

# Discover More About



DOWNHAM MARKET  
ACADEMY

**Friday 26 March 2021**

At the end of a very different but hugely rewarding term, all members of Downham Market Academy should look back with pride and reflect on the things that they have learned and the skills they have developed over this third national lockdown: independence, creativity, resilience, dedication, collaboration and empathy to name but a few.

The return to school has gone very smoothly and after Easter we will be reintroducing our extracurricular clubs and “period 7” intervention sessions as well as starting to offer more practical opportunities in science and technology lessons. We want our students to experience the full range of subjects and all the different activities that they offer over the summer term and we will continue to work hard to make sure this is achieved in a covid-secure way to protect our community.

Please do continue to test your child(ren) using the lateral flow devices provided last week over the Easter break on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons/evenings. Make sure you report the results to both DMA and the NHS [here](#).

Over the Easter break we have various contractors on site making further improvements to the buildings as we aim to provide a stimulating and inviting environment for our students to learn in.

After Easter we will once again be providing hot and cold food from our canteen – more details will be shared over the Easter break once final arrangements have been made. The offer will be different and exciting and we hope to tempt all students in to try the food prepared by our catering team who have put together a menu based on feedback from the students.

I hope you all have a wonderful and safe Easter break – we open again to all students on Monday 12 April.

Mark Eastwood

Senior Deputy Headteacher

# Melodrama Club

The Archers? Podcasts? Audiobooks? During lockdown, DMA students revolutionised the genre of Radio Plays in their extra-curricular Melodrama club. The cast, including students ranging from Year 7 to Year 12, have been rehearsing a Melodrama script for a Radio play to be performed and recorded after school on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The radio play club has been in rehearsal every week and students have been enthusiastically participating online over lockdown. The students have been utilising their vocal skills to recreate the melodramatic and comedic script of “The Marvellous Mellow Melodrama of the Marriage of the Mislaid Minor” written by Kristen Doherty. We are extremely proud of the professionalism of the students, it’s not easy to remain motivated and engaged during a pandemic but these students most certainly have.

To listen to the Radio Play, please head to the DMA [website](#).

Amy Chapman (Head of Drama), Alice Watts and Catrin Rees (Teachers of Drama).

## Cast List

Narrator and Dolly: Phoebe Langley (y10)

Penelope: Sophie Briffitt (y9)

Felicity and Polly: Scarlett Cromarty (y10)

Cynthia and Frank: Caitlin Waters (y10)

Mrs Scrubber and Gus: Brooke Robinson (y9)

Major Kerslake: Evelyn Palmer (y12)

Gilroy Gladheart: Georgina Knapp (y10)

Bunting: Izzy Lanchester (y12)

Derk Dastardly: Jac Eaglen (y10)

Slugly and Charlie: Ella Webb (y12)

Thugly and Molly: Katie Griffiths (y12)

Sarge: Emily Hooker (y7)

Gordon: Grace Atwell (y9)

## ELA Spring Newsletter

Our family of schools, the Eastern Learning Alliance, work collaboratively across all areas of schooling such as teaching & learning; CPD, resources and student experience. But each school has it’s own distinct identity and we are pleased to share with you the first ELA newsletter that highlights some of the things happening across the Trust. You can read the newsletter [here](#).



EASTERN  
LEARNING  
ALLIANCE

# Friends of DMA

## What is a 50/50 draw?

Tickets are sold to people (**OVER 18's only!**) with half of the ticket sales going into the FoDMA kitty to provide resources & enrichment to students at the academy, and the other half to the WINNER of the draw.

## How do I enter?

By contacting the FodMA group directly to buy tickets via their whats app 07387158883 or visit their Facebook/Instagram social pages (These are run separate from the schools official Facebook page by FoDMA members) We encourage you to follow our socials to know what the FoDMA are fundraising for and any upcoming events (Currently restricted by Covid)

## How do I pay?

Tickets cost £1 per number. You can set up a Direct Debit/Standing Order on a recurring basis which entitles you to keep the same numbers each month, as well as not having to remember to enter each month!

Details: Natwest, Account 76901668, Sort Code 30-98-77, Please use your name and 50/50 as a reference.

## How will I know if I win?

The winner will be notified via the way they made contact to buy tickets unless otherwise agreed different with the person. Winnings are transferred the very same day!

## When is the draw held?

Online on the last Saturday of each month at 6pm. **The March Draw is this Saturday 27th.**

We really hope you will join in each month or when ever you can as this is one of the only ways the FoDMA can currently raise funds to go towards the students.

We would also like to encourage any new volunteers to pop along to our **virtual meeting on the 7th April 7.30pm** to see what FoDMA is all about.

Thank You

FoDMA fundraising has already provided the Academy with numerous donations enabling us to buy outdoor seating for students and all weather table tennis tables.

They have recently made another kind donation to buy new musical instruments to further enhance this subject area.

# Upcoming events & dates for the diary

## 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     |