



Da Vinci Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy

Newsletter

A message from the Head Teacher

Greetings to all of our families and students

Welcome back! As I write this, plans for students returning to school are in full swing. The Da Vinci Academy Covid-19 testing centre is up and running. The team have done a brilliant job of turning our gym into a professional and well equipped testing centre. The team is run by Kathy Benstead and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gemma Tyers, Kathy and every member of staff who has contributed to the smooth introduction of testing in school.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our families for their testing permission support. Well over 90% of students will be tested before returning to school which will help identify any asymptomatic individuals thereby reducing infection rates and enhancing safety in our community. These testing levels among our students are higher than in many schools and together we should be proud of this.

I would also like to take another opportunity to thank you all for your support during lockdown. I offer thanks for your help with remote learning but I also want to thank you for all of the positive feedback, praise and kind words that you have sent to staff. It means so much to us and is always welcome.

Going forward and as I am saying to all students upon their return, our focus is on 'being kind'. We want to work with you and your children to build confidence and return ourselves to the high standards that we have come to expect from all Da Vinci students. We will work together to address learning, uniform and equipment needs so please talk to us if you have any worries or concerns.

Finally there is much noise in the media with regards the 'covid generation, lost learning and curriculum gaps'. Our belief is that students can and will survive the education effects of the pandemic. Trust us to help your child learn the knowledge that they need and to prepare for exciting Post 16 futures of choice and opportunity. Together we will work through the next few months and I am confident that if we work in partnership, we can only go from strength to strength at Da Vinci. You have been truly magnificent and we salute you!

I look forward to welcoming your children back to school very soon.

Take care and keep safe,
Mrs Roberts

Ps. Hot off the press – We are delighted to now be recognised as a National Online Safety Certified school. Watch out for more information.





National Online Safety Certified School

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

AWARDED TO

Da Vinci Academy

**Successful achieved Certified School Status showing
their whole school commitment to online safety on**

26TH FEBRUARY 2021

This is to certify that a whole school community approach in online safety is being undertaken by the establishment through empowering its leaders, teachers, governors, all staff and parents/carers. An effective community approach to online safety aims to protect and educate pupils in their safe use of the internet and technology, whilst enabling trusted adults with the essential information to identify online risks, and escalate any incident where appropriate.

CPD[®]

The CPD Certification Service

**Working together towards a safer
online world for children**

www.nationalonlinesafety.com



Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Safeguarding Team



Mr Keir Mather
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Ms Karen Thompson
Deputy DSL / Attendance
Support



Mrs Sophie McKenzie
Assistant Head Teacher
Designated Safeguarding Person

Everyone working at Da Vinci Academy shares the prime objective to keep children and young people safe by:

- Providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn in.
- Identifying children and young people who are suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, and taking the appropriate action with the aim of making sure they are kept safe both at home and in school.



If you have any **immediate** concerns about the safety of a child out of hours or during school holidays please contact:

- **Derby Children's Social Care – Initial Response Team** - 01332 641172
- **Careline out of hours** - 01332 786968
- **Police** - 101

Support for Young People and their Families

Childline

A free, confidential service where you can talk about anything you want

0800 1111

www.childline.org.uk

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

CEOP

Reporting online abuse, sexual abuse or consent

www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/



Derbyshire NHS - Chat Health

Sexual health, relationships, emotional health, smoking, drugs and alcohol

07507 327104 (free)

www.chathealth.nhs.uk



Kooth

Free, anonymous online counselling and support for young people

Mon – Fri

12 pm – 10 pm

Sat – Sun

6 pm – 10 pm

www.kooth.com



Additional information and resources are available on the academy website

Name	Role	Mobile	Email
Keir Mather	Designated Safeguarding & Mental Health Lead	07885219863	keir.mather@davinciacademy.co.uk
Karen Thompson	Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead/ Mental Health First Aider	N/A	Karen.thompson@davinciacademy.co.uk

News

Playwaze

Congratulations to the following students who are winners of the first PE Playwaze Sit Up Challenge:

Year 11- Divine

Year 9 - Jess

Year 7- Dylan

Please sign up to Playwaze if you haven't done so already and take part in the weekly PE Challenges to win prizes!

