

Dane Court Grammar School

Newsletter 6.10.23



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

Do you want to keep up to date with events at Dane Court?

Follow us on social media for all the latest news, events, trips, achievements and more!

We have a new Twitter page - @Dane_Court_GS and we are also on Instagram - @dane_court - and Facebook, as Dane Court Grammar School.



Save the Date – Year 7 and Year 8 Wellbeing Information Evening for parents, more details to follow: Monday 30th- October 2023 – 4.15–5.50pm

New Articles

- Early Closure – Tuesday 17.10.2023
- Measles / MMR vaccination
- Message for Yr11 Parents
- A Brief 'Hello'
- Safeguarding Bulletin
- Sixth Form Message
- School Attendance
- Messages from the Fod Department
- Competition Posters
- Lost property



Early Closure – Tuesday 17th October 2023

Our Year 6 Open Day this year is on Wednesday 18th October. As our preparations get under way, I am writing to let you know school will finish at 1.20pm on Tuesday 17th October to allow our teaching staff to prepare for the event. The timetable for the day will be altered so that students can have lunch before they leave school. Buses will run at their usual times.

We will have limited provision in the school for students who are unable to go home early. If you would like your child to remain in school until 3.20pm, please e-mail Mrs Ives at ives@danecourt.kent.sch.uk

We hope the term is progressing well for your child. As ever, if you have any questions or concerns regarding their education do contact us here at school.

Sharing information on Measles / MMR vaccination

Measles cases are rising across the country, with over 102,000 children starting primary school in England being at risk of catching the disease. We are asking education settings to share key messages from the NHS about MMR / measles and how to get vaccinated.

The Back to school MMR Guidance from the NHS includes information to share, as well as example social media posts which can be found here: [NHS Vaccine Poster](#) and [NHS MMR Poster](#).

Measles is highly infectious and if left unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious. Please share these resources with colleagues, parents, and where suitable, community organisations to increase awareness and encourage parents to get their children vaccinated.

Message for Year 11 parents:

To further support your child's GCSE success, each individual subject department has produced a specialist information resource called 'How to Revise in...'. The resource includes research-informed information about the most effective ways to revise, links to online resources and questions you can ask your child at home to support their learning. Please do ask about the sheet and encourage your young person to pop to my office at the end of the N Plaza (where they have mentoring) to collect for any subjects that they need to prioritise in the upcoming PPEs. These are excellent resources to have on your fridge year round to refer to, and thanks in advance for your support in improving the GCSE outcomes of your children.

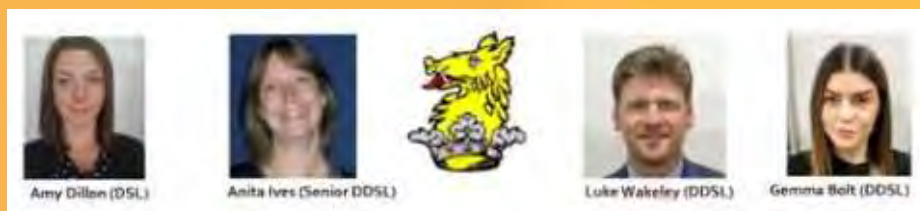
If you have any questions or queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Channing (Assistant Head – Achievement)



A Brief 'Hello' from our Safe Guarding Team

I just wanted to introduce the Safeguarding team for 2023. Some of these faces will undoubtedly be familiar to you and I very much look forward to meeting you all in due course at school events and as part of wider conversations. We are here to look after your young person's safety alongside their excellent mentors and pastoral team.



- Amy Dillon (Assistant Headteacher - Safeguarding)
adillon@danecourt.kent.sch.uk



Hemmed Skirts

Please be aware that some of our students are beginning to 'hem' their skirts to make them shorter. We welcome parent support in helping us to ensure that all uniform is appropriate. Whilst we commend the creativity(!), we are keen that all students are taking pride in their uniform within school and the wider community.

Unsupervised Gyms

We have been made aware of a couple of remotely operated gyms in the Westwood Cross area which use pin codes for entry, rather than being overseen by professionals. Most equipment and gyms require users to be over the age of 16, but it has become apparent that a number of younger students are currently accessing them. Our primary concern is that these facilities are predominantly unsupervised and unvetted, as well as being open to the wider public, leaving our young people at risk of harm. We would advise all parents/carers/guardians to check the reputability of the gyms and age stipulations prior to signing up.

Online Safety:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Internet-Matters-Create-Environment-for-Kids-to-Talk-Jan-2023-2.pdf>

Safeguarding Bulletin

- Childline and the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) have released a new tool that allows children and young adults to report an inappropriate image or video of themselves that has been uploaded somewhere online. They may also report an image or video that they fear may be uploaded to the internet at some point in the future. The IWF will then take steps to remove the image from the Internet completely and assign a 'hash' to prevent the image being uploaded by anyone after.

