

Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week A

17 September 2021



We still have good weather!



Dear Parent/Guardian,

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

COVID-19 Asymptomatic 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. Students have been supplied with enough test kits to last until the end of term, however if your son/daughter runs out of tests before this please ask them to collect more from the school office.

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) 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 the test ID 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.

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.

Pupil Premium Funding

Dear parent/guardian,

If your child is eligible for the pupil premium funding and you have no access to IT equipment, please would you let me know.

Many thanks,
Ms R Rolls

Physics Sessions

Dear Parents / Guardians

If your child is struggling with any aspect of Physics there is a Physics Drop in Session where a member of the department will be available in D12 to help.



Sexual violence and harassment in schools

Dear Parent/Guardian

As a principled school, Dane Court is addressing the issue of sexual violence and harassment in schools in a number of ways.

Staff are undergoing a series of training sessions on how to tackle any issues pertaining to this; our new PSHE/RSE curriculum and our established behaviour and attitudes policy are embedding the caring and open minded attitudes that we are very proud of here.

I am attaching one of three posters highlighting the issue and to raise its profile with you.

If you have any questions on this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

<https://ukfeminista.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/UK-Feminista-Sexist-Language-Poster.p>

Ms R Rolls

Assistant Head Teacher

Kooth - help your child with their mental health and wellbeing.

The link for parents/carers to book a free webinar for Kooth can be found below:

We run regular monthly information sessions for parents & carers. Please use the links to find out more.

Bitesize session (half an hour) Weds Oct 20th 12pm-12.30pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-kooth-parent-carer-bitesize-sessions-tickets-163865069835>

Hour sessions: Weds 23 Sept 6pm-7pm, Tues 16 Nov 5pm-6pm, Tues 14 Dec 6pm-7pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-kooth-parent-carer-information-sessions-tickets-164152609875>



kooth

Kooth information session for Parents and Carers

Find out how Kooth can help your child with their Mental Health and Wellbeing.

Next bite-sized sessions:
Monday 16 August & Wednesday 20 October
at 12pm to 12.30pm.

Register at:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-kooth-parent-carer-bitesize-sessions-tickets-163865069835>

The flyer features a teal background with a white silhouette of a woman and a child. The woman has long black hair and is wearing a red jacket. The child has red hair and is wearing a white t-shirt. The Kooth logo is in the top left corner.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

This week **Year 7** have had their first practical lesson for Food preparation and Nutrition in which they learned to use a grill safely.

They have really impressed us with their organisation, and mature behaviour in lessons.

We hope that they might enjoy cooking these again for you at home soon.

Year 7 students will need to use their list of ingredients which was sent home last week to find out what they will need to bring to their next lesson. We hope that they have all now shown you the list of ingredients for this term.



Year 10 have been learning how to portion a chicken as a part of a unit on food hygiene and safety. They will make each cut of chicken into a different dish over the next few weeks. Vegetarian and vegan students are looking into the many different ways a cauliflower can be made into multiple dishes. We are impressed with their organisation and professional approach to their practical work.

Don't forget - year ten practical work is always on a Thursday.

To help them to remember what we've been learning recently, you could try quizzing them on important temperatures and rules for storing, cooking and cooling different types of foods.

From
The Food Preparation and Nutrition teachers

Careers Education at Dane Court:

Introduction to Cambridge – Provides a general overview of what makes Cambridge different to other universities, our admissions process, and guidance for making a strong application. An inspiring talk given by Maria McElroy from Queens College, Cambridge, suitable for all students who would like to know more about Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

Thursday 7th October in the Theatre

1430 - 1530: Year 9 and 10

1530 - 1630: Year 11 and 12

Super-curricular ideas workshop - Aims to help students discover ways to better explore their subjects outside the classroom, with a view to preparing for university applications. An insightful workshop given by Maria McElroy from Queens College, Cambridge

Thursday 21st October in the Theatre

1430 - 1530: Year 9 and 10

1530 - 1630: Year 11 and 12

Duke Of Edinburgh

Google meet for parents/guardian of Year 12 students who have completed and returned their enrolment form for the DofE award .

Students are expected to attend as the information is for them also ,especially if they missed the previous two sessions which were held in June 2021.

This is the only information evening for parents.

When? Tuesday 21st September at 18.30

Scholastic Book Fair

The library will be running a Scholastic Book Fair from Friday 24th September to Thursday 7th October during library lessons (years 7,8,9), break and lunch times. There will be lots of contemporary books to choose from, from £2.99 upwards. Please remember to bring in some money to spend at the book fair. Every purchase earns school rewards to spend on free books, so thank you for your support!

Mrs R Finley

Librarian

Ensembles are back!!

Ensembles will be starting back as of next week! We are very much looking forward to welcoming students back to ensembles and would love you to encourage your children to join!

Extra Curricular Music Opportunities!					
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Lunch	Open to Y10, 11, 12 and 13 music students only for composition work				
After school		Orchestra (3:30-4:30pm) Jazz Band (4:30-5pm)	Beginner Steel Band (3:30-4:15pm) Advanced Steel Band (4:15 - 5pm)	Choir (3:30-4:30pm)	

Orchestra Tuesdays @ 3:30-4:30pm

Orchestra is open to any string, woodwind or brass players at grade 1+ standard on their instrument. Please tell your child to come to H7 (music room) after school. Instruments can be stored in the practice room (P1) if needed.

Jazz Band Tuesdays after Orchestra @4:30-5pm

Jazz band is for our more advanced students, invite only.

Beginners Steel Band Wednesdays @3:30-4:15pm (starting 22/9/21)

Any students can join our steel band and no previous experience is necessary! This is a great ensemble to join at beginner level and if you are interested, please get in contact with Miss Curran (jcurran@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

N.B. There is a small charge for the hire of the instruments.

Choir Thursdays @3:30-4:30pm (starting 16/9/21)

Any students can join choir, please meet in H7 (music room) after school on Thursdays.

Instrumental lessons are also continuing. Please see the attached letter for more details

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgzGjlmJrQksCdLngcCsCRTkZXNq?projector=1&messagePartId=0.1>

Lost Property

We have various items that have been handed in to the office this week that could belong to either a member of staff or a student. We have also put the following photo in the Staff Newsletter this week as well, in an attempt to get them back to their owners as soon as possible. If you or your child recognises any of them, please contact the office on 01843 864941 to arrange collection as soon as possible.



Many thanks, Office Team



