

Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week A

1 April 2022



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

Changes to measures and guidance for managing COVID-19 in education settings from Friday 1 April

On Tuesday 29th March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1st April:

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days
- regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education setting

“The Kent and Medway Immunisation Team is running clinics during Easter holidays for any vaccinations your child may have missed - don't forget to do the [online consent form](#) if you haven't already. Here is the link for the clinic dates and times for you to book direct: [PathEKS Home \(healthit.org.uk\)](#)

Visit www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms for more information.

You can also phone the team 0300 123 5205, text 07401320923 or use their [web chat](#) if you have any questions about your child's immunisations.”

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child brings a refillable water bottle to school every day.



Ukraine Appeal – our second collection is on its way!

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, we have volunteered to be a collection point for donations in association with the KAH who is working with The British Red Cross, Invicta Rotary Club and KCC in response to the appalling and tragic situation in Ukraine. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of donations and we have just had our second collection sent off! If you would like help our friends in Ukraine and support our appeal but are worried that you may be missed your chance, please don't! We are **still** collecting, and there are a number of ways that you can get involved:

1. Donations of supplies: If you are able to donate any items on the list below, we would be very grateful indeed. We are not asking you necessarily to go out to purchase these items but would ask if you have any of these at home and they are in a good condition and can be spared then they would be gratefully received. Please bring any donations to the main office and, where possible, please package them in boxes and mark on the side what is inside, as this will aid the sorting and distribution process.

2. We need to raise money for fuel for the HGVs that will take these donations to Poland, A Go Fund me page has been set up and we are asking if you can share this far and wide especially with people that have businesses or if they are part of organisations that could support us. The Go Fund Me Page can be found [here](#)

3. We are also asking for volunteers to assist at the collection site which has been set up in Folkestone (Big Jigs in Folkestone- Unit B, Kingsmead, West, Park Farm Industrial Estate, Folkestone CT19 5EU.) If you can share this request across our community via social media sites that you are part of, we would be very grateful. Please can any potential volunteers please contact Dan File at [Elham Primary School](#)

Items for donation

- baby formula (especially hypoallergenic one - huge shortage)
- baby feeding bottles, sterilising equipment (nothing electric - different sockets)
- baby food
- nappies - any sizes
- painkiller medication, especially children's
- charging banks for mobile phones
- warm socks/gloves/warm hats
- camping mats
- sleeping bags
- protein/energy bars
- anti-flu medication (Lemsips etc)
- wound dressings
- first aid kits
- warm blankets
- thermal/base layers
- hot water bottles
- insulated flasks
- female sanitary products
- any clean soft toys/teddy bears
- a letter/card of hope and support from children and families.

Important dates for yr11

Please find below some of the key dates relating to Y11 final examinations. As you may know, the GCSE examinations are rather more staggered this year.

Monday 16th May: First GCSE examination. Students will remain in timetabled lessons until **Friday 27th May** (the final day of term 5). After half term (**Monday 6th June onwards**), students will come in only for exams, in school uniform.

Thursday 23rd June: final GCSE examination.

Monday 27th June: Y11 Celebration: red carpet and leavers' assembly.

Wednesday 29th June and Thursday 30th June - Dane Court sixth form induction.

Please be aware that Year 11 intervention for English continues right up until the start of GCSE season. Lots of students are already attending and benefitting from English intervention with Mrs Channing and Mrs Jolley. As the whole school calendar is very busy this term and next, we wanted to set out the concrete dates for intervention until

GCSE season:

Wednesday 09.03.2022

Tuesday 15.03.2022

Wednesday 23.03.2022

Wednesday 30.03.2022

Tuesday 19.04.2022

Tuesday 26.04.2022

Tuesday 03.05.2022

Tuesday 20.05.2022

Please do encourage your child to come where possible.

Mrs Channing



Year 11 GCSE German speaking exams

Individual examination times are available on the google classroom. Please ensure your child has checked this carefully and made a note of when their exam is taking place. By now, year 11 students should have prepared answers to their question bank and they also have copies of practice role-plays and photo cards. If your child is unsure of where to start with their revision, there is a sample 3 week revision timetable also available on their German google classroom, which would help them get started! I am looking forward to seeing some of the students at the Easter revision session as well.
Mrs Green

Helping your Year 11 student to revise Business GCSE over the Easter Break

We are doing Pearson Edexcel Business GCSE 9-1. The more talking and watching about business, including business in the news and [past exam](#) practice papers students can do the better. Talking and watching about business exposes students to different business scenarios and helps them to APPLY their learning. Discussing the whys and wherefores will also help them to develop their EVALUATION skills. I also find [revision cards](#) can be useful. Having to explain answers out loud to parents helps the student to improve their written demonstration of KNOWLEDGE and ANALYSIS. These are key skills that are measured in the GCSE. Students will also be provided with revision activities on Google Classroom, including a list of the course content and a corresponding checklist so that student can identify and target any knowledge gaps. Students are encouraged to attend the revision morning on 5th April (9am-1pm) and/or attend the after school interventions on Wednesdays during term time.

