

## Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week B

16 September 2022



13.9.22 was

Roald Dahl Day!



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Please see relevant information listed below that may offer support for your family, some information is new and some information has been held over from last week's newsletter.

### Access to the School Site from Start of Autumn Term

To improve security and ensure the safety of our school community we are changing the access to the school site. Parents will no longer be able to drive into school to pick up or drop off students (unless you need to do so in an emergency or have a site access card). If your child has a temporary disability such as a broken leg, you can of course use the intercom system to be given access to the site within office hours.

There is a set of automatic gates just inside our main school gates which, like all the other school gates, will only be opened via an intercom to the main school office during school hours.

If you bring students to school by car, please drop them in a quiet side street and do not park across the yellow hatching as this endangers students walking or cycling into school.

### Pupil Premium message

If your child is in receipt of pupil premium (in year 7-11) and you have difficulty providing a laptop or chromebook, we may be able to support you. Please email me to discuss: [richards@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:richards@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

Kind regards,

Rachel Richards (Assistant Head)

### Behaviour & Attitudes

We were delighted with the behaviour and general conduct of the students last week; there was a real sense of focus and engagement in lessons around the school, which was great to see. One area we would like to continue to improve is uniform and we're asking for your ongoing support as parents/carers to ensure that your child is in the correct uniform for the school day. As a school, we are continuing our work to ensure that the cost of uniform is reasonable and secures the best value for money (in line with DfE guidance). We are also looking at how we can better support families and with this in mind, we will continue to make sure that second-hand uniform is routinely available and that any additional support we're made aware of is advertised on our school website, within the 'Family Support' section. With regards to students' uniform, particular areas we'd like to address are jewellery and shoes: [Click Here](#)

#### Jewellery

One set of studs in ears (flat or rounded only). All other piercings MUST be clear studs. Any other jewellery to be discreet. In the event that a student has a visible body piercing which can't be removed, it must be covered with a suitable plaster.

#### Shoes

Trainers that are fabric or with noticeable logos are not acceptable.

The full uniform policy can be found on the school website.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Wakeley (Assistant Headteacher: Behaviour & Attitudes)

### Year 7 - welcome to languages!

Our new year 7s are now settling into their language learning journey here at Dane Court and seem to be enjoying their experience so far. Here are some thoughts on how you as a parent/carer can help and support your child. Language learning should be viewed a little like learning an instrument; your child will need time, space and encouragement to practise regularly.

Most students, whichever language they are studying, will have a fortnightly vocabulary test - you could help by testing them and get them to tell you when their vocab tests are due. They are usually on the same day every fortnight.

There are a host of ways to learn vocab: using flashcards, "look-copy-cover-check", follow the links provided by your child's teacher to the online vocab platforms quizlet and memrise. Encourage your child to teach you their new words, or explain pronunciation rules. Support your child with smart use of resources and help promote sensible use of online dictionaries. Unfortunately, simply inserting chunks of text into Google translate will not help develop your child's skills - and it is usually obvious to the teacher as well!

Thank you for your support.

### Bus route updates

As part of this review of the local bus network in the Thanet area, some services operated by Stagecoach on a commercial basis will be discontinued. This may affect students travelling to and from school. Where we've had to reduce services (as an absolute last resort), we have provided alternative suggestions outlined below:

#### **Hartsdown Academy, King Etherlbert School**

- The route **932** bus at 0825 from Margate to Minnis Bay will no longer operate. Please use the 0823 route 932 bus from Margate which has spare capacity.
- The 0801 route **932** bus from Dane Valley will also run along Maynard Avenue in order to serve Garlinge Primary School.
- The 1505 route **932** bus from Hartsdown Academy to Margate will no longer operate. Please use the route 32 service as an alternative.

#### **Royal Harbour Academy (Newlands Lane), Dane Court Grammar School**

- The 0728 route **933** bus from Cliftonville to Dane Court will no longer operate. Please use the Loop, 946 or 960 service instead.