We urge all parents to make their children aware of this new tool as it could really help a student who may make a mistake in the future.

The reporting tool can be found via the following link:

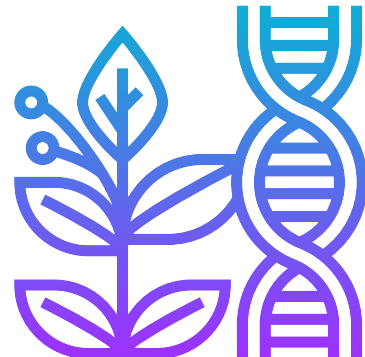
<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/remove-nude-image-shared-online>

OPEN EVENING - WEDNESDAY 18TH OCTOBER

ALL SIXTH FORMERS TO ATTEND - SMART DRESS DAY

All sixth formers are expected to be in school for the evening to tour and assist with the running of this event. If you work, please ensure that you have informed your place of employment that you are required at school. Many thanks.

Current Information



Late Arrival in School

Please be reminded that students are expected to arrive and be in class by 8.40am. If a student arrives late it is disruptive to the class and means that they miss the teacher's instructions and introduction to the lesson. It can also cause embarrassment for the student having to enter the classroom late. The school pedestrian gates open at 8.00am so students can arrive in time to get to their lockers etc before classes start at 8.40. Once the pedestrian gates are closed at 9am, any student arriving after this time will need to press the intercom buzzer, which is to the right of the gate, so that the office staff can let them through. Frequent lateness can soon add up to a considerable amount of learning lost and can seriously disadvantage your child.

Please help your child to be punctual. If you have any concerns, or would like to speak to someone regarding attendance, please contact Mrs Sayer, Attendance Officer on 01843 864941.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days' worth of teaching lost in a year
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days

Food department plea

It is wonderful to see all students enjoying building their culinary skills.. They've made pizza & crumble (year 7), vegetable chow mein & potatoes four ways (year 8), egg fried rice & bombay potatoes (year 9) & cream cheese, vegetable spring rolls (year 10) so far and seasonal cooking which includes tarts pies in year 12.

However, we are struggling to help students who forget to bring in a suitable container to take their food home in, our stocks are running very low now.

For every practical lesson, students need a large lunchbox, tupperware or ice cream tub, it helps to send them in with all of their ingredients in the tub.

If any families have an excess of containers, or due for a clear out of the tupperware cupboard, we will gratefully receive all donations in the Food Department. Also - we are already building up a stock of lost property containers which have been left behind by some students. If you are missing a tub at home, please send your child to the food department to look at our lost property area which is the metal table just outside the kitchens.

Ingredients for food lessons

A reminder to parents that our office staff are not able to distribute forgotten ingredients around school for students who have forgotten them. They do not have the manpower to be able to cope with this on top of their other duties. In the food department we view the organisation of ingredients as a part of homework for our students and it is their responsibility to make sure that they remember to bring ingredients into school with them on the correct day.

From the Food department.



SPOTS
Supporting People On The Spectrum

Come and join us for a
'chat' and a 'cuppa'

WHERE
Green Banks Centre for
Disabled Children
Westfield Rd,
Margate, CT9 5PA

TIME
9.30am to 11.30am

children welcome

soft play & sensory
rooms available

WHEN

2023
11th September
2nd October
6th November
4th December

2024
8th January
5th February
4th March
No meeting in April
13th May
3rd June
8th July

A support & information sharing group for families, carers, friends of children & adults with **AUTISM** (and associated learning difficulties)

Telephone numbers
07717 064944 or 07938 952138

Email
spotspectrum@gmail.com

SPOTS
Supporting People On The Spectrum

Find us on Facebook

Dane Court Grammar School Music Department presents

The Year 7 Concerts

Wednesday 11th October
7B, 7D, 7T

Class choirs and soloists
Doors open at 4pm for a 4:30pm start
Free entry!

Thursday 12th October
7H, 7N, 7S

Inter-Kent Grammar Schools Piano competition

Dane Court Grammar School
preliminary auditions w/c 13th November

CATEGORIES

- Beginner and Grade 1
- Grade 2 to 4
- Grade 5 to 7
- Grade 8+
- Duet Grade 1 to 4
- Duet Grade 5+

Prepare one piece to play at your preliminary audition which showcases your ability, lasting no more than 3 minutes.

Sign up on the sheet below with your name, form and category

We already have a selection of items in our lost property so far this term. As well as a number of unnamed items of school uniform, the items we have include keys, jewellery, earbud headphones, mobile phone, headband, footballs, water bottles, Thanet Colts jacket, coats, pencil cases, glasses, umbrella, a tie and football boots. 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



LOST IT?
FIND IT!