School Run Safety - McCarthy Stone Site - Fairfield Road

It has been brought to our attention that some parents have been using the McCarthy Stone Site as a drop off point for students. Please be aware this is a functioning construction site and therefore extremely unsafe for children/young adults of any age to be left unsupervised for any amount of time. We hope to continue supporting the safety of all our students as much as possible and appreciate your support in this matter.

Food and Nutrition Ingredients

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium, we can supply the ingredients needed for practical lessons if this is a problem. **If you wish for this to be put in place, please email your child's food and nutrition teacher at least 48 hours before the lesson in which the ingredients are required.**

Safeguarding -Online Safety - Passwords

Many students and adults alike are still not secure enough with their online passwords. The following information from www.comparitech.com shows some very alarming statistics in relation to weak or poor passwords;

- At least 60% of people reuse passwords across multiple sites regularly.
- About 13% of people use the same password for all accounts and devices.
- About 80% of data breaches in 2019 were caused by password compromise.
- Although 91% of participants in a recent survey understand the risk of password reuse, 59% admitted to doing it anyway.
- In 2019, [42% of companies were breached by a bad password](#).
- 48% of workers use the same passwords in both their personal and work accounts.
- Compromised passwords are responsible for 81% of hacking-related breaches.
- The average person reuses each password 14 times.
- An estimated 49% of people only add a digit/change a character in their password when they're required to update it.
- Passwords were leaked in about 65% of data breaches in 2019.

Tips for password creating and management.

- Create a unique password with a mixture of uppercase and lowercase, numbers and special characters such as ***2Bor!2B_ThatizThe?**
- Don't reuse passwords. If you're using the same password across mail, shopping, banking and/or other websites and one of those experiences a hack or breach, you've now exposed all of your other services to the hacker.
- If you write your password down as cold storage, make sure it's either only written partially, in code or it is just a hint to the real password.
- Use a password manager. There are many apps that create and store very complex passwords for every site you visit. These are then kept securely, you only need to remember one password to log into the manager.
- Don't share your passwords. If you must share a password for some reason, change it as soon as possible after to something completely unique.

Below is a link to an excellent website that can tell you if your email has ever been involved in a data breach before. If an email account has been subjected to a breach, it is wise to look at the severity of the attack and possibly create a new clean account. <https://haveibeenpwned.com>

Support to explain the Invasion of Ukraine at home

I am sure many of you are trying to manage difficult questions at home about the current situation in the Ukraine. Here are some resources to help adults support children with the issues surrounding the Russian invasion of Ukraine that you might find useful.

How to talk to your teenager about the invasion of Ukraine (BBC Bitesize/Anna Freud Centre)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbrdjsjg>

How To Talk To Your Child About The War In Ukraine (YoungMinds)

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/blog/top-tips-for-talking-to-your-young-person-about-the-events-in-ukraine/>

Worrying about Russia and Ukraine (Childline)

<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/worrying-about-russia-ukraine/>

Best wishes

Anita Ives

Aikido lessons return after Easter - 1st floor fitness suite, in the Sports Hall

Feel good - get fighting fit - suitable for everyone

Tuesdays 7-8.30pm

Dane Court sports hall - 1st floor fitness suite

(Term time from 19th April)

Over 16s only

Contact Martyn on 07537965139 - thanetaikido@gmail.com

Kent Schools County (White Cup) Final

On a clear, crisp Friday evening at Margate Football Club, Dane Court Grammar School's Under 19 footballers won an enthralling encounter against Harvey Grammar School from Folkestone. Dane Court were never behind on the score board, but the result was in doubt until the final seconds of a frantic 90 minutes and then a frenzied 20minute period of extra time.

Goals from Jack H, Matthew W and Josh B gave Dane Court a 3-1 lead as normal time began to run out, however Jack rallied with 2 quick goals to square the game. In extra time, Dane Court retook the lead twice as Josh completed his hat trick before being pegged back yet again. It took a 6th goal for the Broadstairs school, courtesy of Jack H, to seal victory with just 2 minutes left to play.

In a superb advert for schools' football, both sides produced some skilful play and stunning goals. As Captain Matt W lifted the trophy the crowd of over 400 raised their voices in raucous support as they had done all game.

Food department update

Year 9 Bistro schedule

Mentor group	Teacher	Date
H	KL	26/04/22
B	JTB	27/4/22
S	ET	29/4/22
T	KL	4/5/22
N	NE	5/5/22
D	ET	21/4/22

Car Boot Fairs!

The Dane Court Grammar School Parents' Association are pleased to announce the dates of our popular boot fairs for 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.

