

Dane Court Grammar School Newsletter



Next Week

17th July 2023 – Week A

17th July: 2-2-1 timetable

18th July: 2-1-2 timetable, Yr12 Group 4 Project

19th July: 2-2-1 timetable Yr12 Group 4 Project

20th July: 2-1-2 timetable, Yr12 Group 4 Project

21st July: Staff Training Day

See the [school website](#) for the [full calendar](#) and [term dates](#)

Please be aware there are no extra curricular sports clubs running next week, we thank everyone for your support and attendance this academic year and wish you all a lovely summer's break.



New Articles

- Prize Giving
- Chemistry Competition
- Year 12 Project 4
- Ikebana Club
- Kent Music
- International Food Evening
- Free Bus Travel for Free School Meal Families
- Year 10 Mentor Curriculum
- Dane Court Debate Club



Some articles have been repeated under Current Information for your reference

Prize Giving

On Wednesday and Thursday this week we staged our annual Key Stage 3 prize giving events. These ceremonies were a fantastic opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students this year. Prizes were awarded in recognition of both attainment and attitude for learning in each subject, highlighting the dedication and hard work demonstrated by our students. Furthermore, we proudly presented form prizes to those students who wholeheartedly embrace our school's core values, being caring, open-minded and principled. To top it off, a special highlight of the event was the Headteacher's award, given to one exceptional student in each year group who has consistently gone above and beyond, embodying the spirit of our school community. We are immensely proud of all our students and commend them for their commitment to learning and personal growth. Similar events for our key stage 4 and 5 students will take place in the Autumn term.

Chemistry Competition

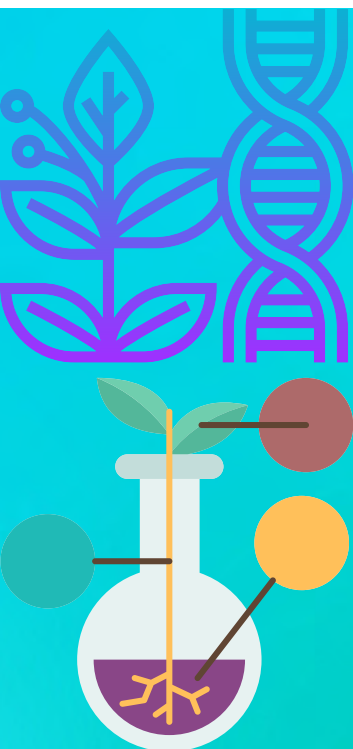
"Students from year 12 recently entered a chemistry competition run by the University of Cambridge. The competition included many questions from beyond the scope of the IB course and is designed to stretch the most gifted sixth form chemists and especially those that intend to study chemistry at university. We were delighted that Samuel M. was awarded a very impressive gold award, a rare achievement which really highlighted his excellent chemistry knowledge and strong numeracy skills."



Year 12 Project 4

In the final week of term, all year 12 students who study science will participate in 'the group 4 project'. Students will collaborate across different scientific disciplines, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental systems and Food science, as well as with students from other schools. Each group must produce a highly professional scientific poster and presentation. The project's aims are to promote self-motivation and perseverance, cross-curricular collaboration, teamwork and self-reflection. Students in previous years have found the experience enjoyable and high quality work has been produced but as it is an essential part of their IB course.

The Science fair on the final day of term, Thursday 20th, will be the culmination of two days of rigorous scientific research. Students are expected in formal dress to present to members of SLT, parents, younger students and local STEM businesses such as Pfizer. We look forward to welcoming parents of Year 12 students on the day.





Ikebana Club

Some Year 12 students enjoyed their flower arranging in the Ikebana (Japanese Flower Arranging) Club this Term. Guided by the principles of balance, harmony, and simplicity, our students have embraced the art form with enthusiasm and creativity. It has been a joy to witness their growth and the pride they take in crafting their own unique arrangements.

One student, Tia, mentioned 'I never thought I'd particularly enjoy flower arranging, however Ikebana was so different to typical European arrangements. I found myself really thinking about how to arrange the petals and stems. The club atmosphere was so quiet and secure; it was really a safe place to experiment with something new and enjoy it. I've just bought my own Ikebana supplies to practice at home!'

