





Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week B

1 April 2021



Dear Parent/Guardian, welcome to this week's newsletter.

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Many thanks to year 9 parents for taking part in the remote Parents' evening. We would really appreciate your feedback on the process. Please <u>click this link</u> to complete an online questionnaire. Rachel Rolls

Assistant Headteacher

Year 9

The initial deadline for Year 9 options choices is Thursday 1st April. Please complete the Google Form that you should have received via email by this date, using the option document to guide you. If you did not receive a link to the Google Form, please check your spam folder and then contact the school. If your child is still unsure and needs further guidance on choosing options, they should speak to their form tutor in the new term, and we will arrange a further meeting with both parents and a senior member of staff.

Year 10 Statistics assessment.

The second statistics assessment for year 10 will now take place on Friday 30th April.

This slightly earlier date reflects the preparedness of our year 10 cohort, and will allow more time this year to be devoted exclusively to GCSE Maths.

The topics in this second assessment have been shared with all students on their google classroom, therefore if they wish to do a small amount of preparation or recap over the Easter holiday this may be beneficial. Thank you

Mr S Ballard

Year 11

We were so impressed with the way our Year 11 students conducted themselves during the assessments of the past week or so. The way they prepared, behaved and supported each other was truly exemplary, and they should feel very proud of what they have achieved. They have certainly earnt a good break.

The second and final set of assessments will run in a very similar way beginning on Monday 10th May. Teachers are already communicating the content of these second papers to students, but we will also gather and collate this information for parents in the new term, once it is finalised.

Following these assessments, Year 11 will remain in school until Friday 18th June. Free from the pressure of GCSE assessment, these final weeks will allow us to do some important preparation and induction work ahead of sixth form study, and also run many of the end of term and extracurricular events that are so important to celebrate the achievements of this year's Year 11 cohort.







Sports Days

This year there will be adapted mini year group bubble sports days running over a two hour period. Usually we would invite year 7 parents into school to watch their children participate, unfortunately with the current situation we will not be able to have any parents on school site for this.

Your child's mentor will let them know the date and time of their event and they must come into school in their PE kit with their house colour top on. I hope your child still has a great experience.





Extra Curricular clubs for term 5 will be:

Year 7 - Monday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders

Year 8 - Tuesday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders

Year 9 - Wednesday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders

Year 10 - Thursday 3.30-4.30 - athletics and rounders

Students just need to turn up on their correct day, change on their normal peg and complete the register. No need to sign up prior to the club.

Many thanks

Miss Bolt

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Please note that Year 12 DofE students will be collecting their tents, rucksacks, cookware etc for their expedition after school on the first day back - Monday 19th April.

Thank you

Mrs Whelan

Relationships and sex education policy (from 2020)

Please find below the Sex and Relationships Education policy for terms 5 and 6.

This will be updated in September 2021.

Kind regards,

Rachel Rolls

http://danecourt.kent.sch.uk/parents 8/reference/downloads/policy-documents/756-relationships-and-sex-education-policy-from-2020/file

Possible Forensics day

Dear parents /guardians

I am interested to know whether any parents associated with the police force might be able to help. We are considering putting on a forensics day for year 11 (this has not been confirmed yet), and I would like a member of the force to come in and deliver a 30min talk to year 11. This would be repeated over 2 days. If anyone thinks that they might be able to help, please contact Mr J Butt, on butt2@danecourt.kent.sch.uk.

Thank you

Mr J Butt







Languages Career Focus: Engineering



Learn another language and sell your skills to a multi-national company.

Are you....

- accurate and logical in your work?
- someone who thinks outside the box?
- a great team player?

Do you enjoy....

- problem solving and technical trouble-shooting?
- Maths and science?
- innovation and design?
- long, practical projects?

...then this COULD BE YOU!

THINK LANGUAGES:

"We have deliberately had a strategy of recruiting people with French, Spanish, German, Italian, Russian or Polish language skills within the business and it's made a huge difference in terms of our success. We now ask candidates to come with a qualification in Engineering, experience in a processing application and then a language as well" - Sarah Grain, Key Account Manager at Eriez Magnetics.

Dane Court Staff Team Challenge

The Dane Court staff virtual challenge only has 1 week left. The staff team have covered a huge 5420 miles, and only have 72 miles left to go. They are almost back to school following a mammoth trip around Europe visiting all the school houses.

They have raised £920 so far for the Pilgrims Hospice and it would be amazing to get to the £1000 target.

If you would like to donate, the fundraising link is:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/dane-court-grammar-

<u>school?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=dane-court-grammar-school&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm_term=e0326b6de07a428991b7ae9f7a1ae726</u>

Many thanks

The staff at Dane Court









Online Safety advice - Ransomware Attacks



You may have heard in the news this week that multiple schools have been targeted with ransomware attacks. Over 40,000 students across 17 schools have been affected in the past week.

What is ransomware?

Ransomware is a form of malicious software that encrypts a user's files and locks their device until a ransom is paid.

The users are usually shown instructions on how to pay a fee to unlock their device and files. The costs can range from a few hundred dollars to thousands, payable to the cybercriminal in Bitcoin.

The most common way for ransomware to affect a computer is through phishing emails. These emails pretend to be from real companies - however, they will then link to either a spoof site or download link that puts the ransomware on the machine.

To avoid being a victim of phishing emails, always check who has sent the message. The email address of the sender is quite often the best giveaway - for example, take *henryg@hsbc.com@gmail.com*. In this example the recipient will only see up to hsbc.com, so the address looks real. However, when clicked and expanded, you would see that it's actually from a gmail account of someone pretending to be from hsbc.

The second telltale sign of a phishing email are spelling mistakes and bad grammar. Most phishing emails are from attackers with a lack of proficiency in English. Due to this, emails are usually written quite poorly with strange words, spelling mistakes and grammatical errors.

Our school has not been targeted in the recent cyber attacks. Nonetheless, it is always good practice to stay alert and vigilant at all times when it comes to cybersecurity.







Paintings from year 7 Lockdown Gallery

The students have been looking at the work of the Impressionists, Post impressionists and their influence on David Hockney landscapes. They have looked at the use of realistic and abstract colours and mark-making, the emotional content of the work and have produced a response using whatever materials they have available.

Work is anonymous in case some people do not want to be identified.