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

This year's events are as follows:

Saturday 14 May 2022

Saturday 11 June 2022

Saturday 9 July 2022

No August Boot Fair

Saturday 10 September 2022

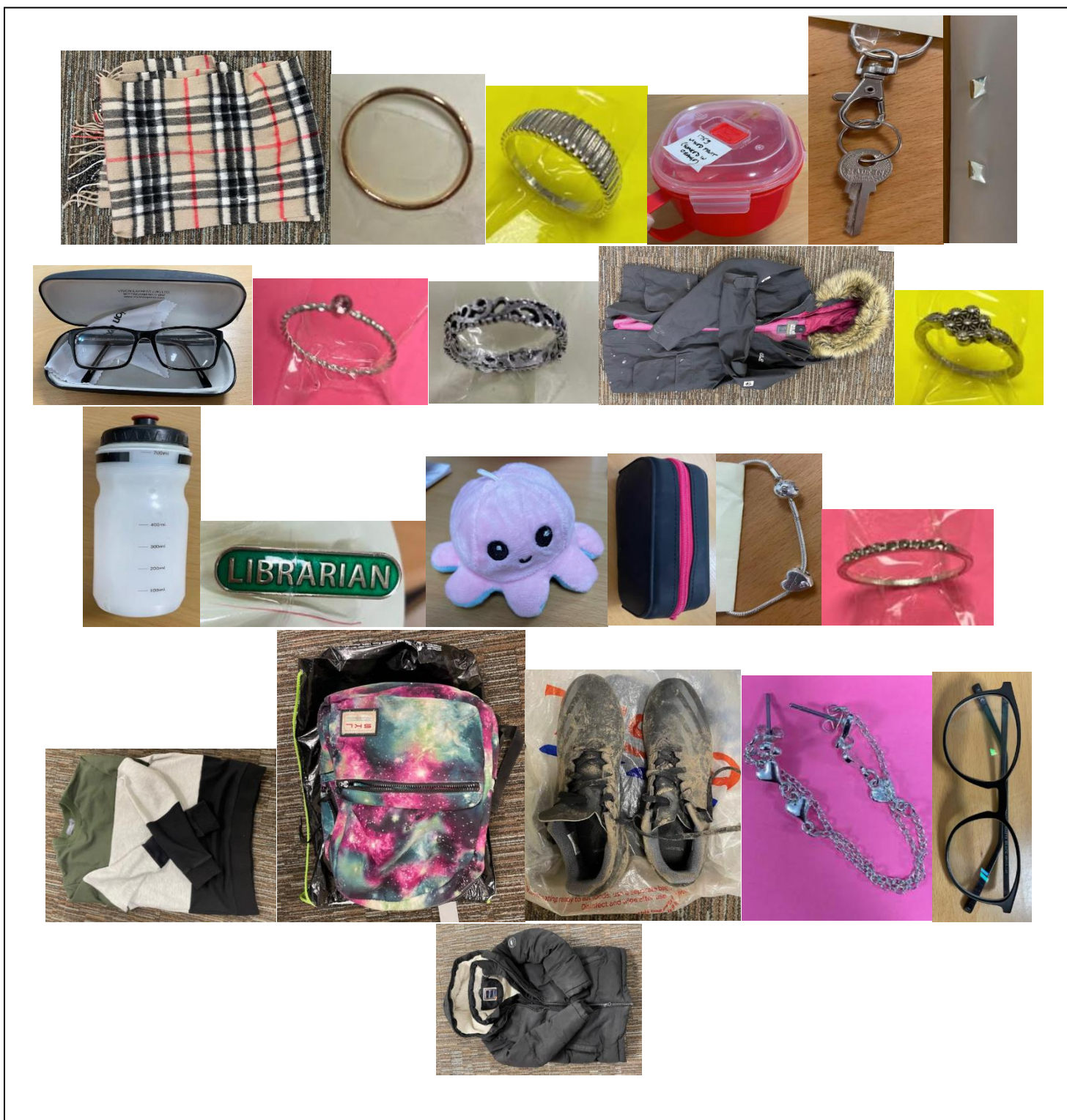
Look forward to seeing some of you there!

The Parents' Association

Lost Property this week

We have a few unnamed items in our lost property already this term. They include coats, an odd trainer, a jumper, a PE kit, a pencil case, Tupperware, water bottle, a badge, a keyring, scarf and items of jewellery. 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 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



Holiday Activities and Food Programme Kent
Helping families to flourish



Fun & food in the school holidays

Families of children aged 4 to 16 years, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals, can access these opportunities in the **Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays for free.**




Nutritious food and enriching activities

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in Kent provides healthy, nutritious food and exciting, enriching activities for children and young people during the school holidays.

Families of children aged 4 to 16 years, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals, can access these opportunities in the Easter, Summer and Christmas holidays for free.

The HAF Programme aims to support the physical and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in Kent, encouraging them to engage in interactive and fun activities and provide them with access to nutritious food.

This programme is funded by the Department for Education (DfE) to provide support for eligible families in Kent to access these holiday activities for free.



Find out more about the programme and see if you are eligible.

tinyurl.com/HAFKent



THE END AND HAVE A HAPPY EASTER

