



# Courtier



Issue 25

November 2011

## Dates for your diary: Examination dates:

Nov 11<sup>th</sup> Physics Olympiad.  
 Nov 11<sup>th</sup> GCSE English re-sit.  
 Nov 14<sup>th</sup> GCSE Mathematics re-sit.  
 Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Year 11 GCSE Science module re-sits.  
 Nov 16<sup>th</sup> Year 11 GCSE Mathematics.

## September 2011/12 year 8 girls' HPV Immunisation Schedule as follows:

21st March 2012

## Parents' Association Events

### Quiz nights

Friday 11th November  
 Friday 16th March

Please contact Miss Riley with table numbers.

Start 7.30pm

## News from Dane Court

Dear Parents and Students

The academic year is now well underway and I want to take this opportunity to let you know how some of the recent changes in the school are progressing.

While I have already detailed last year's exam success in both the press and on our website they are worth repeating, if only to say well done again to all those students who were so successful in last summer's exams. 97% of Yr 11 students achieved 5A\*-C grades at GCSE with 38% of them being at A\* or A grades. Yr 13 again surpassed themselves with 96% of all exams, both A Level and International Baccalaureate, being passed and with over 50% of A level students being awarded an A\*, A or B grade. All students who sat International Baccalaureate exams were awarded the Diploma with an average points score of 34 – that equates to an excellent 4 A grades at A Level for every candidate.

As you are aware the school has implemented changes to the House system with each of the school's six houses now having a Head of House and students being divided up into mentor groups under the guidance of a House Mentor. The House meets every day with staff and students giving assemblies on the theme for the week. After each House meeting students then meet in small groups with their mentor. Feedback is showing that the system is already proving to be successful and students are reporting that they find the mentor system a good way for them to get help and support in solving problems and issues in school.

To further help your son and daughter and to continue to develop the partnership between home and school we are organising a Mentor Day on 14<sup>th</sup> November where you will be able to meet your child's House Mentor. Mrs Felstead has written to all parents and guardians with times of appointments and details of the day but please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries.

I would like to say thank you to all of the parents who have attended one of the Key Stage 3 and 4 Curriculum Information Evenings. Feedback has again been positive with parents saying that they welcomed the opportunity to get a better understanding of what is happening to their child in school. During these evenings we gave out logins and passwords for the school's online reporting system, Parent Gateway. The system gives online access to the data held on your son or daughter including information on attendance, rewards, sanctions and assessment. Those parents or guardians who have not received a login, including Years 12 and 13, will be able to collect one on the Mentor Day after which we will post any outstanding logins home.

I would also like to remind parents about some forthcoming events. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 6.30pm we will be hosting our Year 11 Open Evening where students interested in coming into the 6<sup>th</sup> Form will be able to get more information about the process and individual subject choices for both the International Baccalaureate Diploma and Career-related Certificate programmes.

The Year 7 International Food evening, one of the highlights of the year is now on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December with the Carol Service on 8<sup>th</sup> December. These dates have been changed in the calendar to allow Year 7 students to prepare for the International Food Evening and attend the Carol Service. The Carol Service at 7pm in St Peter-in-Thamet Church, Broadstairs is a lovely event and a good way to start your Christmas celebrations. I do hope that many of you will join us for the event and a mince pie and drink afterwards.

Yours Sincerely

Simon Pullen

## Teentech Trip 27<sup>th</sup> September

The eyes of 20 year 8 and 9 students were well and truly opened at this science and technology event held in Tonbridge. The array of equipment and range of problem-solving tasks on display from internationally known companies like Google, Cummins and BT was awesome. Amongst the many interactive presentations was a chance to design your own app. for I-phones and to create power to make a lighthouse work in a rescue situation. Perhaps the most memorable was the velcro wall which provided us with a lot of fun whilst learning about the science behind it. A great day's learning.

## Business of Enterprise prizewinners trip.

Our winning entry to the annual B of E competition organized by EBP Kent yielded the group a superb day in London with a tour of the BBC. The trip was just reward for the hard work needed to win the judge's votes. An informative tour was complemented by a visit to Madame Tussaud's and rounded off with a fantastic evening watching the hit show 'Wicked'. A wonderful day out for Calvin Bruton, Ashley Cole, Francesca Minter, Mollie Page, Natalie Stafford and Chloe Stevens.



Our growing number of gardeners are looking to extend their gardening equipment and are asking that if you have any of the Morrison's Let's Grow vouchers would you kindly drop them into the school office. Hopefully fresh produce will be available shortly!

## Harrison's Catering Service

Our school catering team are looking for temporary relief staff to cover absence and sickness. If you are interested please call Carole Granger our catering manager on 864941.

## GCSE Art Exhibition

10am – 4pm on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November in the Pie Factory in the Old Town in Margate.

Please support our students and see the wonderful collection of Art on display.



## News from the PE Department

### The following are competitions the school is still competing in: Boys

Year 7 – In 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of Kent Cup

Year 9 – In 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of Kent Cup and 4<sup>th</sup> Round of the National Cup

Year 11 – In 4<sup>th</sup> Round of French Cup, in 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Invicta Cup

Senior – In 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of Kent Cup

### Girls

U13 – In 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of Kent Cup

U16 – In Quarter Final of Kent Cup

U18 – In 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Kent Cup

Good luck to all the teams on their journey to reach their respective finals.

## International Food Evening

All Parents of Year 7 students are warmly invited to attend the International Food Evening on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December** from 6.00-8.00pm.

The Food Technology Department would be grateful for any support Parents might be able to give during Year 7 practical lessons in school and on the night itself.

If any Parent is interested in helping in any other way with fund raising, such as organising a raffle to be drawn on the night, please contact Mrs Baker or any of the Food Technology teachers. Your child will shortly be bringing a letter home to give you more details.

## Festive Invitation from the Food Technology Department:

All parents are warmly invited to join us for a home-made mince pie and to view a display of Christmas cakes made by our Year 8 students on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December in Rooms C7 and 8, from 2.45 to 3.30pm.