



# DCGS Chatter

Chatter 18

*Enjoy summer but stay safe*

July 2021

**SUN SAFETY**  
SUMMER SKIN PROTECTION

WEAR BROAD HAT  
USE SUNGLASSES  
WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING  
AVOID SUN BETWEEN 11 AM AND 3 PM  
USE SUNSCREEN  
DRINK MORE WATER  
REFLECTION CAUTION  
SEEK SHADE  
AVOID DIRECT SUNLIGHT

**TYPES OF BEACH WARNING FLAGS**

NO SWIMMING (high hazard)  
SWIMMING AREA (with lifeguard)  
SURFING AREA (no swimming)  
CAUTION (medium hazard)  
DANGEROUS MARINE LIFE  
NO WATERCRAFTS & SURFBOARDS  
SAFE TO SWIM (with conditions)  
WARNING (dry water or oil)  
VERY DANGEROUS (water closed to public use)  
ABSENCE OF FLAG DOES NOT ASSURE SAFE WATER

## Prince Philip 10th June 1921 - 9th April 2021

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, was a member of the British royal family as the husband of Queen Elizabeth II. He was the proud patron of over 750 charities operating in the UK and across the world, including The Duke of Edinburgh award. He passed away in April this year at 99 years old as the longest-serving royal consort in British history.



### Prince Philip Tribute- Duke of Edinburgh Award

Here at Dane Court we have many students doing their Duke of Edinburgh awards. Our very own school ambassador for the award gives us a bit of background information on the award and tells us about his experience. **Read all about this fantastic legacy on Page 10**

### Overall Sports Day Results

1st Sorrento  
2nd Neuchâtel  
3rd Tallinn  
4th Helsinki  
5th Delphi  
6th Barcelona

**Congratulations Sorrento!**

### What else is in this edition of Chatter?

- Book Reviews
- End of Year Farewells
- Summer Recipes

And various competitions to keep you busy

**Page 4:**  
Where will you visit 1st after lockdown?  
?

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Sports day news

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# Words from the Editor

Hello **DCGS Chatter** readers & welcome to Chatter 18!

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

Our lovely **DCGS Chatter members** have worked incredibly hard fitting in time between end of term events, to bring you a variety of articles from members of the team across the school community.

Mini Sports Days, Euro 2020 news, Leaver days and reviews of books, along with competitions to keep you busy throughout the summer- just some of the fantastic work created by our team, for you to read.

The Chatter team look forward to meeting our new Year 7 students and any other members of the school community at a Chatter meeting very soon!

Please enjoy this edition, perhaps whilst drinking an ice cold drink or eating an ice-cream. Stay safe and we will see you all back in school on **Friday 3rd September 2021**.

Have a great summer,

The Ed

## **This Editions Chatter Team...**

**Year 7 Team** - Angel, Daniel, Thomas, Sophie, Florence, Idunumi, Edwin, Lily, Shannon, Bedrixan

**Year 8 Team** - George, Hadley, Beatrix, Abigail M, Karolina, Sofia, Cameron, David, Faye, Kerri-Ann, Michaela

**Year 9 Team** - Joe, Annabelle & Chloe

**Year 10 Team** - Ellie, Sofia, Amelie

**Year 11 Team** - Jamie, Grace, Gabriela

**6th Form Team**- Jacob, George & Louise

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





# Best places to visit once lockdown ends

## Michaela ~ Year 8

Now that lockdown is easing up we have the chance to visit new places and be enriched in their culture and history.

The first place mentioned on my list is Venice, Italy. One place to visit in beautiful Venice is Piazza San Marco or St. Mark's Square. This is at the heart of the city and is one of the most beautiful squares in Venice.

Generally this square is covered with pigeons but beware, you will be fined if you feed these terrifying creatures. There is little doubt that you will regret seeing this architectural wonder. Basilica di San Marco is one of the most beautiful sites, the cathedral will take your breath away, from the paintings to the atmosphere.

The second place to visit in Venice would be the Grand Canal. The Canal is 16ft-deep and is known by locals as the Canalazzo. It has over 170 buildings built along its two-and-a-half mile length. The majority of these buildings were built between the 13th and 18th century and most open directly onto the canal, making their fronts accessible only by boat. The Canal is similar to a pathway that connects everything. The Canal makes an S-shape and was even featured in a James Bond film. In conclusion you should visit Venice because of the rich culture and history and as it is one of the only places that has such a unique environment.



The next stop on my list is Barcelona, Spain. The first place you may want to see in Barcelona is La Sagrada Família - this is one of the most popular attractions in Barcelona, attracting nearly 2.8 million visitors each year. It is a large and intricate basilica designed by Antoni Gaudi. Construction began in 1882 and continues to this day. The building is predicted to be completed within the next 30 years. It should be noted that this beautiful basilica has been funded completely by donations, as Gaudi had intended. This really shows you the close-knit and kind community and the history behind this building. The second place in Barcelona is La Rambla - this is probably the city's most famous street and is a bustling hive of activity. It is often called Las Ramblas, because it is actually a series of several different streets that all have a distinct atmosphere. Located just off Plaza Catalunya and leading right down towards the port and beach, visitors will find street performers, lots of bars and restaurants and the fabulous Boquería Market, a picturesque scene.

The final place is Yellowstone National Park, way out in the US. It's an incredible experience and is one of North America's 7 natural wonders. It was explored fully only in 1871 for reports of volcanic activity. It was discovered before but mistaken to be a myth and I could see how a person would believe that. It has captured the hearts of many people and is one of North America's biggest assets. Its wildlife is so unique and you probably would never see it anywhere else and some of this life has helped with the discovery of cures to multiple diseases. Yellowstone is the only place on earth like that. Its magma is closer to the ground than normal, therefore it is a geological hotspot and the best place if you're interested in hydrothermal features. Yellowstone's scenery is second to none.



