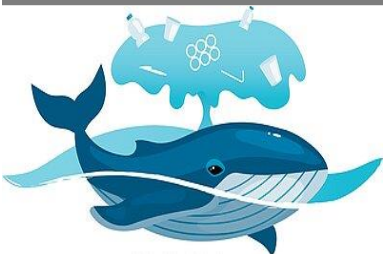


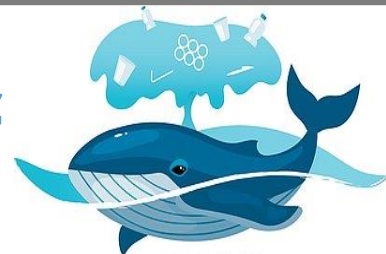
Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week A

23 September 2022



Great British Beach Clean 2022!



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 Wednesday 28th September

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.

Thank you

Parents/Carers of Year 7

You are warmly invited to our Year 7 Parents' / Carers' Information Evening on Wednesday 28th September 2022 (4.15 pm - 5.45 pm). Doors open at 4.15 pm and parking will be available on the hard court. Year 7 students are encouraged to accompany their parents / carers and will be working with the House Captains while the presentations are taking place in the theatre.

We hope that this will be an informative evening and will provide you with the opportunity to meet key members of the staff team who are supporting your child in school. There will also be information stands in the Heart, to highlight further support available for you and your child, and you will be able to end the evening with a tour of the school led by your child. We very much look forward to seeing you next Wednesday.

Mr Sunderland

Year 11 parents & carers,

I am writing to invite you to attend our International Baccalaureate Information Evening on Wednesday 12th October 2022 from 5pm - 6pm, with a talk commencing in the Theatre at 5pm. The evening will provide you with the opportunity to learn more about our IB programmes and the destinations these present to our students. There will also be the opportunity to ask any questions you may have, in a less formal setting than our open evening.

We are incredibly proud of our IB curriculum offer at Dane Court Sixth Form. In their recent inspection of our school, OFSTED rated this provision as 'Outstanding'. The IB Diploma Programme and the IB Careers Related Programme ensured 80% of our Year 13 cohort of 2022 secured their university places, 35% of which were at Russell Group universities, and provided 10% of students (17) with the knowledge and skills necessary to earn an excellent range of degree-level and other apprenticeships in fields such as accountancy, engineering and journalism.

We are keen to ensure that these wonderful opportunities are also presented to your child through their IB study at Dane Court and so look forward to welcoming you into the school to learn how this is achieved.

Best wishes

Chris Pleasant (Head of Sixth Form)

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
Rachel Richards (Assistant Head)

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.



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 next workshop covers the topic of "Understanding Autism" and is on Monday 3rd October 2022 at 6-7.30pm. Please see the attached poster for further details including the Microsoft Teams link to access the workshop.

Please be aware the link in the poster is inactive, so to join the workshop please mentioned in the poster please [click here](#) + ctrl



NELFT NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in primary school and year 7

Understanding Autism in Children
6-7.30pm Monday 3rd October

Do you have **questions about Autism**? Maybe your child has **received a diagnosis**. Would you like to come and **meet with other parents and carers** and learn about ways to **support your child**?

You are invited to a **workshop about understanding symptoms of Autism**. We also discuss **helpful strategies that you can use at home** to help support your child.

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.

www.nelft.nhs.uk

Pastoral Care Message

Please be aware there is a supply of free sanitary products in the Pastoral Support Office if any young person should need them.

For Parents - Online Bullying

Online bullying is a concern for many parents, online can often be a hidden aspect of many children's lives and children will not always talk if they are being bullied. Internet Matters website have put some expert tips together for parents which are split by ages. We recommend all parents have a look at the Internet Matters website to help support their child and look out for key signs.

For Parents - Online Safety

Online safety is an important part of keeping children safe at school. All of our pupils are taught how to be safe and behave appropriately online, but we can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work together. It's important that as adults, we take an active interest in our children's online lives and show a willingness to engage in the digital world with them.

If you believe a child is in immediate danger, always contact 999 for police assistance.

