



DCGS

CHATTER

WHAT'S INSIDE?



Paying our respects to
HRH Queen Elizabeth
II

From a Prince to a
King: an insight into
the history of King
Charles III namesakes.

Reviews, sport,
Halloween and more



WELCOME BACK

A FLYING START

EDITION 23

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New front & back
cover layout
designed by Joel
Year 12

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Tribute to Queen
Elizabeth II
edition...**



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Words from the Editor



Hello **DCGS Chatter** readers
& welcome to Chatter 23 and the new
school year!

We have, as always, so many delightful articles
within this edition- We hope you have as much
fun reading as we have had putting this edition
together for you.

This edition features commemorations of the
late Queen Elizabeth II and welcoming the new
King Charles III, interesting book and film
reviews and updates on the mysterious item
that has appeared on the school field this
term...

Please enjoy this edition, Perhaps whilst having
a nice bowl of pumpkin soup or a toffee apple.
Stay safe and we will see you all back in school
on **Monday 31st October 2022.**

The Ed



This Editions Chatter Team...

Year 7 Team - Jecca, Abigail, Max, Winter, Eli,
Dot, D'Angelo, Lia, Em, Christopher, Bethan,
Annabel, Stanley

Year 8 Team - Leah, Caitlin, Logan, Molly,
Nikita, Megan,

Year 9 Team - Shannon, Numi, Harry, Sophie,
Aditya, Anezka, Seren

Year 10 Team - George, Hadley, Beatrix, Abigail
M, Abigail V, Sofia, Cameron, Isaac, Faye,
Kerri-Ann, Michaela, Nia, Yash, Niroje, Sofie,
Oliver, Jack

Year 11 Team - Joe

6th Form Team- Skye, Amelie, Issac, Joel,
Gabriela

With a little help from Mrs Finlay, Mrs Cronin,
Mrs Rogers & Miss Purdy



Paying respect to Queen Elizabeth II

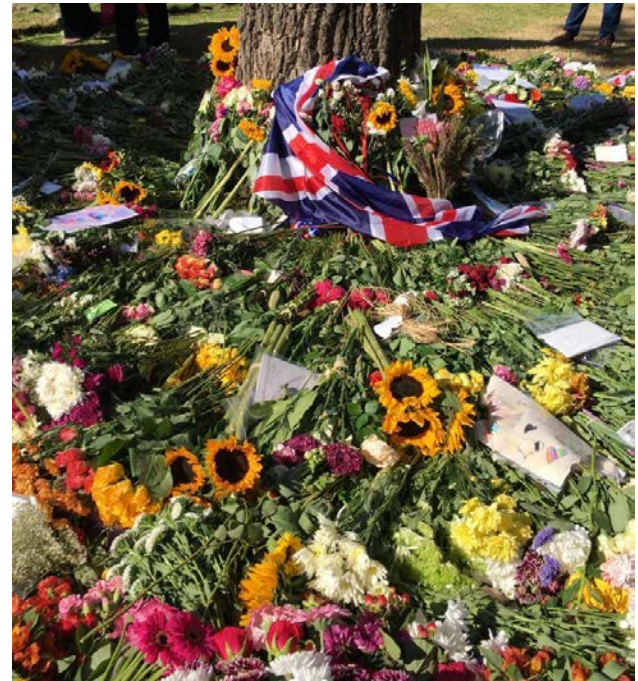
By Niroje & Sofie - Year 10

Her Majesty's Funeral:

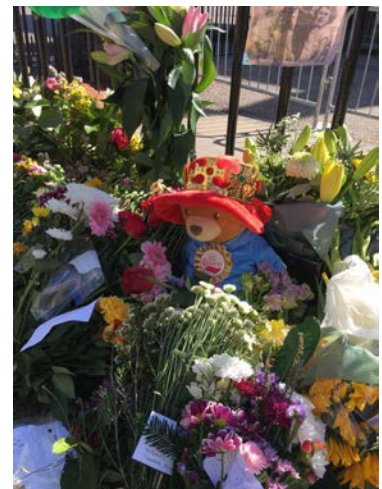
As we know, the queen passed away on the 8th of September. Her death saddened many people and was something that was spread across the news very quickly. Her funeral was held on Monday, 19th September 2022.



Many famous people were spotted there, such as: Bear Grylls, Sandra Oh etc. Although her death seemed sudden and was quite upsetting, we can see this as a new era for the UK. The Queen has done so much for us during her reign of 70 years, and she was able to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee. We hope to overcome this loss with everything else that is happening, and we send our hearts out to the Royal Family who have lost a key figure in their family.



Tributes outside Buckingham Palace and Balmoral





Princess Elizabeth 1926-1952

By Max - Year 7

As we all have probably heard our queen - Queen Elizabeth II died on September 8th 2022 and her oldest son (King Charles III) inherited the throne. I thought it would be nice to remember the queens earlier days when she was known as Princess Elizabeth.



21st April 1926

It's a cloudy Saturday at The Queen consort's parents' house and she is currently giving birth in the back of the house of 17 Bruton Street, London. It's around 3 o'clock and the baby is born. The family go to Buckingham Palace where they are greeted by hundreds of citizens.

1936

Elizabeth's father became king after his older brother, King Edward VIII, stepped down to marry Wallis Simpson. At this point, Elizabeth became heiress presumptive.



1947

The Queen lived through one world war, and five other major wars and disputes during her time as monarch. When World War Two broke out, the future Queen and her sister Princess Margaret were moved out of Buckingham Palace in London to Windsor, while the King and Queen stayed at Buckingham Palace. She was the first female member of the royal family to join the armed forces full-time and she learnt how to drive the vehicles and worked as a mechanic. Victory during the war meant huge celebrations up and down the country and she made it her priority to celebrate with everyone.

The next big milestone in her life age 21 was her engagement to Prince Philip, who she met in 1934 at the wedding of Prince Philip's cousin. She married Prince Philip at Westminster Abbey on November 20, 1947. At the time, the wedding was considered controversial because of Prince Phillip's links to Germany but despite the controversy they remained happily married.

1948-50

Prince Charles, now King Charles III, was born in 1948, and Princess Anne was then born in 1950.

1952

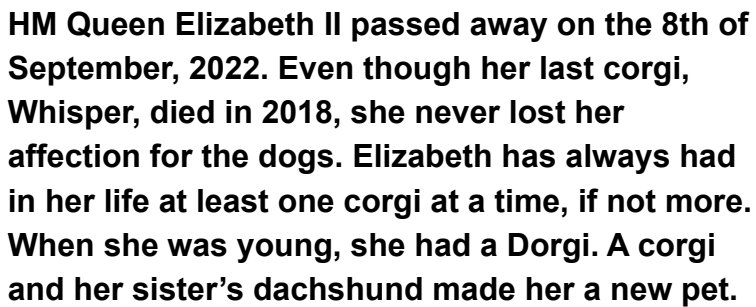
In 1952 the Queen's life changed forever, when the young princess was thrown into a life of duty. Her father, King George VI, died at Sandringham in Norfolk, on February 6, 1952 while Elizabeth was in Kenya. She returned home as Queen Elizabeth II and was coronated at Westminster Abbey on June 2, 1953. It was an event televised across the world for the first time in history, one granted at the Queen's request. The first prime minister she met was Sir Winston Churchill and she would go on to meet and appoint a further 14 during her reign.



2022 - Elizabeth was the longest reigning Monarch and died on 8th September at one of her favourite places: Balmoral Castle, Scotland.



Three Corgi dogs are shown in a row against a white background. The dog on the left is sitting and looking towards the camera with its mouth slightly open. The dog in the middle is lying down, looking towards the camera, and wearing a black bow tie. The dog on the right is lying down, looking towards the camera, and has a black saddle pattern on its back.



1. Many Pembroke Corgis are tailless
2. Corgi means dwarf dog in welsh
3. Corgis live for 12-15 years
4. Corgis are naturally smart and easy to train
5. Corgis are the smallest breed in the herding group



Mrs Rogers helped them to create this lovely word cloud with the results.



IB Learner Profile for the Queen



Team Chatter

Following the death of Queen Elizabeth II many people have commented on how much she was respected for her dedication to her work and the principled and caring nature with which she undertook her duties. Therefore at Team Chatter we have decided to build an IB Learner Profile for The Queen, to explore the ways in which the IB principles can be applied to her reign.

Knowledgeable - Visited 117 countries in her lifetime, and could speak 6 languages!

Inquirer - Queen Elizabeth was always interested in talking to the general public on her public engagements, along with important visitors at official engagements finding out about their lives and opinions on many different matters. Before meeting a new person at the official engagements she would find out about their background and common interests for many conversation starting points.

Caring - Due to post war austerity measures, the queen used clothing ration coupons to buy her material for her wedding dress to marry Prince Philip.

Thinker - Queen Elizabeth was a thinker during the war when she did her first ever radio broadcast, she thought about how other young people of her age were experiencing the war & evacuations could be affecting them and their families.

Communicator - Representing the UK in many contexts throughout her reign

Principled - Following Covid guidance, being an example to the rest of the country even during difficult times e.g. Prince Philip's funeral she was sat on her own and isolated many times during the pandemic.

Open-minded - The Queen was open minded regarding Prince Harry marrying an Actress as he was fifth in line to the throne.

Risk-taker - The Queen volunteered as a truck driver in World War 2- The first female member of the royal family to serve in the military.

Balanced - The Queen had to be balanced with her own personal beliefs and opinions, not letting them get involved in any political decisions made.

