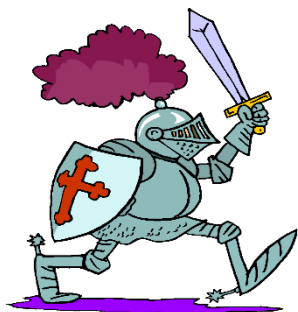


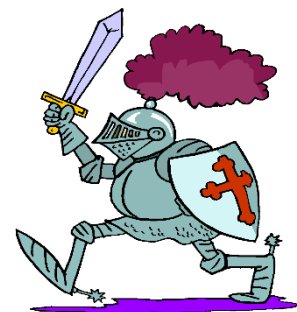
Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Next week is Week B

24 March 2023



Monday is the yr7 Medieval Banquet!



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 – Week B

Date	Events
Monday 27 th March 2023	2-1-2 timetable & Medieval Banquet
Tuesday 28 th March 2023	Return to 2-2-1 timetable
Wednesday 29 th March 2023	Yr10 & 12 Iceland Trip
Thursday 30 th March 2023	Yr10 & 12 Iceland Trip
Friday 31 st March 2023	Yr10 & 12 Iceland Trip

School absence procedure

It is important that remind you that if your child is going to be absent from school, you must call the absence line, 01843 864941, option 1, or email: csayer@danecourt.kent.sch.uk as soon as possible, or at the very latest by 10 am. Unless **pre arranged** you are required to do this **every day your child is absent**. From a safeguarding perspective, your cooperation with this is essential and appreciated.

Mrs R Richards

Website Photography - Tuesday 28th March

On Tuesday 28th March we will have professional photographers in school to take some photos for our school website. We really value using photographs of students, to be able to showcase what students do in school and show what life at our school is like to others. We have got some exciting lessons plans so we should be able to get some wonderful new photographs. Please be assured that we would only ever use images in a responsible manner and that portrays both your child and the school in a positive way.

We will only be including students who have consent for photography in these photographs. If you would like to change your consent for photography please let us know by emailing admin@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

The French and Spanish GCSE

The French and Spanish GCSE orals will take place after Easter. The exams start on **Monday 24 April** and finish on **Friday 5 May**. Students will be given their oral exam date and time from their language teacher. Please encourage your child to make good use of their flashcards and to practise their speaking at home with you over the Easter holiday.

Duke Of Edinburgh news

Silver and Bronze Award presentation for the current Year 13 on Wednesday 29th March at 5.30pm in the theatre.

Andrew Tate

I am sure you are familiar with Andrew Tate. Schools (and parents) across the country are being advised to address the hateful ideologies he espouses due to the worrying number of young people who are increasingly being influenced by him. I am attaching two articles for your perusal. If you have any questions or concerns about this, or other 'influencers' and want to know how to support your child, please do make contact with me. I previously shared the Internet Watch Foundation Talk guidance with you (which pertains to protecting your children from sexual abuse online), but the guidance can also be extended to this context also. I am resharing it here. <https://talk.iwf.org.uk/>

Internet Watch Foundation

I am attaching a link to this excellent download from the Internet Watch Foundation. The focus is on the dangers that young people face online and how parents/carers can help to mitigate these risks. We will continue to support the safeguarding of your child here through mentoring, PSHE lessons and assemblies.

<https://talk.iwf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Parent-Resource.pdf>

Uniform

Please could you continue to support the school's uniform policy by ensuring your child has the correct school uniform. Expectations about a few key areas have been discussed with students this week, during assemblies.

Expectations:

1. Shirts tucked in, blazer and tie on (if normal collar = Dane Court school tie, full length. If open collar = **no** tie required)
2. Trainers that are fabric or with noticeable logos are not acceptable
3. One set of studs in ears (flat or rounded only). All other piercings must be clear studs
4. Skirts must **NOT be rolled**. They should be worn at an appropriate length

Student Safeguarding after 3.20pm

A reminder to parents regarding the safeguarding of their children if staying in school after 3.20pm.

