



## Duke of Edinburgh Award Student Success

**Eighteen Dane Court students** were enrolled on to the Duke of Edinburgh programme in October 2020 and a total of 18 completed their award - **an amazing 100% success rate with the national average being just 47%!**

Students would like to say an enormous thank you to all staff and the school who have supported them with the award programme and continue to do so, not to mention all the teachers who have written assessor reports to enable our success!!

**WELL DONE to them all!**

## Dane Court triumphant in U19 Kent County Cup Final:



On a clear, crisp Friday evening at Margate Football Club, Dane Court Grammar School's Under 19 footballers won an enthralling encounter against Harvey Grammar School from Folkestone. Dane Court were never behind on the scoreboard but the result was in doubt until the final seconds of a frantic 90 minutes and then a frenzied 20 minute period of extra time.

Goals from Jack Hawkins, Matthew Weatherley and Josh Belsey gave Dane Court a 3-1 lead as normal time began to run out, however Harvey rallied with 2 quick goals to square the game. In extra time, Dane Court retook the lead twice as Belsey completed his hat trick before being pegged back yet again. It took a 6th goal for the Broadstairs school, courtesy of Jack Hawkins, to seal victory with just 2 minutes left to play.

In a superb advert for schools football, both sides produced some skillful play and stunning goals. As Captain Matt Weatherley lifted the trophy for the White Cup the crowd of over 400 raised their voices in raucous support as they had done all game.

**See Page 5 For the full insiders report by our Sports editor Todd, who was also part of this successful team!**

## Also in this edition of Chatter

- Ukraine appeal
- Creative writing
- Book reviews
- Queen's Jubilee - what's coming up
- Bon voyage to some fond members of Dane Court staff



# Contents

Page 3- Clubs in school

Pages 4-5 Sporting success.. We Won the Kent Cup!!!

Page 6 - Fundraising success

Pages 7-8 Autism & Me

Page 9 - What's on stage awards

Page 10 - Volcanic eruption & DCGS star role in Bugsy Malone

Page 11 - Rising energy prices- Chatters political editor gives the run-down.

Page 12- Starlink communication

Page 13- Chessington Review

Page 14- Best songs of the 21st century

Page 15- Inflation update

Page 16- All things gaming

Page 17- Super slang- An original story

Page 18- Grofin's guide to DND

Page 19- National Careers week

Page 20-21 Looking to our future, GCSE options and beyond



Page 22- All things Jubilee & your chance to join in the fun & win some ££££Cash

Page 23- Army cadets

Page 24- It's in your stars...

Page 25- Film reviews

Page 26-27 Just for fun over Easter & PTA News

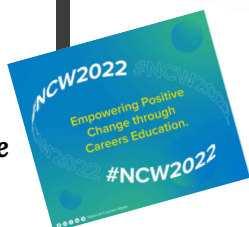
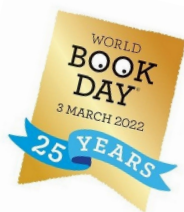
Page 28-Millionaire Shortbread recipe & Medieval Banquet Briefing

Page 29- Competitions galore

Page 30- Library Update

Page 31-32 - Book reviews

Page 33- What to look forward to in the next edition of Chatter



# Words from the Editor

Hello DCGS Chatter readers & welcome to Chatter 21!

We have, as always, so many delightful articles within this edition so 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 to bring you an **eggscellent** variety of articles from members of the team across the school community.

It has been a successful couple of terms and we had plenty to report on. How **eggsiting!**

This is our 3rd edition of Chatter this school year and the newspaper just keeps getting better and better! (Maybe it was the return of the biscuits in meetings.. Hmmm)

Please enjoy this edition, perhaps whilst eating some nice chocolate or a hot cross bun, stay safe and we will see you all back in school on **Tuesday 19th April 2022.**

Have a great Easter,

The Ed

This Editions Chatter Team...

**Year 7 Team** - Eliana, Leah, Caitlin, Rosie, Megan, Grace, Sadie, Bella, Isabella

**Year 8 Team** - Sophie, Florence, Idunumi, Aditya, Lily, Shannon, Annabelle, Charlotte

**Year 9 Team** - George, Hayden, Hadley, Michaela, Cameron, Enya, Yash, Oliver, Abigail

**Year 10 Team** - Joe

**Year 11 Team** - Ellie

**6th Form Team**- Grace, Gabriela & Todd

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



# Clubs in school

## Enya - Year 9

### Monday

- ★ Table tennis - After school - PE studio - For KS3
- ★ Chatter - Lunchtime - Library - For All
- ★ Choir - After school - H7 - For All



### Tuesday

- ★ Junior Book Club - Lunchtime - Library - Year 7 & 8
- ★ Trampolining (sign up) - After school - PE hall - KS3 & GCSE
- ★ Rugby - After school - PE field - KS3
- ★ Art Club - 3:20 - 4:30 - Art Block - All Years
- ★ Calm Club - Lunchtime - ? - All Years (invite only)
- ★ Orchestra - 3:30 - 4:30 - H7 - All Years
- ★ Jazz Band - 4:30 - 5:00 - H7 - All Years
- ★ Debating Club - Week A 3:30 - 4:30 - Library - All Years
- ★ Young Carers club- Lunchtime- PSO 3-All years



### Wednesday

- ★ Basketball - After School - PE hall - KS4 & 5
- ★ Mindset - Lunchtime - ? - All Years (invite only)
- ★ Beginner Steel Band - 3:30 - 4:15 - H7 - All Years
- ★ Advanced Steel Band - 4:15 - 5:00 - H7 - All Years
- ★ Mathsborne - After School - S Plaza - Year 10 & 11 (invite only)



### Thursday

- ★ Climbing - After School - PE climbing wall - All Years
- ★ Drama - 3:30 - 4:30 - H1 - Year 7 - 10
- ★ Senior Book Club - Lunchtime - Library - Year 9 and above
- ★ Film Club - Week A After School - M4 - 6th Form
- ★ Manga Club - Lunchtime - L8 - All Years
- ★ Debating Club - Week B 3:30 - 4:30 - Library - All Years

### Friday

- ★ D&D - After School - Library - All Years
- ★ Chatter - Lunchtime - Library - All Years
- ★ Yoga - After School - PE studio - KS5







# Sporting success in school & out



## Cross Country Championships

**Two of our very talented Dane Court students were selected for the Kent squad for the English Schools Cross Country Championships.** This competition showcases the top talent from around the country, with each county selecting their top 8 male & female athletes, per age group, to compete against the rest of England. **Kent has been a particularly strong county in this competition in recent years, so it is even more of an achievement to be selected.** This year, the English Schools Championships were held on home turf with the Hop Farm, Paddock Wood, hosting the event on Saturday 19th March.

