

## Weekly Parent/Guardian Newsletter

Week A

19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

# **School Photos on Monday - students should come to school in correct uniform and bring their best smiles!!**



Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to this week's newsletter. Some important information is repeated for your convenience towards the end of the newsletter, but there is also new content to be read here:-

### **Flu & Covid Vaccinations**

The Kent and Medway Immunisation Team is coming to school next week (Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November) – don't forget to do the [online consent form](#) if you haven't already. **If you wish your child to be included in the vaccination schedule next week, the deadline for completing the consent for the Covid-19 vaccine is Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November and for the Flu vaccine is Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.**

Visit [www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms](http://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms) for more information.

You can also phone the team 0300 123 5205, text 07401320923 or use their [web chat](#) if you have any questions about your child's immunisations.

### **School Photographs 2021**

Photographers will be in school on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November to take individual portraits of the students in years 8-13 (and for any year 7s that missed their photos earlier this academic year). We have booked the services of 'Tempest Photography' and we hope that you will be pleased with the quality of photographs you receive. This year, you will again have the option of ordering and paying for your chosen photographs online.

There will also be the opportunity for sibling groups to be photographed and these will take place before school begins. Students will need to be at the theatre between 08.20 and 08.30 and only those who have returned the online sibling group form (see link below) will be eligible.

<https://forms.gle/fFSyoWr7p2XcnGbx8>

### **Year 8 Virtual Walk**

The students in year 8 as part of their Caring theme this term are taking part in a virtual walk to raise money for Game Rangers International and the Musekese Conservation charities. They are aiming to complete a 990mile collective distance, the length of the River Kafue, and any donations that can be bought in by students will be greatly appreciated.

## Lost Property this week

We have various items, including an Apple type watch (strap hidden in photo so the rightful owner can describe it), an umbrella, a football, water bottles, a box of guitar effectors, keys, jewellery, a pencil tin, a clip-on tie and an odd size 11 Nike shoe/trainer that have been handed in to the office. Please remember to name any items your child brings into school to help us quickly return any lost items. If you recognise any of them, please do contact the office on 01843 864941 to arrange collection as soon as possible.

Many thanks, Office Team



## School Direct Information Evening

Thinking of training to teach?

Primary and secondary School Direct routes into teaching with the East Kent Learning Alliance.

Book your place on our online information evening:

Wednesday 1st December - 6 pm

**BOOK NOW**

<https://www.ekla.org.uk/itt/school-direct>

Thanks, Rachel Rolls

## Some extra curricular clubs to be enjoyed!

The **Manga (Drawing) Club** is run by some Year 12 students in M2 between 13:45 and 14:15 every Thursday.

Everyone is welcome.

The **Homework club** runs every week, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes. All year groups are welcome to come along to N8 at 1.40pm, and a group of sixth formers are on hand to offer help and advice.

## Jazz Music Workshop

The music department is delighted to be able to offer free Jazz Workshops in collaboration with Deal Music and Arts for our jazz musicians at school. The students thoroughly enjoyed taking part and Connie C. in Year 10 has written a lovely account of the day. You can find this on the school website along with a video of the workshop. <http://danecourt.kent.sch.uk/parents8/news6/music/1109-making-music>





## Food Parcels for families in need at Christmas. Please Can You Help?



The Dane Court Challenge ..... Can we fill 50 food parcels with food and some special Christmas treats?  
Please see the list of foods and place your donations in the collection points in your Year Head's Office  
**THANK YOU**



## Suitable Food to Donate for the Food Boxes: Any of these would be great.

Please make sure the food has a long life, e.g. Tins, Dried Food, Jars, Cartons, Packets, Chocolates, Biscuits. Please Do Not include fresh foods that need to be refrigerated. Thankyou



