

Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week B

23 April 2021



Dear Parent/Guardian, welcome to this week's newsletter.

COVID-19 Testing Guidance

I would like to clarify the guidance for COVID-19 testing. Please see details below:

Asymptomatic COVID-19 Testing

- Students with consent should be testing using the home LFD test kits twice a week (on a Sunday and a Wednesday evening/Thursday morning) and reporting the results to both the [NHS](#) and using our [google form](#).
- Students in years 7-10 have now been supplied with enough tests to last until half term. Years 11-13 have been given 6 tests and will be given a further set of 7 during the week beginning 10th May.
- Home tests supplied by the school should only be used by the student. Regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread. Additional LFD test kits can be ordered using [this link](#)

Symptomatic COVID-19 Testing

- Home testing using the LFD tests **does not replace testing for those with symptoms**.
- If your son/daughter (or anyone in your household) experience [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 your household must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow [national guidelines](#). You will need to inform the school if this is the case.
- Once you have the result of the test please inform us as soon as possible. If the result is negative you can then stop self-isolating and your son/daughter can return to school if they are well enough. If the result is positive your household will need to continue to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms and follow [national guidelines](#).

If you have any queries regarding testing please contact Carolyn Hobbs, Office Manager.

Languages Career Focus: Personal Assistant - project managing high-powered business and political leaders

Learn another language to work with prestigious employers across the globe.

Are you....

- caring and disciplined?
- hyper efficient and methodical?
- a great multi-tasker?
- a brilliant communicator?
- an excellent team member?
- comfortable working with technology and software?
- able to manage your time effectively?



Do you have...

- lots of patience, tact and an excellent telephone manner?
- a cool head in a difficult situation?

...then this COULD BE YOU!

THINK LANGUAGES:

"A high percentage of PA jobs require a language at director level. Even if it's only putting someone through on the telephone, it's useful. I think British applicants are losing out to their European counterparts as so many of them can offer more language skills" - *Gareth Osborne, Association of Personal Assistants*

Year 11

In the enforced absence of a formal Y11 parents' evening, Y11 parents are reminded that teachers are available via phone or email to give updates and guidance on student learning.

Year 9 Parents

As you are probably aware your son/daughter is sitting a GCSE in Statistics in June 2022.

Currently in lessons we are studying the material in preparation for this exam.

To assist with their revision next year and their understanding at the moment we are currently offering via wisePAY the opportunity to purchase a revision guide and a workbook.

The cost of these is £3.60 each and the deadline for ordering is Monday 10th May.

Obviously we will spend time revising with your son/daughter before the GCSE exam next June so these are extra resources rather than being essential.

Online Safety advice



- **Money Mules**

This year there has been a surge in student 'money mules': Criminals are using social media to recruit under-21s for dirty money transfers. The exponential growth has seen the number of students involved triple in the past couple of years alone.

Online criminals are using social media sites like WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram to hire 6th form students as 'money mules' with promises of free cash.

Victims are asked to receive dirty money into their bank accounts and then send it on, keeping a percentage for themselves as profit, thus making it hard to trace and link to crime.

Doing so means they could go to jail for up to 14 years for laundering money. Students are particularly vulnerable due to a lack of awareness of the illegal activity and their desire to make some quick cash.

How to keep young adults safe from 'money mule' criminals;

- Be aware of children talking about a new job working from home and earning more money than their friends; or look out for new expensive items that they've purchased.
- Keep an eye on what cards they have; any new bank cards not known to the family such as a "Monzo" card may be being used for suspicious activity
- Talk to them about the risks of easy money scams. If it seems too good to be true, it usually is.

Year 13 DofE



Participants are out on their practice expedition for their Silver Award Saturday 1st May and Sunday 2nd May along with Mrs Whelan, Mrs Baker, Ms Leese and Ms Webster. Wish them luck and let's hope the sun shines and that they have broken in their boots!

Medical Procedure Reminder

Please can we remind parents and students that when feeling unwell to ask permission from your teacher to go to reception, not to contact parents independently to make arrangement to go home. The reception will then assess your condition and contact home where required.

Dane Court Staff Team Challenge



We are pleased to announce that the staff at Dane Court **completed** their virtual challenge of a trip around Europe with a week to spare! They travelled the huge distance of 5492 miles in just 7 weeks. They left Dane Court and visited Neuchatel Castle, La Rambla in Barcelona, Piazza Tasso in Sorrento, Temple of Apollo in Delphi, Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Tallinn and Suomenlinna in Helsinki, then finally headed back to Dane Court. They wanted to bring the team together during the pandemic, improve physical and mental health, whilst also raising money for the Pilgrims Hospice in East Kent.

Due to the kind generosity of many of you they have managed to hit their target of £1000 so a massive thank you for your support with this challenge. There is still time to donate if you wish. The fundraising link is:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dane-court-grammar-school?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=dane-court-grammar-school&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm_term=e0326b6de07a428991b7ae9f7a1ae726

Many thanks, the staff at Dane Court



Sports Days

This year there will be adapted mini year group bubble sports days running over a two hour period.

