

DOWNHAM MARKET  
ACADEMY

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Sixth Form College



# Newsletter

16 March 2026

Another busy week at DMA, I hope you enjoy our World Book Day report as well as an update from our PE department.  
Best wishes for the coming week,  
Natalie



# Upcoming events & Notices

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	PSHE focus
		Yr 12 Chemistry Taster day - UEA	Yr 8 Parents evening	Red Nose Day	How can I prepare for interviews and applications?
		Dma Preloved sale 4.30-6.30pm	Art Mocks – Yr 11	Spring Sing	
				Art Mocks – Yr 11	

## Notices

Don't forget DMA is a **nut free school**; please ensure packed lunches don't contain any items containing nuts.

# Work of the Week

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# RED NOSE DAY



Wear something red

Red Nose Sale

Glitter Face

Year 11 Stocks

Penalty Shoot out

Photo Booth

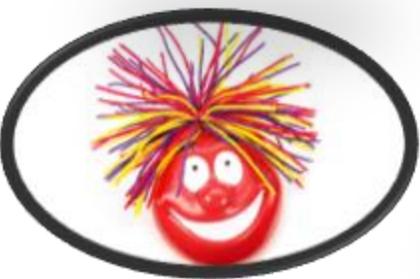
Karaoke

Shoot a Hoop

Let's Dance

Dodge Ball

Red Bake Sale



**EVERYTHING UNDER £1**



# DMA PRE-LOVED

WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

4-5:30 pm

DOWNHAM MARKET ACADEMY  
PE389LL

**CLOTHING, SHOES, PROM DRESSES, SUITS AND  
OTHERS ACCESSORIES ALL AVAILABLE .  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO OUT 2026 PROM  
PLEASE COME ALONG TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**



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# Sports News

Yr 7 Netball – County Netball Cup @ Greshams

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## Yr 7 Reach Quarter Finals of County Cup Netball

All of the girls played really well, playing some lovely netball. Some beautiful goals scored by Maizie and Holly and shout out to Ava and Izzy for some great defending.

Overall, we progressed into the quarter finals by coming 4th in the group stages, however a very good side knocked us out of getting to the semifinals.

Well done to all players involved!

Miss Laverty



# Sports News

Yr 9 Boys Football – County Plate

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## Yr 9 Progress in Plate to Quarter Finals

2-0 victory for DMA against Sewell Park after a long journey. A really hard fought win . The goals coming from Lucas R and Lucas A with some outstanding performances from James C and George W.

Into the Quarter Finals.

Mr Alexander.

# Sports News

Yr 8 Netball – District Fixture v St Clements

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## Yr 8 Put in Great Display

Two strong performances from our Year 8 teams this afternoon. Team 1 won 10–1 with a controlled and confident display. Team 2 secured a 6–0 victory, keeping a clean sheet.

Stand-out performances from Lailani, who made a number of excellent interceptions throughout the match, and from Noah and Emmie, whose teamwork in the attacking third helped create consistent scoring opportunities. Well done to all players involved.

Miss Webber & Miss Offler



# Sports News

Yr 8 Boys Football – District Fixture v St Clements

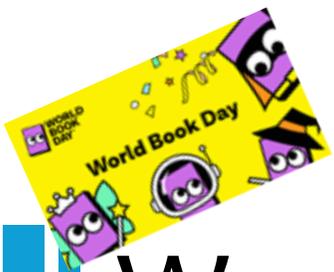
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## Yr 8 Narrowly Lose District Fixture

1-0 defeat after starting the game in control and playing some nice football. Clear chances were limited for both sides in a close first half. After the break, they pushed for more opportunities, only to concede from a corner in what proved to be the decisive moment. A late chance fell to Finn, but his effort was well saved. Despite the result, there were strong performances from Nissi, Sonny and Leon.

Miss Ward



# World Book Day 2026

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Last Thursday (5th March) we celebrated World Book Day in school. Students and staff were encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book characters or to attend in non-uniform, and it was wonderful to see such a fantastic range of creative costumes across the school.

During tutor time, students heard from a range of authors and celebrities about their favourite books, helping to inspire a love of reading. World Book Day book tokens were also distributed so students can choose a new book to enjoy.