<b>TINS</b> Ham * Sausages * Corned Beef* Stewed Steak * Tuna * Sardines * Pilchards * Salmon * Pate * Crabmeat * Red Kidney Beans * Black Eye Beans * Baked Beans Soup * Tomatoes * Tomato Puree * Sweet Corn * Peas * Carrots * Potatoes * Fruit * Carnation milk * Condensed Milk * Lentils * Pies * Desserts	<b>DRINKS</b> Tea Bags* Loose leaf Tea * Fruit Tea bags * Instant Coffee * Ground Coffee Coffee * Cocoa * Drinking Chocolate * Horlicks * Fruit Juices * Soft Drinks * Cordials * Squash *	<b>JARS</b> Jam * Honey * Marmalade * Vegemite/ Marmite * Nutella * Chutney * Pickled Onions * Red Cabbage * Gherkins * Mince meat *
<b>DRIED FOOD</b> Rice * Pasta * Noodles * Instant Mash Couscous * Fajita Kit * Grains * Lentils Split dried peas * Dried Beans	<b>CHRISTMAS TREATS</b> Christmas Puddings * Selection Boxes * Sweets * Chocolate Bars * Nuts * Dates * Marzipan * Brandy Butter * Cranberry Sauce *	<b>CARTONS</b> UHT milk * UHT Fruit Juice * Custard * Instant long life Desserts e.g. creamed rice, yoghurts, chocolate desserts *
<b>SAUCES, SPICES</b> Pasta Sauces * Curry Sauce * Salsa * Curry Powder * Chilli Powder * Cumin * Cinnamon * Mixed Spice * Mixed dried Herbs * Cook-in-Sauces	<b>PACKETS</b> Cereals * Sugar * Flour * Dried Yeast * Dried Fruit e.g. currants, raisins, sultanas, glace cherries, apricots, prunes, dates * Nuts * Tortillas * Naan Breads * Jelly cubes	<b>NEW BOOKS, TOYS and CRAFT ITEMS</b> Gifts for children   
	<b>CAKES AND BISCUITS</b> Any biscuits * Packaged Cakes * Cake Bars * Christmas Cakes * Tins of biscuits	

## DANE COURT PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Events 2021

### Quiz Night

Dane Court School Theatre  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021



**Tickets: Adults £7.00 Children £3.00**

**Doors open at 7pm quiz starts 7.30pm**

(price includes ploughman's supper- bring your own drinks, glasses provided)

Teams up to 8 persons per table.

To book a table please contact Mrs Lois Gadd (Maths) (Tel (or text) 07968 687415 or Email [gadd@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:gadd@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)) by 4pm on Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Nov  
Charity number 1023394



## **Pupil Premium Students**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

If your child is in Year 7-11, qualifies as pupil premium and has difficulty accessing learning electronically, please email me on [rolls@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:rolls@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) to discuss what can be done to support your child's learning.

Kind regards, Mrs Rolls, Assistant Headteacher

## **Letter from the Secretaries of State for Education and Health**

The Secretary of State for Education and the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care have written a joint letter to parents about the vaccination of children aged 12 to 15 and the importance of continuing with twice-weekly COVID-19 testing and reporting.

The letter provides information on COVID-19 testing and advises that, in response to potential outbreaks, local health teams may advise additional testing and isolation protocols at your school or college.

Alongside the letter are some frequently answered questions for parents, from Dr Mary Ramsay, Head of Immunisation.

## **COVID-19 Asymptomatic Home Testing Guidance**

Thank you for your continued support with Covid-19 home testing.

**Wherever possible, your child should continue testing and reporting results twice a week at home.**

**Reporting results** - Recording all test results helps scientists stay ahead of the virus by spotting new outbreaks quickly and advising how to respond.

**Reporting results is easy.** Go to: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result)

Or call: 119 free from a mobile or landline. Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm. Support is offered in 200 languages as well as British Sign Language and Live Video Assistance.

**All results should be reported, even if your child's result is negative or void.** To help in communicating the importance of testing and reporting, the government has produced a blog on [why reporting your test result is as important as taking a test](#)

**You should also keep a note of the test ID and share your child's results with school using [this link](#)**

### **Universal Testing**

The government is encouraging all adults to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread of coronavirus. You can order tests through the [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests](#) service.

Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 have no symptoms and could be spreading it without knowing. Maintaining a regular habit of testing twice a week, 3-4 days apart, will help stop the virus spreading and keep schools and colleges open to students and staff.