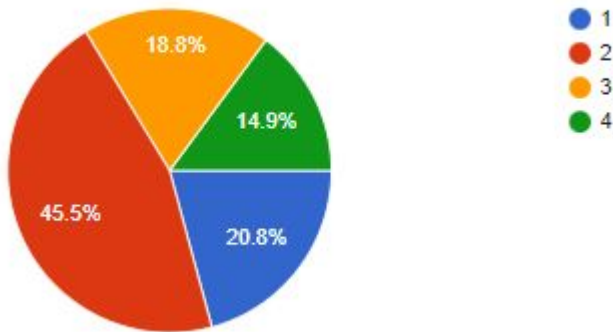
Reflective - Aberfan - The queen didn't visit for 8 days and was criticised, It was said to be one of the biggest regrets of her reign - she reflected on this and subsequently returned numerous times throughout her reign as monarch.

We can all be like Queen Elizabeth by following the school values of being Caring, Open Minded and Principled.



Queen Elizabeth- Jubilee Celebrations Remembered

Whilst thinking about how many Jubilees Queen Elizabeth celebrated, we asked our school community anonymously 'How many Jubilee's they remember celebrating'. Obviously we students make up the majority but our caring staff members from cleaners to SLT also helped with the data from 100 participants.



A quick reminder of how we celebrated the Platinum Jubilee this year

- Jubilee Bake Off Competition
- Jubilee themed Bake Sale to raise funds for The Dogs Trust

Concerts



Street Parties





Starting Dane Court

Advice from a year 9 student



By Shannon

1. Always bring a packed lunch, school queues are so long.
2. ALWAYS HAND IN YOUR HOMEWORK - it never ends well if you don't
3. Bring a spare pen, pencil, notebook/paper because teachers will be happy if you have some paper, especially when you forget your books.
4. Always have your books - teachers like when every student has their book.
5. Make a point of holding doors open for teachers - this isn't just a 'teacher's pet' move, I think most teachers appreciate it.
6. Make sure you bring a pencil case - I know blazer pockets are very useful, but the majority of teachers want you to have a pencil case to keep all your equipment in.
7. Help other students - it seems really simple, but going that extra mile may really help someone, for example: helping them revise on a test.
8. Bring proof you revised for a test - If you fail, most teachers will give you a break if you bring proof of your revision.
9. Focus on your studies - complete your homework on time, revise for exams, and stay away from drama or distractions (Trust me on that one!)
10. Make small friendship groups - having a large group of friends is great and all, but only having a few close friends rather than lots of acquaintances is so much easier.

Dane Court is a great school at helping students with problems, whether they are mental, physical or academic. So don't be afraid to approach a teacher or an older student for help (We aren't *that* bad). Also, Dane Court seems big and scary from the outside but when you find your way and have some friends, it is so much better.



You may have noticed that at the top of this page and some others in this edition there is an IB profile symbol. As an IB school we want to show throughout everything that we do that we follow the principles of the IB. We shall be choosing 3-4 articles each edition that demonstrate our values.

For example, this one has 'Caring' circled as this article demonstrates we are working within the IB learner profile of being caring individuals.



Starting GCSE's

By Bea - Year 10

This year, I'm in year 10, and therefore starting GCSEs. As this is a big step in my education, I decided to write about the options process and to interview my friends on their feelings about this scary yet exciting change.

Towards the end of year nine, each student in my year was sent a Google form by the school about what subjects we would like to study for GCSEs. We have to do English, Maths, a language, double or triple science and then three other subjects of our choice. I chose music, drama, art and French. Once we had filled out the form, we sent it out and had to hope and pray we got the subjects we wanted. You were guaranteed your top two options but had to have a fourth option if we didn't get our third choice. A few months later, in mentoring, our mentors read out what subjects each student will get to be studying. Thankfully, I got to study my top three choices: music, art and drama. By having everyone study different subjects to each other, it means that classes will be mixed up, so we get to meet new people and make new friends. Now, it's time for the interviews:

Cameron

What are you most excited about starting GCSEs?

I'm looking forward to learning a variety of subjects at a more advanced level.

Are you worried or nervous about GCSEs?

I don't like to think about the things that worry me and instead focus on the subjects I enjoy.

What subjects are you looking forward to learning about at a higher level?

All the subjects!

When it comes to revising, what method of revision will be most effective for you?

I didn't revise in year 7,8 and 9, but now I am going to try and use flashcards as I think they'll be effective.

Do your chosen subjects relate to what you want to do in the future?

Yes, the course for biomedical engineering requires maths, and one science, which, believe it or not, I'm doing maths and triple science.



Starting GCSEs continued

Niroje

What are you most excited about starting GCSEs?

I'm excited to start learning more in depth about my favourite subjects.

Are you worried or nervous about GCSEs?

Yes, I'm worried about scheduling and timing my revision sessions.

What subject are you looking forward to learning about at a higher level and why?

Geography because I want to learn more about the world I'm living in and how the environment is changing.

When it comes to revising, what method of revision will be most effective for you?

Looking over my notes everyday after school and making sure I have retained all of the information I have learned

Do your chosen subjects relate to what you want to do in the future?

Yes, I want to be a dentist so I chose triple science so I have all the information to do that.

Sofie

What are you most excited about starting GCSEs?

Being able to have freedom of choosing what lessons I have?

Are you worried or nervous about GCSEs?

There are lots of changes and lots is expected of you which makes me wish I could have a break again.

What subject are you looking forward to learning about at a higher level and why?

Philosophy because it grants me further understanding of other communities and religions

When it comes to revising, what method of revision will be most effective for you?

Personally, I think flashcards and online quizzes will help me the most.

Do your chosen subjects relate to what you want to do in the future?

Yes, I chose to do art and triple science because I would love to be an architect when I'm older.

Oliver

What are you most excited about starting GCSEs?

Starting to learn computing as I've never done it before.

Are you worried or nervous about starting GCSEs?

Not really.

What subjects are you looking forward to learning about at a higher level?

Computing and food tech because they're things I enjoy doing a lot.

When it comes to revising, what method of revision will be most effective for you?

I read over my notes that I make in class and then I get my parents to quiz me.

Do your chosen subjects relate to what you want to do in the future?

Yes because I want to become a games designer in the future and computing is very important in that.



The Origins of King Charles

Various students on the Chatter team wanted to research who the new king was and what was know about him. As a public figure who has featured in our lives for so long as a Prince they realised that perhaps many people didn't know too much about him. Here is what they discovered.....

By Isaac - Year 12

With the recent accession of King Charles the Third to the throne, it's apt that we explore his forebears... on the origins of Charles:

King Charles I (1625-1649)

The infamous monarch whose high taxes infuriated parliament leading to his invasion of the House of Commons followed by one of the most destructive wars in British history. This ultimately resulted in him losing his head. Both in the figurative sense that he'd acted in an unsensible way... and also in the sense that he was decapitated as a "cruel necessity" by Cromwell.

King Charles II (1660-1685)

Following his father's beheading, the young Prince escaped to France where he learnt of and emulated the lifestyle of King Louis XIV. Following the restoration of the monarchy, the well loved Charles engaged in a lascivious, libertine lifestyle- with an abundance of affairs, illegitimate children and drunken parties which he is perhaps best known for reintroducing to England.

King Charles III (n/a)

"Bonnie Prince Charlie" or "the young Pretender" as he's otherwise known- was the great grandson of Charles I and thus the Scottish claimant to the British throne: the throne which passed instead to the distant relative George I. Under the reign of George II, the young pretender launched a massively popular rebellion in the Highlands of Scotland, declaring himself King Charles III. This rebellion ended up conquering as far South as York before being smashed by King George's forces at Culloden. Although he was defeated, he remained a national hero in Scotland. He died ignominiously in Italy in 1788, King Charles 3... sort of.

King Charles III (2022-)

Our new king had to make the conscious decision to keep his name as Charles- rather than Change it, as he had the option to- and in doing so hearkens back to the Charleses of old; those who were beheaded, those who were salacious and those who were rebellious. He was well aware of the implications of choosing his own name- especially at a time when Scottish independence is more popular than ever and when he might be perceived as taking the name of a historic Scottish figure- and he has an opportunity to define the name for himself also: so how will King Charles one day be remembered?



King Charles III

By Cameron - Year 10

With the recent passing of Queen Elizabeth II, our country lies in the hands of our new monarch, King Charles III. He was born on the 14th November 1948 and acceded the throne on 8 September when HM the Queen passed away. Charles III was the longest serving heir apparent in British history, and at 73 years old is the oldest monarch at time of ascension. He was the first child of Elizabeth and Phillip, and was the first grandchild of George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. When Charles was 3, King George VI died, and his mother ascended, making him heir apparent. For 5 years, Charles served in the air force and navy of Britain (1971-1986) and in 1981, he married Princess Diana, and they had two children, Prince Henry (or Prince Harry) and Prince William (now heir apparent). However, in 1996, they divorced, and agreed to both see other people. One year after, Princess Diana died in an accident while trying to avoid the press. However, many people blame Charles. In 2005, Charles married Camilla, now queen consort. Charles is a supporter of over 400 charities and he has conserved a large amount of historical infrastructure. An author or co-author of over 20 books, he took his seat in the House of Lords in 1970. Despite his life as prince, and his honourable deeds, King is a great step up and we can only see how it unfolds for Charles III. I personally have high hopes and high beliefs that he can take on the role of monarch just as his late mother did and help the country along with its government to improve.

