

## Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week A

28 May 2021



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to this week's newsletter, some important information is repeated this week for your convenience, but there is also new content to be read and enjoyed.

### **COVID-19 Home Testing Guidance**

Thank you for your continued support with Covid-19 home testing.

Wherever possible, your child should **continue testing and reporting results twice a week, at home, throughout the May half-term school holiday and take a test before returning to school on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.**

#### **Reporting results**

Recording all test results helps scientists stay ahead of the virus by spotting new outbreaks quickly and advising how to respond. **Reporting results is easy.**

Go to: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result) Or call: 119 free from a mobile or landline. Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm. Support is offered in 200 languages as well as British Sign Language and Live Video Assistance.

**All results should be reported, even if your child's result is negative or void.** To help in communicating the importance of testing and reporting, the government has produced a blog on [why reporting your test result is as important as taking a test](#)

You should also keep a note of and share your child's results with school using [this link](#)

#### **Universal Testing**

The government is encouraging all adults to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread of coronavirus. You can order tests through the [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests](#) service.

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Maintaining a regular habit of testing twice a week, 3-4 days apart, will help stop the virus spreading and keep schools and colleges open to students and staff.

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 to the school using [this link](#):
- 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.

### **2020 Exam Certificates**

Calling all 2020 GCSE and IB students, your Summer 2020 exam certificates are now ready for collection. Certificates can be collected from the main reception between 2pm and 4.30pm Monday-Thursday, 2pm and 4pm Friday. Your certificates are important legal documents that you will need throughout the course of your career. Employers, colleges and universities often insist on seeing original qualification certificates. It is therefore vital that you collect your certificates and keep them safe. Regulations do not allow certificates to be put in the normal post due to the risk of loss or damage. If you are unable to collect the certificates yourself, you can nominate someone else (this includes parents and other family members or friends) to collect your certificates by emailing Claire Sayer at [csayer@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:csayer@danecourt.kent.sch.uk). Certificates will not be issued to anyone other than the person named on them without written permission and ID.

### **Exam Certificates - 2019 and before**

We have many unclaimed exam certificates (believe it or not, we even have certificates dating as far back as the 1960s!) that we are keen to get to their owners. If you took your exams prior to 2020 and you didn't collect your certificates, please email Claire Sayer at [csayer@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:csayer@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) to arrange collection. Please note that certificates will not be issued to anyone other than the person named on them without written permission and ID.

### **Old School Uniform**

As we approach the end of the year your child may have a school uniform that no longer fits (or for year 11, that they no longer need). The pastoral office is always happy to receive good condition second hand uniforms to pass on to others. Especially useful are blazers, skirts and ties.

Many thanks

Anita Ives

Pastoral support officer

**This piece of work was completed by Yasmin Caulfield in year 11.**

When working on a unit of Dystopian fiction, she said she would like to put the word 'normal' in Room 101. Following is her thought provoking piece on why:

*'The term "normal" is like marmite. We rely on it, because it gives us standards, but we detest it, because it puts unnecessary pressure on us to be something we're not. We're somewhat scared to be deemed 'abnormal,' but how often do we actually ask, "What does that mean?"'*

*I have. A lot, actually. I mean, I don't walk the same way that that person does, and I like red more than yellow - am I normal? Society says I'm not, but I've decided that 'normal' is subjective, so I get to choose what it means for me. I choose that it's a thief. A thief of confidence, of acceptance and of friendship. I'm not typical. I'm not average. But I am confused: if everybody's normal is different, then different should be the new normal, surely?'*

**DANE COURT GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS**

**HALF TERM 6**

	Classroom 3.30-4.30	Field 3.30-4.30	Sports Hall 3.30-4.30	Activity Studio 3.30-4.30
Monday		<b>Year 7 only</b> <b>Tennis - Dr Green (FREE)</b> <b>Outdoor bootcamp - Mr Argyrides (FREE)</b> <b>Skateboarding - Miss Buffery (FREE)</b>		<b>Street Dance - Miss Bradley (FREE)</b>
Tuesday		<b>Year 8 only</b> <b>Tennis - Miss Bolt (FREE)</b> <b>Outdoor bootcamp - Miss Metcalfe (FREE)</b> <b>Skateboarding - Miss Buffery (FREE)</b>		
Wednesday		<b>Year 10 only</b> <b>Tennis - Mr White (FREE)</b> <b>Outdoor bootcamp - Mr Wallace (FREE)</b>		
Thursday	<b>PE staff examinable PE meeting - M5</b>	<b>Year 9 only</b> <b>Tennis - Mr Towe (FREE)</b> <b>Outdoor bootcamp - Mr Coyne (FREE)</b> <b>Skateboarding - Miss Buffery (FREE)</b>		

Appropriate sports clothing must be worn in order to take part in all sports clubs. The usual high standards of behaviour that are expected by the PE Department must also be retained. Wet weather may mean some clubs would need to be cancelled.