- Students must not be unaccompanied in school, except in the Heart area
- Students must leave site by 4.20pm, unless in an extended lesson/club, attending a detention, or waiting for an event
- Staff accompany students to the exit when it is time to leave.

Many thanks for your support with this.

Bicycle Safety at School

Please be aware that the 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 lights and that they use a bicycle helmet. 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.

Family Support Page

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 or the Sixth Form office (abowen@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) to discuss anything.

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.

Free School Meals - how they work

Please be aware that if your child receives free school meals, this is how the system works on a daily basis

- Your child will receive £1.10 for breakfast; which they **must** use before period 1 at 8.40am, if the £1.10 is not used by 8.40am then it is withdrawn from the account. For students to take advantage of the breakfast free school meal they must be in school in time to use it before period 1.
- They will then receive £2.30 for lunch, which they can use from breaktime at 10.45am onwards until the end of lunch at 2.20pm. The best value meal available is the lunch time main meal which comes with and main course and pudding bought simultaneously.

Any unspent funds are **not** carried over from day to day, and a new amount is added each day. You can add cash to your child's account using Wisepay if you wish, for extra snacks. But please note that the money given for free school meals should be spent where possible on food and not drinks to get the best value for money.

PP funding for ingredients

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

nedmondson@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

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.

Anna Freud Parent Webinars

A reminder that Anna Freud are also offering another cycle of their training webinars for parents. Please access the details via our Family Support webpage - <https://danecourt.kent.sch.uk/parents8/news6/family-support>.

The topics covered are:

Anxiety in adolescence: how can parents help?

Adolescent self-harm: how to make sense of it and when to seek support

Weathering the storms of strong teen emotions: do's, don'ts and when to consider talking to someone

Building resilience, staying connected and nurturing your relationship with your teen
Managing teen behaviour that challenges: tips and tricks

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 and we will do our best to sort suitable items which can be picked up by the student from the main school office. If you have any spare coat hangers or school ties we would be very grateful of any donations. The School Wear Centre in Margate also sells 2nd hand uniform for a small charge to cover laundry costs.

Our boot fairs this year are as follows:

Saturday 13th May

Saturday 10th June

Saturday 15th July

Saturday 9th September

6am stallholders - 6:30am public - No need to book, just turn up! More details at danecourt.kent.sch.uk/boot

Scholastic Book Fair

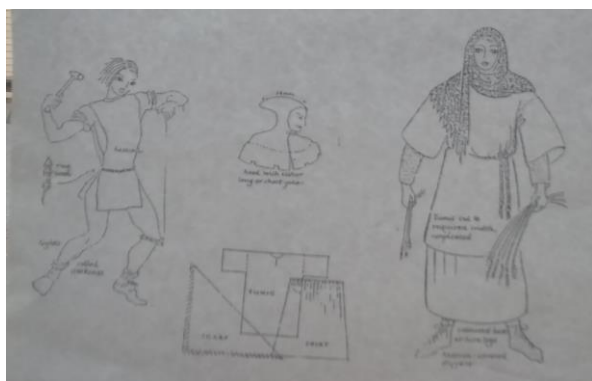
From 24th to 31st March we will be running a Scholastic Book Fair in the library at break and lunchtime. Students can use their World Book Day tokens during the fair to pay towards any of the books. There will be lots of contemporary books to choose from and many that are under £5. Every student who buys something will have a chance to win £5 to spend at the fair too!