#### **Hartsdown Academy, King Etherlbert School, Dane Court Grammar School, St George's School**

- The **943** bus will be rerouted to avoid reversing at St. Nicholas, The Oaks.

#### **Royal Harbour Academy, St George's School**

- The route **946** bus will be rerouted to serve St Lawrence, Newington Road, The Royal Harbour Academy, Dane Court and St George's School to replace part of route 933.

#### **Dane Court Grammar School, St George's School**

- The **948** bus at 0740 from Cliftonville will be renumbered route 960.
- The **949** bus at 0742 from St Peters Railway Bridge will be renumber route 960 and depart St. Peter's Railway Bridge at 0732, serving Kingsgate, Northdown Park, Cliftonville, Dane Valley, Laleham Corner, Margate, St George's School and Dane Court School.
- The **948** bus at 1535 from Dane Court will no longer operate. Instead, please use the 1535 route 960 bus that will be re-routed to St. Peters, Kingsgate, Northdown Park, Cliftonville (The Wheatsheaf), Dane Valley, Warwick Road and Margate.

#### **Ramsgate schools – Chatham and Clarendon House Grammar Schools**

- The **989** bus will no longer operate. Please use the Loop and 8/8A service instead.  
From the same date there will also be some changes affecting other routes and services in the area. These are outlined in detail on our webpage here> <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/south-east/service-changes-in-the-thanet-area>

Stagecoach will continue to operate the current timetables as normal on schooldays up to and including the last day of term (Friday 22 July).

We will communicate this news through our website and social media, but any assistance you can provide in pushing the message to students and parents who may be affected will be a great help.

With many thanks

**Matthew Maytum**

Communications Manager

Stagecoach South East

## **KS3 & 4 PSHE/SRE Curriculum Term 1**

Our PSHE curriculum follows the DfE guidance and uses information from the PSHE Association as well as other affiliated sources. Please feel free to contact me, Miss Holland Head of PSHE, if you have any queries or questions.

### **Year 7**

Introduction to the new NCFE Qualification.

LO1 Understand how I manage influences on my relationships

LO2 Understand how respect impacts on relationships

LO3 Understand that the choices I make affect my relationships, health and future

LO4 Understand how to be healthy

LO5 Understand what can make a relationship healthy or unhealthy

LO6 Understand the range of changes which are preparing me for adulthood

### **Year 8**

Medicinal and recreational drugs

How to use over the counter and prescription medications safely

How to assess the risks of alcohol, tobacco, nicotine and e-cigarettes

How to manage influences in relation to substance use

The over-consumption of energy drinks

The relationship between habit and dependence

How to recognise and promote positive social norms and attitudes

### **Year 9**

How to distinguish between healthy and unhealthy friendships

How to assess risk and manage online influences

About 'groupthink' and how it affects behaviour

How to recognise passive, aggressive and assertive behaviour, and How to communicate assertively

To manage risk in relation to gangs

About the legal and physical risks of carrying a knife

About positive social norms in relation to drug and alcohol use

About legal and health risks in relation to drug and alcohol use, including addiction and dependence

### **Year 10**

How to manage challenges during adolescence

How to reframe negative thinking

Strategies to promote mental health and emotional wellbeing

About the signs of emotional or mental ill-health

How to access support and treatment

About the portrayal of mental health in the media

How to challenge stigma, stereotypes and misinformation

### **Year 11**

Preparing for applications

Identifying personal skills

SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities & threat) analysis

Writing personal statement

Preparing for interviews- school & employment

## Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners at Dane Court Grammar School

Dane Court Grammar school welcomes the Emotional Wellbeing Team back for another year - Sarah Johnson and Emily Barker are Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners who work within our school, and are hoping to get to know you and your child over the coming weeks and months, offering support when needed and finding out your ideas about how we can all work together to support the emotional wellbeing and mental health of students at Dane Court Grammar School.

Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners (EWPs) are part of a new government initiative that aims to promote good emotional wellbeing and mental health through supporting children and their families through prevention, early intervention and education. There are a number of different ways we may be able to support your child within school such as individual targeted support, student groups and workshops. We support young people who are experiencing mild to moderate difficulties with worry, anxiety, low mood, phobias, or sleep difficulties. We also offer parent groups and online workshops, and support the school to develop a 'whole school approach' to emotional wellbeing and mental health.

We hope this information was useful, and we look forward to working with Dane Court Grammar School.

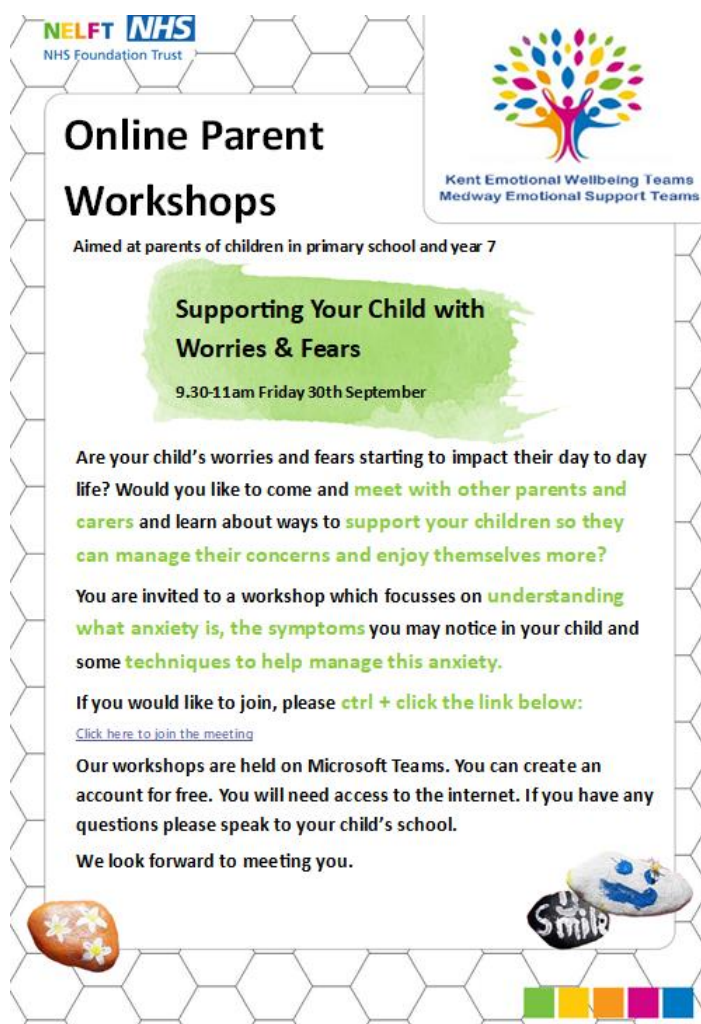
If you would like further information about our service, please speak to the Mental Health Lead – Mrs Holmes or Mrs Ives.

## NHS Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner Team Workshops

We are inviting all parents to join online workshops that are being run by our team over the next few months. These workshops offer information around key topics to help understand what is going on for your child, and strategies to support them. We know that it has been an especially difficult over the past couple of years, and we want to ensure that parents feel equipped to support their child. These workshops run monthly on rotation and cover: Understanding ADHD, Understanding Autism, understanding your child's behaviour, and supporting your child with worries and fears.

The first workshop covers the topic of "Supporting your child with worries and fears" and is on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 9.30-11am. Please see the attached poster for further details including the Microsoft Teams link to access the

workshop.