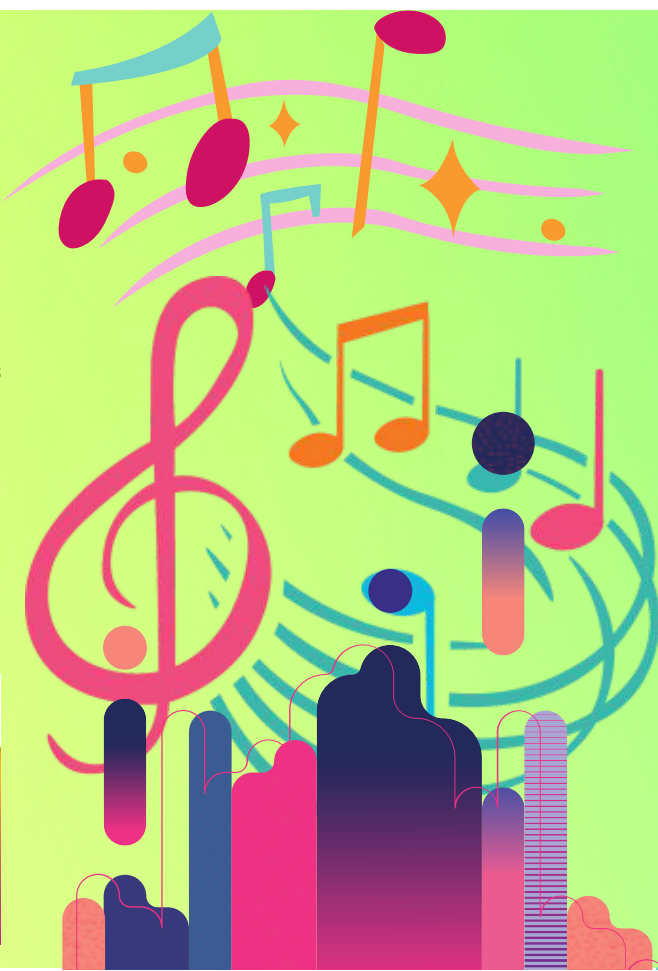
Another student, Dylan, said 'The flowers proved to be beautiful displays of harmony and peace; not only were they incredible to look at but also were calming to make. This club was a great way to end the week and helped relieve the stress of school work. **ありがとう** (arigatou: Thank you in Japanese)'

Miss Bowen who also attended the club commented 'how lucky we are to have access to this wonderful practice, thank you Ms Myers for your time, knowledge and patience. I have been doing this at home with my 6 year old and have bought my own Ikebana tools.'



Kent Music

Kent Music offer financial assistance towards the cost of instrumental lessons to children in low-income families. The bursary applications are about to re-open after being suspended last year. If your child receives free school meals and would like to have instrumental lessons in school, please use this link to apply for help towards the cost. The pot of money for this is limited and once it's gone its gone so I would recommend keeping a close eye on the website for when applications open, and putting in an application promptly. It takes no more than 10 minutes. <https://www.kent-music.com/financial-assistance/>



International Food Evening 11th July 2023

Over 160 year seven students hosted the International Food Evening on 11th July. Students worked in groups to research the cuisine from over 30 different countries and made samples of food for visitors to taste. This was a vibrant and lively event, we also welcomed a range of local food and health related businesses to join in with stalls of their own as well as a busy mocktail bar and tea room run by older students. We also raised money at an exciting auction, the proceeds of which will benefit Dane Court Students in the Food department.

We would like to praise our students for their hard work, creativity and professionalism, and to thank our wonderfully supportive parents for participating in the event, donating items for our auction and tombola and helping with preparations leading up to the event.

Food department request

We have a large number of plastic tubs and store cupboard ingredients which have been left behind by students after practicals. Students who are missing their tubs should come and collect these from the Food department before the end of term. At the end of term we will repurpose any unclaimed tubs and ingredients.

Free Bus Travel for Free School Meal Families

We are pleased to inform you that colleagues in our Passenger Transport Service and local bus companies have again been able to put together the offer of free bus travel for free school meals families, this summer break. It is fantastic news for the families involved, not least because it should help them to access the free Holiday Activity and Food Programmes. School's can issue the vouchers during the week commencing 17th July. We hope this will be on the 17th, but it will certainly be in place by mid-week.

Year 10 Mentor Curriculum

In our year 10 mentor curriculum, we are excited to introduce the "Launchpad into Year 11" booklet, a valuable resource that will guide our Year 10 students in developing effective learning and revision techniques as they prepare for their final year of Key Stage 4. This comprehensive booklet covers topics such as effective learning strategies, suitable study environments, optimal revision timing, self-quizzing, flashcards, brain dumps, exam questions, tailoring revision to goals, essential takeaways, deciding what to revise, and writing a summer revision calendar. By utilising this resource during their mentor curriculum time, we aim to equip our students with the necessary tools to excel academically. All year 10 guardians have been emailed with a copy of the booklet attached and we encourage you to discuss its contents with your child.