Think U Know: www.thinkuknow.co.uk The National Crime Agency Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command (NCA CEOP) have a website which is suitable for children aged 5-16 and has a section just for parents/carers with advice and information.



NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety

The NSPCC have produced resources for parents. Their website covers excellent advice for parents about issues such as online grooming, nude image sharing and cyberbullying, as well as specific advice for children with special educational needs and disabilities.



Childline: www.childline.org.uk

The Childline website has a wide range of information and advice on both online and offline safety for children. There is information about online gaming, grooming, and the Zipit App which helps children feel empowered when confronted with inappropriate chat online. They also provide a helpline for children to get advice over the phone



UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk

UK Safer Internet Centre provides a wide variety of advice and guidance to help you discuss online safety with your children. There are useful checklists for privacy settings on social networks and suggestions to consider before buying devices for your children.



Childnet: www.childnet.com

Childnet has resources, including videos and storybooks, to help you discuss online safety with your children. It includes advices on setting up parental controls, cyberbullying and setting up a family agreement for safer internet use.



Internet Matters: www.internetmatters.org

Internet Matters bring you all the information you need to keep your children safe online. It has a tool which guides you through how to set up parental controls on all the different devices in your home to protect your children.



Ground rules

- Discuss and agree as a family how the internet will be used in your home. Let your children tell you what they think is and isn't acceptable for them to do online, such as not being nasty to people, keeping personal information private and speaking to an adult when they are worried. Then add your own rules such as how long they can spend online and when and where webcams can be used.
- You might find it helpful to write these 'ground rules' down as a visual reminder.
- Make sure your child understands that their actions and behaviours online can have offline consequences.
- Remember these are whole family rules, so consider your own use of the internet and think about how much information you are sharing on your social networks about your children and who can see it, such as school photos.
- Agree on what will happen if they don't follow your family rules.

Online safety

- Make sure you apply parental controls to all internet enabled devices in your household, including tablets, phones and games consoles. They can restrict access to inappropriate content and can help you manage how much time your child spends online.

- Make sure your child understands the parental controls are in place to protect them, not restrict them; some children will actively work around parental controls if they feel constrained without knowing why.
- Set up filters on internet search engines to limit the likelihood of your children accidentally coming across inappropriate content when searching online.
- Be aware that internet history can be hidden and deleted, so talk to your children and supervise their online use appropriately.
- Remember filters and parental controls are not 100% effective so you cannot rely on them alone to protect your children. It is important your children understand they should tell you straight away if they see something inappropriate or upsetting online.

Listen

- Take an active interest in your child's online life and talk openly with them about the things they do. Talk to you child about which websites and apps they like to use and why; engage in their online world with them.
- Be aware of any changes in behaviour, language and attitude in your child. These behaviour changes can indicate something is upsetting your child online. Children who are groomed, radicalised, abused or exploited online will often be pressured to withdraw from family and friends.

Dialogue

- Talk to your children – be open and positive when talking about the internet.
- Make sure your child knows they can come to you for help if something happens online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable. Many children won't disclose online worries because they are scared adult will blame them or remove their access to the internet.
- Ask your child if they know where to go for help, where to find safety advice, information about privacy settings and how to report or block users on their games and websites.
- Explore their games and websites together to ensure your child knows how to block and report anyone who is nasty or inappropriate. Encourage your child not to retaliate or reply and to keep any evidence. If the game/app has a 'parent section', explore the parental controls and reporting systems yourself.
- Ensure your child understands pictures, videos or comments posted online can be very difficult to remove and rarely remain private.
- Discuss the pressures for young people to send inappropriate or nude(indecent) images to each other. How might this behaviour affect their relationship? Do they know what they would do? Young people need to be aware images can be copied, saved and shared without their knowledge and if they are under 18, they may also be breaking the law by making an indecent image of themselves.



Exhibition Careers Fair - Thursday 29th September, Years 8 - 13

Our school careers fair is making a return, in person, this September after a four year gap!

We are very excited to be welcoming over fifty exhibitors from local industries, voluntary groups, and training and higher education providers. Giving students the chance to speak directly to the people who recruit staff or deal with admissions to courses; talk to employees, trainees and students; and ask the questions that matter to them. There will also be a vast array of displays, demonstrations and samples of work.