**Online Parent Workshops**

Aimed at parents of children in primary school and year 7

**Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears**

9.30-11am Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September

Are your child's worries and fears starting to impact their day to day life? Would you like to come and **meet with other parents and carers** and learn about ways to **support your children so they can manage their concerns and enjoy themselves more?**

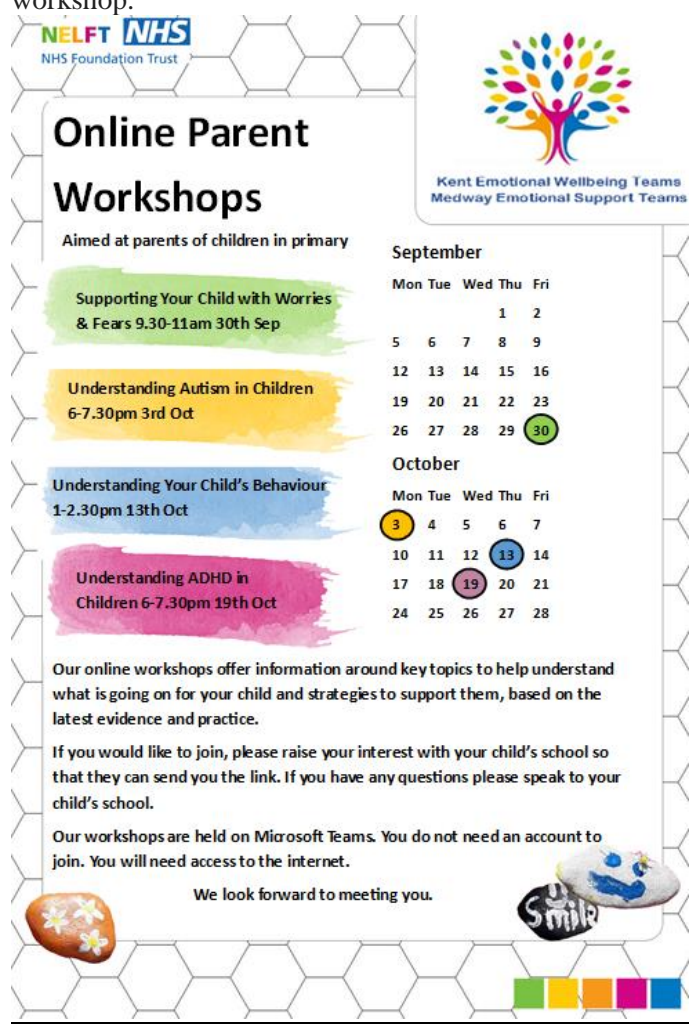
You are invited to a workshop which focusses on **understanding what anxiety is, the symptoms** you may notice in your child and some **techniques to help manage this anxiety.**

If you would like to join, please **ctrl + click the link below:**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Our workshops are held on Microsoft Teams. You can create an account for free. You will need access to the internet. If you have any questions please speak to your child's school.

We look forward to meeting you.



**Online Parent Workshops**

Aimed at parents of children in primary

Supporting Your Child with Worries & Fears 9.30-11am 30<sup>th</sup> Sep

Understanding Autism in Children 6-7.30pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct

Understanding Your Child's Behaviour 1-2.30pm 13<sup>th</sup> Oct

Understanding ADHD in Children 6-7.30pm 19<sup>th</sup> Oct

Our online workshops offer information around key topics to help understand what is going on for your child and strategies to support them, based on the latest evidence and practice.

If you would like to join, please raise your interest with your child's school so that they can send you the link. If you have any questions please speak to your child's school.

Our workshops are held on Microsoft Teams. You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet.

We look forward to meeting you.

**September**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

**October**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

## Young Writers Competition

Here is a chance to enter a Young Writers Competition and have your work published in a real book:

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/all-ages/showcase-22?view=ind>

Winning entries win £100 and a trophy!

Good luck, Mrs Finlay

## 2nd hand uniform shop

The 2nd hand uniform shop will be open on the first Tuesday of the month 3pm till 4pm in the main school entrance. There will also be a rail of uniform at the boot fair on September 10th.