Chatter & the King's Proclamation

It may seem a while ago now that King Charles III was proclaimed King (8th September 2022), some people watched, others didn't but here is what the Chatter team remember from the event where the King acceded to the throne of the UK and other Commonwealth realms:

- **William wrote his signature with his left hand. As everyone signing was using actual ink, he would've smudged the ink; I think that's why his signature was so small.**
- **Even people on the BBC would accidentally say 'Queen' instead of 'King'.**
- **I remember all of the politicians, bishops and other VIP's were there watching.**
- **I remember that they had to keep saying 'I agree' and it was so funny to hear them say it over and over.**
- **All the Prime Ministers from past and present were there, as well as Liz Truss who had been in office for only 5 days.**





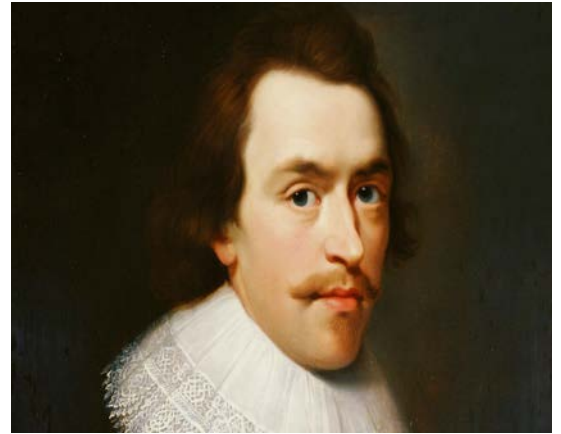
Previous King Charles' a Good or Bad Omen?

By Joe - Year 11

As King Charles III ascends the throne, it's time to take a brief look back to previous King Charles', to see if their histories are a good or bad omen for the future of Charles III's reign.

Charles I

Crowned in 1625, the controversial King Charles I took a backwards approach to ruling. Believing in the divine right of kings, he tried to assert absolute control over his country, and was denounced by many as a tyrannical dictator. His transgressions caused the English Civil War, where he was captured and executed for high treason in 1649. Following his death, the monarchy was abolished and the Commonwealth of England was established. It was not until 1660 that King Charles II would come out of hiding to restore the monarchy.



Charles II

After his defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651, Charles II spent nine years in exile in France, before he was invited to take the throne after English Dictator Oliver Cromwell's death in 1658. He was crowned in 1660. Considered one of England's most popular kings. Charles is sometimes referred to as the "Merry Monarch" due to the liveliness of his royal court. Leaving no legitimate children, Charles' reign was succeeded by his brother James in 1685.



Good or Bad Omen?

Considering the drastic improvement from King Charles I to King Charles II, you would be safe to say that the future of King Charles III's reign could only be positive! Despite this being completely speculation, we are holding out hope that King Charles III's reign will be a positive one.





Coronation Chicken

By Jecca - Year 7

Coronation chicken was made especially for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation banquet in 1953 (when she was coronated). The lucky chef who had the task of making the dish was at Le Cordon Bleu's cookery school and the student who perfected it was only 19 years old at the time. Her name was Angela Wood.

Ingredients:

- 2 diced chicken breasts
- 1 cup of Mayo
- 2 teaspoons of curry powder
- 1 and a half teaspoons of turmeric powder
- ¼ cup of mango chutney
- The juice of 1 lemon
- A pinch of salt
- Grind of pepper
- Currants are optional



Delicious topped on a jacket potato with salad or if you're like me in a lightly toasted roll.

Method:

- 1) Grill your chicken breasts in a non-stick frying pan remembering to turn occasionally .
- 2) Once the chicken has cooked, set aside and leave to cool.
- 3) In a mixing bowl mix together the mayonnaise, mango chutney, curry powder, turmeric powder, salt and pepper. You can add more of any of these ingredients to make it to your taste.
- 4) Mix in the cooled chicken and you're done!



Fun Fact: The Queen had her coronation chicken without sultanas



New Cabinet = A Mini Budget

Correct at time of writing: beginning of October 2022

Mr Politics - George - Year 10

The now former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng, announced a mini-budget on the 23rd of September 2022. He was expected to announce measures for supporting people through the cost of living crisis, in a time of economic recession and high inflation. But the measures announced are troubling. "Mini" is a prefix in this instance because the annual budget will take place in late October. It also must be noted that the full budget should have been in November, but due to the urgency of the current economic situation, it has been rescheduled.

The main component of the mini-budget was the government's 'Energy price guarantee'; this measure means the price per unit of electricity and gas will be frozen from 1st October for two years, the government says. But there will not be a cap on energy bills at £2,500, as Lizz Truss has falsely claimed during radio interviews, the figure is instead an expectation of how much 'typical' households will pay. This policy prevents the expected rise of the energy price cap to £3,549 for an average household, which was an 80% increase in the energy price cap planned by Ofgem to be introduced in October. However, as the National Institute for Economic and Social Research highlighted, the policy is a general subsidy for all households, and therefore fails to provide targeted assistance for those most in need. Additionally, the government reports the price guarantee will cost £60bn for the first six months, but industry analysis suggests the total cost could be £130bn – £150bn.

Another significant component of the mini-budget were the tax cuts announced. In terms of income tax, the basic rate of income tax will be cut to 19p per £1 (19%) from April 2023. This is moving forward by a year, a plan originally announced by Rishi Sunak in the Spring of this year when he was Chancellor. Kwasi Kwarteng has now recently u-turned on a previously planned tax cut; the abolition of the 45% higher rate of income tax, paid by those earning over £150,000. Additionally, the national insurance rise will be reversed from 6th November. With the introduction of the new Health and Social Care Levy not going ahead.

Treasury Secretary, Chris Philip, commented that the previous commitment made by Rishi Sunak and Boris Johnson to increase benefits in line with inflation was "under consideration". This speculation, on what is a lifeline for many, evidently creates a worry for the future of universal credit, which is already in a dire situation after being another victim of the Conservative's austerity economic policy. This worry is further exacerbated by the introduction of new changes to the rules around benefits, as announced by Kwasi Kwarteng. He said that households relying on universal credit may find it more difficult to claim universal credit if they don't take "active steps" to find work. These changes will impact around 120,000 people, who if earning less than the equivalent of 15 hours a week at the National Living Wage will be required to meet their work coach regularly. Failing to do this, the government has warned benefits could be reduced, but it hopes this warning will incentivise people to enter the labour market, having a positive effect on the economy.

The government's borrowing is now set to reach £190bn, which is 7.5% of national income, making it the third-highest peak in borrowing since the second world war. But when the announced tax cuts cost £45bn a year, it must be considered if they are at all necessary or sensible.

In his response to the mini-budget, the Director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS), Paul Johnson, in my opinion, gave a perfect summary. "Today, the Chancellor announced the biggest package of tax cuts in 50 years without even a semblance of an effort to make the public finance numbers add up. Instead, the plan seems to be to borrow large sums at increasingly expensive rates, put government debt on an unsustainable rising path, and hope that we get better growth ... Mr Kwarteng has shown himself willing to gamble with fiscal sustainability in order to push through these huge tax cuts. He is willing to shrug off the risks of inflation, and to invite significantly higher interest rates ... Mr Kwarteng is not just gambling on a new strategy, he is betting the house."



Current Affairs Poetry Competition

On October 6, it was National Poetry Day. To help celebrate, we held a Chatter poetry competition with the theme of 'current affairs'. The standard of entries was incredible high so it made judging very difficult. The winner received a £15 Amazon Voucher and the runner up another prize.

Well done to all those who entered, and thank you to our judge Ms Haslam. Here are the two prize winning entries:

Decline

by Nia, Year 10 - First Prize

Creeping.

Climb, scale and soar.

*Hardly noticeable until the tally
accumulates to sacrifice,
numbing chill: scarcity.*

*Headlines fueling fascination;
food, bills, price, unease
of a nation, impending question,
pinch, nick, snare, seize.*

*Excessive expansion overwhelms
the pocket of worthless
coins to pay, the next percentage,
a pernicious rhythm.*

*Abstract answers ensue,
feeble excuses entwined with
insistence and chaos.
Mercenary resolution*

*With the fractured masses dismissed.
Ration , cupboards empty.
Freeze, fingers numb.
Darkness, won't the lights turn on?*



Current Affairs Poetry Competition

Why are we all doing this?

by Nikita, Year 8 - Runner up

Putin invading Ukraine without a reason,
The USA suffering crimes of treason,
The cost of living rapidly increasing,
People's paychecks swiftly decreasing,

Hurricane Ian destroyed South America with all its power,
Rainforests and wildlife suffering devour,
Greta Thunberg fighting climate change,
Thousands of people protesting on the cost of living price range-
But **"Why are we all doing this?"**

Liz Truss misleading our country,
The conference with the most votes in the Labour Party,
Millions say goodbye to the Queen passing away,
The King's coronation happening on Prince Archie's birthday.

Women and men all over the world standing with women in Iran,
Farmers starting flockdown for the birds on their farms,
Robbie Coltrane being remembered as "Big Friendly Giant",
The 1 year anniversary of the murder of Sir David Amess, a big suppliant,
And still **"Why are we all doing this?"**

Africa and Australia going through serious droughts,
British citizens who voted for Liz Truss left in doubt,
Islands all over New Zealand left puzzled by mysteries of 500
whales dead in the ocean sea,
Kent suffering endangerment of honeybees.

As a world we need to do better,
From what we are doing you cannot be a forgetter,
We have to stop letting animals suffer because of our actions,
We are running out of time and it's coming down to every
minute counts

Just think about this, half of our species will be extinct by 2030,
But at the moment we need to improve on being sturdy.

Just remember **"Why are we all doing this?"**



Achievements

Amazing achievement for former DCGS student James

James Barker, Mrs Barker's son, an ex DC student and all round amazing young man, completed the London Marathon on Sunday in 3 hours and 45 minutes!

