

## Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Next week is Week A

4 November 2022



# It's Guy Fawkes Night tomorrow!



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.

Next Week's School Events	
Date	Event
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	2:1:2 timetable & Yr11 PPE's
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	2:1:2 timetable & Yr11 PPE's
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	2:1:2 timetable & Yr11 PPE's
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	2:1:2 timetable & Yr11 PPE's
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	2:1:2 timetable & Yr11 PPE's



### Late Arrival in School

Please be reminded that students are expected to arrive and be in class by 8.40am. If a student arrives late it is disruptive to the class and means that they miss the teacher's instructions and introduction to the lesson. It can also cause embarrassment for the student having to enter the classroom late. The school pedestrian gates open at 8.00am so students can arrive in time to get to their lockers etc before classes start at 8.40. Once the pedestrian gates are closed at 9am, any student arriving after this time will need to press the intercom buzzer, which is to the right of the gate, so that the office staff can let them through.

Frequent lateness can soon add up to a considerable amount of learning lost and can seriously disadvantage your child.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days' worth of teaching lost in a year
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days

Please help your child to be punctual. If you have any concerns, or would like to speak to someone regarding attendance, please contact Mrs Sayer, Attendance Officer on 01843 864941.

## **SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING - Wednesday 23rd November 2022**

Students and parents are invited to join us at our Sixth Form Open Evening in the Theatre on Wednesday 23rd November 2022. A short introductory talk will commence at 17.00 followed by breakout talks, including more information about the IB curriculum and the University/Apprenticeship pathways programme offered at Dane Court. This will be repeated at 18.00 for those unable to attend the first talks. The evening will provide parents and students with essential information about our world class IB curriculum offer, the excellent destinations secured by previous students and the wider support and extracurricular opportunities offered at Dane Court which have contributed to our 'Outstanding' status (OFSTED,2022).

The Head of School and senior staff will talk about the Sixth Form and answer any specific questions you may have. There will also be the opportunity to talk to staff who teach the I.B. subjects followed by a tour of the school as well as the opportunity to speak to representatives from a range of universities, including Cambridge, and Apprenticeship providers. This Sixth Form Open Evening is a vital part of the process of application for the Sixth Form and we hope all students will be able to attend with their parents.  
Mr C Pleasant, Head of Sixth Form & IB coordinator

## **Boxercise Class – Wednesdays 5.15-6.16pm**

Every Wednesday in term time, 5.15-6.15pm, Jade Bailey (who is qualified gym and fitness instructor and runs a dance club for our students) runs a Boxercise class in our Studio. It is open to the general public including parents at a weekly charge of £4. The school gates will be open from 5.05-5.20pm for you to be able to use the staff car park to attend the class. There is no need to book, so if you fancy getting out the frustrations of the day whilst getting fit at the same time, come along with a bottle of water, a mat (yoga mat or similar) and join us each week.

Many thanks, The Office Team

## **Bicycle Safety at School**

Please be aware that the Fairfield Road bicycle shed is **NOT a safe place to leave a bike overnight**. If students need to leave a bicycle overnight for whatever reason or even whilst at an after-school club, the bicycle needs to be put in the main bicycle shed when they first arrive at school to save wheeling it through the school. The bicycle cage at the front of the school is locked overnight, but please also ensure your child's bicycle has a lock and that they use a bicycle helmet when cycling in and out of school. We would also like to raise awareness for students cycling in the winter months in the dark having good reflective gear and lights on their bicycles to ensure they can be seen clearly by other road users.

## **Duke Of Edinburgh news**

We are delighted and overwhelmed with the enormous interest in the Silver Duke Of Edinburgh award. 37 students have been enrolled and the application process has closed. We wish all 37 students the best as they begin their Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections as well as their weekly training for the award.

Mrs Whelan and the DofE team.

## **Year 13 Extended Essay**

Year 13 DP students should now be redrafting their Extended Essays. The deadline for submission of the completed essay is 14th November, i.e. they only have one month to respond to their feedback and rewrite their essay. Please reinforce to them the need to stick to deadlines so that they complete the work and can then focus on other elements of their course. Likewise, please reiterate that the points they get for the DP Core (EE and ToK combined) can be the difference between getting their university place or not, so it is really important that they try to get their essay to be as good as possible. The EE should be a document which is seen as the pinnacle of their IBDP education and be something that they are truly proud of.