For the latest PE news please follow us on Twitter @DVATeamPE



Dates for your diary:

Any changes to dates and events will be updated on our website:

March	18	Y7 Parents Evening (Virtual)
April	01	Last day of Half Term 4
April	19	First day of Half Term 5
May	03	Bank Holiday Monday
May	28	Last day of Half Term 5

Twitter

Please follow us on [Twitter](#) @davincilead for regular news and updates!

Did you know that the PE Department are also on Twitter?! Follow them at @DVATeamPE



EVERYONE HAS QUESTIONS ABOUT *University*



University of
Nottingham
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA



Nottingham Trent
University

are hosting

EXPLORING UNIVERSITY TOGETHER

online events for Year 10 pupils and their families

Sat 27 March
10:30-12:00

Sat 17 April
14:00-15:30

Tue 20 April
18:00-20:30

Sat 24 April
10:30-12:00

scan to book places



<https://gck.fm/obllo>

Let's answer yours

Maths Manipulative of the Month

Double Sided Counters



Double sided counters are the manipulative that we use when teaching directed numbers (negative numbers), one side is yellow (positive) and the other side is red (negative). By using counters students can visually see what the calculations are.

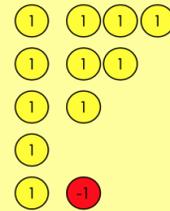
As you can see from the diagram you can visually see the calculations, this then extends to negative calculations. Then what a zero pair of counters is, is then introduced.

- Zero pair - This is what happens when you get a positive yellow counter with a negative red counter
- Adding a negative and seeing the result - You can see from the diagrams what happens when you add negative numbers.

The visual learners will be able to see what is happening and make zero pairs. They can then extend their thinking to using R and Y, and then to a stage where they don't need to use the counters at all.

If you have any questions about how to use double sided counters or would like to know more, please contact zoe.cruise@davinciacademy.co.uk

Introducing double sided counters



$$1 + 3 = 4$$

$$1 + 2 = 3$$

$$1 + 1 = 2$$

$$1 + 0 = 1$$

$$1 + -1 = 0$$

Mathsbot

The zero pair:



$$1 + -1 = 0$$



$$3 + -3 = 0$$



$$5 + -5 = 0$$



Mathsbot

What happens:

$$5 + -3 =$$

$$6 + -4 =$$

$$2 + -3 =$$

$$2 + -4 =$$

$$-2 + -3 =$$

$$-3 + -4 =$$

If we add a negative integer, the result is s _____.

Adding a negative means we need to go d _____ on the number line.



Pancake Competition

Miss Quinn set all students a practical food challenge for Pancake Day. Lots of students got involved and the results were amazing!

KS3 Challenge - design and make a creative sweet or savoury pancake that uses at least two fruits or vegetables in its design.

We had some amazing pancake designs. Here are the KS3 winners:

Year 7 - Kadey

Year 8 - Ciel

Year 9- Calesha

KS4 challenge - design and make a 3D pancake object or scene using either sweet or savoury pancakes.

KS4 winner- Liani

I am very impressed with how many students got involved with the challenge whilst at home. Keep cooking at home and practicing your practical skills.