Very impressive, I hear you cry, but earlier this year James was diagnosed with a grade 4 diffused midline glioma. In the time he has been training for the marathon he has undergone intensive treatment for his condition, which will have left him weak at times, but overcame all of this to fulfil this amazing success!!!

He has raised an incredible £18,000 so far but would love to reach his £20,000 target for the Teenage Cancer Trust, a charity that has helped him and thousands of other young people.

Team Chatter and the rest of the community at Dane Court wish to congratulate James on this amazing achievement and wish him luck with reaching his fundraising target.

If you are in a position to help James hit his target for this very worthy charity, the link is below to his Just Giving page,

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/James-Barker57?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=James-Barker57&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=365a21fb1e2a471fbc54aa0a447ce5b6

Top scout award for Oliver- Year 10



This year scouting has made its way back closer to how it was before the Covid pandemic hit. One of the largest scouting events in a while happened this year, the Kent international jamboree.

This event was huge with over 5000 scouts taking part, including many scouts from countries such as Portugal, Ukraine and Ireland. At this event there were many activities like go karts, rifle shooting and paintballing. As well as this there was also a huge music festival at the opening and closing ceremony.

This year I also achieved one of my greatest awards ever in scouting. I won a Kent scouts award, the young person of the year award. I was very excited with this as I have been in scouting for over 6 years now and in this time I have put a lot of effort into everything I have done in scouting. I have also done a lot of work in my own free time and have earned a lot of badges. This is a very exciting achievement as I won this out of every scout in Kent so it is quite impressive to get nominated for the award let alone win it.



Golfing success for Year 10 Student Jack...



As September starts, the main part of my season has finished. A lot of miles, in the car and on the course, here is a recap of where I have been and how I played.

My first competition was the Scottish U18's in Murcar, Aberdeen. With the practice round wiped out to snow and 40mph winds, I made the cut with a 71 and played 36 holes with the eventual winner on the final day. I played really well and controlled my ball really well in the wind, the experience from Foreland in the winter was invaluable. I finished 13th in a really strong and much older field.

I took plenty of confidence to Hawkstone Park the following week for the Midlands U16's. I had a bad start and was 4 over after 8 holes but parred the last 10 and then finished birdie, birdie in the afternoon to shoot level par. I then shot 4 under in the last round to move into 11th.

My next tournament was the South East Junior Championship at Wokefield Park. After a great round in the morning, another 4 under par score, I was 2 clear. The thunder and lightning and torrential rain forced the afternoon round to be cancelled so I was champion. To have my name on the trophy with players such as Ken Brown, Luke Donald and North Foreland's Andy Briscoe. North Foreland held the Kent Amateur tournament this year. It was highly rated by the top players in the county. Lots of my friends played practice rounds on days when there was no wind and thought it was easy. None of them broke 80 in either round as the wind really picked up. I finished 10th in the stroke play and lost on 19th in the match play round of 16. I'd like to thank everyone that helped organise, work and volunteer for the event and those that gave up their time to walk round and ball spot.

I had to miss the defence of my club championship due to playing in the Henry Cooper masters, a national tournament for under 18's. I had 2 solid rounds to make the cut and 2 average rounds to finish 33rd.

I was then off to Woodhall Spa for another u18's tournament. My first missed cut of the year, I had a steady first round but with only top 40 making the cut I made a few bogeys on the closing holes chasing birdies on the back 9 in the 2nd round. The Kent U18 manager chose me to be part of their 6-man event for qualifying for the county boy's tournament. 11 counties from the South East region playing for 1 spot in the final. The format was best 5 scores from 6 in the morning and then again in the afternoon contributing to an aggregate score. A disappointing start including back to back treble bogeys I was 9 over after 8 holes but I used the back 9 to refocus for the afternoon. I parred the last 10 holes and then shot level par in the afternoon, only 1 player had a better score all day. It went to a countback with Suffolk and the sixth score from morning and afternoon was used and Kent won. I was pleased with my mental game as I recovered from a tough start to see both my scores count towards our team score.

Back to Scotland for their U16's tournament and back to bobble hats and umbrellas. It was nice to see some green grass. I had 2, 74's to make the cut and 75 in the third and final round for a slightly disappointing 38th place. The course didn't suit my eye and this is an area to overcome next season.

My main event for the season was the McGregor, English U16's at Sherwood Forest. A solid 1 over, 72 in the 1st round, average 75 in windier conditions to make the cut to play 36 the last day. 76 was disappointing in the morning but I had the best round of the day, 2 under, 69 to finish 9th. I've still got one more year in this Event.

The following week was the England U18's tournament at Silloth in Cumbria. Whilst everyone in Kent was suffering the 40 degrees heat, we had mid 20's and high winds, I had a mixed bag 1st round with 2 eagles, 2 birdies and 6 bogeys but a poor 2nd round to miss the cut by 2.

Back to Scotland for the British Boys Amateur at Panmure, Monifieth and the match play at Carnoustie for the top 64. A quality field of 252 from all over Europe. I played the tougher course in the tougher conditions on day 1 and shot 7 over. A good round of level par on the 2nd day meant I missed the cut by 3 but positives to take and I was the one of the youngest players in the field and have 3 more years for this event.

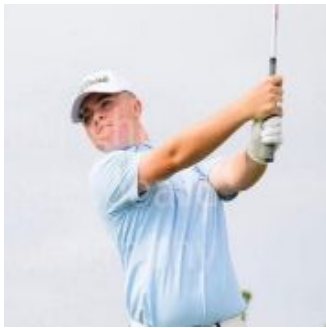


Sports News

Jack's Golfing success continued



The lowest point of the summer was my next event, the North of England U16 at Heswall. The way I had been playing I was looking to contend but I didn't have good practice rounds and couldn't find a swing on the range. I struggled to 2 scores of 7 over and missed the cut. I was meant to travel straight to Barrow for the county finals team event that Kent qualified for and an extra practice round but after a phone call to Darren Parris I travelled home for an emergency coaching session. It was 500-mile round trip home on Friday, lesson Saturday morning and drive back Saturday evening. Big thanks to Darren for fitting me in and restoring my confidence and something that will help me to solve my own issues in the future



The county finals were an amazing experience, Kent Leicester Yorkshire and Gloucester all playing each other foursomes and singles on a round Robin over three days. We beat Yorkshire to lead after day 1, had an exhibition of putting from Gloucestershire to lose narrowly on day 2 to set up an 'any team can win' on the final day. Unfortunately, we lost all 3 foursomes and then I played singles against England U18 player Fraser Jones. I hit every fairway, missed one green hit it closer than him four times and was 1 over for 11 holes and lost 8&7. He missed two putts. Tough game at times but a great opportunity.

DCGS have a great start to the football season

Our senior boys football team overcame a tough battle against Chatham House for their first win of the season taking a 2-1 victory on Wednesday 28th September.

Our year 9 and 10 boys both came out successful in their 1st round of the u14 Wilf Armory Trophy and u15 Portex Trophy comfortably winning 5-0 and 7-0 respectively and are looking forward to round 2 this week.

On Wednesday 5th October the year 7 girls achieved their first win against Charles Dickens with the game finishing 2-1 to Dane Court.

The year 10/11 girls team are looking forward to their 3rd round tie against either Sir Roger Manwoods or Chatham House in the u16 girls competition after half term.



Chatter Fundraising

By Abigail M - Year 10

There are four charities that have been selected by Team Chatter to fundraise for this school year. All profits will be split equally between the following charities.

Oasis Thanet supports adults, children and young people in East Kent, Medway & North Kent who have been affected by domestic abuse. In 2020-21 Oasis helped 785 people, 622 adults and 163 children. They have a range of different services, from charity shops, to refuge and safe accommodation, to counselling and mentoring. Visit their website at www.oasisdasevice.org



Romania International Children's Foundation or **RICF** is a charity which aims to reduce child abandonment, and which offers abandoned or orphaned children a chance to live in a loving family. RICF's core values are:

- The belief that children belong in loving families
- Protection from harm
- Child centered care
- Integrity and justice
- Unity and diversity
- Striving for excellence



RICF has also provided a temporary home for people fleeing the war in Ukraine. Every penny donated to RICF goes to Romania as costs are covered personally by the trustees. Visit their website at www.ricf.net

Kent Green Action is a campaign run by Kent County Council. Its plans are based around three main aims:



- Connect with nature
- Protect our local environment
- Enhance your environment.

Kent Green Action seeks to inspire others to do what they can to protect the environment. Visit their website at www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/kent-green-action

Thanet Animal Group Pet Rescue cares for and re-homes pets. They rely on donations and income from their shops to keep the centre open, and they were founded in 1988. TAG was founded by Debbie Channing and Chris Kiddell, who heard about the overwhelming of rescue centers and decided to help. TAG started as a group caring for animals in their homes, and the first Thanet pet rescue center was formed in 2002. Visit their website at www.tagpetrescue.org.uk



Chatters Fundraiser for term 1 was a 'How Many Sweets In The Jar' competition, to go with the fast approaching Halloween at the end of the month. There were two jars to win and students had a chance to guess the amount of sweets in each jar at 30p a guess or 50p for two guesses. The total amount of money raised was £32.10, and the competition as a whole was a great start to the fundraising for Charity this year.



Our next fundraiser will be held on 29th November and will be a creative stall, selling lots of interesting creative gifts & ideas perfect for Christmas, all made by staff and students at Dane Court.