Both Natalia and Jake were interviewed by members of the Chatter team to give details of their amazing achievement & a bit of background to the event.

### ***Jake- Year 11***

#### **Did you think the event is well organised?**

Yes, the event is always really well organised. It is a really big event- the biggest of the season. The trials are held in January and this is my 3rd time of doing this particular event. There are approximately 48 counties involved across England, meaning there is approximately 760 runners competing.

#### **Wow, 3 times... So tell us a little bit more about your journey? Representing Kent is a HUGE achievement after all!**

I am part of a running club called Canterbury Injurance & I have been selected for the last 3 years to represent Kent in this event and although it is a lot of pressure, I have made good progress along my journey. It is a really positive experience to be involved with and I get to meet lots of new people who all have common interests with myself. I have 2 more years left that I can still do this particular event and hope to continue improving my ability into my adulthood.

#### **So how did you do?**

I came 17th overall but for me it is more about being part of a team, we all did amazingly well and it really is all about the positive experiences. I am incredibly proud to have the opportunity to represent Kent!

### ***Natalia- Year 10***

#### **Tell us a little about your running journey...**

I started running, by doing the cross country at school in year 4 when I was approximately 8 years old. I realised I enjoyed it and did some longer races when I started Dane Court and decided to join a running club called Medway Maidstone as they offered many more opportunities than clubs more local.

I love cross country running as each course is so different, takes different strengths and we meet new people all the time. We travel as a team to large events by coach and stay overnight- so become good friends and a close team- it really is about teamwork as much as your own individual journey.

#### **Is this event your most enjoyable, and how do you prepare for something so big?**

I train in all weathers such as rain & have even trained previously in snow. I find hills difficult but the courses leading up to this event prepare us. We train all year round for this main event as it's course really tests all of your strengths and weaknesses.

#### **Representing Kent is an amazing opportunity, how do you feel about this and how the race went?**

I feel that representing Kent fills me with pride and is a real honour, the Kent team all really support each other and it is great to know that all your hard work and perseverance has paid off.

I didn't have the best start to the race but I persevered and climbed on up the course & completed it midfield. This however is hopefully not my last time at this event and I have plans to strengthen myself more for next time.



# Kent U19's Cup Final Success



**By Chatter's Sports Editor Todd**

Drama, elation, euphoria. All were personified in a sensational Kent cup final match between Dane Court and Harvey Grammar School in a game that ended 6-5. Both teams fought tirelessly to reach a much anticipated final and the expectations were certainly made into a reality. After defeating the highly regarded Howard school in the semi-finals, the 25th of March was the date on the tip of everybody's tongue and a sense of hope undoubtedly inspired the team to achieve history, all of which would not have been possible without the enthusiastic dedication of the sport teachers.

Scoring began on the night after great work from Sammi Takaloo who's cross found the feet of Jack Hawkins who calmly slotted away to give the home side the lead. After an amazing free-kick from the visitors to level the score, a precise Josh Belsey free kick found the head of captain, Matt Weatherley, who bravely put his body on the line to find the net. Next came what we all thought would be the game winner. How wrong we were! An exquisite Josh Belsey free kick, after some theatrical manoeuvring from Weatherley, saw Dane Court take a 3-1 lead, a scoreline which seemed relatively comfortable... for about two minutes as Harvey GS found the net twice in quick succession again levelling the scoreline much to the dismay of the passionate crowd in attendance, sending the game to extra time.

However, the spectacle did not stop, yet another screamer from the undisputed player of the match, Josh Belsey, made it 4-3 but was cancelled out soon after. Belsey swiftly completed his hat-trick to top off a stellar performance but Harvey GS again equalised. The tension in Hartsdown Park was palpable. The game was spectacularly won by another goal from the man who began the proceedings, Jack Hawkins, and put an end not only to the scoring but to a simply historic event.

The bright future of the football at Dane Court was portrayed through youthful exuberance from Year 11's Sam Coulson and Louis Procopi adding further excitement to a magnificent display not only from them but from all of those involved and has unquestionably helped to create a night that will be remembered for decades to come.

## DCGS Ukraine Appeal

A big thank you to all those who have donated to the appeal so far, we have had two collections so far of much needed items. We are still collecting items to be donated so there is still time. Money is also needed by the cause for fuel for the HGVs that will take all of these donations to Poland, A Go Fund me page has been set up and we are asking if you can share this far and wide especially with people that have businesses or if they are part of organisations that could support us. The Go Fund Me Page can be found at

[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/igor-kovalenko-1?utm\\_source=whatsapp&utm\\_medium=socpledgemobile&utm\\_content=igor-kovalenko-1&utm\\_campaign=post-pledge-mobile&utm\\_term=vxG2pyjD7](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/igor-kovalenko-1?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=socpledgemobile&utm_content=igor-kovalenko-1&utm_campaign=post-pledge-mobile&utm_term=vxG2pyjD7)



# Fundraising across the school

## 9N Charity Bakesale

In true Chatter style a group of Year 9 students organised their own bake sale to raise money for the RSPCA. Here is their report on how they did....

