

Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week B

22 March 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian, welcome to this week's newsletter.

Dane Court Grammar Covid-19 Testing Centre



COVID-19 Testing

Over the past three weeks we have completed over 3,000 COVID-19 tests in school with over 95% of students completing up to 3 tests in school. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank the fantastic staff and volunteers involved in making this possible. Without their hard work and dedication, we would not have been able to achieve this level of testing to support the safe return of students to the classroom.

From this point forward, we move to twice-weekly home testing for both students and staff. Please see further information below.

Home Testing Kits

If you have consented to your son/daughter taking part in the COVID-19 testing programme, they will now have been issued with 2 packs of COVID-19 home testing kits.

It is important to carry out home testing as up to 1 in 3 people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Getting into a regular habit of testing twice a week will help stop the virus spreading, keeping your family and friends safer.

Please make sure your child tests themselves **twice a week 3-5 days apart, in the morning before school if possible and, if not, the evening before.** We would like students to have completed their first test before they come into school on Monday 22nd March.

Please [click here](#) for an instructional video showing the full process of home testing and result reporting.

Your child should also **continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays.** We will be sending home extra kits for Easter holiday before term ends.

If your child has not been tested at school yet, then please get in touch with us so that we can arrange a time for them to be tested on site, before beginning home testing.

This does not replace testing for those with symptoms. If you have symptoms you must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow national guidelines.

Reporting results

You are required to report the results of the tests online, or by phone to NHS test and trace, **and** to the school every time your child takes a test, even if the result was negative or void. **You will need the barcode number on the test so remember to report the results before disposing of the test cartridge.**

Reporting the test online:

Once your child has completed the test it is very important that the results are reported online straight away, even if your child's result is negative or void. It's easy to do at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. Results can also be reported via telephone by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

Reporting the test to the school:

It is important to keep a note of your child's results and share with school as well using this [online form](#). There will also be a link to this form on the front page of the school website.

If your child tests positive please also email admin@danecourt.kent.sch.uk or phone the school as soon as possible to let us know.

Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

A reminder that regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online
- www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests
- Getting an assisted test at work, if it is available
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test) or pick up tests to do at home.

To find out more on school household testing visit

[Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

We continue to encourage everyone to take part in regular Covid-19 testing.

If you have any queries or you encounter any issues during the testing process please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for all your support with the testing programme.

Mr M Jones
Headteacher

Year 12 Parents' Evening.

Many thanks to year 12 parents for taking part in our first remote Parents' evening. We would really appreciate your feedback on the process. Please [click this link](#) to complete an online questionnaire.

Many thanks
Rachel Rolls
Assistant Headteacher

Dealing with Anxiety

We have been made aware of a 'Dealing with Anxiety' workshop being offered by Diversity House. If you are interested in taking up a place, please see the flyer below. The course lasts for 2 hours, not 12 as stated on the flyer!

Contact details for Diversity House are as follows:

Email: info@diversityhouse.org.uk

Website: www.diversityhouse.org.uk



relate
the relationship people

LOTTERY FUNDED

KENT
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

DEALING WITH ANXIETY
(FOR YOUNG PEOPLE)

"we select our trainers for their interpersonal skills as well as their training ability, our trainers create an environment where they encourage and enable course participants to join in group discussions and activities, the students are actively involved in the learning process and have full opportunity to raise concerns and practise skills."

Aim

- To help young people: -
- Recognise the symptoms of anxiety.
- Understand what anxiety is and its relationship to worry and stress.
- Explore practical ways of dealing with

Aim

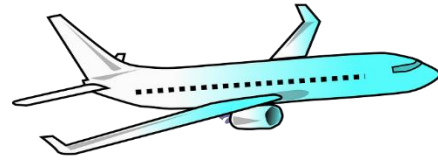
- understand the positive and negative thoughts and beliefs that trigger and maintain anxiety.
- Explore ways of challenging unhelpful thoughts
- Learn ways to let go of anxiety.
- Learn ways to accept the uncertainties of life.

When: March 27th 2021

Time: Training is from 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

Meeting ID: 846 6076 9209
Passcode: 256110

A 12 hour workshop for young people struggling with life in Covid times.
For people outside of the UK Find your local number:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdgs3mjl>



Languages Career Focus: Pilot

Learn another language to facilitate your jet setting career.

Are you....

- a fan of technology?
- alert and focussed on the task in hand?
- cool in difficult situations?
- a confident communicator with excellent people skills?
- a natural manager and great team member?
- enthusiastic and driven?

Do you have....

- full, perfect colour vision?
- good coordination skills?

...then this COULD BE YOU!

THINK LANGUAGES:

"It would be advisable to gain a working knowledge of a second language...this would be a distinct advantage and would set you above the many expatriate pilots seeking work outside the UK and make you eligible for jobs that would be closed to English-only speakers." –

Taken from the British Airline Pilots Association's booklet Becoming a Pilot - The Inside Track.

Mrs G Green

Head of German

Dane Court Staff Team Challenge

At the end of week 5 in the Dane Court staff virtual challenge, we have reached 3824 miles. We are currently in Riga, Latvia, only 200 miles away from Tallinn.

With 3 weeks remaining and 1668 miles of the challenge left it's a big push for the end target.

We have raised £640 so far for the Pilgrims Hospice and it would be amazing to get to £1000.

If you would like to donate the fundraising link is:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dane-court-grammar-school?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=dane-court-grammar-school&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm_term=e0326b6de07a428991b7ae9f7a1ae726



Online Safety advice - **Bitcoin mining at home**



We have received reports that some students in the Thanet area are using their home computers or laptops to mine cryptocurrency. At present, this is somewhat profitable in the UK with the current prices of coins - in fact, from a single computer, miners can make between £5 to £20 everyday from mining. Profits, however, are offset by the amount of electricity needed to mine, which can range from £5 to £10 each day from a single computer.

Some students are using their home machines to mine coins without their parents or guardians knowledge. This, in turn, leaves the bill payer with very high energy bills - in some cases up to hundreds of pounds a month above the normal range.

Once a computer has been set up to mine, it is as simple as clicking a button to start and stop mining, Once mining the computer is then left alone to start turning generating profit, sometimes for months at a time.

If you have been experiencing higher than normal electric bills and your child has a high end PC or laptop with an expensive graphics card, you may want to check your child's computer usage.

Tell tale signs a computer is being used to mine are:

- The computer or laptop being left on while at school.
- The computer being left on throughout the night
- Constant high fan noise throughout the day and night.
- The computer is suddenly not being used for gaming or any other intensive activity.

Mr S Lycett
Head of Computing

Upcoming Writing Competitions

Here is another writing competition. This one is designed for all year groups and is for a short story based on an adventure. The closing date is 30th April.

<https://www.sla.org.uk/article/hannah-groves/author-of-tomorrow-writing-competition-now-open/2220>

A painting from year 7 Lockdown Gallery

The students have been looking at the work of the Impressionists, Post impressionists and their influence on David Hockney landscapes. They have looked at the use of realistic and abstract colours and mark-making, the emotional content of the work and have produced a response using whatever materials they have available.

Work is anonymous in case some people do not want to be identified.

