

DOWNHAM MARKET
ACADEMY

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Sixth Form College



Newsletter

23rd March 2026

The Spring Sing, Read
Nose Day and a new
Athena area all feature
in today's newsletter; I
hope you enjoy reading
the articles. Best wishes
for the coming Easter
break,
Natalie



Upcoming events & Notices

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	PSHE focus
Yr11 GCSE Drama exams		Year 11 Group photos 9:30am	Romeo & Juliet trip – after school	Ski Trip	What role will technology (like AI) play in my future career?
	Year 10 Futures evening			DofE trip	

Notices

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

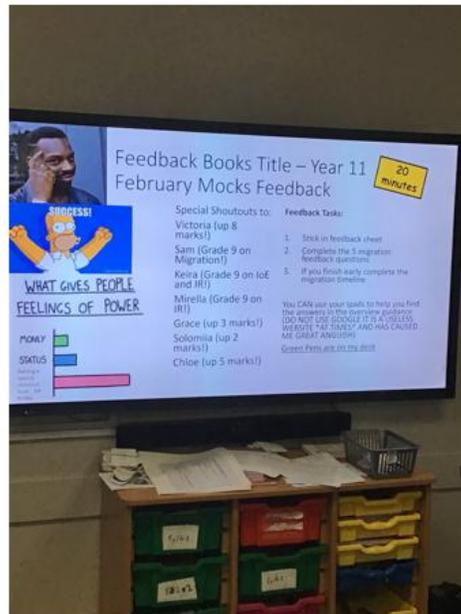
We are looking for exam invigilators at DMA. If you are interested in applying please email exams@dma.tela.org.uk with a short paragraph saying why you think you would be suitable for his role.

Work of the Week

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The new "OutDaw" area

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Athena is excited to announce the development of an outside social area and informal working space. We are grateful for the work of Mrs Daw [Hub manager] - hence the name of the space – who has sourced furniture and plants for the area. Many thanks to our students who have assembled the flat pack chairs and a sofa and particular thanks to a young man [who wants to remain anonymous] who swept and cleaned the area in advance of the arrival of the new furniture. Any parents who might like to donate blankets or cushions – please do get in contact! The grand opening will take place soon. Watch this space for pictures!

Oxford Residential



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Athena has secured places on a free residential at Wadham College Oxford [June 30th] the night before the first Open day this year [July 1st]. Year 12 students who might like to attend the Open Day should email Mrs Middleton [mmiddelton@tela.org.uk] to express an interest and find out further details.



Looking ahead to University

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Oxbridge Tea

Remember to sign up for the Oxbridge Tea.
Thank you to those who have already expressed an interest.

Email Mrs Middleton [mmiddleton@tela.org.uk]

sfe
student finance england

Thank you to Ms Morrison for an excellent evening about student finance. If you missed it and want some information, please do contact Athena

Celebrating success

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Year 7

Friday morning Year 7 were part of our Spring Sing competition and what a competition it was!

Students sang their hearts out in this inter House competition. There was dancing, hand clapping, PE tops and ties were waved and as always Year 7 gave it their all!

I will not say anymore as I am sure that Mr Saul will write a piece for our newsletter in due course.

Go Year 7; Always doing their BEST in everything they do!

Have a fabulous Easter Break

Year 8

Red Nose Day and the Inter House Spring Sing Competition, massive thank you to Mrs Locke for standing in for voting!

Thursday's assembly included a visit from the Norfolk Constabulary with a presentation on Knife Crime

Easter holidays are nearly here. Take the time to rest and recharge those batteries and I am sure, to eat an Easter Egg or four!

Year 9

We had some exciting celebrations this week, with the year 11 organising Red nose day activities for the whole school. I was so lovely to see everyone getting involved.

One last week to go!

Year 10

We've made it to the final week of term and what a fantastic few weeks it's been! The effort, energy and progress from students have been brilliant to see.

Wishing everyone a well-deserved Easter break to rest, recharge and enjoy some time off. When we return, we'll be heading into an important period with mock exams on the horizon, so we're excited to see students come back refreshed, focused and ready to shine!

Year 11

A huge well done to all Year 11 students who supported Red Nose Day; it was a great success. Next up will be a Colour Run on the 17th April.

In the meantime its time to get busy with Easter Revision, there are sessions in school as well as homework being set . It is also important to plan personal revision sessions now that you have the GCSE timetable.

Good luck.

Spring Sing

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Spring Sing has definitely Sprung!

I had the privilege to Judge the Year 7 Spring Sing with Miss Holland and the Year 8 Spring Sing with Mrs French and it was close!

Each House was tasked with singing a song. Students waved, clapped and danced along to the songs.

My fellow judges and I had to score on singing as well as the overall experience. The pressure was definitely on us!