On Monday, 7th February, many students in the form of 9N took part in planning, supplying for and running a bake sale. The funds raised went to the RSPCA. **We wish to thank all the students and staff who contributed to the £63.66 we all raised.** More than 80% of this (about 83p from £1) is used to rescue and care for vulnerable animals and then rehome or release them.

### What did we do to plan?

Firstly, we assigned roles, from poster design to cake making and selling. We also allocated who made what type of cake. We put up posters around the school for advertising purposes.

### What did people make?

Michaela - Macaroons

Oliver - Lemon and chocolate cupcakes

Enya - Rocky roads

Gabriel - Brownies

Mary - Chocolate cake

Cameron - Fruit cupcakes



Watch out for Chatters own bake sale returning to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee... See page 22 for more detail

### Some more information on the RSPCA:

The RSPCA is one of the oldest animal welfare organisations in the UK, protecting them from severe cruelty, care for them and nurse them to help, then release or rehome the animals.

The funds help by allowing the charity to make and purchase medicines and medical equipment, they can employ more people to help them care for animals. They can buy more vehicles to transport the animals from cruelty and abandonment to the charity bases where they are restored to health and to rehome them.

## Year 8's Get Physical

Members of 8D decided to try and increase the physical activity each of them did over this term, as feeling better physically and mentally they were more likely to cope with everyday challenges, and be nicer people who were more likely to show principled, caring and open minded characteristics! This was as part of their mentoring curriculum.

The students have done a variety of things from learning a new skate-boarding trick, walking the family dog everyday, dance classes, taekwondo, cycle rides, taking part in team games and doing the 'couch to 5K' programme. One group of boys decided to organise a charity football match for Year 8 students which happened after school last Tuesday. Those that took part really enjoyed the event, despite a couple of injuries and raised £70 for Cancer Research UK - a fantastic achievement.

**Mrs Gallantree is a very proud Mentor of you all!**

## Year 7's Fundraising

Year 7 students from also raised money for charity this term. Their chosen charity was Save the Rhino and each form held various events to raise funds. These included guess the staff from the baby photo, guess the name of the rhino, a bake sale, guess how many sweets in the jar a raffle and even a penalty shoot out where Mr Richardson was dressed in a Lion costume!!!



# Autism and Me



## Grace - Year 7

### My Story

I was diagnosed in August 2020 when I was 10 years old. When I was told by Psicon that I have Autism I didn't really know how to feel, I didn't really believe it because at the time I thought if you had Autism you would be more hyper and you would be more overwhelmed and show it but what I didn't know was that I was one of the many Autistic people that do something called **masking**. Now you may be asking, what is masking? Masking is something that most Autistic people do where you hide how you are really feeling, it's almost like you are in another person's body on the outside but on the inside you are hiding how you are really feeling. Compared to my siblings I act a lot differently because they don't mask as much as I do. I struggle in school more than at home because of my Autism because I mask. Masking is draining, having to hide your feelings all day everyday really takes up your energy. When I get home from school I will either burst into tears or be exhausted because I hide my real feelings all day and then I get home and I just explode. Life with Autism can be quite hard because you feel so different to everyone else but as you get used to it you start to feel like you fit in a bit more. Living with Autism is also stressful especially when people ask what Autism is because it's hard to explain. In my opinion more people need to know about Autism. It's such a serious and in a way fascinating thing and hardly anyone knows about it.

I remember my mum took me to a place called Psicon to see if I had Autism, here's how I saw it.

We parked outside of Psicon in Canterbury, I was shaking. 'What is Autism?' I thought to myself. My mum reassured me and we walked in together. I sat down and waited to be called in, hugging my mum tightly. 5-10 minutes passed and that's when I heard it, 'Grace?' Called a lady in the room next to our seats. I got up reluctantly squeezing my mum's hand. They told me that I would play with toys with one lady and the other lady was going to go upstairs with my mum. My heart started beating so fast I couldn't hear myself think. Before I could say anything I hid my face by hugging my mum and tears rolled down my cheeks. I hated the thought of being away from my mum, especially with someone I've never met. What if they hurt her? What if they take her away from me forever? (Of course, that wasn't true and I was just overthinking, turns out I also have separation anxiety which is why I felt that way but that's a whole other story!) My brain filled with thoughts that clearly weren't true. I eventually (With the bribery of getting a McDonalds milkshake after if I was good) let go of my mum and went and sat down. The lady was surprisingly nice and cheered me up. We did puzzles and played with toys and play-doh.

An hour passed and my mum with the lady came downstairs! I ran to my mum and hugged her, we were told to go upstairs by another lady- to be honest I was ready to get out of there! We sat down in a small room, mum and the lady were having a discussion and then they said it... 'Grace, you have Autism' I froze and my heart sank. I kept thinking to myself, don't cry. I tried to hold the tears back as much as I could and didn't cry. Me and my mum left the building and I just exploded. I sat in the car and hugged my mum.

At the time, I thought that it meant I wasn't normal anymore & everyone would hate me because of it. Of course now I know that Autism isn't that bad afterall and in fact it didn't change me or who I am as I have always been autistic - I just didn't know it!

### 3 Pieces of Advice

-If you/a friend or family member gets diagnosed with Autism just think, will Autism really change who you are? I'm still Grace even though I have Autism! If people you know have been diagnosed with Autism support them as much as you can! This can be extremely hard for them to accept. If you are diagnosed with Autism, only tell people when and if you're ready to!

-Having Autism doesn't mean you now aren't "normal", it makes you even cooler! Don't forget some of the most famous and smartest people in the world are/were Autistic!