Murder Mystery

By Michaela - Year 10

Dense, mossy foliage invasively adorning the abandoned abode, slowly creeping up old crumbling bricks, each piece of ivy successfully coiled around the building slithering into each crack and crevice, serpentine perched awaiting the eventual dust the bricks would deteriorate into. An insidious storm crawled closer, clawing itself over the horizon where the sun had long fallen into the abyss below, leaving only the pearlescent moon in the ocean of constellations - celestial titans apathetically gazing down. Winds whipping violently lashing the greenery till it writhed under its unrelenting wrath. The previously gentle and peaceful breeze, once belonging to the cerulean dome above decorated with ethereal wisps of ivory joined together to complement the heavens above, twisting morphing becoming enraged. Howling through fields painted with emerald green it roared, like an uncaged beast unleashing its tempestuous might upon the terrain below.

The interior of the ostentatious manor, its grandeur undiminished by the ivy encasing it, although calmer than the raging storm circling outside, was blanketed by a tense, austere atmosphere. Candles littered around, to exile the darkness from where it threatened to swallow the house whole, did nothing to alleviate the pervasive icy chill suffocating the home from the chain of events earlier. The warm glow the candles cast up the wooden stairs that creaked in protest, perhaps warning against ascending, barely illuminated the path upwards. Stairs that contorted and branched out in every direction synthesising a labyrinth, one where dead ends were plentiful and a turn in the wrong direction spelt tragedy. Following the light and shadows the candles enchanted the walls with, following the glow as if under an incantation almost like a string was guiding, intertwining itself with poor souls who, unable to resist, had ventured into the abode found themselves led to a room at the end of a unending hall. A looming mahogany barrier separated the hall from the mystery within. If you could see through the crack in the door you would see a relatively small room. Shelves upon shelves precariously stacked with books and papers in organised chaos. Books covered in evidence of their age, wrinkles running up and down the spine, pages faded- bold print once clear and inky black faded to charcoal grey, a couple letters lost to time, words vanished by the past now indecipherable to the present.

Sitting in the middle of the room was a desk. Stationary scattered on its surface defying the order one would assume it to have, an unfinished document left blank- unblemished by the ink that has split nearby. Ink that spread like a parasite across the desk leaving an ocean of midnight that remained uninterrupted, still, as if it was content to lie and accept its fate to be left untouched. The pitch-black dripped from the saturated desk, spilling like an overflowing sink. Ink descending like tears or drops of water from an uncontrollable waterfall. But the ink didn't fall onto the carpet, never staining it so it couldn't be removed, instead it trickled onto the puddles of crimson and scarlet that lay below. Amalgamating into a tainted maroon. The streams of vermillion emerged from perhaps the most notable thing in the room.

The corpse.

Apart from the obvious trails of red indicating the deceased nature of the corpse, he might as well have been in a coma, frozen and preserved so time could not taint him with her unforgiving hands that promised no mercy or solace from the plights his life had placed upon him. A ornately decorated knife with silver snakes slithering up the metallic handle pierced through layers of lavish clothing and flesh. The body impaled on the knife lay limp, eyes open but unseeing. The world that surrounded him reflected in clear pupils, perhaps the last thing he saw was the face of the one who declared life was no longer his venture to claim, seeing the sinister intentions of someone he had before been blind to, ominous motives and actions subtly carried out away from his unsuspecting gaze. Perhaps the relationship had been corrupted by a desire that festered like a fungus.

Perhaps it was purely malevolent. Perhaps we shall never know and the four walls that watched this tale unfold will keep their secrecy and leave us with unanswered questions ; justice that we'll never be able to seek.

Maybe these are the thoughts of the four people who surrounded the corpse as they looked at each other with shock and horror, each barely grasping onto their own secrets they had suppressed in the past, now confronted with a nebulous future, full of ambiguity. Masks they had held in front of their faces for so long began to crack and take on a more diaphanous nature, soon to slip to the floor and shatter. Emotions rippling across their real faces faster than the lightning and thunder crackling in the distance, glee, horror, greed for a vengeance finally satiated. Each flickered too fast for the naked eye to capture. Everyone in the room knew of their guilt that haunted them, a ghost not yet satisfied till the truth was incorporated into this tale. Each one aware or unaware of the spider web that tangled them all together, spun by their own hands.

Downstairs, past the passages and tapestries of secrets, the wind howled outside. However this time it was not out of anguish or anger instead a greeting welcoming the retribution that graced the ivy covered door.

The doorbell sharply rang at the same time as of the telephone each ring of both echoed in harmony to some it sounded like a beautiful symphony that presented the closing of this tale for others it played like a cacophony each ring bringing them closer to the secrets and skeletons they had too long left in the cupboard unforgotten and symbolised the start of a new tale that they would not like any more than the one you've read.



The New Observatory



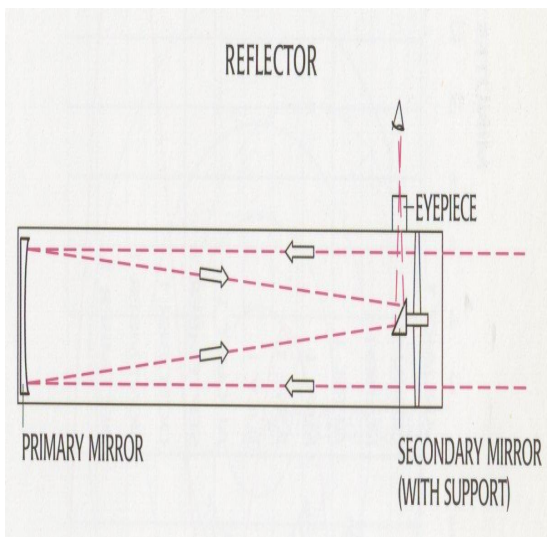
By Isaac & Cameron - Year 10



We have had an amazing opportunity to interview a few specialists on the observatory and telescope on our school field. We found out some amazing information and history about the telescope and Mr Fricker, the head of physics has told us how the telescope will be used by the school.

To begin, we discovered that the type of telescope is a type called a Newtonian reflector, which means the light rays, which after travelling through space, are essentially parallel and are reflected from a parabolic (curved) mirror, or the primary mirror to a smaller diagonal mirror, or the secondary mirror, which shines the rays to the eyepiece. At the eyepiece the image is magnified. In fact, the telescope acts as one massive eye. The larger the diameter of the lens and mirrors, the more light is able to pass through, meaning that you are able to view a larger image. The primary mirror's diameter in our telescope at school is 11-12 inches, so lets quite a lot of light in. Due to the telescope being a Newtonian reflector, the image will come out flipped.

Due to certain stars and constellations being hard to find, the telescope is fitted with motors which will angle the telescope towards constellations, stars and space objects allowing them to be easily found and observed.



The observatory's history is very interesting. It was originally used by Monkton Nature Reserve. After a new building was started to be built, it was through a chance meeting that one of our science teachers talked to one of the observatory specialists, and the observatory and telescope ended up at Dane Court.

How far we can see with the telescope:
We should be able to see the Andromeda galaxy, betelgeuse and other distant galaxies and stars.





DCGS Careers Fair

The Exhibition Careers Fair 2022 was a tremendous success, which brought the school community together to explore the amazing opportunities available to all students when they leave school. A lot of work was put into organising this event by our partners at Education Business Partnership - however, it would not have been so fantastic had it not been for the preparation that students put in during their mentoring sessions, and the positive and open-minded attitude that students brought to the fair. Exhibitors, EBP and Dane Court staff were so complimentary about the willingness of students to get involved and ask pertinent questions, which really demonstrated strong aspirations and young people who are thinking about their bright futures.

This was the start of our whole school careers programme for 2022/23, so there is more to come! If there is a career or pathway you would like to find out more about, please let me know.

Mrs. Linton
Careers Leader





Careers Fair Continued

Student Feedback

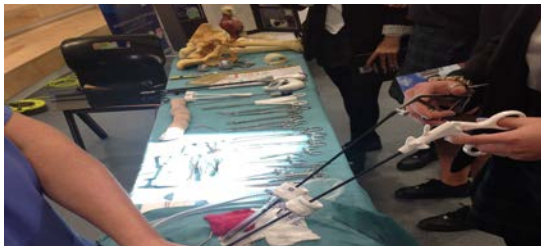


Year 8s said...

- "I liked how detailed the explanation was and how they told us what sort of thing they offer and how they do their job."
- "I liked how you could interact with the job and compete in activities."

Year 9s said...

- "I did have an idea of what I wanted to do, and the careers fair helped me gain a larger variety of paths to take for my chosen option."
- "I loved how it was so informative and interactive - also, we got free stuff!"
- "I liked the booklet handouts but was sad that there wasn't much stuff to do with acting."



Year 10s said...

- "I looked at a professional illustration stall as I have always wanted to do something creative when I'm older and it got me really inspired to follow my passions."
- "I spoke to the police - the man wasn't very helpful but the woman was."
- "The professional illustrator I spoke to was super nice, he gave me advice and resources for improving my art and told me how I can move forward with it."

A Year 11 said...

- "I enjoyed the wide range of stalls as there was a lot to pick from."





Musical & Drama Show Reviews

By Annabel - Year 7

Dear Evan Hansen:

The smash hit Dear Evan Hansen closed the west end to move its tour to New York city. An emotional goodbye to The Noel Coward Theatre stated that they were honoured to house Dear Evan Hansen at their theatre. The incredible cast produced songs such as You will be found and For Ever. I was honoured to be a part of the audience on closing night as the director appeared on stage to perform a speech. He stated that he, the cast, crew and musical team were honoured to perform.



Wicked:

The phenomenal musical Wicked left everyone defying gravity. All the cast were incredible singers, dancers and actors. Both women who played Glinda and Elphaba were two of the best actresses London had ever seen. All the ensemble cast were as incredible as both actresses who played Glinda and Elphaba.