## **Symptomatic COVID-19 Testing**

- Home testing using the LFD tests does not replace testing for those with symptoms.
- If your son/daughter (or anyone in your household) experience [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 they must self-isolate immediately, book a PCR test and follow [national guidelines](#). You will need to inform the school if this is the case.
- Once you have the result of the test please inform us as soon as possible. If the result is negative, you can then stop self-isolating and your son/daughter can return to school if they are well enough. If the result is positive they will need to continue to self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms and follow [national guidelines](#).

If you have any queries regarding testing please contact Carolyn Hobbs, Office Manager.

Please also see attached the Covid-19 Vaccination Parent Information Pack from Kent Community Health NHS Foundation Trust. This has information and links regarding the Covid-19 vaccine.

### **Information shared by KCC**

Dear parent/guardian,

Please find below some information that we have been asked to share with parents by KCC, with some useful advice and contacts within it.

Kind regards, Anita Ives, Pastoral Support Officer

We are reminding all parents and carers of the importance of being vigilant regarding the risks of paracetamol and other medications in the home, that could be accessed by children and young people who are at risk of self-harm. Please be especially mindful of extra stocks of paracetamol and cold and flu relief medication that may have been purchased in response to the pandemic and ensure home supplies are kept at a safe minimum and stored securely in such a way to avoid children and young people coming to harm.

Please be vigilant also regarding identification of any suspicious purchasing of medication including repeat purchases or attempts to purchase larger quantities and attempts to secret or store medication for personal use.

Please NHS 111 your GP and / or care provider or the CAMHS Crisis line number regarding any concerns that you may have regarding the emotional health and wellbeing of your child or young person.

We have included children and young people's Crisis Line Numbers for your information:

Under 18s (children and young people services or children and adolescent mental health services)

For residents of Kent and Medway, you can call the 24hour Single Point of Access (provided by North East London Foundation Trust) on **0800 011 3474** (select option one, then option three).

Thank you,

### **Kooth**

Dear families,

We often recommend "Kooth" to support young people's mental health and wellbeing. If you would like to know more about their service, they are running monthly information sessions for parents and carers.

The link for parents/carers to book a free webinar can be found here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-kooth-parent-carer-information-sessions-tickets-164152609875>

### **Mind and Body - Parent / Carer Information Sessions**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Mind and Body recognise that parents/carers are often left with questions around mental health and may feel unsure how to deal with certain situations. With that in mind, we would like to offer you the opportunity to attend a free online session - 'Supporting Young People that Self-Harm: Information for Parents/Carers.' If you would like to attend then please find further information and book your place by following this link:

[Book a Place.](#)

The aim of our support is to increase your confidence in these areas, as well as providing an opportunity to explore strategies to best support a young person. In the meantime, here is the link to our [Mind and Body in Kent](#) website where you can find further information, as well as specific advice around self-harm for parents/carers which can be accessed [here](#).

If you have any queries with regards the above or require further information, then please do not hesitate to contact our office on 01795 500882 or at [MABadmin@wearewithyou.org.uk](mailto:MABadmin@wearewithyou.org.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you soon, *The Mind and Body Team*

## **Online Safety Advice – Money Mules**

This year there has been a surge in student 'money mules': Criminals are using social media to recruit under-21s for dirty money transfers. The exponential growth has seen the number of students involved triple in the past couple of years alone.



Online criminals are using social media sites like WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram to hire 6th form students as 'money mules' with promises of free cash.

Victims are asked to receive dirty money into their bank accounts and then send it on, keeping a percentage for themselves as profit, thus making it hard to trace and link to crime.

Doing so means they could go to jail for up to 14 years for laundering money. Students are particularly vulnerable due to a lack of awareness of the illegal activity and their desire to make some quick cash.

How to keep young adults safe from 'money mule' criminals;

- Be aware of children talking about a new job working from home and earning more money than their friends, or look out for new expensive items that they've purchased.
- Keep an eye on what cards they have; any new bank cards not known to the family such as a "Monzo" card may be being used for suspicious activity
- Talk to them about the risks of easy money scams. If it seems too good to be true, it usually is.



**Dane Court**  
Grammar School