- You've always been Autistic, even before you were diagnosed so don't let the fact that it is finally confirmed make you any less of the person you are.- By my brother Owen



# Autism and Me

Grace - Year 7

## What Autistic People See

If someone says something in a sarcastic way most Autistic people will have to be told that it's sarcasm so that they understand otherwise they will think you are being serious. Some Autistic people zone out, which is when they get lost in their own thoughts. Personally, I really struggle with zoning out because I will be in the middle of a lesson and all of a sudden I will be in my own world thinking about things like 'What am I having for dinner tonight?' Or 'I wonder what ..... is thinking right now?'. Sometimes people might be trying to talk to you and when you're zoned out it's like you block out reality and focus on whatever you're thinking about. A really interesting thing about people with Autism that most people don't believe is that some Autistic people find things a lot easier than people without Autism. Most Autistic people find it harder to process things and have hardly any or no common sense. If an Autistic person sees someone who is hurt or in trouble they may either go into 'panic mode' or completely ignore the situation. Sometimes people with Autism don't really know how to react in situations like that so they aren't being rude they just don't know how to react. I personally laugh, not to be rude, just because I don't know what to do! Most Autistic people find it hard to communicate, so someone might ask them something but they may not respond because they don't know how to. Some people say that most boys show Autism and girls hide their Autism but that's really offensive and wrong, my sister is just like my brother in the sense that she shows her Autism a lot more in comparison to me, so does that mean she's a boy now? No! Absolutely not! All Autistic people are different in their own ways and none of us are the exact same, we are all perfectly imperfect whether you have Autism or not.

## Popular Questions About ASC (Autism Spectrum Condition)

**'Can Autistic people feel empathy?'** - Absolutely yes! We may struggle to show it but trust me we feel it!

**'How long does it take for a diagnosis?'** - Unfortunately, it can take several months or even years to even be put on the waiting list. Personally, I think this is ridiculous but specialists are trying so hard so it's understandable in a way.

**'Does Autism last for your whole life?'** - Yes! Autism is a lifelong condition that you are born with

**'What are signs of Autism in children?'** - It's hard to tell because we learn strategies to do certain things For example, I used to always avoid eye contact but as I grew up I learnt how to make eye contact. There are many signs but some are: Struggling to show emotion, overstimulated often, delayed speech/Fast at speaking, Unexpected facial expressions/actions to certain things, hating change and so much more.

**'What are the good sides of Autism?'** - Love this question! Autism can be a great thing in so many ways! Autistic people are so unique and most Autistic people can do certain things that most neurotypical people struggle with, like Einstein!

**'How does Autism affect your daily life?'** - This is quite a hard question to answer because we don't really know what it's like to not be Autistic!

**'How did your mum and the doctors know you had it?'** - My mum picked up on it because my brother has it so she knew what to look out for, she's also qualified in childcare so she spotted it quite easily. The doctors based it on observation and how I process things which is why one of the ladies played with me so she knew how I reacted to it. They do scores to make sure that what they think is 100% right!





# What's on stage? Awards update

## Grace - Year 12

Here we are at awards season again! We have seen many amazing productions that were pushed back due to covid finally open, including Andrew Lloyd Webber's cinderella, the broadway production of six and so many more. Without further ado, let's have a look at the winners...

### **Best west end show- Six**

With some of the toughest competition imaginable (beating Hamilton Les Miserables, Wicked and Come from away) The sensational concert themed musical focused on the Wives of Henry VII reigned supreme! Polish your crowns, grab your tudor ruff and be ready to dance! Watch Six now in the Vaudville theatre in the west end, or on tour in many venues around the UK

### **Best new musical - Back to the future**

Keep your flux-capacitors at the ready and don't forget to fuel up your dalorians because where we're going- we don't need roads! Yep that's right we're going back to the 80's... wait no the 50's... with Bob Gale and Robert Zemeckis' new musical inspired by the cult classic *back to the future* which has taken the West end by storm, currently playing at the Adelphi theatre

### **Best new play - 2:22**

'If ghosts aren't real... why do so many people still see them?' is the question asked by Danny Robins' 2:22. After experiencing supernatural events every night at the same time a couple convince their friends to stay awake with them until 2:22, so they'll finally know for sure. Selling out time and time again to huge acclaim, 2:22 has recently been announced a third limited run in the criterion theatre.

### **Best performer in a male identifying role in a musical - Eddie Redmayne**

From Paris in Les miserables, to the wizarding world of Hogwarts and now Cabaret's kit kat club Eddie Redmayne has once again proven that his acting chops are not to be underestimated in his role as Emcee in Cabaret. Cabaret tells the story of pre-war Germany and the Nazi's rise to power through the lense of a cabaret club. Currently at the Playhouse theatre for a limited time only

### **Best performer in a female identifying role in a musical - Carrie Hope Fletcher**

Once again Carrie Hope Fletcher has wowed audiences and stolen the show in her role as Cinderella. This re-telling of the classic tale is (whilst not without its problems) thoroughly entertaining and Carrie Hope Fletcher deserves every bit of praise for her performance as the lead, watch her now at the Vaudeville theatre





# Volcanic Eruption Hits Tonga



Eliana - Year 7

## Tonga volcano: Eruption reported to be more powerful than atomic bomb

In the early hours on the 15 of January 2022 Nasa stated that "A volcanic eruption in Tonga that triggered a tsunami was hundreds of times more powerful than the atomic bomb the US dropped on Hiroshima during World War Two"

The eruption "obliterated" a volcanic island north of the Tongan capital .

More than four-fifths of the population was affected by the tsunami and falling ash. Three people were reportedly confirmed killed in the tsunami.

Before the eruption, the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcanic island was two separate islands joined by new land formed in 2015, but Nasa says the eruption was so powerful all the new land is gone, along with "large chunks" of the two older islands.

The widespread emission of volcanic ash, gases and particles from the eruption was proven to be a massive challenge for Tongan officials, fearing that the water sources had been polluted by the blankets of ash and that there would be an increased risk of diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea. Luckily tests carried out a few days after the tsunami had eradicated any such risks and the ground water & rainwater was declared safe to drink. The only risk to public health now was the emissions and volcanic ash on the lungs, eyes and skin, potentially causing breathing difficulties.



## My FIRST lead role...Eek! By Ellie - Year 11



Following the AMAZING outcome of Oliver the Musical with Herne Bay Youth Theatre, I decided to audition for yet another show. This time for Bugsy Malone, I wanted to go for the main female role. It was great to get back into the studio and see the cast again! After waiting in anticipation, three days after my audition I received the cast list.