Dane Court Debate Club

We are delighted to share the remarkable achievements of the Dane Court Debate Club at their first ever tournament held in London. Our dedicated teams from all key stages demonstrated exceptional skills as they competed against schools from across England. With 108 speakers and 444 speeches across the day. We are proud to say that all of our teams won in rounds 2, 3 and 4 of the tournament, engaging with challenging and relevant motions.

We are also incredibly proud to announce that our Key Stage 5 team achieved an outstanding second place overall after a thrilling and very impressive final. We would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of every single student, not only showcased today but in their dedication to attending weekly debate club across the year. We look forward to witnessing their continued growth and success in future debating endeavours. They are a credit to our school and to our community as a whole.

Current Information

PE Summer Kit

Please be aware hot pant style shorts and cycling shorts are not permitted as part of the Dane Court PE kit.

Please see the Margate school wear shop or Ambition sport for the correct Dane Court PE kit.

Kind regards
Miss Bolt and the PE team'



Period Products

The PSO has a good stock of single use and reusable period products, including washable pads, period pants and mooncups. Please feel free to send students along to the PSO to collect products for use over the summer break.

Best wishes
Mrs Ives



Lost Property

We have a large election of items in our lost property this term. They include unnamed uniform/non-uniform and PE clothing, a blazer with the name 'Vickyboo', PE bag, jewellery, keys, a pencil case, DS game, earbud headphones, hat, glove, coat, asthma pump, lunchbags, glasses, glasses case and water bottles. 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 or your child 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

[Message for the cast of Grease](#)

We have a large collection of items left in the Drama room by the cast of Grease (costumes items, uniform etc) that also need collecting. Any of these items that are left unclaimed by the end of term will put and dealt with in the same way as unclaimed lost property.
Many thanks, Office Team



Dealing with change and transitions toolkit

Secondary and FE



The end of an academic year brings a range of emotions. It is a time for reflection and celebrating achievements, as well as excitement with the summer holidays on the horizon.

However, it is also a time of change and upheaval which can feel difficult and cause anxious feelings.

For some students it is the end of their time at school or college altogether, and others may be adjusting to the end of term, exams or assessments.

Everyone in school or college will also be preparing for the shift from a regular routine, to no formal education structure across the summer break.

In this toolkit, we've collected resources to help older students deal with change and prepare for the summer break. We've also included resources for those students who will be leaving your school or college, to help them feel more able to handle the changes coming their way.

We've also worked with education staff mental health charity Education Support on some guidance for staff, to help you look after your mental wellbeing over the holidays.

Resources for students: dealing with change

[Self-care summer: secondary and FE](#) – Anna Freud

The summer holidays offer an opportunity to recharge, but some young people may find themselves struggling without the structure and support network of school. Young people at secondary school or college can create a detailed self-care plan for the summer with this resource.

[Dealing with change lesson plan pack](#) – Public Health England

A lesson plan, PowerPoint and accompanying videos looking at the expected and unexpected changes people may face in their lives, and helping students identify strategies for managing change.

[Six tips to help you handle post-exam blues](#) – BBC Bitesize

The end of exam season is often a relief but it's a big change too. This guidance will help students adjust and recover after exam season.



Sign up to the
Mentally Healthy
Schools newsletter
for more resources



Anna Freud
Mentally Healthy Schools

Resources for students: starting or leaving school/college

[Starting college or university: advice for autistic young people](#) – National Autistic Society

A webpage offering guidance and support to autistic children and young people, or their families, who are in the position of transitioning to college or university.

[Know before you go: guide to navigating university life](#) – Student Minds

Knowing what to expect can make a big difference to anxiety around changes. This detailed guide for young people shares lots of information about what to expect from university life.

[Moving Up! The transition to secondary school](#) – Anna Freud

An animation and teacher toolkit for those who have recently started Year 7, helping them feel more confident as they join your school.

[Teacher resources for students transitioning to secondary school](#) – BBC & YoungMinds

Videos and accompanying teacher guides to help new students settle into secondary school and deal with the changes that come their way.

Self-care summer: advice for education staff

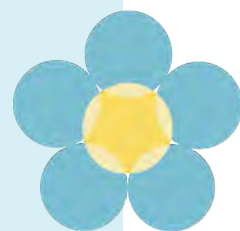
Self-care may not be the easiest thing for education staff to practise. Schools and colleges can be challenging environments to work in at times, and during term time, your focus will be on your pupils and your to-do list.

That's why the summer break can be the best time to develop good self-care habits, so that when term starts again, you may have techniques you can turn to in stressful times.

We have teamed up with [Education Support](#) to produce a guidance booklet and poster to help you have your own self-care summer.



Download the
resources now



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for more resources



Anna Freud
Mentally Healthy Schools