



Dane Court Grammar School Parent /Guardian Newsletter



Christmas Week 2020



Important notice.

Track and Trace

The DfE and PHE have made it clear that school leaders must continue to track and trace for six days after Friday 18th December, for any member of our school community who tests positive, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of attending school. This means that it continues to be important that you report to us immediately if your son/daughter develops symptoms over the weekend of 19th – 20th December and subsequently tests positive.

This public health guidance means that we will 'track & trace' until Christmas Eve. If your son/daughter is identified as a close or proximity contact, we will inform you that he/she will have to self-isolate for 10 days from last contact with the individual who has tested positive.

If your child tests positive for coronavirus having developed symptoms within 48 hours of attending school please email us at admin@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

Where a student tests positive for coronavirus, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Students should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

Thank you for your continued support of your child's **learning from home**, when it has been necessary in the Autumn term.

In the light of the recently announced staggered starts post Christmas, please let me know if there are any difficulties with accessing remote learning from home (in terms of access to computer equipment).

Many thanks.

rolls@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you to everyone who took part in Christmas Jumper Day.

If you have not yet made your donation, please click the link below to donate £1 directly to Save the Children: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cjd200024977>



The below programme has become available to families in Thanet. If anyone is interested in it please email Mrs Ives, her email address is: ives@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

FIT AND FED PROGRAMME

We are aiming to reach a minimum of 700 families between now and April and we need referrals from schools for families who are part of the criteria and would benefit from this programme. We have delivered to more than 100 families already.

The funding has been drawn down by Changing Minds CIC (in association with Kent Sports and Streetgames) who are a local mental health and wellbeing CIC, their aim is to help people with their mental and physical health, providing support and education to families. We (active community solutions) have partnered with them to help with some delivery aspects of the programme.

The programme aims to:

- Provide nutritional food parcels to families and deliver a free family fit session to enhance their physical and mental wellbeing. At the moment as we cant run sessions we are delivering to the families doors, they receive one food parcel (not one a week).
- Deliver weekly wellbeing sessions up to the end of January.
- Provide free sports equipment for each family to encourage them to keep active at home
- Engage and support young people and families in receipt of pupil premium.
- Educate young people and parents on the importance of keeping physically active and eating healthy.
- Facilitate mental health awareness sessions to help educate parents on the importance of managing and supporting mental health and wellbeing.
- Provide links and additional support for participants to access other support services to improve overall wellbeing.
- Parents will have access to free life coaching/counselling sessions run by changing minds.
- Provide digital and non-digital wellbeing support.

Due to GDPR reasons the school needs to refer the families to us with their permission and then we take the process from there. We contact the family and organise delivery dates and try to engage them in a Facebook group which offers ongoing support. The criteria for a family to be involved is one or more of the following:

- Families are considered to come from a disadvantaged background i.e. unemployed, single parent household, areas of high deprivation, low income household, lack of economic support.
- Families in receipt of pupil premium support.
- Young people or family members who have an existing underlying health condition, or disability, which limits their ability to access support services.
- Young people, who are carers, who look after parents/relatives with a disability, illness, mental health conditions or drug or alcohol problem.

Language learning FAQ of the week

My son/daughter already knows which career path they want to follow. Why does she/he need to learn a language?

At your son/daughter's age, we all planned to be something we are probably not! One important thing to mention is that our hopes and plans can change as we get older and we should not at this early stage in education close down any avenues that might be useful to us in later life.

And of course, whilst it is great for young people to have plans and aspirations, it is also a fact that many of the jobs that our children will end up doing as adults do not yet exist. The world is changing rapidly and the best that education can do for its young people is equip them with skills rather than knowledge; skills that they can employ in any new situation.

Language learning has a significant role to play in developing skills that will stand young people in good stead and help them meet the challenges presented by an ever-changing world. For example, language learning develops the skills of memory, attention to detail, pattern-finding, creative thinking and reasoning; not to mention resilience and perseverance! It is difficult to imagine any jobs that would not require these skills.

Kind regards

The languages team

*May we wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas
and New Year.*