# News about the George Floyd case

By Abigail & Karolina ~ Year 8

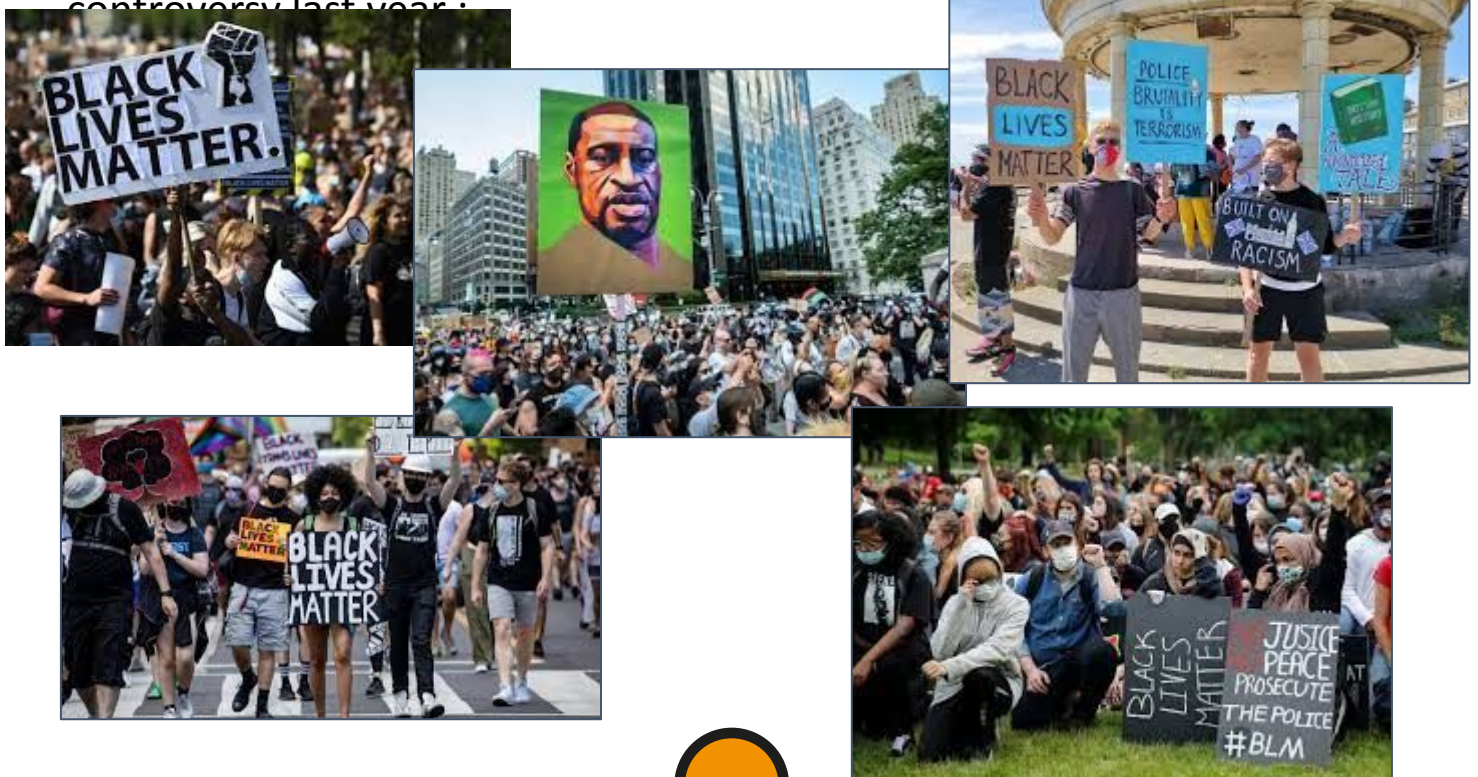
The death of George Floyd after a police officer knelt on his neck on the 25th of May 2020 sparked a worldwide reaction. The Black Lives Matter movement was born, and people have attended protests to push for racial justice.

Derek Chauvin (police officer) has now had his trial lasting 3 weeks, after less than a day the jury decided he was guilty of 2nd degree murder, 3rd degree murder and manslaughter after the death of George Floyd. He received 22 and a half years despite asking for a 30 year prison sentence.



This verdict has marked a significant milestone in history because it is rare that police officers are put on trial and found guilty.

Here are some pictures from some of the protests that caused controversy last year:





# Grofin's Guide to Dungeon and Dragons Episode 1

## Cameron ~ Year 8

Before I start, Dungeons and Dragons is a roleplaying game. The players are really against or with the roll of a dice. The set up is that there is a Dungeon Master, who is the big boss storyteller. They tell a scene, then any number of adventurers explain what their character is going to do. Each character has a character sheet that tells you what scores each of your abilities have. The Dungeon master will then tell you to make a check, you will roll a 20 sided dice and add the certain ability score.

For example.

Dungeon Master: you are in a dark cave. You come up to an entrance, what would you like to do?

Character: I would like to listen out for any noises

Dungeon Master: Roll a perception check.

This episodic series will explain more about Dungeons and Dragons throughout Chatter. So stay tuned for more.



**PLAGUE PROTOCOL**

**PLAGUE PROTOCOL**

**PLAGUE PROTOCOL**

The band **PLAGUE PROTOCOL** consists of Gregor Hutchison (9S), Jasper Jeffs (9D) and Ethan Ryan (9H). We have been releasing new music for the past few weeks on our YouTube channel, so please listen, subscribe and comment. You can also keep up with our music on our website ([Link](#)).

**PLAGUE PROTOCOL**

**PLAGUE PROTOCOL**

**PLAGUE PROTOCOL**

**ETHAN - GUITAR, BASS, EFFECTS, VOCALS    JASPER - DRUMS    GREGOR - PIANO, VOCALS**

A few year 9 students used lockdown to their advantage & teamed up with their talents during lockdown, to form a rock band called Plaque Protocol.... Why not check them out here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8ubFI9eJIOVjWRh8YeJS3A/featured>



## Book Review

Hadley ~ Year 8



### 'The Girl Who Became A Tree'



This book begins with a simple premise that quickly deepens and becomes an emotionally rooted story of depression and escape to fantasy.

The plot is actually quite simple for such a rollercoaster of a story; Dad dies, Girl stops talking, and now loves the library and sits in the back of the library and goes to an imaginary land of monsters and regret.

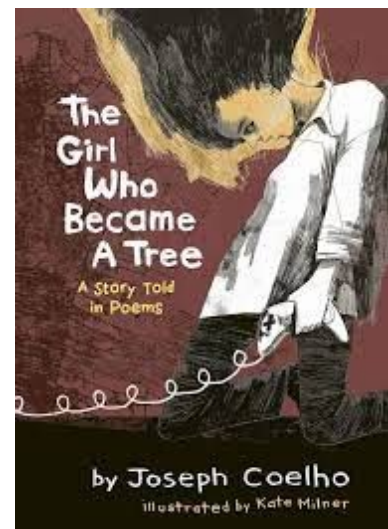
I like this book less for its story and how it makes you think, but rather that there are hidden words and phrases, which make you think about the character and what is happening to her even when you don't want to, which is very smart.

For an example; at the start some of the words are in bold, which when strung together form the phrase 'I really need someone to talk to' or 'I am a monster' which is incredible because it shows that the brain often has ways of detecting issues when it doesn't want to acknowledge them.