Usually we would invite year 7 parents into school to watch their children participate, unfortunately with the current situation we will not be able to have any parents on school site for this.

Your child's mentor will let them know the date and time of their event and they must come into school in their PE kit with their house colour top on. I hope your child still has a great experience.

Extra Curricular clubs for term 5 will be:

- Year 7 - Monday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders
- Year 8 - Tuesday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders
- Year 9 - Wednesday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders
- Year 10 - Thursday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders



Students just need to turn up on their correct day, change on their normal peg and complete the register. No need to sign up prior to the club.

Food Technology Projects!

In food lessons this term KS3 students will be looking back over the life of Captain Sir Tom Moore. We have started by exploring his early years in the 1920s and 1930s. Students have been researching and exploring changes in kitchen technologies, food supply and family meals in our classroom based lessons.

We have also managed to arrange some covid safe practical lessons during which students have been making jam buns - a similar product to rock buns - perhaps something that Captain Sir Tom Moore would have enjoyed as a sweet treat in his childhood.

We have certainly enjoyed the lovely aroma of baking in the C plaza once more this week!

Here are some photos of jam buns made by year 9 this week and a copy of the recipe should you like to try this at home.



Ingredients:

- 200g self raising flour
- 50g margarine
- 50g caster sugar
- 5 tbsp milk
- 1 tbsp jam

Method

- 1.set the oven to 200c or gas No.6
- 2.Empty flour & sugar into mixing bowl
- 3.Rub in margarine, until resembles breadcrumbs
- 4.Add milk 1tbsp at a time, stir mixture until comes together
- 5.Spoon the mix onto a baking tray in 6 equal balls
- 6.make a well in the centre of each ball with your finger tip and fill with jam
- 7.Bake for approx 15mins until golden brown



Musical Achievements!

Mikey Chesters (10D) has just completed higher level IB music 4 years early. Mikey is an exceptionally gifted musician, his principal instrument being Piano. We are incredibly proud of his achievements and look forward to hearing how he gets on later in the year!

Lots of students have completed music examinations over the last year, if you would like your son/daughter to be mentioned please let Miss Fox know (fox@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) what instrument, grade and result they received.



Careers support for Dane Court Students

Dane Court has successful partnerships with many local businesses and organisations to support our careers programme, but we need more.

Support for careers talks, outreach events to promote an industry or profession, and workshops in competencies and skills, are all highly valued methods of engagement for the students. They get a lot from this external input and there is a lot of evidence to show the influence this has on students' future success. If you or your organisation are able to offer any of these please get in touch.

Furthermore, the opportunities for work experience during the last year have been minimal, but as Thanet begins to open up we will encourage our students to seek work experience opportunities. Please let me know if your organisation or business is able to offer a placement face to face or remotely.

And finally, every year we have some bright, well educated students who choose a more practical career pathway, if your organisation will be offering any apprenticeship opportunities in the coming year, we would like to know about them, potentially being able to match some suitable students.

Malissa Linton
Careers Leader

Car Boot Fairs!

The Dane Court Grammar School Parents' Association are pleased to announce that our popular boot fairs will be returning this year!

There's no need for stallholders to book, just turn up at 6:00am. £8 for cars and £10 for vans. The boot fairs are open to the general public at 6:30am and refreshments are available.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, visitors are required to wear a face covering unless exempt and must maintain a social distance of 2m from other rule of six/two household bubbles at all times. We will also have to stagger the admittance of visitors to ensure this is possible.

Opening times for cars 6:00am. Official opening time 6:30am for the public

If any parent would like to help on gate duty at any one of these events please contact Gloria Piley at riley@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

This year's events are as follows:

Saturday 8 May 2021
Saturday 10 July 2021
Saturday 12 June 2021
Saturday 11 September 2021
No August Boot Fairs



Look forward to seeing some of you there!
The Parents' Association

Paintings from year 7 Lockdown Gallery

The students have been looking at the work of the Impressionists, Post impressionists and their influence on David Hockney landscapes. They have looked at the use of realistic and abstract colours and mark-making, the emotional content of the work and have produced a response using whatever materials they have available.


Work is anonymous in case some people do not want to be identified.



Chatter Competition

Win! Win! Win!

Last edition, the competition was to guess who Santa was.... Nobody guessed that it was in fact Mrs Cronin dressed as Santa! The good news is that the bumper £15 voucher is now carried over to this editions prize and you have the chance to win a **£20 voucher**.... All you have to do is find the 5 hidden eggs in this edition.

They look like these eggs  (but not these ones, they are hidden!) and to make this fantastic prize yours, we shall need you to email the page numbers & tell us which colour egg is on which page. Email your answer to chattercompetition@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

Clue!

"Zooming into some food in Chatter could make you quite hungry but also very eggsited!!"