Local productions and films:

Christmas with the King:

This film is a local film which is going to stream on Netflix November 2023. This film is about an African community ravished by war. Children are sent to a home in the mountains where they are abused by a mother and son duo. Two of the children run away which leads to some others running away. One of the children find the queen that rules the land with the king. She takes the remaining children home to the palace where they have an incredible Christmas.



Grease:

Dane Court Grammar School are proud to announce that Grease is going to be their summer musical. The cast is yet to be announced.



Snow white and the Seven Dwarfs

Act 1 theatre company are proud to announce that Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs will be their Christmas pantomime. Shows will run from the 15th-17th of December.



Canal Holiday Review by Megan- Year 8

Canal boat holidays' Canal boat holidays take you into a different world. As soon as you step on the boat, the adventure begins! It takes you past flocks of ducklings, geese, herons, and other river birds, not to mention all of the beautiful scenery. You experience the life of a sailor, as either a skipper, the captain of the ship, steering it through all weather conditions, or as crewmates,

winding up and down the locks, opening gates for the boat to pass through and helping moor the ship up for the night. You can sleep in cabins and cook meals in the galley. If you're lucky, you could come across boat shops that sell all kinds of goods and even café boats! We highly recommend canal boat holidays for families if you want to get away from the busy town life. **I would give it 4.5 stars (minus .5 for the toilets)' ★★★★★½**



Trip to Oxford University

By Isaac - Year 12

On October 6, 30 Year 12s made the 3 hour journey to Oxford University to view the prestigious institution and the town itself, as well as acquaint themselves with some of the students there. This wonderful opportunity provided us with an incredible experience that was both wildly enjoyable and highly informative.

The day began at 6:30am, when we met at the school before getting on the coach. A lengthy sing-along (including Let it Go among other such hits) and a few naps later, we arrived.

We were greeted by Lena, an Admissions officer who gave an insightful presentation about applications for Oxbridge and who introduced us to some students. We were then split amongst these students, into groups which would be shown around St. Hugh's campus. Unfortunately, my group's guide was a 'fresher' who had only been at Oxford for a couple of days themselves. This resulted in a hectic rush around Oxford's streets whilst we searched for the Dining Hall. Once we finally arrived there, we were treated to a complimentary lunch before being guided around Oxford's picturesque town centre.



After visiting a range of museums - notably, the Natural History Museum in which Einstein's Whiteboard and an original sample of Fleming's penicillin were exhibited - and various other colleges, we reconvened back at the coach and began our journey home.

Some opinions on the trip:

- "[The trip] was very insightful and the place was amazing... I wish I was there for longer" (Aiden)
- "It was fantastic... I got stung by a bee on the eyelid, but still had a great time..." (Patrick Diffley)
- "It was good" (Eloise Longhi)
- "I hope that the trip demonstrated how friendly welcoming and achievable Oxford is"

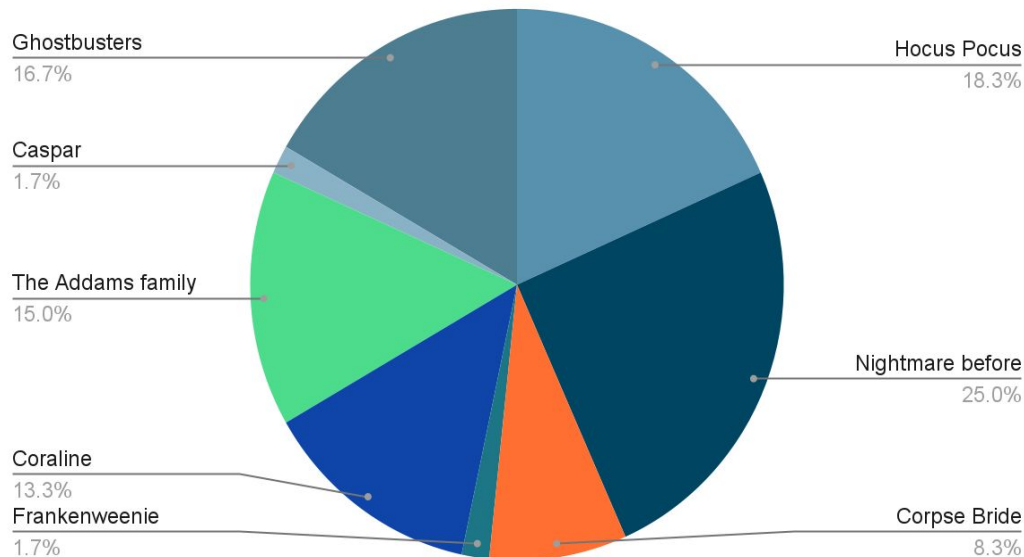


Halloween Films- Which is your Favourite?



By Leah & Caitlin - Year 8

We asked students and teachers around the school about their favourite Halloween films and what they thought of them.



The top 3 films with the most votes were:

Nightmare Before Christmas-15
Hocus Pocus-11
Ghostbusters-10

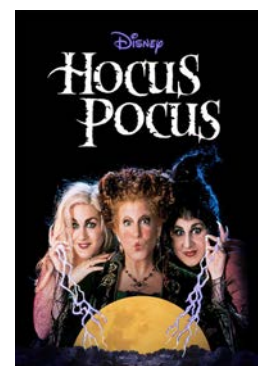
The Nightmare Before Christmas - Molly 8:

It was gripping and magical, but when things went wrong, it was fixed by the one and only...WATCH IT TO FIND OUT! I would definitely recommend this film, as it was very intriguing. 8/10



Hocus Pocus - Anonymous:

It was a very good film and it was the right amount of funny and the right amount of scary. I would really recommend it. It has interesting characters with detailed costumes and it had a great plot line.8/10





Prize Giving 2022

By Mrs. Loveday

During September and October, a number of prize giving events were held at Dane Court. The first event was to recognise and reward our past Year 11 and Year 13 students for some incredible exam results this summer at GCSE and IB Level respectively. Both students and their parents/carers were invited to attend a wonderful evening, with speeches from Ms Greig, Mr Jones and our Head Boy and Girl, Linus and Mabel. There were also special performances given by Michael Chesters playing the piano and an excerpt from Macbeth performed by KS3 and KS4 Drama students. Each student nominated by their teachers for a prize received a £10 Amazon gift card, prize winners pen and certificate.

The second event recognised the outstanding efforts of Year 10 and Year 12 students. Year 12 were rewarded with a certificate and £10 Amazon gift card, whilst those in Year 10 received a certificate and prize winner merit worth 20 merits!

KS3 prize giving winners also received a certificate and special prize winner merit worth 20 merits in their special prize giving assemblies.

At all prize giving events there were some great performances from our drama students. A big thank you to the Drama Department for all your hard work in organising these performances.





Prize Giving continued

Below are some excerpts from Head boy & Head girl- Linus and Mabel's speeches from the prize giving awards:

"Although these grades should be celebrated and aspired to, we also hope studying at Dane Court has provided you with life skills and the ability to develop as a person. Life shouldn't revolve solely around the grades you achieve, and whilst we all aspire to do our very best, it is important to remember that there is a range of opportunities available, no matter the grade, and you shouldn't let them define you.

Whilst saying that, every student here should be proud of what they have achieved in the last year, especially those with awards, your work doesn't go unnoticed and we hope it inspires you all to keep working hard."

"Now that you are in your final year before you become year 11s and therefore sit your GCSE exams I can imagine you will start to feel a bit of pressure. We understand that suddenly the work feels that extra bit harder and you feel you have more of it to get on top of. However, we would like to assure you that if you work hard in your studies and continue to engage with them as you all clearly have over the last year you will move into your final period before exams with confidence and excitement as to where your results could take you. Furthermore, the next two years of your study will allow you to explore your subject choices which we hope you have all started strongly in and feel you have made strong decisions for the next stages in your studies."

"After hearing about the wonderful results the students have achieved, it is often easy to forget the amount of work that has been put in to ensure this academic success, by the students of course, but also the staff. We would like to thank all our teachers for their continuous support and guidance in ensuring we have access to such amazing outcomes. We appreciate all the extra work and time you put into securing these opportunities for success, and we hope that these results make it worthwhile."