Though that is child's play compared to later on, when the first letter of every line on the page spells a phrase or the first word of the lines. This is a nice touch as the character in the story wants to ignore her issues, so the book would start to hide the admission of those problems much better.

The story makes a lot of sense, and didn't make me confused once, which is a mark of good storytelling. I couldn't find many plot holes or plot contrivance or anything like that, which is pretty good. Although near the end the girl is saved by a deus ex machina (deus ex machina is a plot device whereby a seemingly unsolvable problem in a story is suddenly and abruptly resolved by an unexpected and unlikely occurrence).

Overall I would say that it is a good book, but very fun.





# The Euros

Edwin ~ Year 7



## Opening Ceremony

The starting ceremony this year was a virtual performance of 'We are the People'

The performance had Martin Garrix, Bono and The Edge taking centre stage at the UEFA EURO 2020 opening match in the Olimpico in Rome with a virtual performance that used the best immersive technology to bring the fans closer to the match

This was a collaboration of the U2 rock legends and one of the world's biggest DJs/producers on the Official Song of UEFA EURO 2020

## Predictions

Most Experts believed that France was going to win however they got eliminated in the Quarter-Final

## Semi-final

**Italy v Spain** action packed with extra time and a penalty shoot out finale!

**England v Denmark** another action packed match with an own goal & a remarkable goal scored in extra time from Harry Kane.

**England** made it to the final against **Italy** and scored very early on into the game, but unfortunately it wasn't to be. The 2nd half was a little on the dull side but the nation was gripped with a staggering 31m people watching the match on TV!!

Right up until the final penalty the excitement and action was non stop. Many of us couldn't watch as Italy's Jorginho took their 4th penalty we all thought he would never miss as he never does but he did! There were highs and lows throughout the match but overall although

**ENGLAND** should have won, we didn't but oh well there is always the World Cup next year!!



**WELL DONE ENGLAND!!!**



UEFA EURO2020



# Film & Book Recommendations

By Film Buff Grace ~ Year 11



Whilst I may be Chatters resident top 10 lister, I think it's time to shake things up a bit, here are some of my all time favourite films - not in top 10 list format!

## Legally blonde

The thing I love most about Legally blonde is the way in which it subverts the idea that femininity is weak, by showcasing girly girl Elle Woods kicking butt in the courtroom, and re-learning just how invaluable she is, even when many people around her doubt her. The film brilliantly smashes every single expectation that the characters and the audience have about Elle woods.

## 12 Angry Men

OH. MY. GOD. If you ever want an absolute masterclass in how to effectively show change of opinion, the psychology of debates and how to make a relatively tame premise absolutely crackle and pop then look no further than 1957 film Twelve Angry Men - this absolute tour-de-force of a film is one you can re-watch again and again and still keep picking up on something new.

## The Devil Wears Prada

This early 2000's classic absolutely still holds up, with amazing performances from all the main cast whilst telling an incredibly compelling and well paced story, with high tension and great character development - to any readers with an interest in fashion or filmmaking please watch this film!

## My Neighbor Totoro

This film holds an incredibly special place in my heart, due in large part to the famous bus stop scene, which manages to make you feel the weight of Every. Single. Second. Miyazaki's ability to make this absolutely fantastical world seem so human is something truly remarkable - all of the emotional beats hit perfectly and it has some of the most beloved characters in all of Animation, and for good reason!



**Books books boooooookkkkssss... Books!**



## One

Emotional punch after emotional punch, this book is absolutely heartbreaking and I love it so much. It is a poignant story about love and sisterhood, and the free verse format helps to deliver the knockout punch at the end of the book (that definitely *didn't* have me in tears). The book also offers an insight into perspective, specifically surrounding medical conditions, and the way in which people react to things they consider abnormal.

## A monster calls

Tissues needed! This book showcases the nuances and emotions felt surrounding grief and death so incredibly well. The fantasy elements blend perfectly with the all too real situation that the protagonist is faced with. The book is absolutely gut wrenching and the ending is incredibly powerful. The build up to the fourth tale / nightmare is done incredibly well, and the fourth tale itself is done with very powerful imagery and dialogue.

## Loveless

This tells the story of self discovery so authentically well, and challenges the reader's perception of love, friendship and the role that those things play in someone's life. The book provides some much needed Aro/Ace representation with an ultimately heartwarming and uplifting ending. I would very much like to see more books like this in the future, especially when told with this level of sincerity and authenticity.

## Skulduggery pleasant

Skellington detective.... Need I go on? Told with surprising relatability the fast paced action of the book is only just slower than it's wit. The introduction into the fantasy world is incredibly well paced, giving the reader just the information it needs without overwhelming them with lots of rules and lore all at once. Also like I said.... Skellington detective.

# Duke of Edinburgh Award - What is it?

George ~ Year 12

The Duke of Edinburgh award (D of E) was founded by HRH Prince Phillip in 1965. The award is aimed at both able-bodied young people and young people with disabilities, and has become one of the best known self-development and adventure schemes for 14 to 24-year-olds.

There are 3 levels to this award, bronze, silver, and gold, gold being the highest and hardest level. Each of these levels consists of 4 parts. The first being an expedition in which you are completing a self-planned hike over a few days as part of a team; whilst camping at night and cooking a main meal each day on a camping gas cooker called a Trangia. Throughout the whole expedition, the team carry all their belongings in a rucksack, which has a packed weight about a ¼ of your bodyweight. The second part is a skills activity where you pursue and improve a skill- something new which you learn, such as driving, cooking or beekeeping for example, the third, participating in a charitable or community project as your volunteering section, and the last is improving fitness by taking part in a physical activity, for your physical section. As you progress, each level takes more time to complete and offers a greater challenge. The Bronze Award will take a minimum of 6 months to complete, whereas the Gold will take at least a year. On average, though, each activity will only take up 1 hour of your week. **Doing a DofE programme is about steady growth and improvement, not cramming everything into a short time.**

The Duke of Edinburgh award is a very good thing to do and I cannot recommend it highly enough. Employers highly value this award. It is a valuable asset to your personal statement in an application as it shows employers you want to develop yourself and your skills outside of your education, and also shows them you work well in a team and can push yourself to succeed as it is a hard award and does require dedication to complete it. It really does make you and your CV stand out from other applicants who may just have their educational qualifications, as well as giving you something to talk about in the interview which employers definitely will like. It shows that you have the characteristics that employers are looking for. Independence, self-discipline, resilience, imagination and commitment; each of these are hugely attractive to employers.