EE Coordinator

## **Hardship Help guide**

Please find below a link to a '[Hardship Help](#)' guide. This includes universal support available across England / Kent, as well as district-specific support.

## **Language Linguastars**

The languages department has selected the following students as term one's *Linguastars* for their fantastic effort and achievement in their language lessons. All students have received a merit from their teachers. Keep up the excellent work!

- **Year 7 Spanish:** Alfie M, Isabelle T, Rosa B, Tanvi P
- **Year 7 French:** Evie P, Oliver Q, Jasmine W, Grace G
- **Year 7 German:** Reuben T, Harvey B, Malik A, Stanley S
- **Year 8 Spanish:** Olivia C, Darcy R, Isabella C, Grace B
- **Year 8 French:** Ava B, Ael T, Louis B, Sadie B
- **Year 8 German:** Abigail L, Tizi T, Evie L, Callula C
- **Year 9 Spanish:** Betty T, Haniell O, Ollie M, Isla O, Numi O
- **Year 9 French:** Akasya S, Taylor R, Sonielle M, Isabella B
- **Year 9 German:** Max S, George E, Aradhana P, Lucy T, Dan G
- **Year 10 Spanish:** Dylan P, Jemima T, George C, Sia G, Faye E
- **Year 10 French:** Beatrix B, Finn N
- **Year 11 Spanish:** Gregor H, Melanie R, Gracie B, Izzy D, Isaac S
- **Year 11 French:** Connie C, Milo A, Aoife S
- **Year 12 Spanish:** Lucas H
- **Year 12 German:** Gracie C, Aiden H, Amelia L
- **Year 12 Japanese:** Emily L
- **Year 12 French:** Oolong M, Lily K
- **Year 13 Spanish:** Maisie H, Oscar A, Emily C
- **Year 13 Japanese:** Emily C
- **Year 13 French:** Brooke H, Yasmin C

## **Please check if your child is eligible for free school meals.**

With the cost of living crisis creating increased challenges for our community, we ask all parents to check if their child is eligible to receive free school meals. Applying for free school meals if you are eligible will mean enhanced pupil premium funding for the school. This will not only allow us to pay for school trips, study materials and revision guides for your child, but will also allow increased funding for the quality of education at Dane Court as a whole. We would be very grateful for your help: please apply if you are eligible.

### **Who is eligible for free school meals?**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following. For full information, visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>.

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

### **I think my child is eligible for free school meals. What do I do now?**

You should apply for free school meals via the Kent County Council website. Kent County Council will then inform the school to allow us to access the funding, so you don't have to do anything else.

The link is here: <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals>

### **What if I am worried that my child will be embarrassed at school?**

Please do not worry. Our systems are extremely discreet, and our electronic payment system in the school canteen means that it is impossible to tell who is receiving a free school meal. Many students receive free school meals at our school.

## Year 9 Charity Fair – Thank you

Thank you to all parents/carers who donated prizes or any other resources to help with the Year 9 Charity Fair at the end of last term. We raised a grand total of **£313.49!** All monies raised will go to the Salvation Army to go towards the Thanet Food Bank. We were all so proud of the students and it was a great way to end the term.

## Food department updates for term 2

We have a number of exciting projects planned for KS3 students this term, and that we would like to make you aware of. Whilst we are not always in a position to share a whole term's ingredients requirements, we are occasionally able to do so.

### Year 7

This term year 7 will be learning about Food choice and ethics. They will be making Fish cakes or cheesy potato croquettes, Curry and Mini carrot cakes across three practical lessons. Due to timetabling differences some classes will complete the practicals in a different order from others. We will share the list of ingredients required on Google classrooms to individual classes a week before the practical to ensure that you have time to prepare.

### YEAR 8

Will be designing, decorating and making a Christmas or winter celebration cake. This will culminate in a Christmas cake exhibition and house competition on 12th December. Cakes must be brought in on Monday 12th December at 8.40am in a NAMED container. Here is the list of ingredients that will be required this term - please note - we are able to supply some ingredients as noted on the table below. If your child is eligible for pupil premium funding or there are circumstances which mean that you may struggle to provide these ingredients, please do get in touch as soon as possible.

