund raising: sponsored walk, car washes, cake sales and coffee mornings to raise money for the kit they will be wearing on the tour. We have also had some generous sponsorship from local businesses and families, thank you very much for your support.

We have more fundraising events planned for next term so watch this space!

YEAR 7 RUGBY SEVENS TEAM

The Year 7 Rugby team had the opportunity to take part in the Snell Cup, which is a Rugby sevens tournament which runs annually at Brighton College. The team were in an extremely hard group and managed to secure third spot in the group stages. Consequently, this meant that the team were through to play for the Vase and in dominating fashion the team were able to win all three of their games and take home the trophy.

Well done to all of the players involved and keep up your hard work!



YEAR 10 NETBALL

The girls have had a good season this year with some competitive matches. In Mid Sussex they won the versatility tournament and came 3rd out of 9 schools in the end of season tournament. They were runners up in the netball league and have been great teams to work with this year. Well done!



SWIMMING

Downlands have many excellent swimmers and it has been a pleasure to see them compete at such a high standard this year. We have entered into the Schools Swimming Super League this year and have attended 4 galas across the year which placed us in 5th place out of 16 schools.

The swimmers enjoyed a day of competition at K2 recently and were thrilled to come away with some medals. A particular well done to the medalists and MVP's; Isabelle, Ellis and Lennox.



This is a picture of Issy who was the MVP for the schools swimming super league. An amazing achievement to be recognised for her excellent swimming ability. Well done!

CROSS COUNTRY

YEAR 7 GIRLS (293 RUNNERS)	
LEILA S	60 TH
EVE D	143 RD
DAISY MAE J	190 TH
ELLY W	197 TH

YEAR 7 BOYS (272 RUNNERS)	
JAMES O	15 TH
THEO M	34 TH
BEN C	40 TH
JESSE C	DNF - INJURY

YEAR 8 GIRLS (261 RUNNERS)	
LILY S	32 ND
LOLA P	44 TH
RUBY A	56 TH
EVE D P	104 TH

YEAR 8 BOYS (245 RUNNERS)	
BEN P	44 TH
SIDNEY WH	83 RD
HENRY C	92 ND
DYLAN F	DNF - INJURY

JAMES in Year 7, has qualified to represent Sussex in the South East Inter Counties event in Hampshire the weekend of 23rd March.

We wish James all the luck and we are super proud of him for being the first student in 8 years to qualify for this event from Downlands!

We attended the Sussex Schools Cross Country event at Christ's Hospital in February.

The competition was for Year 7 and 8 students and there were over 200 runners for each race. Our students did fantastically well and ran their hearts out for the school.

We are so proud of where they placed and for them taking on this opportunity.



SPORTS LEADERS

Leadership at Downlands is something we hold with very high importance. We are fortunate enough to have excellent links with our primary schools through our work with Mid Sussex Active and we host and attend many fixtures, festivals and competitions.

This term has been very busy with our Leadership Academy students in Year 10 visiting our local schools to deliver inclusion activities such as Boccia and New Age Kurling. Well done to: Lennox, Ellis, Oscar, Harry, Daisy, Issy, Elodie, Ferne, Hettie, Olive, Scarlett and Edie.

Downlands have hosted two netball tournaments for our primary schools which were attended by 25 teams and umpired by 31 of our outstanding leaders in Year 9, 10 and 11. A hockey festival for Year 3's and 4's was attended by approximately 100 primary students and run by 10 of our excellent leaders in Year 7, 8 and 9.

A Chance to Dance, a dance show for our primary students and was attended by 85 students with their dances choreographed by our Year 9 Gifted and Talented dancers. Our students visited the primary schools and taught them dances that they had choreographed themselves. It was a lovely experience for both Downlands and our primary students with the show being a great success.

Without all the excellent leaders that Downlands have, many competitions and experiences that our primary schools benefit from would not be able to happen. It is also lovely to see our students develop such useful skills that will benefit them in the future.

FOREST SCHOOL

Despite the changeable weather, students at Forest School remain undeterred as they learn about our natural environment, embrace the mud, and forage.



ART

TOWNER ART GALLERY



Year 9 visited the Towner Gallery, in Eastbourne. They drew whilst observing local, historical artist, Eric Ravilious. They also spent time viewing contemporary artists, Turner Prize nominees, learning how to interpret and critically analysing the artwork. A positive experience for all.

YEAR 10 CERAMICS WORKSHOP

Y10 GCSE pupils have been working with Ceramist Jo Clemens. They attended 2 workshops to create clay animal heads. Their work was inspired by their trip to the Natural History Museum last year. Below are some of the results.



Jo Clemens trained at University of Greenwich, and Goldsmiths College University of London in Art, Education and Ceramics. She has taught Art, Ceramics and Textiles for over 40 years in schools and colleges in and around London as well as Sydney, Melbourne, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Cairo and has exhibited across the globe.