My experience with the Duke of Edinburgh award has been a good one. I have completed bronze level and am currently working towards the silver award, both of which I have really enjoyed. As hard and challenging as they are, because it is a lot of walking and heavy rucksacks to carry, and sometimes in challenging weather conditions, it is actually really fun and you do have a good time and also you get closer to people who you weren't as close with before because it's something that everyone is in together so it's a good opportunity to make new friends. I did get a lot out of the expeditions and also the extra 3 activities you have to do (skills, volunteering and physical), for example, for physical for bronze I went to the gym and afterwards I continued to go to the gym for a while, meaning it helped with the amount of exercise I did for quite a long time and still influences it now. Also, for my skills section for silver I am learning sign language which I think is really interesting and can be very helpful later in life as I want to join the police so will mean I can communicate with more people which is very important when I will be having to liaise with different people everyday, so I will be able to better communicate with deaf people and help to make them feel more included in society.

I am currently the D of E ambassador at school and my role is basically to help my peers complete the award if they need it and also to help promote it to the rest of the school, so hopefully more people will sign up in the future and can make the most of this opportunity.

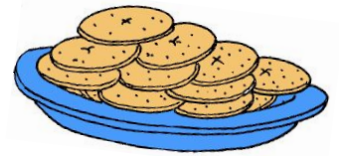
It really is such a good thing to do for the new skills you learn and the new friendships you make, as well as getting the award and making your CV stand out from other applicants when applying for jobs in the future. The Duke of Edinburgh award is such a good thing to do and I honestly hope more people start to do it at Dane Court because you definitely get out what you put into it!





# Why do Chatterers Love biscuits so much?

By Biscuit fanatic Grace ~ Year 11



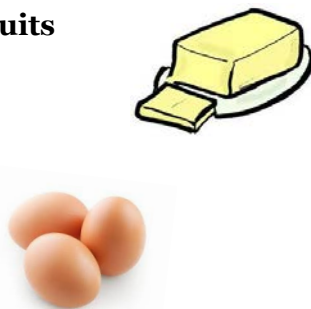
## Why do Chatterers love biscuits so much?!

As anyone who has been to a Chatter meeting knows - we sure do love our biscuits! But why? Biscuit making goes all the way back to ancient Rome, and they're named after the fact that they're baked twice. Biscuits as we know them were developed in the Middle Ages. Eating biscuits activates the same parts of the brain as morphine and other drugs - no wonder they're so addictive! I don't know about you but now I want a biscuit!

## Easy biscuit recipe - makes 20 to 30 biscuits

### Ingredients

- 200 g unsalted butter, softened
- 200 g white caster sugar
- 1 medium egg, lightly beaten
- 400 g plain flour, plus extra for dusting



### Method

- In a large mixing bowl, use an electric whisk to cream the butter with the sugar until well mixed and just creamy in texture. Do not overwork, or the biscuits will spread during baking.
- Beat in the egg until well combined. Add the flour and mix on a low speed until a dough forms. Gather the dough into a ball, wrap in cling film and chill for at least 1 hour.
- Preheat the oven to 190°C, fan 170°C, gas 5.
- Put the dough on a lightly floured surface and knead briefly, then roll out to 3mm thick.
- Cut, by hand or with cookie cutters, to your desired shape.
- Using a palette knife, transfer the biscuits to a baking tray lined with baking parchment.
- Bake for 12-14 minutes, depending on the size of your biscuits, until golden brown at the edges. Remove from the oven and transfer to a wire rack to cool.
- Enjoy!

# Summer Merit News

There were a total of **3684 merits** awarded over the course of the school year 2020-2021. Delphi won the merit cup for the second year running. The highest 3 students in the school were Lilah for Neuchatel with 53 Merits, Edward in Barcelona with 42 Merits and Louis in Delphi with 37 Merits.

House Positions	
Delphi	3.51
Neuchatel	3.33
Barcelona	2.88
Tallinn	2.86
Helsinki	2.56
Sorrento	2.11

Students who received Merits in Term 5 & 6 were entered into a draw to win a £20 Amazon Voucher... Yr7 had 54 students entered, Yr8 had 58 students entered, Yr9 entered 26 students and Yr10 had 27 students in the draw.

### The winners were:

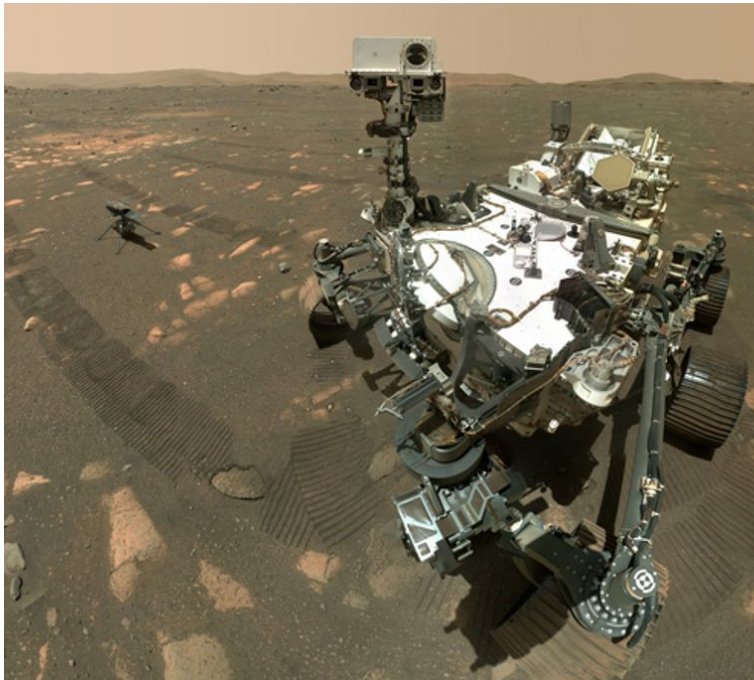
- Yr 7 - Eshal
- Yr 8 - Sofia
- Year 9 - Khouloud
- Year 10 - Rosshana