### Mini Christmas cake competition organiser

	Activity	Ingredients needed
1	Lining a tin	<b>None needed.</b> Sort out ingredients for next lesson. Start researching for homework - moodboard. We will line tins together at school
2	Making the cakes	<b>Students should bring:</b> 175g mixed dried fruit 1 tbsp orange juice / or sherry (to soak fruit in the night before the lesson) 50g plain flour 50g block margarine (allow to soften out of the fridge) 1 egg 25g glace cherries (optional) <b>The following ingredients can be supplied by school for 50p or students bring own</b> 50g muscovado sugar / dark soft sugar, 1 tsp black treacle, ¼ tsp mace/nutmeg & ¼ tsp cinnamon or ½ tsp mixed spice
3	Marzipan	<b>Students should bring:</b> 250g marzipan (the block NOT the roll) A large NAMED container for your cake such as a chocolates tin or biscuit tin. Make sure it is named 20cm cake board. <b>Students can bring OR School can provide:</b> 1 tbsp icing sugar 5p, 2 tbsp apricot jam 10p, 20cm cake board price TBC
4	Design	None needed
5	Flat Icing & decorating	<b>Students should bring:</b> 250g fondant icing (the block not roll) <b>Students can bring OR School can provide:</b> 1 tablespoon cornflour (school can provide), School can provide colour pastes to change the colour of small amounts of icing, but if you require a large amount of one colour it is best to buy a whole block of that colour.
6	Modeling and final decor	<b>Students should bring in any extra items for decoration - e.g. flake for logs, royal icing for piping, homemade decorations etc</b>
<b>FINAL DEADLINE</b> <b>12th December - Christmas cake exhibition - all cakes to be brought in with a name label to C4 by 8.40am for judging</b>		

### Year 9

Year 9 will be working in small groups of 2/3 to design and make a "fakeaway" ready meal product with packaging and labelling. They will have a choice from a wide range of recipes. We will be sharing a folder of recipes online for them to choose from. Your child's teacher will notify individual classes when their practical lessons will be.

**As always - students should always bring in a large named container to take their food home in. If your child is eligible for pupil premium funding or there are difficulties with providing ingredients, please contact your child's teacher, or Mrs Leese/Mrs Edmondson.**

**The Food department**

### KS3 & 4 PSHE/SRE Curriculum Term 2

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	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
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	to understand and celebrate cultural diversity, promote inclusion and safely challenge prejudice and discrimination group-think and persuasion how to recognise and challenge racism and religious discrimination how to recognise and challenge discrimination towards disability gender identity, transphobia and gender-based discrimination how to recognise and challenge homophobia and biphobia how to develop self-worth and confidence	Identifying and learning how to apply your strengths for employment Different career options Setting goals to support achievement Employability skills Online presence	about relationship values and challenges about myths, assumptions, misconceptions and social norms about sex, gender and relationships the role of pleasure in relationships how to manage the impact of the media and pornography on sexual attitudes, expectations and behaviours about the opportunities and risks of forming and conducting relationships online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• about core values and emotions in regards to sex and relationships</li> <li>• how to communicate assertively and how to communicate wants and needs</li> <li>• about gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation</li> <li>• about unhealthy, exploitative and abusive relationships</li> <li>• how to access support in abusive relationships and how to overcome challenges in seeking support</li> <li>• how to handle unwanted attention, including online</li> <li>• how to challenge harassment and stalking, including online about various forms of relationship abuse</li> </ul>

### Anna Freud and Mind Charity

The Anna Freud and Mind Charity are providing another round of support webinars for parents this term. Follow this link which takes you to our school website 'Family Support' page, and the first item details the Anna Freud and Mind webinars and their dates throughout November:

<https://danecourt.kent.sch.uk/parents8/news6/family-support>

### 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 Rachel Richards to discuss: [richards@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:richards@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

### Financial concerns

At Dane Court Grammar School, we are committed to ensuring that finances are not a barrier to accessing educational trips and essential equipment for lessons; therefore financial support may be available. If you have difficulty contributing to the cost of a trip or essential equipment, please contact the school office at [admin@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:admin@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) or the Sixth Form office ([abowen@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:abowen@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)) to discuss anything.



## PP funding for ingredients

Lastly - did you know that if your child is eligible for PP funding, we are able to help to provide ingredients for them to cook with. Please get in touch with Mrs Edmondson or Mrs Leese to make arrangements for this to happen if you will find supplying ingredients difficult.

