



# Dane Court Grammar School

Issue 35

May 2014

## Exam Dates

Year 9 exams

May 6-9

Year 8 exams May  
12-14

Year 7 exams May  
15-16

## High School Musical

2nd—5th July

Rehearsals are well  
under way for this  
years production.

Further details to  
follow regarding  
ticket sales.

## Parents' Associa- tion Boot Fairs

The Parents' Associa-  
tion Boot Fairs  
for the rest of the  
year will take place  
on the following  
dates:

Saturday May 10th

Saturday June 14th

Saturday July 12th

## News from Dane Court

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Head of School at Dane Court. My name is Andrew Fowler, and I have come to Dane Court from Queen Elizabeth Grammar School in Penrith, where I was in charge of curriculum, timetable and the music department. Previously I worked in comprehensive and independent schools in Warwickshire, Berkshire and County Durham.

I was attracted to Dane Court by the outstanding quality of the teaching and learning opportunities that the school offers to its students, and the excellent relationships between students and members of staff. The progressive and forward-thinking nature of teachers and students here inspired me right from the start.

Our house system offers wonderful support to students and a sense of identity. These are all aspects of school life that I value, and that I want to develop further.

I am also delighted to be working in a school that offers the International Baccalaureate, because I believe that this curriculum provides Thanet students with the best possible preparation for the future, a future that we cannot predict, in jobs that are only just emerging, within a society that is constantly changing. The curriculum we offer at Dane Court is broad-based and challenging; it trains students to think for themselves and urges them to work together, to use their creativity as well as their knowledge.

The reception I have received at Dane Court and in Broadstairs has been very warm. Having been born near the sea, in the holiday town of Morecambe, and having spent my school days in the agricultural county of Herefordshire, Thanet has a familiar and welcoming feel to me. I have already enjoyed meeting students and parents, and I look forward to getting to know and working with you and many others from this community over the next term and for many years to come.

Andrew Fowler, Head of School

## What is CAS? Can you help?

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) is at the heart of the IB Diploma Programme. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies.

The three strands of CAS, which are often interwoven within particular activities, are creativity, action, and service. We are always looking for new CAS opportunities to offer our year 12 and 13 students; this could be a new sport, an art project or a community project.

There is a CAS notice board in school that can be used to reach out for volunteers for projects that meet the criteria, or to advertise arts and sporting clubs that the students might like to join. Please email me at [ives@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:ives@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) if you have something for our CAS notice-board or would like more information about CAS.

## Year 11 Information

Thurs 8 May - Shirt-signing day – back in uniform for today!?!  
Friday 9 May - ‘Leavers’ Day’ – arrive at school gate for 10.30 for parade and then assembly. Students leave at lunchtime.  
Mon 12 May - GCSE exams start, attend school as normal.  
Fri 23 May - Break up for half term – only come in for exams.

**Monday 23 June - Global Careers day. ALL CURRENT YEAR 11 EXPECTED TO ATTEND (further information to follow).**

**Tuesday 24 June and Wednesday 25 June**-Induction for those intending to return to the Sixth Form (further information to follow).

**Book return and completion of Leaving Forms will take place in the Heart Area on the morning of June 24. ALL CURRENT YEAR 11 STUDENTS are expected to attend school between 9.40 and 10.40am to complete leaving procedures.**

## Literacy Competition

The **'So Get This Right'** literacy competition has been a huge success so far this year, with students and staff tweeting or emailing over 300 spelling and grammar mistakes since the September launch. The rules are simple: if you spot a mistake online, in shop windows, on noticeboards or anywhere else, take a photo and tweet it to @SoGetThisRight or email to the following [sogetthisright@gmail.com](mailto:sogetthisright@gmail.com). Include your name and House in the message and you are in with a chance of winning a prize at the end of term (as well as the winning house receiving valuable points).

You can also follow us on twitter (@SoGetThisRight) and look out for deliberate mistakes in our tweets. The first to spot them, and reply with the corrections, also wins a place in the prize draw.

Good luck!

## Jewellery information

We have noticed an increase recently in the number of students who are acquiring piercings.

For health and safety reasons our uniform regulations stipulate that students are allowed to wear one set of ear studs (flat or rounded) and no other visible piercings. The increase is causing particular concern within the PE Department as many activities become less safe when such jewellery is worn.

We would appreciate your support in this matter as we will be asking students to remove jewellery that does not conform to our uniform regulations.

Please contact Mrs Snaydon if you require further clarification.

## Dickens Festival

Dane Court Grammar School is making its second appearance at the Dickens Festival this summer on June 17<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. This year both the Junior Rock Band and the Jazz Band will be making their debuts. Last year the Senior Choir and International Baccalaureate students performed for the school.

There will also be the premiere of a new arrangement for the Jazz Band of Skyfall. One of Dane Court's students, Jack Tracey, has been working hard over the course of the last term to complete this project using the score writing programme Sibelius. We are particularly proud that as a music department students are writing and arranging music to be performed in public settings.

## Piano Masterclass

Patrick Dunn, an accomplished pianist and teacher, recently ran a master class on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014 within the department for talented piano students including Esme Votta, Julia Tomondyova and Jack Tracey. Grade 8 works by Bach and Chopin were performed to an audience and then the students undertook a masterclass with Patrick. Students gained a valuable insight into higher level musical understanding and technique and made rapid progress during the evening.

The music department was able to proudly show to parents and carers our three new Yamaha pianos that higher level students have been using to rehearse for the masterclass and their exam grades.

The pianos were funded through the parents association, the school and music department.