# Mars Landings Update

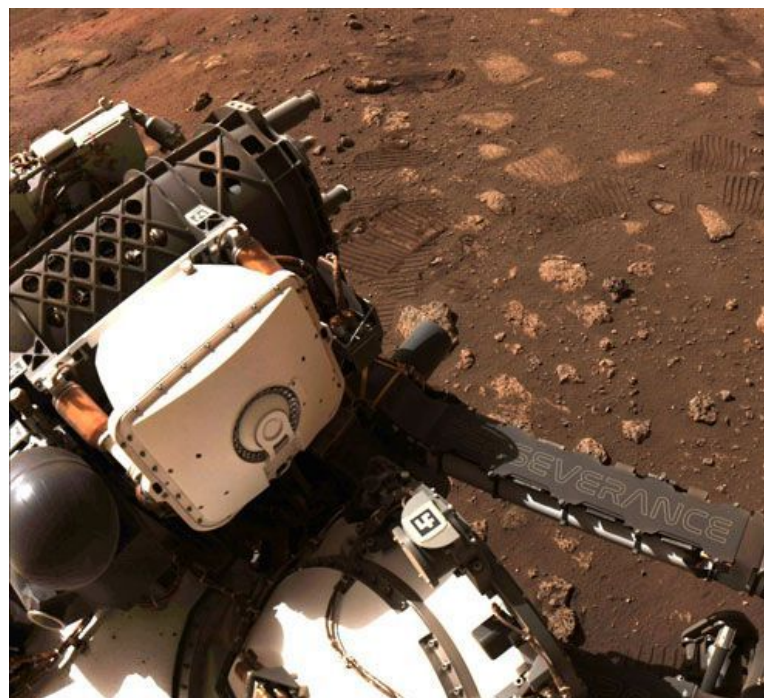
Joe ~ Year 9

Ever since the touchdown of the Perseverance rover earlier this year, NASA's Mars team have been working hard to research into previous life on Mars, and to test out many new pieces of technology that come with this new 2.7 billion dollar Mars car.



On April 19th, 2021, the Mars 2020 team released a small helicopter-like thing from the rovers undercarriage. It was called Ingenuity, and is the first conventional aircraft to ever fly on another planet. On its test flight, it climbed 3 metres, hovered for a bit, then came back down. Considering the density of Mars' atmosphere (really thin), flying Ingenuity 3 metres on Mars is the equivalent of flying it at around 100,000 feet on earth, making it the highest flying helicopter ever made. The helicopter went on to perform up to five flights per 30 Mars sols (about an Earth day but not quite), but considering the success of Ingenuity, its mission length was extended from 30 sols, to a total of 60.

Another notable discovery by the Perseverance Rover, was the ability to make oxygen out of Martian carbon dioxide - this is done using a gold box called "MOXIE" which is capable of using electrolysis to turn the not very useful  $\text{CO}_2$  into more useful oxygen. Using this method makes it possible for astronauts to survive long term on Martian soil, making colonies a possibility in the future. It could also be used to power rockets, so that astronauts who opt into going to Mars can be assured that it's not a one way trip and there is a possibility that they can go home again. Overall, Perseverance and Ingenuity are helping earth make steps towards leaving the planet and galactic colonization,





# Competitions Page

**You need to be in it, to win it!!!**

## Japanese Cooking competition results

The Japanese cooking competition was launched during lockdown as an opportunity for students and staff to try and spend time away from the world of digital screens. The idea was self explanatory- you cook Japanese food, take a photograph and upload it to Mrs Myers' google classroom describing what the dish was and others comment!

Plenty of entries were received and the results are finally in.

1st place went to Amy J in Year 10 with a delightful range of delicious looking dishes created. 2nd place went to Abigail L in Year 9 with a fabulous selection of creative plates. 3rd place saw Madeline in Year 7 & Sophie in Year 8 sharing the spot for their dishes. Sixth form winner was Jay Jay & the lovely Ms McDowell was the staff winner for her tasty oriental dishes.



**Win £10 ... Win £10 ... Win £10**

**How would you like to win £10?**

All you need to do is look at the recipe's on **page 19** .... Make your chosen recipe and take a picture.

**Remember if you don't like Strawberries or have allergies then you can adapt the recipe or use your own chosen recipe.**

When you have made your delicious product then **please remember to send a picture of it** (before you eat it) to.....

[chattercompetition@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:chattercompetition@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

**Enjoy writing? Here are some great competitions for you to enter.....**

### **Young Writers**

A short story competition where they must write a spine-chilling piece in just 100 words. The closing date is also Friday 23rd July.

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-4/spine-chillers-2021>

Poetry competition where they invite students to IMAGINE... and create some thought-provoking poetry. The closing date is Friday 23rd July.

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/KS3-4/imagine>

**Goldsmiths University of London** is running a series of competitions for 16-18 year-olds who are invited to write a short story, a piece of journalism with a historical

angle, or a piece about identity or culture. The Young Writer, Young Columnist and

Young Anthropologist competitions close on 2nd August.

[gold.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/young-writer-competitions/](https://www.gold.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/young-writer-competitions/)

It couldn't be any easier  
Winners all round as you get to eat the yummy food, we get to admire your tasty work! A winner shall be chosen from all entries on **Friday 3rd September** and the prize shall be awarded on **Monday 6th September**.

**GOOD LUCK!!!**



# Where are all the computer parts?



Hadley ~ Year 8

## The Great Computer Shortage



Some of you may have noticed that getting computer parts is considerably harder now than ever. And you're not wrong, even terrible parts are getting very expensive. I saw a GTX 970 for £1000, this is a very old GPU (Graphics Processing Unit) - it isn't very good at running new games, it's one job is to load games with all their fancy graphics, but this particular one wasn't great at it's job even when it was released in 2014.

This is due to the laws of supply and demand which caused this whole problem in the first place. I know, that sounds insane but people started stocking up on laptops, phones and gaming stuff, which tightened the inventory of these companies, as they ordered a certain amount of silicone at the start of the year, and now they didn't expect just how much people would buy.

The companies that make the chips didn't expect the amount either so they were unprepared for what happened.

The shortage isn't over yet. With computer companies saying it will be up to 2 YEARS for the shortage to be over. So sit tight and wait.

## Fission & Fusion

Since the beginning of time, atoms have been colliding and fusing. However us humans never knew of this, until the 1930's when Hans Bethe discovered that atoms could fuse, and that was the energy source for the sun. Then in the 1940's and 1950's with the Manhattan Project America could use nuclear fission to make a lot of energy. This started the atomic age, which started when the first nuclear bomb was detonated (called Trinity, and exploded in New Mexico 65 miles north of Las Vegas on July 16th 1945.)

After this nuclear power was the way of the future, but quickly fell apart as concerns of war and meltdowns showed up.

In 1972 the dream fell apart as the cold war and meltdowns were too much of a problem.

Now we are just unlocking nuclear fusion, not fission. With scientists in China making a reactor 100 million degrees celsius, 7 times hotter than the sun for a short while, and other countries making reactors reaching 15 million.





# 'Bubble' Sports Days

## Year 7

Year 7  
Winners  
Sorrento

A great afternoon was had by all...

The weather stayed fine, the snacks were plentiful and here's what the students had to say about their first, Covid improvised, Sports Day at Dane Court Grammar School:

"I enjoyed taking part and supporting our form."