If you are able to help out at our 2nd hand uniform shop on the first Tuesday of the month 3pm till 4pm, then please email the school business manager -Anne Syred [syred@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:syred@danecourt.kent.sch.uk). You don't need to commit to every month - any help would be appreciated.

Thank you

## Career Guides

Free careers guides from [www.successatschool.org](http://www.successatschool.org)

Register for your free guides to university, apprenticeships and careers in STEM [here](#).

## Please see attached flyers for the Community Clothing Bank



The flyer is titled 'COMMUNITY CLOTHES BANK' and 'Community Clothes Bank'. It features a pink and blue color scheme. The main text reads: 'AUTUMN 2022 POP UP EVENTS - MENS, KIDS & WOMENS CLOTHES AND SHOES'. Below this, it asks 'Are you struggling to afford the clothes and shoes that you need? We're here to support you with free clothes available at our events below:'. The events are listed as: '10AM -1PM Thursday 15th September, Thursday 13th October, Thursday 10th November, Thursday 15th December'. The location is 'all in the main hall at Union Church, Union Crescent, Margate, Kent CT9 1NR'. Contact information is provided: 'Contact us at [communityclothesbank.org.uk](http://communityclothesbank.org.uk) or on facebook and IG - Community Clothes Bank'. The right side of the flyer contains a section titled 'What We Do' with three paragraphs: 'We're a Community Clothes Bank providing free clothes to those that need them.', 'We hate waste and love seeing good quality preloved clothes going where they're needed most.', and 'We support those who are financially struggling: from growing families to refugees, people who have been seriously ill, or those escaping domestic violence. We also help like-minded charities and organisations, social and keyworkers. But there are always more that need our help.' Below this is a section titled 'How can you help?' with a bulleted list: '• Donate good quality, clean clothes and shoes. Follow our social media @communityclothesbank for details of our donation drop off sessions.', '• Visit our JustGiving page to donate (find it through our social links)', '• Like and follow our social media channels! @communityclothesbank', '• Join our brilliant team of gorgeous volunteers :)', and '• Come along to our fundraisers! Our next sale is Sat Nov 19 :)'. The flyer also features decorative elements like a green circle and a blue circle.

COMMUNITY CLOTHES BANK

# AUTUMN 2022 POP UP EVENTS - MENS, KIDS & WOMENS CLOTHES AND SHOES

Are you struggling to afford the clothes and shoes that you need?  
We're here to support you with free clothes available at our events below:

10AM -1PM  
Thursday 15th September  
Thursday 13th October  
Thursday 10th November  
Thursday 15th December

**all in the main hall at Union Church,  
Union Crescent, Margate,  
Kent CT9 1NR**

Contact us at [communityclothesbank.org.uk](http://communityclothesbank.org.uk) or on  
facebook and IG - Community Clothes Bank

## Community Clothes Bank

### What We Do

We're a Community Clothes Bank providing free clothes to those that need them.

We hate waste and love seeing good quality preloved clothes going where they're needed most.

We support those who are financially struggling: from growing families to refugees, people who have been seriously ill, or those escaping domestic violence. We also help like-minded charities and organisations, social and keyworkers. But there are always more that need our help.

We're currently raising money for essential clothing items, storage facilities and running costs.

### How can you help?

- Donate good quality, clean clothes and shoes. Follow our social media @communityclothesbank for details of our donation drop off sessions.
- Visit our JustGiving page to donate (find it through our social links)
- Like and follow our social media channels! @communityclothesbank
- Join our brilliant team of gorgeous volunteers :)
- Come along to our fundraisers! Our next sale is Sat Nov 19 :)

