

# Discover More About



DOWNHAM MARKET  
ACADEMY

Friday 19 March 2021

It is so good to have all of our students back in the classroom!

Our approach to reopening has been cautious with the health and welfare of our community at the heart of our plans. Staggering the return of students meant we could safely carry out covid tests and ensure that everyone settled back into a school routine.

Over the last nine days, staff at the Academy and volunteers from our community have carried out around 3000 covid tests on the students and I'm pleased to say that all the results were negative! As we now switch to home testing for all students and staff, I hope that this provides an extra level of confidence that Downham Market Academy is a safe place to learn as the country navigates its way out of this national lockdown. Please do make sure that students are tested every Sunday and Wednesday evening and results are reported to Test Register and the NHS Track and Trace site – links can be found on our [website](#). Every student should have taken home two boxes of home test kits, enough to last all the way through until after the Easter break – please do continue to test twice weekly over the holiday period and report as normal.

It has been great to see every student playing their part in keeping our community safe by wearing face coverings when inside the buildings. It is so heartening to see that they are taking their responsibility so seriously, demonstrating their understanding that if everyone does what they can, we will be able to have a relatively normal summer.

Lessons this week have encouraged students to discuss their learning with interactive and engaging activities from al fresco maths lessons to “baking” in an English lesson, learning walks have provided an excellent showcase of teacher creativity and student ambition in lessons.

Next week we have the Year 8 Parents' Evening on Thursday and Friday is the last day of term before the two week Easter break. We return on Monday 12 April for the summer term.

Mark Eastwood

Senior Deputy Headteacher

## UK Maths Challenge

Recently, 24 students from Years 9 to 11 entered the UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge. The students were chosen by their maths teachers, and due to remote learning, sat the hour long online paper in their own time. All 24 students who entered should feel very proud of their achievements as the questions on these challenges are designed to make even the most confident mathematician think differently about how to solve each problem.

Honourable mentions go to;

Lily Rolfe - Best in Year 9,

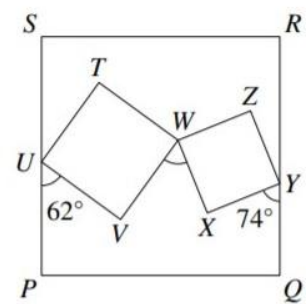
Lauren Pike and Anya Richings - Bronze certificates,

Kai Edwards - Silver certificate & Best in Year 10,

Lauren John - Silver certificate, Best in Year 11 & Best in School.

4. The diagram shows three squares,  $PQRS$ ,  $TUVW$  and  $WXYZ$ .  
Angles  $PUV$  and  $QYX$  are  $62^\circ$  and  $74^\circ$  respectively.  
What is angle  $VWX$ ?

A  $44^\circ$       B  $48^\circ$       C  $60^\circ$       D  $64^\circ$       E  $68^\circ$



## Car parking

If you are dropping off or collecting your child from school, please use the laybys at the front of the school rather than coming into the carpark.

## iPads

It is great to see iPads being used fully in lessons now with our new wifi up and running to support them all in school. Please do remind your child(ren) to fully charge their iPad overnight and bring it in to lessons every day – they will miss out so much without it each day. We have just invested over £5000 in new software that will make iPads and learning in lessons very interactive and allow teachers to view and feedback on individual work and for students to then see this feedback and store it for future reference.

Our school year is packed with exciting initiatives, competitions and activities. Recently, students enjoyed a range of competitions relating to Mental Health Week and Life Online PSHE day. The quality and quantity of the entries were staggering! Here are the winners and congratulations to all those who have won prizes - there are so many more opportunities to shine both in and out of the classroom; we encourage all of our students to join in and take part.

### **Mental Health Week Competition Winners**

**Photography competition winner:** Ellie Gallagher

**Photography competition runners up:** Aidan Priest & Tamsin John

**Wellbeing competition winner:** Amelia Secker

**Wellbeing competition runners up:** Alisha Froud & Scarlett Cromarty

**Poster competition winner:** Cherie-Anne O'Neill Lord

**Poster competition runners up:** Ryan Berry & Sophie Andrews

**School survey lucky dip winners:** Robert Whiting & Scarlett Castle

**Outstanding Contribution:** Nansi Kisyova & Aleksandra Kisyova

### **Life Online Day**

**Life Online Day Outstanding Work:** Korybn Clegg, Noah Williamson, Alice Hornsby , Albert Hornsby, Holly Page, Harriet Melia

**Life Online Day Survey Lucky Dip:** Daisy Lamming, Freddie Balls, Jack Smith, Austeja Riskibajevaite

## **National Careers Week 2021**

Our theme for National Careers Week was for students to **Be Ambitious**.

We are delighted to announce prizes for the competitions we held during the week:

Poster Competition Winner – Ruby Doe

CV Competition Winner – Cameron King

Application Letter Competition Winner – Millie Stacey

Lucky Dip Survey Winners - Iona Cunningham and Fred Bishop

Student Voice is important in every school community. At DMA we endeavour to create opportunities for every student to have their say and be heard. Here is a selection of the student views on National Careers Week and what ambition means to them - the answers will help support the delivery of PSHE and Careers at our school.

### **What does ambition mean to you?**

- Ambition is the initial step in which you admire the state or journey someone has taken and insist on following them.
- Ambition means to go for what you believe in and not taking no for answer ambition is to feel connected and happy like you are in your element ambition is confidence , confidence to go out and be brave and be what you want to be.
- Ambition is something where you are motivated to do a task and where you look forward and dream about something you have a passion for.

### **What obstacles or challenges do you feel get in the way of your ambition?**

- People who come from a more advantaged background already having a "foot in the door." Also, trying to keep myself motivated to attain a high standard.
- I am often too self-conscious of things I do while trying to achieve my goal, therefore not believing I can do something so never attempting it.
- Peoples' opinions.

### **What advice would you give someone about following their dreams?**

- The moment you give up is the moment someone else wins.
- Don't doubt yourself, if you want to do something just go for it and don't let other people's opinions cause you to doubt yourself.
- No one ever said you have to be and do one thing permanently. You can do as much as you want. You wanna be a scientist but also a nurse? Sure, it'll be a lot of work and a lot of learning but work and learning are just the first step to success. And that's what school is for.

### **What have you learned from National Careers Week?**

- The path you take at GCSEs can lead to a huge range of jobs built specially for you.
- How to write a true application.
- Never give up!

**Thank you to all students for participating in all our activities.**

# Upcoming events & dates for the diary

Upcoming dates	
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 25 March
End of term	Friday 26 March
First day of summer term	Monday 12 April

Parents' Evenings	
Year 7	Thursday 6 May 2021
Year 8	Thursday 25 March 2021
Year 9	Thursday 26 November 2020
Year 10	Thursday 4 February 2021
Year 11	Thursday 21 January 2021

Term dates		
Term	Starts	Ends
Autumn 1	7/8 September 2020	23 October 2020
Autumn 2	2 November 2020	18 December 2020
Spring 1	4 January 2021	12 February 2021
Spring 2	22 February 2021	26 March 2021
Summer 1	12 April 2021	28 May 2021
Summer 2	7 June 2021	21 July 2021