"I loved taking part in the rounders."

"I really enjoyed the

competitive atmosphere."

"It was cool."

"I felt sad because our parents couldn't come. However it was a really good day."

"I loved the food! Hanging out with everyone was awesome."

"FUN."

"I had fun seeing my friends in a different environment to the classroom or playground."

"It was alright."

"The best thing was the rounders, but I missed some of the matches."

"It was active and I was able to socialise with my Year group."

Year 8  
Winners  
Sorrento

## Year 8

Sports Day Reporters: Michaela & Faye

On the 9th of July 2021, Year 8 spent Period 3 and 4 participating in their first Sports' Day. Due to covid, they had missed their first opportunity in Year 7, so this was a completely new [and of course, exciting!] experience for them. Each form [B,D,H,N,S,T] competed in different sports events to win house points. Whichever form had the most points won!

Students arrived at school in their PE kits [complete with their coloured house tops] and at 11.05am, the fun began. The mini sports' day kicked off with students gathering on the field and meeting their house captains. To be ready for the sports ahead, the house captains led a warm-up while the last few pitches were set up.

**Students created incredible banners to show support and pride for their houses.**

The day finally started to get raring when the rounders games began, some very close games were played as well as some amazing outs and catches not to mention bats going on throughout the series of games.

Soon enough though after Barcelona took the victory rounders game wise the attention was drawn to the races. Everyone ran their hardest trying to win for their house (and bragging rights) and a few of the races were won with it being very close and some not so much...

The races then ended with the relay, there may have been a few jumbles with the baton but nothing that the competitors couldn't easily recover from and gain victory or at least close to victory.

Sadly the mini sports day was drawing to a close but not before everyone had a little bit of fun with the dances, including classics like the Macarena and naturally YMCA. Obviously it would be a waste if some of the house's smooth dance moves weren't commemorated so there was an element of you guessed it competition. And if my memory serves me right it was close between Delphi and Helsinki but Helsinki were the ultimate winners.

I must mention how nice and kind the food tech department was for bringing the food and selling it to us. In my personal opinion it was another one of the contributing factors that made Sports day so fun. Thank you to all the staff that helped!



# 'Bubble' Sports Days

**Year 9  
Winners  
Tallinn**

## Year 9

### A spectators view on sports day

Sports Day was very fun this year! Even though I did not participate, I still enjoyed it. It was quite hot and sunny but could at times get cloudy. Watching my classmates do the races and relays was the most interesting part as it was quite intense and often were very close. In relay A, the team from H won, and in relay B, the team from S won. The food there was really nice, there was a variety of foods such as churros, hot dogs, different cakes and a selection of sweets. There were also ice lollies and a selection of nice drinks to have. Near to the end of the afternoon, we all had a dance off between the houses, it was quite exciting! Rounders was entertaining to watch and I nearly got hit by the ball a few times! The winners of rounders in our year was Tallinn.  
**Chloe**

### An participants perspective

I remember finding it amusing walking towards the field and hearing Mr White commentating on everything that was happening. I was excited to participate in a fun-filled afternoon of competition!

The events started with two representatives from each house competing in discus, long-jump and shot put. In discus, a student from N won out of the girls and a representative from T won out of the boys. For long-jump, participants from B and T won their events. The shot put event was won by students representing S, in the girls category, and H, in the boys category. It was very fun to watch and participate in (as I came 3rd in the discus event).

At the end of the day, the scores were revealed: with Delphi in 6th place, Barcelona in 5th, Sorrento in 4th, Neuchatel in 3rd, Helsinki in 2nd and Tallinn coming in first!  
**Annabelle**

**Year 10  
Winners  
Neuchatel**

## Year 10

Considering we couldn't have a full sports day this year, I thoroughly enjoyed it! The final standings for year 10 were - Sorrento in 6th..... Helsinki in 2nd and Neuchatel in 1st. Everyone was extremely supportive and the atmosphere was overall very energetic. Personally, I came 3rd in the 200m, ate a lot of churros and really went for the dance off at the end- We totally should have won that!. An incredible morning all round, topped off with Mr White's amazing commentary! GO HELSINKI WOLVES. - **Ellie**

It was my last sports day at Dane Court and so I decided that although I have a knee injury, I would still participate! I did rounders and the 400m relay- despite the pain I was in afterwards. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience!- **Amelie**

## Year 11

Year 11 at Dane Court don't normally have a Sports Day however this year was different and they did! A fun filled afternoon of rounders, discus, shot put and long jump was had with a finale of the usual track events.





# Sports Day Fun in Pictures

Year 12  
Winners  
Barcelona

## Year 12

On Friday 2nd July, Year 12 spent the afternoon taking part in their own mini sports day. As sixth formers don't usually participate in sports days this was the perfect opportunity for them to take a break and relax after their recent exams.

The sun was shining and the afternoon kicked off with rounders, where teams of 8 students from each form played a series of inter-house matches. Barcelona especially had great success in the rounders matches, winning the majority of the games they played.

After a break for refreshments, the field events started, with competitors from each house taking part in the 100m, 200m, the egg and spoon race, the bean bag on the head race, the sack race and finally the tug of war with successes for multiple houses.

The events ended with a very competitive student versus staff tug of war with Mr White, Mr Argyrides, Miss Metcalf, Mr Coyne and Mr Howard competing against five year 12 students. It was a close call but in the end the teachers claimed victory.

An array of medals were presented to the winners of both the individual events and the rounders tournaments and following on from their impressive performance in rounders, Barcelona were declared the winners of the sports day.

Thank you to the sixth form team and the PE department for organising this event and to the Food Tech department for providing the refreshments!





# Local Elections



George ~ Year 8

## The 6th of May Elections



On Thursday the 6th of May, the UK public went to the polls to elect Councillors, Police and Crime Commissioners and Mayors for some areas. It was widely observed that the Labour Party candidates in Mayoral elections managed to maintain their Mayorships. Examples being labour candidates Sadiq Khan and Andy Burnham being re-elected for a second term in their respective cities of London and Greater Manchester. However, the Labour Party suffered numerous losses when it came to electing councillors. But the biggest loss, but also concern, was the Labour defeat in the Hartlepool by-election, a by-election was held because the previous MP for the area, Mike Hill, had resigned. The Conservative candidate, Jill Mortimer, won and became the first woman to represent the town in parliament, but also the first Conservative MP for the constituency in 57 years. This can be partially attributed to the Brexit Party in 2019 splitting the Conservative vote, this goes not just for Hartlepool, but gives a reason as to why many conservative party candidates were elected recently and hadn't made it in 2019. Interestingly, some voting patterns arose while observing the voting data. It was found through council ward data that the Conservatives improved their results in areas that saw a high UKIP vote in 2016 and 2017. The Conservatives also made gains in areas with a higher proportion of traditional working class jobs, but the biggest gains for the conservative party was observed to be in areas with fewer graduates.