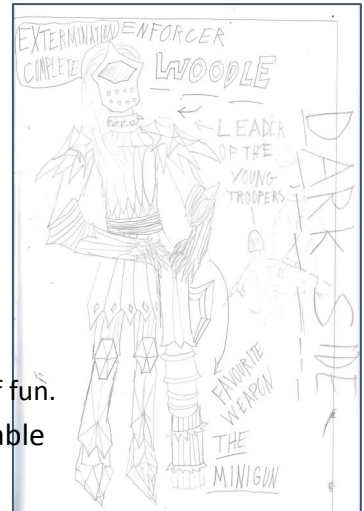
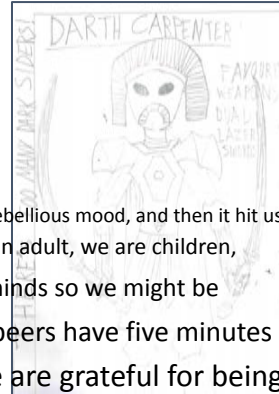
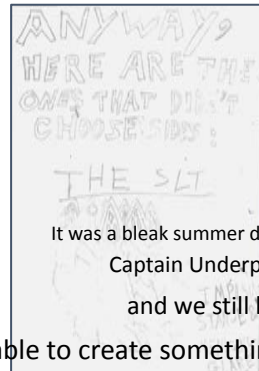
A huge congratulations from all of the Chatter team to all prizewinners this year - including amongst other Chatter members Joe in year 11 who received the Sue flory Award for Most improved Musician at Key stage 4





SCHOOL WARS

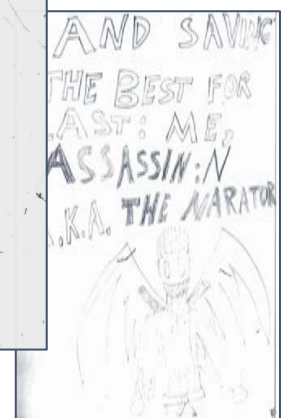
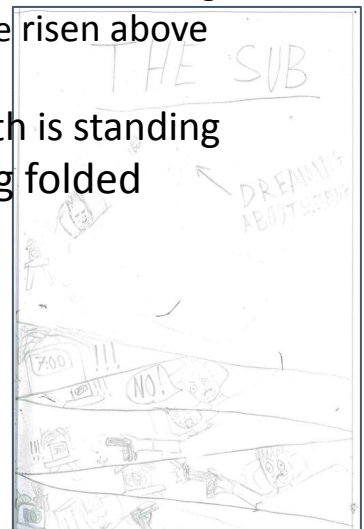
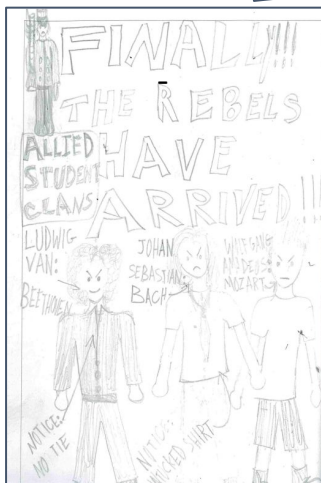
By Corporation Cliche and Assassin:N, year 7



It was a bleak summer day and we were in a rebellious mood, and then it hit us! Captain Underpants was made by an adult, we are children, and we still have interesting minds so we might be able to create something to make our peers have five minutes of fun. Chatter made this possible, and we are grateful for being able to publish School Wars in it's own mutinous way.

From the lunch line to the tuesday extended mentoring, from the verbal warning to the infamous reflection room, you have come far. You have risen above the ranks, surpassed every test, yet you live under a lie. The truth is standing (or sitting, laying, kneeling, squatting), or being folded into an aeroplane) in front of you!

Take a read...tis the characters...





The Owl House - Reviewed

Review by Anezka - Year 9

In my last chatter article, I wrote about The Owl House, a TV show on Disney+ to do with a human girl who wanders into a world full of witches and demons (Chatter Edition 22 if you're interested in knowing more). Here, I'm going to review some of my favourite episodes, season finals, etc.

SEASON 2 EPISODE 15 - Them's the Breaks, Kid

10/10

WHAT HAPPENED?

This flashback episode told us how Raine and Eda first met back in their school years.

They both had a knack for chaos and got on incredibly fast, completing tests in a creative and chaotic way at an event known as IFWOT (Instructing Future Witches of Tomorrow) that got dubbed HECK (Helping Enhance Coven Knowhow) by the head witch running it this year, Terra Snapdragon. At the end of this weekend-long event, Terra wasn't satisfied with the difficulty of the tests and set up a game called Covens VS Wilds, with Eda being on the former team and Raine on the latter. Raine and Eda eventually go against the game and try to attack Terra, which while Terra likes their feistiness, leads to nobody getting a ribbon that year. The next day, Raine had transferred from St Epiderm to Hexside and from there, they and Eda were inseparable. For the last few minutes of the episode, Raine is shown to not actually be brainwashed like we thought they were.



SHORT REVIEW

This episode is adorable, and I love that we got to see more about Eda and Raine's relationship. It's so clear that despite not being together in the present day, these two love each other a LOT, so getting to watch how they first met as well as getting to see just how quickly they got along was awesome! As per usual, I got very annoyed any time Terra appeared on screen; I do *not* like her at all, she is crazy. Overall, this was a very cute episode, and with Raine being my favourite character, this episode very quickly became my favourite and my comfort episode.

That's why I rate it a 10/10.



My Holiday Review: Centre Parcs

By Molly Year 8

I went to Centre Parcs (Elveden Forest) at the beginning of August. It was such a surreal experience and I got to do things I thought I would never be able to do. Centre Parcs is like a village because it has shops, houses, a swimming pool/activity centre and restaurants. While I was there I went to a couple of restaurants such as Bella Italia and The Pancake House. The Pancake House is a restaurant that serves mainly pancakes all day, everyday and when I went I had a cookie dough pancake covered in chocolate sauce and it was delicious.

There were also some fun activities for people to do on their holiday. Some of the activities I participated in were: Quad biking, Treetop Aerial Adventure (and the zipline at the end of it), archery and an aqua park. They taught me new skills and allowed me to try new things. To get from one activity to another quickly and efficiently we rode bikes. Centre Parcs has places to park your bike all over the resort. You can either bring your own bikes or hire bikes (I hired my bike).

Centre Parcs let me overcome some fears and helped me understand how things worked in more detailed explanations. I am very glad that I got to go to Centre Parcs in August.



Book Reviews

Heartless By Sophie - Year 9

Heartless by Marissa Meyer is a book about the Queen of Hearts (from Alice in Wonderland) before she became the Queen of Hearts. The book follows the tale of a young girl named Catherine Pinkerton who loves to bake. Throughout the book she darts between obligation and love, and although this has been done many times before, I think that this book was an interesting twist of the classic love vs duty tale.

Within the book they feature many recognisable characters from Alice in Wonderland- for example, in the beginning, one of the main villains was the Bandersnatch. The Bandersnatch was on the loose eating and killing many different characters, and Catherine was right in the midst of all the drama. Catherine is an upper class girl who begins to fall for the King of Hearts' court jester, but her happy ending becomes more and more hard to find due to twists of fate, foretold destinies and secrets among those she trusts. The main themes within the book focus on the relationship between love and loss and the question of destiny and the author definitely show this. The author makes you question the inevitability of destiny- all those who know the story of Alice in Wonderland know how Catherine's story will turn out. In Alice and Wonderland, the Queen of Hearts is the main antagonist and she is depicted as childish and foul tempered- she is also shown as cruel and permanently furious. But without referencing the movie, there is little explanation to her interesting habits- by which I mean shouting "OFF WITH THEIR HEADS" and painting the roses red - and Meyer has exploited this little gap in the tale and created a whole new story from it. Here are a few of my favourite quotes from this book:

- **"The easiest way to steal something is for it to be given willingly."**
- **"But hoping", he said, "is how the impossible can become possible after all."**
- **"When pleased I beat like a drum. When sad I break like glass. Once stolen I can never be taken back. What am I?"**
- **"Fascinating, isn't it, how often heroic and foolish turn out to be one and the same."**

This was a really great book and I definitely recommend it.

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder By Abigail- Year 10

I really liked this book. In fact, I would say it was one of the best murder mystery novels I have read.

The story takes place in a fiction town called Little Kilton (located in Buckinghamshire), where 5 years ago where - according to police - Andie Bell was murdered by her boyfriend Sal Singh, who then committed suicide. However, Pip doesn't quite believe the story is true, and partners up with Sal's younger brother, Ravi, to find out the truth.

The plot in the story is amazing, as you never know who can actually be trusted, and there are so many twists and turns which you wouldn't expect. Overall, I really enjoyed just how unpredictable this book was, as it made the ending so much more engaging to read.

The main book is written in 3rd person, however it occasionally changes to newspaper articles, texts, or production logs, which I really liked as it helps you to really feel like you are in the story. And the attention to detail in these parts is amazing, as most information you come across holds some form of significance later on in the story.

Overall, this book was really good and I totally recommend that you read it!



Origami

By Christopher - Year 7

This is origami



Origami is a Japanese word for fold paper; *ori* comes from *oru* which is to fold and *kami* is one of the many terms for paper. The complexity of origami can range from mind-boggling to a simple paper airplane.

Origami is one of my favourite hobbies, and lately I have been working on a project. Here (below, left) is my favourite picture of my project. One project might take days, another could take a few minutes.



Some professional origamists you may want to look up are....

- Miguel de Unamuno y Jugo (1864–1936) was a Spanish essayist, novelist, poet, playwright and philosopher who popularised origami outside Japan.
- Sipho Mabona is a Swiss origami master. Mabona was the first-ever foreigner to have his work grace the cover of the official magazine of the Japan Origami Academic Society (JOAS) Convention in 2008.
- Hoang Tien Quyet is an Origami artist from Vietnam.



The Iranian Hijab Protests- The Girls of Enghelab Street

By Gabriela - Year 13

“Women, Life, Freedom”. These three words have been chanted thousands of times over the last month in over 100 cities across Iran by thousands of young women, women who have been wronged by the Iranian government in terms of their fundamental rights as people. The first demonstration against the mandatory hijab was in 1979, and this key image of the theocratic Iranian state was made mandatory in 1983, but these current protests because of the same reason are fueled by an infallible fire of anger, defiance and years of repression. The world has been struck by the bravery of those who have taken to the streets, most of whom are under 25, and this new reality the Iranian government is facing proves to be one that with the promise of permanently changing the way of life for so many in the country..