*I leaped out of bed and rushed downstairs to my phone. I vowed not to read the messages, since my friends had all looked at the cast list and were congratulating each other. I opened the email sent by the director and slowly scrolled... Eleanor Golding - Blousey Brown. I stood in shock for a few seconds, a shiver of excitement rushing through me. I'd done it. I'D DONE IT. My first lead role in a musical.*

We're currently in the middle of rehearsals, it's so much fun and it's going to be **SPLURGETASTIC** :) My performances are on Friday 22nd April at 7pm and Sunday 24th April 2pm

If you wish to book tickets visit [hbyt.co.uk](http://hbyt.co.uk) or [thekingshall.com](http://thekingshall.com), they are only £14 per person.

Bugsy Malone is a fantastic musical for the whole family, so come on down to Fat Sam's Grand Slam... The liveliest joint in town!

Break a leg Ellie!! (Not literally though!)





# Rising Energy Prices, Fuel Rising Poverty

## Political Editor George - Year 9

As the price of energy is skyrocketing, so are customers' bills. This appears to be fuelling a decrease in living standards and disposable income, exacerbating the cost of living crisis faced at the moment in the UK.

### Why is There a Rise in Energy Prices?

The price of gas has risen recently because of a worldwide increase in demand for energy supplies. This increase in demand is in part because of the cold 2020/21 winter in Europe, which put pressure on gas supplies and reduced the amount of it stored. But also due to a lack of wind during summer 2021, which meant it was harder to generate more sustainable wind energy. Additionally, increased demand from Asian nations, most notably China, has put pressure on liquified natural gas supplies.

This is just the price of gas you may be wondering, but 85% of UK homes have gas central heating systems and gas generates a third of the UK's electricity. This meant many energy suppliers collapsed when the wholesale price of gas spiked because they were unable to pass their increased costs onto customers. This is due to the energy price cap, which is controlled by the industry's regulator, Ofgem, not rising until April 2022. The energy price cap is a restriction on how much energy suppliers can charge customers per unit of gas and electricity. Meaning while costs for energy suppliers increased, the amount energy suppliers received remained the same, and so did not compensate for the rise.

### How is this Fuelling Rising Poverty?

The significant energy price cap rise of 54% from the 1st of April 2022 is the main cause of fears of increasing poverty. This 54% rise, for 18 million UK households on standard tariffs with average energy usage, increases the annual energy bill from £1,277 to £1,971, a £693 rise. It is also vital to highlight that this is only the rise to the energy price cap from April 2022, this is because the price cap is reviewed and set out every 6 months. This means that the future review in October 2022 is likely to again increase the price cap, and further exacerbate this issue.

Many have made clear on social media, that this is an increase forcing them to choose between feeding their family or heating their home. Especially because post-tax income is now forecast to fall by 2% this year, after taking into account the rising cost of living. Which is the biggest fall since records began in 1990. And while, for some, wages may be rising, this will not compensate for prices rising at their fastest rate in 30 years. The Resolution Foundation think tank has described the situation as a "cost of living catastrophe".

### How are the Government Helping?

The government has responded by highlighting the number of schemes it has available to help the most impacted. They are the warm home discount, the winter fuel payment, the cold weather payment and the newly introduced household support fund. But also offering support using the council tax system and loans.

The support available through the council tax system and loans is worth £350 and originates from 2 different sources. Firstly, in April 2022 people in council tax bands A-D, about 80% of homes, will receive a £150 one-off discount. And then in October 2022, when the energy price cap is predicted to rise again, customers in England, Scotland, and Wales will receive a £200 rebate on their energy bills. Due to being a rebate, the £200 will be repaid at a rate of £40 per year for 5 years starting in April 2023.

The new household support fund has received £421 million from the government. This means that this money has been made available to county councils and unitary authorities and can be awarded at the discretion of local councils. However, the government has said the money should be awarded "primarily to support households in the most need with food, energy and water bills". Also, half of the money is ring-fenced for supporting households with children.



# Starlink



Joe - Year 10



Over the past few days, Elon Musk's Starlink has become a godsend for Ukraine, giving them vital internet connectivity where otherwise it would have been cut off. This newfound attention has made people wonder what Starlink is, how does it work, and whether you can order it for your home today?

Starlink is a wireless communications technology, that has been developed and operated by American aerospace company SpaceX. It has been made to provide internet to rural regions, or other areas that may not have the infrastructure to connect to the internet. It runs off a constellation of low orbit satellites that can connect to dishes attached to people homes, this in theory gives them a fast, reliable internet connection wherever it is set up in the world.



One of its biggest uses so far has been to provide internet to victims of natural disasters, who's current wifi infrastructure would have been destroyed by natural events. This makes a monumental difference, as it allows emergency services to communicate with people long range while in the area, and not have to repair the data towers first. While this technology may sound slightly far fetched and too good to be true, you can actually pre order Starlink devices today, however don't expect it to be shipped to you soon, as they are still in early development and will improve greatly as time goes on.





# Chessington Theme Park Review

## Oliver - Year 9

Recently I went to Chessington theme park for the first time ever; and I really enjoyed it! It is about a 2 hr 30 minutes drive from Ramsgate and it is usually open from 10 in the morning till 7 at night. It is a fun family day out as there are plenty of thriller rides, family rides and little explorer rides (young children) so no matter what age or height you are there are plenty of rides for you. There is a small safari with animals including giraffes and zebras, there is a zoo and sea life centre with hundreds of animals including: lions, otters, reindeers, sea lions and much much more. As for the rides there are drop rides like croc drop (a ride where you sit down and get pulled up and down into a crocodile's mouth), the vampire (a ride where you sit down in a seat hanging from a roller coaster track and go around the track really fast), tomb raider (a laser tag ride where you go around in a cart trying to shoot glowing targets), dragons fury (a ride where you sit in a cart and spin around whilst going up and down and at one point you go on your side) and much more but if thrill rides aren't your thing then there are family rides and little explorer rides including Gruffalo's river adventure. There are plenty of shops, restaurants and sweet treat shops. I found it to be a really fun day out with plenty to do and I would really love to go again.