But now let's look at the results more locally. Kent County Council went safely to the Conservative Party. The Broadstairs seat was won by Conservative candidate Rosalind Blinks with 2695 votes (51%) and the labour candidate, Aram Ahmad Rawf, came in second with 1549 votes (29%). However, the Margate seat was won by the Labour candidate, Barry Harvey Lewis, with 1376 votes (42%) while it was a close second place for the Conservative candidate, Ash Ashbee, who received 1292 votes (40%). The Ramsgate seat was won by 2 candidates, one was a conservative candidate, Trevor Shonk, who got 19% of the votes while the other candidate, Karen Mary Constantine, was representing the Labour Party and won 17% of the votes.

## Unusual Animals by Shannon ~ Year 7

There are more unusual animals than you think. There are fish that have a single antenna on their head that has a light coming out of the top of it. In this article, I am going to show you some more examples of unique, but unusual animals.

To begin with, I am going to tell you about a Magnificent frigatebird. These animals are found in the Galapagos islands. The features of these unusual animals are:

- There long rounded belly (usually red)
- Their long angular wings
- A forked tail, usually held to a point.



A Magnificent Frigatebird looks like this... Truly magnificent isn't it!!

## Summer time strawberry recipes

### Quick

#### Ingredients for Milkshake:

- About 10 large strawberries washed and chopped into large pieces
- 2 ½ cups all-natural vanilla ice cream
- 2 cups whole milk

#### Instructions:

1. Add the chopped strawberries to a 6-cup blender,
2. then add remaining ingredients
3. Blend until smooth but still thick
4. Pour into tall frozen glass

### Share with family

#### Ingredients for Cheesecake:

- 150g melted butter
- 300g crushed digestive biscuits
- 650g soft cream cheese
- 175g icing sugar
- 300ml double cream
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 200g diced strawberries

#### Instructions:

1. Mix the crushed biscuits and butter, place in the bottom of a buttered tin. Set in fridge.
2. Whisk the cream cheese, then add the icing sugar and mix till smooth. Next pour the cream and vanilla extract into a separate bowl. Whisk to very soft peaks, finally gently fold the cream and diced strawberries into the cream cheese mixture.
3. Spread the mixture over the digestive base, leave to set for at least 4 hours.

### Cool

#### Ingredients for Cookies:

- 120g finely chopped strawberries, freeze them
- 250g plain flour
- 100g granulated sugar
- 2 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ unsalted butter
- 80 ml whole milk
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp vanilla essence

#### Instructions:

1. Mix the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt.
2. Cut butter into the dry ingredients until coarse crumbs form.
3. Whisk the wet ingredients (does not include butter) together then add to the dry ingredients. Mix with spatula until the dough is thick and sticky, don't overwork it.
4. Mix in the strawberries (if they do not all go in you can always add them later). Chill the dough for 45 minutes.
5. Use a table spoon to scoop up the right amount of dough then dollop it onto baking trays lined with greaseproof paper. Press any spare strawberries onto the cookies.
6. Bake for 15-16 minutes, you could sprinkle with granulated sugar, to add an extra crunch.





# Farewells

The end of the school year 2020-2021 as usual also brings with it a few teachers that are sadly leaving the school for various reasons.



**Mr Towe**- Well what can we say.... Mr Towe has been teaching at Dane Court for an amazing 45 years!!! He has taught thousands of students over the years not only PE but other subjects around the school. A much loved teacher who we are sad to see go, but Chatter wishes him all the best in whatever he is doing next... Did you know he can still do press ups!

**Mrs Ricketts**- At the end of the summer holiday our Deputy Office Manager, Julie Ricketts will be retiring after over 24 years at Dane Court. Mrs Ricketts has taken on many different roles within the admin team and has made a massive contribution to the life of Dane Court. A huge amount of students and staff members have benefitted from her kindness and support over the years. We wish her all the best for her retirement, she will be greatly missed.



**Mr Morris**- Mr Shakespeare himself... Enthusiastic is not the word... Drama & ICE shall be very different in September without the humour and enthusiasm of this teacher. We at Chatter hope you are successful in your next venture. You shall be missed.

**Miss Whelan**- TA Superstar! Here on a gap year before setting off to the world of university to become a vet, Miss Whelan (**NOT** Mrs Whelan) has been an absolute asset to Dane Court! She will be missed by all students & staff that have had the pleasure of working with her.

Good luck and we are sorry we couldn't sway you into liking children more than animals! If you change your mind you know where we are!

## Chatter's Own Farewell

The end of this school year also see's a sad farewell to our founder member of Chatter Jacob- an inspiration to everyone he meets Kind, caring & considerate and ALWAYS willing to help! We will miss your tremendously loud clap, telling us all to be quiet, the rattling of the biscuit tin & the long speeches.

Good luck at University & in all that you do in the future- We are almost certain this shall not be a goodbye but more of a see ya later!





# Year 11 Leavers

## Gabriela ~ Year 11

On the 18th of June, Year 11 had their last day of the school year, and the last day of Dane Court *ever* for many students! The day began with a frenzied hour of shirt signing in the N plaza, with both students and teachers running to and fro armed with Sharpies from every colour in the rainbow. Then afterwards, we were all ushered down into the Heart for a *heart*-touching assembly, with inputs from all of the fantastic Year 11 mentors. The slideshows presented earned numerous laughs, as well as a few nostalgic sighs. Palms were definitely stinging afterwards! The theme of hustle and bustle continued as the whole year group was sent off by 10:30; short but sweet!

I think I speak for all of year 11 in saying a big thank you to all our teachers over the years for dealing with the strenuous and near-impossible task of keeping us under control. We certainly wouldn't be where we are today without your help. See you next year!



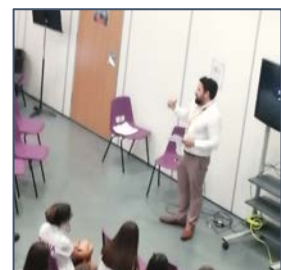
### Final Farewell assembly messages for our Year 11 Students

**Mrs Whelan** said it all in her form speech- This year 11's song should 100% be Break My Stride. The Year 11 students this year have fought through with resilience, strength & pride.