On the 13th of September, 22 year-old Mahsa Amini was bundled into the back of one of the Iranian morality police vans after being arrested for “improper wearing of a hijab”, and later died in custody, widely believed to be at the hands of the brutality of the Iranian police force. As word spread, the biggest street protests in Iran since the 2019 unrest over fuel prices were triggered and the compulsory wearing of the hijab, the past decade’s symbol of the government’s crackdown on women, has been widely rejected in Iran. Across the globe, campaigners and Iran analysts have described the little fear and unbridled rage these young women have shown when confronted with riot police, where they have proceeded to burn headscarves and cut their hair in defiance of the stifling regime and the very notion of the morality police (law enforcement involved with official policing of women’s clothing) which lies at the heart of this brutally enforced theocracy. Despite over 41 men and women having been killed and hundreds arrested and injured, the policies so many women have suffocated under have still not been lifted, with Iranian leaders such as Ali Khamenei, “supreme leader” of the nation instead blaming foreign governments for “fanning” the protests due to the worldwide response to videos of young people engaged in standoffs with riot police. These authorities have many times attempted to cut access to Instagram and Whatsapp, among other social media platforms in an effort to prevent coordination between protestors. The average age for women arrested this week has been 15 years old, and these “brutal and sick” arrests have drawn comparisons with Rosa Parks, the black civil rights activist in the US, arrested for refusing to give up her seat for a white passenger in 1955.

These protests, while still remaining advocates against the insecurity and immoral treatment of women in Iran, have grown into something much larger. As the movement has gained more strength, citizens have called into question the structure of power, calling for a secular, democratic government. These rallies have been more diverse; they’ve spanned classes and regions, demonstrating the strength in a more committed society and so for many, the strikes underline the gulf between ordinary Iranians and the regulations of the Iranian government itself. A question of existence, a raging battle between these values we seek to uphold: freedom, tolerance and equality against tradition has been brought to light for many Iranian citizens, where change is finally beginning to be seen as the only possible step forward to further and develop Iran as an unafraid, free country and avoid polarisation between different ideologies within the country: pro and anti regime.



“Religious beliefs are not created by batons, arrests and the Guidance Patrol. We cannot force people into paradise.”- Gholamreza Nouri, reformist MP





Film Review- The Princess Bride

By Seren - Year 9

Hello! So, I'm new to Chatter but I am hoping to give you an amazing film recommendation in this issue that you should definitely check out. So, without further ado, here it is; my review for The Princess Bride!

Want a family fun film? A romance? A comedy? An action? A fantasy? Perhaps a famous wrestler in there too? Something with cheesy sounding music? Catch phrases repeated so many times you don't need to rewatch the film to remember them? A single line that clearly knew about the existence of Covid? Well folks, here's your all in one solution for those very specific categories! For me, I've always loved this film and it's something I can happily go back and rewatch time and again. As someone currently reading the book, I'm enjoying where it goes further into detail about some things that were in the film. I won't be discussing any major plot points here but I will be talking about the relationships between certain characters. Because personally, there's multiple levels to every one of them, whether they be friends, lovers, enemies or something in between all that.

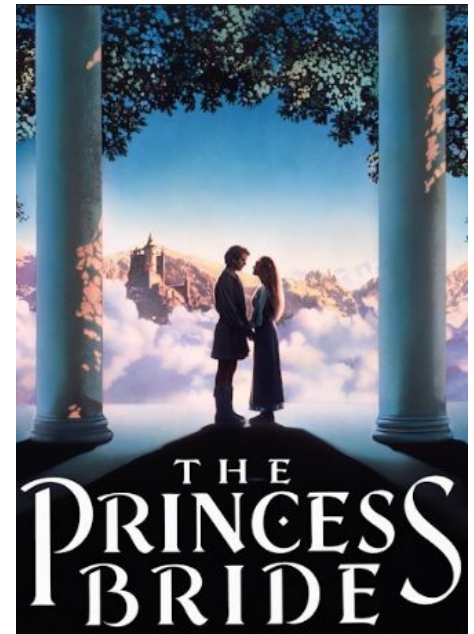
I adore the interactions between the Dread Pirate Roberts and Buttercup. They start off so cold towards each other and the first time we meet DPR he isn't anywhere near to meeting Buttercup. However, as their interactions progress, you can see the two slowly warming up to one another. Now, I'm going to talk about one more power duo for this film and then probably wrap this up. And that power duo are Fezzik and Inigo. The two of them meet by working for the same guy who wants to start a war and they hit it off almost immediately. They both admire each others' respective skills and strengths and they worry about each other when separated.

When finally reunited later in the film, we see the genuine care and compassion that Fezzik shows to Inigo when taking care of him. And then later we see yet again when Fezzik literally ditches their other friend to go help Inigo with his lifelong quest (which, as aforementioned, will not be discussed). Although Inigo doesn't do much for Fezzik, you can see how close the two are from the few interactions they are given throughout the film.

So, guess I've been talking for a while now but let me try and tie this up. The point I'm making is that although the film is now 35 years old, it still holds up pretty darn well. Okay, so the camera quality isn't as crisp as any films made more recently but you've gotta admit that it does add a unique and rustic charm to

the film, especially seeing as it's a fairly medieval setting.

Well, that's all from me in this issue of Chatter. Hopefully you'll come check out my next review, which will be the first Back To The Future film. Goodbye for now and hope you enjoy this issue of Chatter!





Smoking - Should it be banned?

By Harry - Year 9

Should smoking be banned in public places? Should it be illegal to sell tobacco?

For number 1, banning public smoking reduces the risk of passive smoking. Worldwide, there are more than **1,200,000 million** deaths yearly due to secondhand smoke inhalation. If smoking in public places *is* banned, then this severely reduces the exposure of non-smokers to toxic fumes. On the other hand, banning smoking in public places can be seen as an infringement of freedom. Over 28% of adults in Europe are smokers.

With these arguments, I think smoking should not be banned in public places because going through with the ban will result in people smoking in more extreme places, like private property and secretive places.

For number 2, tobacco is a very extreme problem which enables local under 16's to smoke illegally. It also increases crime rate in peaceful communities and undermines local shops. Banning tobacco will greatly reduce health problems across the globe, make the environment better and help a vast amount of people get over the first step of overcoming addiction. Secondly, it shouldn't be illegal for similar reasons to smoking in public places; freedom. I think selling tobacco should be illegal because you can buy ready made cigarettes at shops which are higher in price, even furthering the overcoming of addiction.



PTA News

DANE COURT PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Events 2022

Quiz Night

Dane Court School Theatre
Friday 25th November 2022



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 687145 or

Email gadd@danecourt.kent.sch.uk) by 4pm on Wed 23rd Nov

Charity number 1023394





Clubs



Debating club
In the library
Every Monday 3:30-4:30



Join us on google classroom qxkhnz


For info, email :
myers@danecourt.kent.sch.uk
16mvillareal@danecourt.kent.sch.uk



Manga Drawing Club
13:45-14:15 every Thursday
in L8

All year groups are
welcome

Japanese Culture Club



Prior Japanese knowledge not needed!
Origami, Writing Practice, Anime
Sessions and much more!
Tuesday 145-215 in L4
Starting November 1st
All year groups welcome

DANE COURT GRAMMAR SCHOOL

PHYSICAL EDUCATION EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

HALF TERM 2

	Lunch 3.30-4.25	Field/Hard Court 3.30-4.25	Sports Hall 3.30-4.25	Activity Studio 3.30-4.25
Monday		Netball (Miss Bolt and Miss Metcalfe) Football (Mr Argyrides + Mr Weatherley)		Table tennis KS3 (Mr Jellett)
Tuesday		GCSE Coursework Year 11 only - B Plaza (Mr White)		Yoga 6th Form
Wednesday			Badminton KS4 (Mr Simpson + Mr Weatherley)	Dance - all years (Miss Bailey) (3.45-4.45)
Thursday	Basketball All years (Mr Wakeley and 6th formers)	Girls Rugby club (Mr Lodge)		

Appropriate sports clothing must be worn in order to take part in all sports clubs. The usual high standards of behaviour that are expected by the PE Department must also be retained.

Dungeons and Dragons Club



Special Guest Mr. Rye!

Dice of indeterminate numbers!

Very nice Sixth Formers!

Semi-chaotic campaigns!

Open to all year groups
Every Thursday, 15.20-16.20
The Library
It's the thing from Stranger Things!



Library Update

Mrs Finlay

Scholastic Book Fair

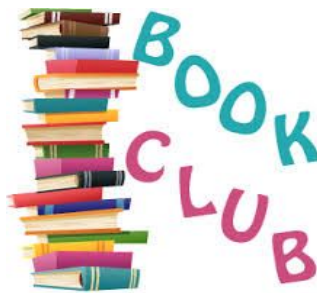


Thank you to everyone who came along to the library and supported the Scholastic Book Fair, which ran over a couple of weeks this term. Students enjoyed browsing the new books during library lessons and at break and lunch. We sold a huge number of books and stationery, and made a total of £610 which meant £305 worth of free books for the library, so thank you.

We now have a lovely amount of new contemporary titles on the shelves and in the new books spinner - come and check them out!

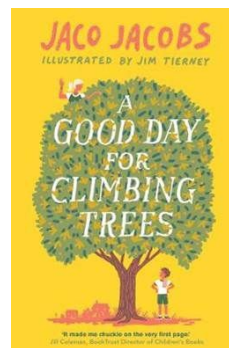


Junior Book Club



Every Tuesday week B from 1.45 to 2.15 we run the Junior Book Club in the library - we are currently reading *A Good Day for Climbing Trees* by Jaco Jacobs. If you love reading and chatting about books come and join us - all year 7's and 8's welcome.

Hopefully by now everyone has been given their logins for the **ebook** platform - you can check out ebooks at <http://danecourt.eplatform.co/>





DCGS

CHATTER

THANK YOU!

FOR SUPPORTING US!

LOOK OUT FOR THE NEXT EDITION