The work has now been fired and is being glazed ready for a second fire. Watch this space for the final results.

YEAR 11 ART GCSE

Y11 GCSE Art students are now nearing the end of their course.

Important dates are;

Final Exams– 2nd and 3rd May OR 7th and 8th May 2024

Final Coursework deadline: 9th May

YEAR 11 ART GCSE

Thursday 27th June, 6pm, Private View of the Y11 Art Exhibition (by invite only)

The exhibition will be open to the general public at the Summer Fayre on Saturday 29th June

ART COMPETITION

Spring into Community Art Competition

Spring into Community Art Competition: a celebration of the connections between nature, community and the season of spring.

We are inviting artists of all ages to explore and celebrate their connection with the natural world, their community and the season of spring by submitting a painting, drawing, photograph, lino cut, collage, print or any other 2D artwork that expresses how they feel about this topic.

Size requirements:

Artworks should be between A4 (210 × 297mm) and A2 (420 × 594mm) in size.

Categories:

This competition is open to everyone, with three age categories:

Ages 5 to 15 | 16 to 35 | 36+

Submission:

Submit your artwork using the QR code.

Prizes:

Exciting prizes include free entry to Wakehurst, train tickets to London, and the opportunity to exhibit your work at Wakehurst and in train station waiting rooms across Sussex.

Timeline:

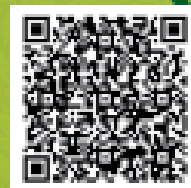
Competition opens: 1 April 2024

Submission deadline: 30 April 2024

Winners announced: 7 May 2024

Exhibition at Wakehurst: 11 May 2024

Wakehurst



In the spirit of community, this competition is presented in partnership with Wakehurst, Grove Garden, East Sussex College, Southern Rail and Art on the Line.

DOWNLANDS SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Get ready to roar with laughter at Downlands Comedy Night, on Friday 10th May.
Featuring some of the UK's finest comedians:

- Compere Stephen Grant – Multi award-winning MC from The Forge Comedy Club, Brighton Komedia, The Comedy Store
- Stuart Goldsmith – Winner of "BEST SHOW 2023" at the Edinburgh Fringe
- Laura Lexx – Live at The Apollo, Mock the Week
- Scott Bennett – Live at The Apollo, The Now Show, The News Quiz

Refreshments available so you can sip and chuckle your way through the show.

Tickets cost £15 (age 16+ only) and can be purchased on ticket tailor:

Buy tickets – DSA Comedy Night at Downlands School – Downlands School, Hassocks

Whether you're a seasoned comedy enthusiast or just looking for a fun night out with friends, this event is perfect for everyone!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Downlands School Association



The poster features a red curtain background. At the top is the Downlands Community School logo. Below it is a large, glowing marquee sign that says "COMEDY NIGHT". Under the sign are four polaroid-style photos of the comedians: Stephen Grant, Laura Lexx, Stuart Goldsmith, and Scott Bennett. Below the photos, the date "FRIDAY, 10 MAY 2024" is prominently displayed. Two vintage microphones are positioned on either side of the date. Below the date, the event details are listed: "DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM", "SHOW 8PM - 10.45PM", and "REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE AGE 16+". The ticket price "TICKETS £15" is shown in large yellow letters. At the bottom, it says "TO BUY TICKETS PLEASE VISIT:" followed by the tickettailor link.

DOWNLANDS
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

**COMEDY
NIGHT**

Stephen Grant
Laura Lexx
Stuart Goldsmith
Scott Bennett

FRIDAY, 10 MAY 2024

DOORS OPEN AT 7 PM
SHOW 8PM - 10.45PM

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE
AGE 16+

TICKETS £15

TO BUY TICKETS PLEASE VISIT:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/downlandsschoolassociation/1200346>

FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOL



DOWNLANDS COMMUNITY SCHOOL are now registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise **FREE** donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to you.

These donations really mount up and make a **BIG** difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely **FREE** and only takes you a moment.

Turn your daily shopping into everyday magic for us with **easyfundraising**

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



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Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



- 1 Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- 2 Sign up and search for us
- 3 Your favourite brands donate to us whenever you shop with them

Shop with 7,500+ brands including:

Booking.com

ebay

M&S

GROUPON

Argos

TUI

JOHN LEWIS



Viking

ASOS

BT

Uber Eats



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 raised will go towards more facilities for the students.

The lottery draw takes place every Saturday evening. Tickets can be purchased by clicking the link below:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/downlands-community-school>

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 and makes a big difference to our school and students.

USEFUL INFORMATION

INSET DAYS

- Wednesday 26 June 2024
- Monday & Tuesday 22nd & 23rd July 2024

EARLY CLOSURES

- Wednesday 5th June 2024
- Thursday 13th June 2024
- Friday 12th July 2024- Sports Day, (timings to be confirmed)

On these days, school will close at 2pm for staff training. Transport will be arranged and we are able to supervise students who can't leave early.