This was echoed in the brief speech from **Mrs Brissenden**- She managed a very short break from what she does best teaching Maths. "**Back to the whiteboard**"

#### **Yr 11 Head - Mr Wheeler**

Remember moving forward that you can't have success without failure, frustration, hard work, aspiration and anxiety- **Year 11 you did it, you made it!** And every single one of you did this with resilience, determination, on behalf of all the teachers at Dane Court we are incredibly proud of you all. Moving forward in the future, always remember what you have achieved in these tough 2 school years. **You are amazing!**





# Leaving for 6th form & my time in Chatter

## Grace ~ Year 11

I moved school to Dane Court in March of 2018 and I think it's fair to say that it has been a bit of a wild ride.

Knowing that I'll be leaving school soon has admittedly made me feel incredibly nostalgic. But I'm excited for all the new things to come, it's very strange to think that I am taking the final exams of my secondary school career! Truth be told my head is still spinning with how quickly the time feels like it has gone. I am incredibly lucky to have had some absolutely amazing people around me, and to those people (you know who you are) I want to say thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

Being part of Chatter amongst some other school clubs such as Radio is something that I will never forget; seeing my articles along with the articles of some of the most artistic, creative, funny and kind people in the school is absolutely mind-blowing and I hope that having the opportunity to work on this newspaper with everyone else is never lost on me. I definitely won't ever forget the arguments over the biscuits!

Editions 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16 and now 18! Chatter has been a huge part of my time here at Dane Court and it's absolutely gutting to think that this will be my last edition, so I'll wrap this up now before I get too sappy.

It's been amazing writing for Chatter, thank you and Good luck xxx

## A big Chatter thank you to our amazing NHS

**For all the hours you work  
for all the long days,  
late nights  
and early starts**

**for those who go unrecognised**

**For those who are overworked  
for keeping us all safe**

**Day or night**

**Rain or shine**

**Twenty four seven**

**Three hundred and sixty five days a  
year**

**Thank you doesn't quite cut it  
but from everyone here at Dane Court  
Chatter**

**THANK YOU**

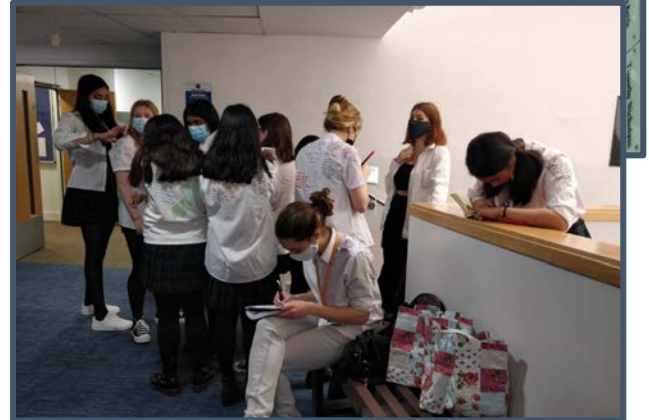




# Year 13 Leavers & IB Results

By 'That Guy'

**GOOD LUCK  
YEAR 13!**



What is there to say. For many of us this will be the last time we walked through those doors into this school and it is a thrilling yet saddening event at the same time. 7 years have been spent with 5 days a week coming into Dane Court and now we all move on to our next stage in life.

It's sad to say goodbye to everyone after so many wonderful times together but many heartfelt memories have come from our time together and the impact everyone has had on us in our time here will follow us for the rest of our lives. Congratulations to everyone who got their results with me and have the best life you can live. "That Guy" signing out for now...

## Year 13's amazing IB Results 2021

- 60% of the students at Dane Court received a grade 6/7 in their subjects.
- A maximum of 45 points can be awarded. The overall average for this year was 36.5 points, which is the highest score received by our students in the history of Dane Court.

**Fantastic achievement by all students.... Well done Year 13 !!!**

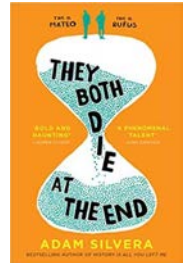


# Some ideas for reading on lazy summer days...

Mrs Finlay

### ***They Both Die at the End* by Adam Silvera**

A moving, unforgettable tale of life, loss and making each day count.



### ***We Were Liars* by E Lockheart**

Family summers spent on a private island, filled with romance and suspense.

### ***A Sky Painted Gold* by Laura Wood**

A dreamy coming-of-age romance set one Cornish summer with a nod to Gatsby.

### ***The Gilded Ones* by Namina Forna**

Deke, rejected by her village, goes on an adventure of her life - an epic fantasy.

### ***Rise to the Sun* by Leah Johnson**

Two girls collide at a music festival.



### ***Shadow & Bone* by Leigh Bardugo**

The beginning of the Grishaverse trilogy, a magical fantasy adventure.

### ***A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* by KHolly Jackson**

An energetic page-turning murder mystery.

### ***The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* by Suzanne Collins**

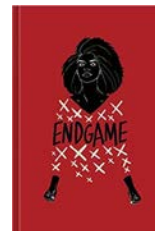
Return to the world of the Hunger Games with this prequel focussing on 18 year old Corrilanus Snow.



And a new publication to look forward to in September:

### ***Endgame* by Malorie Blackman**

A breathtaking conclusion to Sephy and Callum's story in this dystopian Noughts and Crosses series.





# Library ePlatform

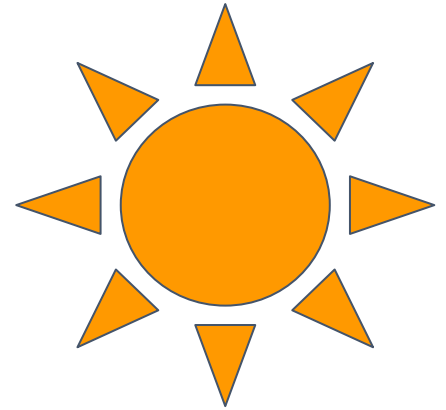
Mrs Finlay

## E-books for all students



Your e-library can be found here:

[danecourt.eplatform.co](http://danecourt.eplatform.co)



You will be able to choose from over 1250 of the latest contemporary fiction books as well as a large Wellness collection of books - all via an ePlatform app.

The new ePlatform app is your ticket to unlock the world of eBooks.

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Even if you're offline, the ePlatform app is the quickest and easiest way to borrow and read eBooks on your iPad, Galaxy, Windows tablet or other tablet/mobile device - without downloading any additional software.

Just log in once and begin reading; when you exit, your place is automatically bookmarked and you can begin where you stopped with just one click.

With full-screen reading mode there are many ways to customize your display, using different fonts and coloured background to help with dyslexia, and a night reading mode.

**Happy reading over the summer!**