[leese@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:leese@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

[nedmondson@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:nedmondson@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

## Digital Theatre Plus

Dane Court has an annual subscription to a wonderful resource, Digital Theatre Plus. This can be accessed from this [LINK](#) or you can type in the URL [www.edu.digitaltheatreplus.com](http://www.edu.digitaltheatreplus.com). From here you will be asked for a username and a password. Please use the Key Stage 3 login which has restricted access to protect the students from adult content. The details are-

Username- danecourtk3

Password- evening@4800

There are numerous productions, interviews with prominent directors, actors and designers and many useful learning resources for students and teachers.

Our first recommendation is '**The Woodsman**', a delightful prequel to the story of The Wizard of Oz. It is a production which utilises many dramatic techniques that your children are given the opportunity to explore in their drama lessons- lighting, puppetry, chorus, music and very limited dialogue.

We will endeavour to give you recommendations on a regular basis and hope that you are able to enjoy this amazing resource from the comfort of your own homes.

Mr.Stanley

## Student message

I am going to be completing a 10mile swim in less than 10 days to raise money to help Kent Surf School reach their £9000 goal. They are trying to buy equipment to help disabled people learn to surf. They need to buy a specialist water wheel chair which is £3500 and the surfboard is £4500. The program is aiming to make the water completely accessible to all, which promotes an inclusive environment, and without donations this will not be possible.

By putting this in the school newsletter, I hope that it will reach a wider range of people, in order to raise more money. This will not only help the local community, but also many people around the south east. If I could share this information with more people, it would benefit so many wanting to enjoy the coast and the sea.

<https://www.gofund.me/054a6126>

Thank you

Olivia W – yr12

## Dane Court rewilding project

We are launching our student-led greener school project this year. We have secured a donation from the Woodland Trust of 140 native trees arriving in March 2023 and we are hoping to receive a donation from the Broadstairs Town Council of some bird boxes and wild-flower seeds. To get the project going we are looking for donations of the following: Daffodil bulbs, tulip bulbs, trowels, watering cans, and gardening gloves

If anyone has anything they could donate could you please send it in with your child and ask them to bring it to Miss Aherne in the N plaza. We will share updates with you on all that we are doing throughout the year.

## 2nd hand uniform shop

The 2nd Hand Uniform Shop will be open from 3.15 to 4.15 the first Tuesday of each month. If you require any 2nd hand uniform but can't get into school please email any requirements to [admin@danecourt.kent.school.uk](mailto:admin@danecourt.kent.school.uk) and we will do our best to sort suitable items which can be picked up by the student from the main school office. The School Wear Centre in Margate also sells 2nd hand uniform for a small charge to cover laundry costs.

## Parent's Association Quiz Night

The next PA Quiz Night is being held in the Theatre on Friday 25th November with doors opening at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. Tickets are £7 for an adult and £3 per child, this includes a ploughman's supper but you will need to bring your own drinks (glasses will be provided). You can have a team of up to eight people on a table. To book please contact Lois Gadd by 4pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at the latest. Many thanks, Lois Gadd – [gadd@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:gadd@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

## Extra Curricular Clubs

Day	Name of club	When	Where	Year group
<b>Monday</b>				
	Debating	after school	Library	all
	Football	3.30-4.25	Field/Hardcourt	All
	Netball	3.30-4.25	Hardcourt	All
	Table Tennis	3.30-4.25	Studio	KS3
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All
	Physics drop in	3.30 4pm	D12	All
	Choir	After school	H7	All
<b>Tuesday</b>				
	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
	Japanese Culture Club 1.11 onwards	1.45 - 2.15	L4	All Years
<b>Wednesday</b>				
	Hockey	3.30pm - 4.25pm	Hard Court	All
	Board Game Club	lunchtime 1.40 - 2.15	M7	all
	Dance	3.45pm -4.25	Activity Studio	All KS
	Climbing	3.30-4.25	Climbing wall	Yr8 to 11
	From term 2 - DOfE			Yr 12
	Film club - week B	After school	M4	Yr12/13
	Violin Ensemble	3:30-4:30pm	H7	Violinists G4+
	Theatre Night	After school	Theatre	Yr13
<b>Thursday</b>				
	Manga Drawing	1:45 - 2:15	L8	All
	Girls Rugby Club	3.30-4.25	Field	All
	GCSE PE Coursework	3.30-4.25	B plaza	Yr11 only
	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>				
	Car Care and Basic maintenance	3.25 - 4.20	B3	Yr12-13
	Board Game Club	lunchtime 1.40 - 2.15	M7	all
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All

## Lost Property

We have a few unnamed items in our lost property already this term. They include jewellery, keys and a rainmac. 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**