## *A Silent Voice book review by Abigail - year 9*

A Silent Voice is a beautiful 7 volume manga following the lives of Shoya Ishida and Shouko Nishimiya. Shouko is deaf and was bullied throughout her childhood by Shoya for being so. However, as he gets older he realises and regrets his mistakes and set out to make things right for Shouko.

Now you may be wondering, what is the main theme for A Silent Voice and personally I don't really think there is one. Instead, it explores many themes such as friendship, romance, bullying, but also darker topics too such as suicide. However, I really liked how it focused on many themes, as it helped to create such a sweet and loving story in the end.

The characters are designed and portrayed very well too. They are so well written and all have their positives, but their negatives too. Almost every character has a 'downside' or flaw to them just like real people. I really enjoyed to see the different sides of the characters, as they can really change your personal opinion on them.

Not only were the characters well written, but they were well drawn too! All the art is very well done, each panel is beautiful, and the character designs are all incredible. Each characters design is unique, but each seem to somehow fit their personality. Also in some of the volumes you get to see some of the characters as children. I think the designs for the children are great, as not only do they match how each character acted as a child, but they still remain the familiar look of the characters.

Overall, the story is just beautiful. There are moments which are very sad, moments which are very joyful and moments where you can just really understand how and why the characters feel that way. The characters are well drawn and written and I really recommend you check it out if you ever have a chance.





# Top 16 Best Songs of the 21st Century

## Gabriela - Year 12

**16-THE STROKES - SOMEDAY** *SOMEDAYS* IS ARGUABLY THE BEST SONG FROM THE STROKES DEBUT ALBUM, AND A PINNACLE SONG IN THE INDIE/ROCK GENRE OF MUSIC BY SERVING NOSTALGIC, MELANCHOLY LYRICS PAIRED WITH CATHARTIC AND CATCHY GUITARS.

**15-KANYE WEST - RUNAWAY** THIS 9-MINUTE MEDITATION ON ROMANTIC FAILURE AND PUBLIC INFAMY IS ONE OF WEST'S MOST ICONIC AND INTRICATE SONGS. THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE SIMPLISTICALLY CAPTIVATING PIANO MOTIF AND HEAVY VOCALS HAS DRAWN MANY INTO THE HIP-HOP GENRE AND THE REST OF KANYE'S MUSIC.

**14-AMY WINEHOUSE - LOVE IS A LOSING GAME** *LOVE IS A LOSING GAME* CREATES A POIGNANT AND MELODIC ATMOSPHERE FOR ALL THAT LISTEN, AS SUCCEEDED IN SILENCING THE ROOM WHEN BEING SUNG AT THE MERCURY MUSIC PRIZE CEREMONY IN 2007. AMY WINEHOUSE MIXES STUNNING VOCALS INTO HEART-WRENCHING LYRICS IN THIS CLASSIC BALLAD.

**13-TAYLOR SWIFT - BLANK SPACE** ALONGSIDE THE ARTIST, *BLANK SPACE* DOMINATED THE MUSIC INDUSTRY AS ONE OF THE LEADING TRACKS ON THE POP ALBUM 1989, SWIFT'S INTRODUCTION INTO HER MOVEMENTS ACROSS GENRES IN HER ARRAY OF PERFECT ALBUMS. IT COLLECTED 734M STREAMS ON SPOTIFY THROUGH THE EFFORTLESS GENIUS IN THE SYNTHS AND PULSE BEAT.

**12-ELBOW - ONE DAY LIKE THIS** IMMEDIATELY, *ONE DAY LIKE THIS* CAPTURES ANY LISTENER'S ATTENTION WITH THE STRIKING VIOLIN BACKING AND THE UNIQUE, IMPRESSIVE VOCALS. IT PORTRAYS OPEN-HEARTED LOVE AND A DELICATE CELEBRATION OF LIFE.

**11-RIHANNA - WE FOUND LOVE** COMPETING AGAINST SO MANY OTHER EMBLEMATIC HITS RHIANNA HAS RELEASED, *WE FOUND LOVE* CONFIDENTLY MIXES THE EDM BEATS OF CALVIN HARRIS WITH CATCHY LINES TO FORGE AN REAL ERA-DEFINING PIECE HEARD EVERYWHERE ACROSS THE GLOBE.

**10-THE WHITE STRIPES - SEVEN NATION ARMY** WITH ONE OF THE MOST RECOGNISABLE RIFFS AND BEATS EVER, THIS EXCEPTIONAL SONG *SEVEN NATION ARMY* HAS AMASSED AN INSANE 18N STREAMS ON SPOTIFY. A THUMPING, ICONIC TERRACE-CHANT WITH AN UNPARALLELED EFFECT.

**9-MGMT - TIME TO PRETEND** THIS MOMENT-DEFINING INDIE-SYNTH ANTHEM HAILS FROM MGMT'S DIZZILY BRILLIANT ALBUM *ORACULAR SPECTACULAR*, AND THE UPLIFTING TUNE TRULY ECHOES SOMETHING SPECTACULAR, ALONGSIDE OTHER SONGS LIKE *KIDS & ELECTRIC FEEL*.

**8-LADY GAGA - BAD ROMANCE** *BAD ROMANCE*, PROBABLY LADY GAGA'S MOST WIDELY RECOGNIZED AND EXCELLENT SONG, DID NOT SO MUCH ARRIVE ON THE SCENE AS ERUPT AND WAS ESSENTIAL IN MAKING HER 'BRAND'. BIZARRE, MEMORABLE, SYLLABIC AND OVERALL REMARKABLE.