## **Year 10 Physics End of Year Exam**

Dear Parents/Guardians

Students in Year 10 will be sitting a Physics End of Year Exam in class on the week beginning 5th July. The test will be an hour long and will assess them on the content they have been taught throughout the year. This will help to inform us of their understanding of the subject so that gaps can be addressed going into Year 11. Students have received a letter via email outlining what and how they should revise.

I would also like to take this moment to remind you that revision guides can be purchased from the school via Wisepay at a discounted rate. Students can then bring the receipt to a member of the science department who will then issue them with the revision guide.

Regards

Mr Fricker  
Head of Physics

## **Year 7 Tennis Club**

"Year 7 tennis club will take place every Monday after school in term 6. All standards are welcome. Please turn up to the tennis courts with PE kit and trainers. We will supply tennis rackets and balls. Looking forward to seeing lots of you there. Dr Green.

Also, anyone that wants a free lesson at Broadstairs or Margate tennis club should contact Dr Green and he will provide you with a voucher and details of when the lessons take place."

## **E-books for all students**

Your e-library can be found here:

[danecourt.eplatform.co](http://danecourt.eplatform.co)



You will be able to choose from over 1250 of the latest contemporary fiction books as well as a large Wellness collection of books - all via an ePlatform app.

The new ePlatform app is your ticket to unlock the world of eBooks

It's quick, simple and free to set up. Within minutes you'll be able to read or listen to your library titles anywhere, any time, on most devices, once you have logged in using the login details from your Mentors.

Even if you're offline, the ePlatform app is the quickest and easiest way to borrow and read eBooks on your iPad, Galaxy, Windows tablet or other tablet/mobile device - without downloading any additional software.

Just log in once and begin reading; when you exit, your place is automatically bookmarked and you can begin where you stopped with just one click.

With full-screen reading mode there are many ways to customize your display, using different fonts and coloured background to help with dyslexia, and a night reading mode.

Enjoy exploring your e-library over half term!

Many thanks, Mrs Finlay  
Librarian

## Online Safety advice - [TikTok Trends](#)



A new TikTok trend has surfaced over the past few days with children recording themselves pulling apart disposable masks and using the string to cut through plastic objects. In schools this has started to happen to chairs, desks and various other plastic objects.

TikTok trends have been a national problem over the past few years with some very dangerous challenges being shared. We advise all parents and carers to talk to their children about TikTok trends and other viral challenges they find online. A lot of these challenges are dangerous and can cause serious harm. If a video looks illegal, dangerous or harmful to others, Children should be advised to not take part in the challenge or share the videos with friends, which further exacerbates the problem.

## Important dates coming up for sixth form!

**8th June at 5pm** - IBCP/DP Programme Curriculum evening for parents

**11th June** - Year 13 IBCP official last day

**22nd June at 5pm** - University application evening for parents

**28th June all day** - Research day: IB DP students completing the extended essay, IBCP students completing the ethical project.

## Boot Fairs!!

This year's events are as follows:

Saturday 12 June 2021

Saturday 10 July 2021

No August Boot Fair

Saturday 11 September 2021

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



## Year 11

We would again like to say a huge well done to our year 11 students for the mature and conscientious way they have conducted themselves over the last two weeks. Timetabled lessons will resume on Monday, with a focus on wider learning and preparation for next year. Year 11s can now feel very proud and relieved that all work for GCSEs has been completed.

Following half term, the focus will shift slightly, with timetabled lessons giving way to a range of additional activities. The timetable is below. Students will be informed next week which half of the year they are in.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Year Half 1</b>	<b>Year Half 2</b>
<b>Monday 7th June</b>	Normal timetable	
<b>Tuesday 8th June</b>	Normal timetable	
<b>Wednesday 9th June</b>	Normal timetable	
<b>Thursday 10th June</b>	IB Core Day	
<b>Friday 11th June</b>	P1-2 Normal Timetable P3 Book Return and locker clearance P4-5 Sports' Afternoon	P1-2 Normal Timetable P3 Book Return and locker clearance P4-5 Sports' Afternoon
<b>Monday 14th June</b>	Forensic Science Day	Independent transition work (remote learning)
<b>Tuesday 15th June</b>	Independent transition work (remote learning)	Forensic Science Day
<b>Wednesday 16th June</b>	Sixth Form Induction 1	
<b>Thursday 17th June</b>	Sixth Form Induction 2	
<b>Friday 18th June</b>	P1 Shirt Signing P2-3 Leavers' Assembly P4 Dismissal	



# Free school meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- 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.



Some schools in Kent manage their own Free Schools Meals application process. For more information, go to:

***[kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](https://kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)***