For all students at Dane Court, your world book day token can be found here:

https://worldbookclone.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/WBD23-digital-1-book-token_UK_secondary.pdf

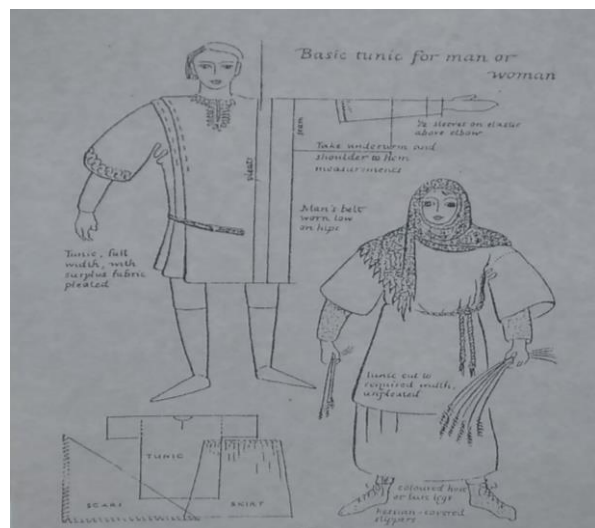
To use your book token show the digital book token on your mobile phone/tablet at the checkout to exchange the book token for a free World Book Day £1 book, or to get £1 off a full price book or audiobook costing £2.99/ or more. The digital book tokens are 'single-use only' and should only be used once by each student. If you would like a printed version of the book token please ask the librarian, Mrs Finlay.

The Yr 7 Medieval Banquet will take place this year during school time in the afternoon of 27th March.



Peasants will need to bring:

- 1) A costume made from plain old rags / blankets, sheets, duvets, curtains etc.
- 2) A wooden or metal spoon and wooden or metal bowl (or wrap plastic bowls and beakers with foil)
- 3) Something to drink from - a tankard, wooden or metal beaker and a carton of apple juice



Notes on making the peasant outfit:

A simple tunic can be made from a strip of fabric with a hole cut in the centre for the head.

Old pillowcases are easy to make into a head covering.

The colours of peasant clothing would be brown, cream, beige, dark green or dull colours.

A skirt, tights, leggings, joggers in dark colours can be worn under a tunic.

Students have been shown some examples in lessons.

If you are having difficulty please make contact with your Food Preparation and Nutrition teacher. Please do not feel that you must spend money on any of the above. We have plenty of spare fabric if needed.

Clubs at Dane Court – Please note

-Dance club has now finished for this academic year

Day	Name of club	When	Where	Year group
Monday				
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All
	Physics drop in	3.30-4pm	D12	All
	Choir	After school	H7	All
	Debating Club	3.30-4:30	Library	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
	Hockey	lunchtime	Hard Court	all
	Trampolining	3.30-4.25	Sports hall	KS3&GCSE
	Junior Book Club - week B	1.45 - 2.15	Library	Yr7 & 8
	Orchestra	3.30-4.30	H7	all years
	Japanese Culture Club	1.45 - 2.15	L4	All Years
Wednesday				
	Languages Film Club	1:45-2:15	L11	All
	Board Game Club	lunchtime 1.40 - 2.15	M7	all
	Duke Of Edinburgh training	3.30-4.30pm	D plaza	yr 12
	MFL Film Club	lunchtime	L11	all years
	Boys Rugby	3.30-4.25	Field	all yrs
Thursday				
	Drama & Shakespeare	Thursday 3.30-4.30	H1	7-10
	Climbing	3:30pm-4:30pm	Climbing Wall	Y8,9,10,11
	Chess Club	3.30 - 4.30pm	D2	All
	GCSE PE intervention	3.30-4.30	b plaza	year 11
Friday				
	Car Care & Basic maintenance	3.25 - 4.20	B3	Yr12-13
	Basket Ball Club	Lunchtime 1.40-2.15	PE	all years

	Board Game Club	lunchtime 1.40 - 2.15	M7	all
	Chatter	1.45-2.15pm	Library	All years

Lost Property

We have a number of items in our lost property so far this term. They include unnamed uniform & PE clothing, jewellery, keys/keyrings, a scarf, odd gloves, a hat, lunchboxes/bags, a rucksack, empty holdall, glasses cases, glasses, headphones, an umbrella and various footwear. We have also had an unnamed blazer handed in that was found on the path in Fair Street, Broadstairs. 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