Miss Quinn



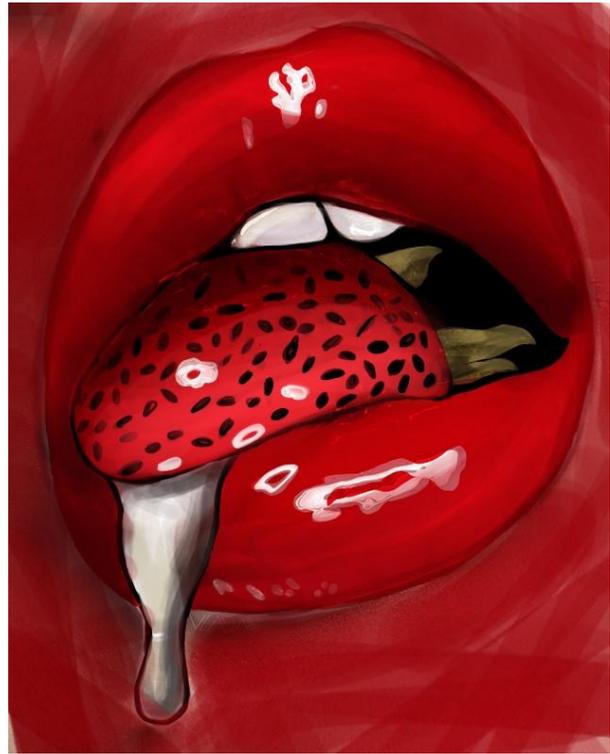
Year 7

Year 7, thank you for all your hard work and engagement in remote learning during this period of lockdown. We are really looking forward to welcoming you back to school!

Miss Jandu and Mr Mather

Latae – thank you for sending in your artwork, Miss Fox says ‘it is INSANELY GOOD! Honestly, it is absolutely beautiful. I love it!’

Latae is hopefully going to enter this for the RA art competition which is the opportunity for students to enter an art competition for the world famous Royal Academy of Art (RA). If selected, Latae could potentially have his work exhibited in the RA in London alongside some of the world's leading artists - Good luck Latae!



Alexia created a fantastic ‘gratitude’ jar as part of one of our well-being challenges from our weekly bulletins – we hope you filled it with wonderful things that make you smile during challenging times.



Every week, **Pollyanna and Scarlett-Rose** have been helping to do an elderly lady’s shopping. Then this week they took some films for her to watch and cleared her garden whilst they were there. We are so proud of you both, what a kind thing to do to help those who may need it in the community.

Kindness
is
Magic

Year 8 and Year 9

Hello Year 8 and Year 9

We are really looking forward to seeing you for your testing slots this week and Miss Wilmot will be there to greet you as you arrive.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us.

We can't wait to see you all back in school.

Miss Bradshaw, Mrs Sisson and Miss Wilmot

**WELCOME
BACK**

Superstar Mention

A big shout out to Ethan, Alex, Caelan and Henry who have sent me excellent work every single week, well done. I also want to say well done to Lily, Faith and Harvey for always putting lots of effort into science lessons in school and producing some amazing leaflets and posters that are going to form a new display in my room.

Mr James



Science Star!

I just had to share this fantastic creation from Faith of our solar system. Such an incredible effort. Well done!

Mrs Sisson



Food and Nutrition Superstar!

Fantastic practical work sent in from Leo. Leo created a Tapas style meal for his family during lockdown including a wide range of dishes and thinking about his presentation. Great work Leo, keep it up!

Miss Quinn



#TeenMentalHealth

Tell the teenagers

That this will not go on forever, that very very soon, their life will begin again and it will begin in glorious technicolour.

Tell the teenagers

That they are not being left behind, that all the other young people are waiting too, this stress is collective.

Tell the teenagers

That night is darkest before dawn, so if they are feeling extra hopeless right now, that's because it's coming to an end, soon.

Tell the teenagers

That it's possible to feel utter despair and misery, then, for no apparent reason, to wake up one day and to suddenly feel joy again, we don't know why. Don't believe anything to be permanent, it's not.

Tell the teenagers

That we may not understand how this is affecting them but we can imagine, and we can worry. We don't know what to do for the best but we are here.

Tell the teenagers

That one day they will look back on this and realise it made them a far better human somehow. They will seize the moment, face the fears and take every opportunity with open arms. And when tough times come, they will remember they survived.

Tell the teenagers

To find a little purpose every day and hang onto it, like a life raft. Anything, no matter how small, can keep you afloat.

Tell the teenagers

That what they are enduring right now is not fair, it's not easy and it is hard. But great things are coming, if they can just hang on and wait...

Wait...

Just a little longer.

Donna Ashworth
Author