**7-EMINEM - STAN** TO NOT KNOW THIS MUSICAL MASTERPIECE IS TO NOT HAVE LIVED IN THE 21ST CENTURY. RAPPER EMINEM ENLISTS THE VOCALS OF DIDO FOR A CHORUS THAT PACKS GRIPPING LYRICAL NUANCE AND WIT. THIS SONG DISPLAYS HOW EMINEM'S WRITING EVOLVED FROM HIS FIRST ALBUM, AND IT PLACED RAP INTO THE MAINSTREAM IT HAS NEVER LEFT FROM.

**6-LANA DEL REY - VIDEO GAMES** LANA DEL REY HAS ESTABLISHED HERSELF AS THE TRAGIC ROMANTIC ICON FOR THIS AGE, A POSITION LARGELY MANUFACTURED BY THE VIRAL SUCCESS OF THIS MOODY, STYLISH, 'FEMME FATALE'-TYPE SONG, EMPHASISED BY LDR'S HAUNTING VOCALS.

**5-KENDRICK LAMAR - ALRIGHT** "WE GON' BE ALRIGHT" - THE CENTRAL REFRAIN TO THIS REMARKABLE SINGLE (ONE OF MANY FROM LAMAR'S IN-EXHAUSTING TALENT) - WAS ADOPTED BY BLM AS AN EXPRESSION OF HOPE AND DEFIANCE. LAMAR'S LYRICS ARE UNFLINCHING AS HE SPITS HIS RAPPED REPORTAGE OVER SERPENTINE JAZZ SAX AND CLATTERING BEATS.

**4-ARCTIC MONKEYS - I BET YOU LOOK GOOD ON THE DANCEFLOOR** FROM A PINNACLE BAND OF THE CENTURY, *IBYLGD* IS AM'S TOP SONG, CAPTURING THE EXHILARATING FEELING OF BEING YOUNG. THE LYRIC "THERE AIN'T NO LOVE, NO MONTAGUES OR CAPULETS, JUST BANGING TUNES AND DJ SETS" IN THAT NORTHERN ACCENT INSTILLS A MAGNIFICENT THRILL OF LIFE TO ANYONE.

**3-LORDE - GREEN LIGHT** WITCHY VERSES PLAYING OFF THE CHORUS'S DANCEFLOOR-BORN CATHARSIS, AND THE OUTRO RECALLING THE BEST PARTS OF LATE-90S ATTEMPTS TO COMBINE THE AESTHETICS OF ROCK (CRUSHING SYNTHS, PEALING GUITARS, A GENERAL FEELING OF SUSPICION) WITH THE BIG-TENT APPEAL OF POP, *GREEN LIGHT* IS ONE OF LORDE'S MOST INGENIOUS TRACKS.

**2-BEYONCÉ - CRAZY IN LOVE** CREATION OF 1 OF THE BIGGEST POP ANTHEMS OF THE CENTURY COULD ONLY BE MANAGED BY BEYONCÉ, POTENTIALLY THE MOST ICONIC MUSICIAN OF THE CENTURY. A CELEBRATION OF NEW LOVE (INSPIRED BY HER OWN WITH FEATURED JAY-Z), FROM THE OPENING BRASS RIFFS TO THE TOTAL EAWORM OF A CHORUS, THIS SONG WILL ALWAYS FILL A DANCE-FLOOR.

AND FINALLY IN AT THE TOP.....

**1-OUTKAST - HEY YA!** AT NO. 1 WE FIND A SONG FILLED WITH BRISK TWO-STEP BEAT, SYNTH BRASS, WOOLY BACKING VOCALS AND CALL-AND-RESPONSE EXCHANGES ARE THE SONIC ADORNMENTS TO ANDRÉ 3000'S OFF-THE-CUFF SCAT AND LYRICS. ENCOMPASSING ELEMENTS OF RAP, POP, PSYCHEDELIA, HIP-HOP AND ELECTRO, IT CERTAINLY TEARS DOWN BARRIERS IN THE WORLD OF MUSIC.



# Rising Prices and Inflation in the USA



By Hadley - Year 9

**What Is Inflation?** Inflation is where prices for everyday items go up because the value of a currency decreases, the Inflation Rate is the rate at which prices for things increase.

**Why is it an issue?** Inflation is an issue because the longer it goes on the value of money goes down, meaning you need to print more money to pay the workers more to account for inflation, which only causes the problem to go up even further.

Throughout history inflation has caused many crisis: most notable being the Weimar Republic in what is now Germany, which was the German government after the Kaiser abdicated, and so they had to deal with the issues that the Treaty of Versailles caused for Germany and its people, the biggest one being the reparations the Government had to pay to the UK, France, and The United States Of America, but Germany wasn't able to pay the money in Marks (the currency of Germany at the time), but only in the currency of the Entente powers, so to fix this problem the Government started printing more money to convert it, lowering the value of the Mark to the point where you would need millions of Marks to buy bread, this assisted the rise of the Nazi party.

Another example is in 1775 the 13 colonies of America established the continental dollar, and during the American War Of Independence they needed to pay their soldiers, so they printed more dollars to pay them, which made them worth less than their weight in paper and ink, this meant that once the war was over lots of soldiers who gave them a country, were broke and had no reward for after winning the war.

So what is happening now? In 2020 alone 1 in every 5 dollar bills had been printed in that year alone. That's \$3.38 trillion Dollars, which shows just how much money the United States prints every year. Now in 2022 80% of all US money in circulation has been printed since January 2020, which had led to an inflation rate of 7.5% as of December 2021.

Petrol has gone up 38% in the United States, with Energy prices going up 25%, an absolutely absurd rate, while yes the current situation in Ukraine and the subsequent sanctions against Russia and its gas and oil exports has assisted in the price of petrol going up, it does not explain the inflation rate going up since 2020.

Farewell Ms McGuire



**After a dedicated 11 years as part of the Dane Court cover supervisor team, we will be saying goodbye to Ms McGuire at the end of this term. Ms McGuire has always been a diligent and kind member of staff to both students and her colleagues, always offering an open ear and support to those who need it.**

**From all here at the chatter team we thank Ms McGuire for all her commitment and hard work and wish her the best of luck with the future!**



# All things Gaming



Harry - Year 8

## Do you like gaming?

Let me introduce you to the BAFTA awards.