After a few dances of our own, we gave our scores for each round.

The winners were Year 7.....Terra House

Year 8was a tie between Ignis and Terra which Ignis won on the tie break.

Thank you Mr Saul for organising a stupendous Spring Sing event and thank you Years 7 & 8 for your amazing performances.

Mrs Locke

Food Bank Donations

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Our wonderful student council have encouraged our school community to donate to the Downham Market Food Bank. Thank you to everyone who supported this worthwhile cause.



Red Nose Day

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- Red Nose Day

**RED
NOSE
DAY**

DMA entered the spirit of Red Nose Day on the 20th March with gusto. From red noses to red hair, students enjoyed the day. Year 11 Boys in the stocks was a huge success as was glitter painting. After the Spring Sing many students ventured onto the microphone for Karaoke and the dancing for Just Dance was brilliant. The Red Bake Sale was a triumph as was all the other activities put on by Year 11 students.

Norfolk Police Assemblies

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On Thursday 19th March the Norfolk Police delivered an important message to all students about the dangers of knife crime and the impact that this can have on many young people. Our students engaged extremely well in a sensitive but extremely important assembly.

If any students or parents have any concerns, please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lewis Swatman – lswatman@dma.tela.org.uk

Local community info

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Swan Youth Project

youth work works

Who are we?	<p>Swan Youth Project is a youth and community project based at the heart of it's community. We support young people from age 8, plus their families with a wide range of high quality services. We work with a Trauma Informed approach, getting to know our young people and families really well.</p>
Support for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Access Youth Groups 1:1 support for mild/emerging mental health Young Carers Support Hygiene Bank More than a Bike Holiday Activities Duke of Edinburgh Award
Support for families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family Support Parents Group Roots and Wings Group (parent and child) Courses
Support for the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshops and assemblies Employment/work readiness support Vocational tasters and trips Residential Trips Love Downham shop Garden Project

Swan Youth Project
Paradise Road
Downham Market
PE38 9JE

www.swanyouthproject.org

Timetable 2026

Monday
More Than A Bike: 4pm - 6pm
Roots and Wings: 4.30pm - 5.30pm

Tuesday
Parents Drop-in: 9am - 11am
Young Carers Check-in: 4pm - 4.30pm
Young Persons Committee: 4pm - 4.30pm
Duke of Edinburgh: 4pm - 4.30pm (alternate weeks)
Open Access: 4.30pm - 6.30pm (from age 8)
Garden Project: 4.30pm - 6.30pm

Thursday
Young Carers Check-in: 3.30pm - 4pm
Junior Open Access: 4pm - 6pm (from age 8, at primary)
Employment Support: 10am - 3pm

Friday
Garden Project: various times (please check)
Young Carers Check-in: 4pm - 4.30pm
Senior Open Access: 4.30pm - 6.30pm (high school age)

Daily
1:1 Support
Family Support

The best thing is making new friends and the people here are all really nice. I don't have many friends at school

If we need help with anything or if we don't feel safe you're there

We welcome visits to our project, so please get in touch if you would like to look round and speak with staff

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Swan Youth Project have 4 lovely activity days for students to take part in over the Easter holidays.

Please click on the below link to see what's on offer

[Search clubs and classes near you](#)

Local community info

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HPA
HARRINGTON'S
PERFORMING ARTS

SING | DANCE | ACT | PERFORM. FIND YOUR LIGHT.

WEEKLY CLASSES

FRIDAY:

MINI STARS TAP (3-5 YEARS)	4:30 PM to 5:00 PM
SILVER & GOLD STARS TAP (6+ YEARS)	5:00 PM to 5:45 PM
ADULT TAP (18+)	5:45 PM to 6:30 PM
ADULT JAZZ (18+)	6:30 PM to 7:15 PM

SATURDAY:

MINI STARS BALLET (3-5 YEARS)	9:00 AM to 9:45 AM
SILVER STARS STAGE SCHOOL (6-10 YEARS)	10:00 AM to 1:00 PM
GOLD STARS STAGE SCHOOL (11-18 YEARS)	1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

CONTACT US

07917701527 info@hperformingarts.co.uk Jubilee Centre, Downham Market

What we offer:

First Class Free Trial

All new students are invited to attend a free taster session.

NEW – The HPA Acting Studio (Ages 13–18)

A dedicated acting class for older students who want to focus on scripts, character development, and performance in a focused and supportive environment.

Harrington's Performing Arts Stage School (Ages 11–18)

Our Saturday stage school

offers professional-level training designed to develop well-rounded triple threat performers. Students take part in:

- Jazz, ballet, and contemporary dance
- Choreography
- Safe vocal technique
- Acting and improvisation
- Confidence building performance work