Day	Name of club	When	Where	Year group
<b>Monday</b>				
	Football	After school	Field/Hardcourt	All
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All
	Physics drop in	3.30 4pm	D12	All
	Choir	After school	H7	All
<b>Tuesday</b>				
	Ukulele Club	lunchtime	H7	All
	Art club	3:20 - 4:30	ART	Yr7-9
	Junior Book Club - week B	1.45 - 2.15	Library	Yr7 & 8
	Orchestra not starting till 4.10.22	3.30-4.30	H7	All
<b>Wednesday</b>				
	Hockey	3.30pm - 4.25pm	Hard Court	All
	Dance	3.45pm -4.25	Activity Studio	All KS
	From term 2 - DofE			Yr 12
	Film club - week B	After school	M4	Yr12/13
	Theatre Night	After school	Theatre	Yr13
<b>Thursday</b>				
	Manga Drawing	1:45 - 2:15	L8	All
	Drama & Shakespeare	Thursday 3.30-4.30	H1	7-10
	Chess Club	3.30 - 4.30pm	D2	All
	Dungeons & Dragons	3.20 - 4.20	Library	All
<b>Friday</b>				
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All

## Roald Dahl Day 13.9.22

Roald Dahl Day celebrates this creative master and all of the work that he has done by bringing stories of fiction and wonder to children everywhere. It wasn't until more than 60 years after his first book was published, and more than 15 years after his death, that Roald Dahl Day was instituted in 2006. The first day took place on what would have been his 90th birthday.

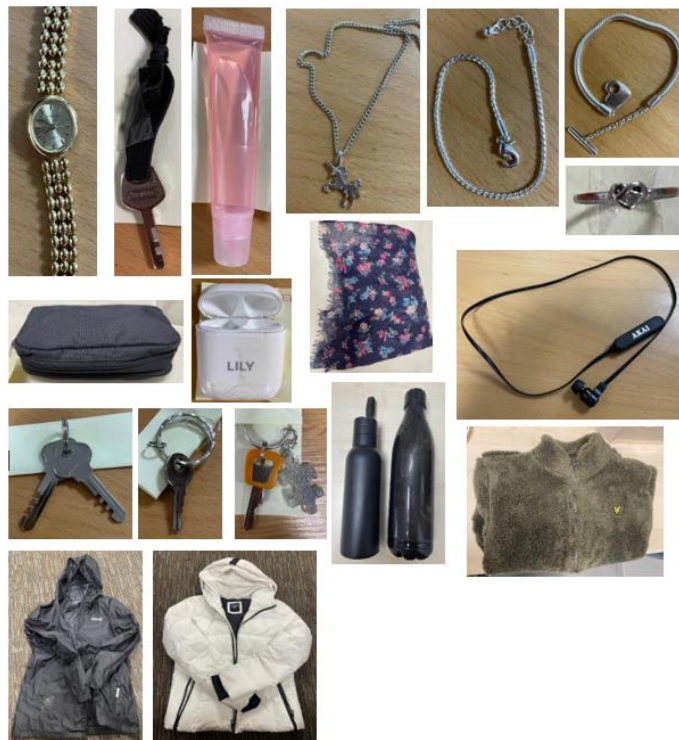
Millions of children, and adults too, have spent delightful hours entering into the world of Dahl's imagination, and this was the perfect way to pay homage to this creative genius. Since his books have been so popular (translated into at least 58 languages), the day to honour Dahl has been enjoyed and celebrated in countries all over the world.

Roald Dahl's stories are filled with magical detailing, story line twists and turns, and heroic and cunning characters, often in the form of children! To name but a few inspiring tales, why not try reading James and the Giant Peach, Danny Champion of the World, or The Witches!

## Lost Property

We have a few unnamed items in our lost property already this term. They include a couple of blazers, jewellery, a pencil case, keys, water bottles, coats, a scarf, one headphone and an empty AirPod case. Please remember to name any items your child brings into school to help us quickly return any lost items. Photos of the easily identified items are set out below. If you or your child recognise any of them, or think that the items of unnamed uniform may belong to your child, please do contact the office on 01843 864941 to arrange collection as soon as possible.

Many thanks, Office Team



**THE END**