Over the next week students will receive guidance through their year assemblies and mentoring programme to ensure they are able to make the most of their visit. This will include a list of exhibitors that can be discussed at home prior to the event.

Schedule for the Careers Fair -

0840 – 0940hrs	Year 9	Theatre/Heart
0945 – 1045hrs	Year 10	Theatre/Heart
1045 – 1105hrs	Break	
1105 – 1205hrs	Year 11	Theatre/Heart
1210 – 1250hrs	Year 8	Theatre/Heart
1250 - 1330hrs	Year 12	Theatre/Heart
1420 - 1450hrs	Year 12 and 13 only - Apprenticeship talks: Cummins Apprenticeship talks: RAF	C1 C9

1450 - 1520hrs	Year 12 and 13 only - Apprenticeship talks: Kreston Reeves Apprenticeship talks: CCCU - Healthcare	C1 C9
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Scholastic Book Fair

We will be running a Scholastic Book Fair in the library from Friday 23rd September to Thursday 6th October. There will be a fantastic selection of contemporary YA books, posters and stationery to choose from. And there will be a chance to win £5 vouchers with every purchase! The fair will be open at break and lunchtimes and during year 7-9 library lessons. Please bring in cash to spend at the fair, but if you would prefer to buy gift vouchers in advance the link is here:

<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/book-fair-gift-vouchers>

Our school account number is: **17302894**

Please make sure that you print off the book fair vouchers and bring them to the fair.

The more books sold the more free books we will be able to get for the library. Many thanks for your support.

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 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 :)

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. You don't need to commit to every month - any help would be appreciated.

Thank you

Please see attached flyers for the Community Clothing Bank

Day	Name of club	When	Where	Year group
Monday				
	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
Tuesday				
	Yoga Club	3.30-4.30	Studio	Yr12-13
	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
Wednesday				
	Hockey	3.30pm - 4.25pm	Hard Court	All
	Dance	3.45pm -4.25	Activity Studio	All KS
	From term 2 - DofE			Yr12
	Film club - week B	After school	M4	Yr12/13
	Theatre Night	After school	Theatre	Yr13
Thursday				
	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
Friday				
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All

Kent U13 Championship – Congratulations!

Ismae A. competed in the Kent u13 championship this weekend in Erith. She became the Kent Champion on Saturday for the 150m. She came 2nd in the 75m and became the Long jump champion and on the 13th & 14th August, she competed in the South of England Championships in Chelmsford (The South of England area extends from Cornwall to Norfolk). She made both the 100m and 200m final, coming 5th in the 200m & 7th in the 100m. However, her biggest achievement was to become the South of England U13 Long Jump Champion

As a school we are extremely proud of her.



The Great British Beach Clean 2022

The Great British Beach Clean is a week-long citizen science event, where hundreds of beach cleans take place up and down the UK. Litter data collected drives our conservation work and also feeds into the International Coastal Clean-up (ICC). This year's Great British Beach Clean will take place between Friday 16th – Sunday 25th September 2022.

On every clean people are asked to run a litter survey: recording all the items of rubbish they find in a 100m stretch. This data is used to campaign for change.

There have seen some great results – the plastic bag charge, banning microplastics in personal care products, better wet wipe labelling, and supporting a tax on single-use plastic items.

425 litter items found per 100m of beach surveyed at last year's Great British Beach Clean

30% of beach cleans last year found face masks and PPE

55% drop in plastic bags found on UK beaches since 5p charge introduced

But it's not job done. More data is needed to wage war on other types of beach litter, and you can help, there is still so much to do to stop the litter plaguing our beaches. Make 2022 your year to help save our seas. When you go for a walk on our beautiful local beaches, pick up a piece of litter. If everyone did this each time they walked, our beaches and seas would be different places.

Please also see attached this flyer

Would you like to help
your local community?

**Did you know that
your skills and
experience could
help others through
a difficult time in
their life?**



Lost Property

We have a few unnamed items in our lost property already this term. They include a couple of blazers, PE kit, jewellery, keys/keyrings, water bottles, coats, a scarf, a cycle helmet, headphones and an empty AirPods 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