TIMINGS OF THE SCHOOL DAY

- 8.35am First (warning) bell
- 8.40am Registration
- 9.00am Lesson 1
- 10.00am Lesson 2
- 11.00am Break
- 11.20am Lesson 3
- 12.20pm Lesson 4
- 1.20pm Lunch
- 1.55pm End of lunch
- 1.55pm Lesson 5 (including 10 minutes DEAR Time ** for Key Stage 3)
- 3.05pm End of school day

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

The school site is open to students from 8.20am, students will not be able to enter the school building until 8.35 am (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 8.39am and the students will be marked 'late' after this.

USEFUL INFORMATION

REPORTING ABSENCE - STUDYBUGS

If you haven't already, please download the free Studybugs app, or register on the Studybugs website, and use it to tell us whenever your child is ill and unable to attend school. You can still call us to leave a message to report an absence, however Studybugs is our preference for absence reporting as it feeds directly in to our registers.

Get the app or register now <https://studybugs.com/register>
<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Studybugs is quick and easy to register and use, and automatically reminds you to keep us posted. Using the Studybugs app or website, you can report your child's absence due to illness any time from 6pm the day before.

You are required to report absence a day at a time – it's not possible to 'block book' absence. Studybugs automatically email parents a reminder at around 8am the next morning if it's a school day. As an extra safeguard, Studybugs is set to automatically send parents a confirmation email after they report absence via the Studybugs app or website

Please remember to leave a message for attendance (ext 228) before 8.30am to advise if your child will be late due to medical or illness. Likewise, a child will not be released from school without prior notice (before 8.30am) of an appointment.

MCAS - PARENTAL CONSENT



MyChildAtSchool
Bromcom Parent Portal

Please take a few minutes to ensure that all parental consents are up to date

Click on Data Collection Form to give consent for antihistamine or paracetamol to be given as needed at school.

Please tick EpiPen if your child uses an EpiPen. Please look at the whole page and complete as needed. Remember to press Submit changes and Save.

Please also look the Parental Consents Page to update your information and remember to press save.

Data Collection Form

Gender

Country Of Birth

Language

Religious Affiliation

Ethnicity

Nationality

Service Child

Other Details

Antihistamine Permission* 

EpiPen - uses 

Paracetamol Permission* 

Save

Parental Consent

Biometric Consent

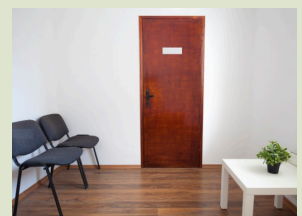
I consent to fingertip biometric scan for the purpose of making payment for canteen food only. Our canteen operates a cashless system. This scan is held until the student leaves or ceases to use the system. If you wish to withdraw your consent, this must be done in writing to the school Finance Office.

USEFUL INFORMATION

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 child's medical conditions. Your child'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 child 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



USEFUL INFORMATION



Downlands receives extra funding for all students eligible for free school meals, called the Pupil Premium. This funding is extremely valuable to us as it enables us to support our students to be happy, confident learners and make the best possible progress.

For more information please visit :

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

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](#)



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 £5, residents can choose a selection of food up to the value of £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/>

VACANCIES

JOIN OUR TEAM



**Do you want to join a friendly,
enthusiastic, and committed team
in a successful community school ?**

We are currently looking for:

Assistant Headteacher: Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Exam Invigilators

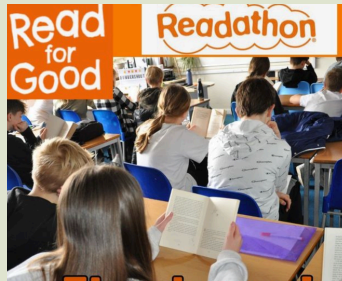
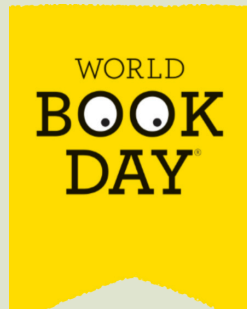
School Governors

For details of current.vacancies please visit:

<https://www.downlands.w-sussex.sch.uk/join-us/vacancies>

THANK YOU!

Thank you to our Downlands community for supporting our charitable events this term. We managed to raise around £370 for Read for Good, a charity that provides brand new books and regular storyteller visits to children's hospitals. A fantastic £913 was raised for Comic Relief and an AMAZING 440 Easter eggs were donated to the children at the Royal Alexandra Hospital.



Thank you to our generous sponsors who have contributed to our new camera and filmmaking equipment

Stone Survey Ltd
Station Garage Hassocks
Good Law Solicitors
John Broomfield Removals
Hollington Electrical Ltd
Fosters & Co Estate Agents



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