We know how important reading is for learning and wellbeing, so it was fantastic to see the whole school community celebrating books together. **The day also raised an incredible £500.** Half of this will be donated to a reading charity, with the remaining funds going towards purchasing new reading resources for our school library.

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make the day such a success. We are already looking forward to seeing even more brilliant costumes next year!

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# Oxbridge Tea

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For students in year 11 and year 12, who might like to explore the possibilities of going to Oxford or Cambridge University, there is an afternoon tea on Wednesday April 15th [the first Wednesday back after the Easter holidays] 3.15pm - 4pm in the Athena Hub

We will explore what an Oxbridge education looks alike and what you will need to do to apply. I will also be introducing our Oxbridge programme, here at Athena. If you are interested to attend and/or would like further details, please email Mrs Middleton [Athena Lead] [mmiddleton@tela.org.uk](mailto:mmiddleton@tela.org.uk).

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# STEM apprenticeships

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Many thanks to our inspirational speaker Paul Hunt who came from Bepak in Kings' Lynn to talk about Apprenticeships in STEM subjects. While the talk was faithful to its title, he gave us so much more outlining how to make a job application stand out and how to use time wisely to build a portfolio of experience and expertise. I am sure we will be inviting Paul back to Athena in the future – so watch this space for more details to come.

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# Celebrating success

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## Year 7

I have said it before and I will no doubt say it again, "where has this year gone?" We have only two weeks left of this term!

Our School Council have been working hard speaking to Year 7 about our local foodbank; an invaluable local charity. If you are able to, please can any donations be brought to school by 20th March.

Have a fabulous weekend

## Year 8

I am looking forward to meeting some of the year 8 parents at parents evening on Thursday this week.

It's the last two week block until the Easter holiday's. This will see the clocks moving forwards, much lighter evenings and we are already starting to feel the warmth from the sun.

World book day last week was a great success, we saw many different characters coming into our assembly, which was great team spirit.

Mr Arrowsmith

## Year 9

We are now in the final two weeks of the Spring 2 term and the days are getting longer! The weather is improving and it's been lovely to finally see some sunshine after a long winter.

Please keep working hard and make sure you are earning as many house points as you can.

In the Year 9 competition, the current top five students are GP, S C-B, OS, BG and EF. However, there are still two weeks left, so there is plenty of time for others to climb the leaderboard!

## Year 10

Year 10 students enjoyed an inspiring talk from Mrs Southam, who encouraged them to think about the qualities that help a person become the very best version of themselves. Through a thoughtful and interactive activity, students selected ingredients labelled with positive character traits and added them to a bowl, reflecting on what truly makes a good person. Mrs Southam then took the mixture away to "bake" and returned with cupcakes for everyone to enjoy, leaving students with both a memorable treat and an important message about character, kindness and personal growth.

## Year 11

Year 11 are now well into revision mode with lots of students working independently in The Bridge and attending Period 7 sessions. This week we have lots of Fundraising happening with DMA Preloved on Wednesday 18th March and Comic Relief on Friday 20th with lots of activities for all students to enjoy.

# PE MVP FEBRUARY



Alex Yr 8 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Fulbeck Winter Karting Series

# OTHER NOMINIEES

## Leon Yr 8

Won a European tournament at the Brøndby stadium in Denmark with Norwich FC academy against teams all over Europe.





OTHER  
NOMINIEES

**Emma Yr 7**  
Representing  
West Norfolk  
Girls Rugby!

# OTHER NOMINIEES

## **Lucas Yr 8**

Lucas plays for Ely Tigers Rugby Club and in his past four games has been awarded Man of the Match twice. The first against as Team Captain against West Norfolk Rugby Club and this past Sunday against Cambridge Rugby Club.





## OTHER NOMINEES

**Emma Yr 8**

Being selected to play  
for 2026 Norfolk  
County U13 girls  
cricket squad

# OTHER NOMINIEES

## **Sonny Yr 8**

Sonny not only continues to impress as the school captain, but his progress at Cambridge United have been great again this year. Keep up the good work!



# OTHER NOMINEES

- **Daisy Yr 7** – Joining netball club for the first time and doing so well!
- **Romany Yr 9** – Scored 2 goals in the recent Cup football match against Hobart school.
- **Daisy Yr 10** – Competed at Norfolk County Swim Champs. Made the final of the 50m breast 16-year-old, finished 7th.