The BAFTA Games Awards or British Academy Games Awards are an annual British awards ceremony honouring "outstanding creative achievement" in the video game industry. First presented in 2004 following the restructuring of the BAFTA Interactive Entertainment Awards, the awards are presented by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA).

Since the inaugural BAFTA Games Awards in 2004, eleven ceremonies have taken place. The most recent, the 17th British Academy Games Awards, was held virtually on 25 March 2021.

## The games awarded with this achievement

### consist of:

- Ratchet & Clank: Rift Apart
- Forza Horizon 5
- Alba: A wildlife adventure
- Chicory: a colourful adventure
- Mario Party Superstars
- Unpacking

## There is more though...

Here is a list of the new games to come this year:

- Pokemon Scarlet and Violet
- Hogwarts Legacy
- Kirby and the Forgotten Land
- LEGO Star Wars: Skywalker's Saga
- Eternal Threads
- Startenders
- Submerged: hidden depths

And many, many more...

## MINECRAFT UPDATE

Yash - Year 9

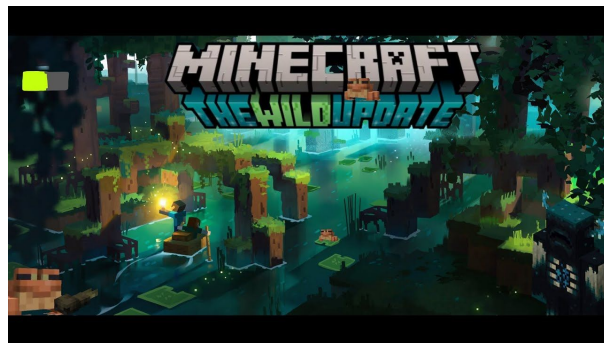
The latest addition to Minecraft is coming out this year! Get ready for some major additions to your minecraft world.

## **1.19: The Wild Update!**

In every update, there are new blocks, new items and possibly new blocks. Some additions should've come out in 1.18 part II but are now in 1.19.

Here are some of the Biomes updates to expect:

- **Mangrove Swamp**  
Birthplace of Mangrove Trees and mud. Unlike any other forests, the trees sit on land and water
- **Enhanced birch forest**  
Better attention to details and are bigger
- **Deep Dark**  
A new biome entirely. Gives the underground a more mysterious feel.



For more on what to expect from this minecraft update please turn to **Page 20**





# Super Slang



**Isabella & Eliana - Year 7**

Author-Isabella.  
Editor-Eliana

## Prologue

Hi my name is Ellie and this is how I turned into a superhero. Before the change, I was just an ordinary girl but as you will soon find out I will never be the same again. Up until my 11th birthday I had no friends and only a slither of self-confidence. Being a superhero really did change my life for the better and I am sure it changed my new friends(Sarah and Tilly)'s too. During the past year I have saved hundreds of thousands of people, and got a pet dog - he's a golden retriever.

## Chapter 1

Whooo it's my birthday! Today has been great. This morning I got up at 9:00 because it wasn't a school day and I don't have many friends.. When I went downstairs I saw a million presents waiting for me and smelt the sweet aroma of cake and frosting. It was all normal at that point but little did I know everything was about to change

Today a present came in the post, it was a necklace with a light purple gem on it that glowed slightly when I put it on. Later, when I went out in the garden it started really glowing. Before I knew it, the necklace was up in the air pulling me with it. That was when I became a superhero.

You won't believe what, I am going to defeat a villain whose name is pen-a-paper but you might know her as the Queen. She has a secret lair underneath London so Sarah, our heroic team of slangers and I must travel from Broadstairs, Kent to Buckingham palace, London

It's time for action. Our evil Queen is hosting a ball tonight so we have all got amazing, beautiful ball dresses. Mine is mostly pink. Way after the party we are still in the palace and are following the Queen so we can get into her lair. Solar and I had almost given up hope when we saw her step into her wardrobe and pushed a button.

A split second later, a hole in the floor disappeared and a magnificent throne rose out of the floor. When the Queen sat down, the throne slowly descended into the abyss. Once the Queen was surely out of sight, we slid down a pole to the secret lair being careful not to be seen.

**To Be Continued.....**

## Farewell Mrs Fleet



Dane Court's wonderful Food technician Mrs Fleet is going to be leaving Dane Court at the end of this term. Mrs Fleet has been a fond member of staff in the Food tech department for 14 years. In that time she has been a mastermind when it comes to keeping things ticking over, she has catered for several Dane Court Staff do's, Medieval banquets and Sports Days. If you have been to an afternoon tea, International Food evening, Medieval Banquet or Sports day food stall, you can bet that her magic touch and hard work has been behind it in some way.

Mrs Fleet has also been on hand to mentor and guide students giving them all a role model that shows hard work & dedication. Not only does Mrs Fleet spend time in Food lessons correcting whatever cooking disaster may have occurred, she often has visitors to the kitchen from students who may just need a bit of a 'mum' talk.

From all here at the Chatter team- Farewell Mrs Fleet, please come and visit us soon.



# Grofin's Guide to DND

## Flee- Free Fights

### Cameron - Year 9

Ok, sorry about not getting to you lot earlier, vampires are a real threat! Speaking of fights, I could inform you about them, you aren't going to simply go on an adventure without being ambushed by a horde of goblins, are you? Well, to start any encounter, there is initiative. If the Dungeon Master calls 'Initiative', everyone rolls the d20 (largest dice) and adds their initiative bonus, near the top middle of the character sheet. This is the order the encounter rolls in, from highest to lowest. If 2 characters or creatures roll the same number, the order is decided by the Dexterity modifier, the highest going before the lowest. Barbarians gain advantage on Initiative at level 7, which means they roll twice and take the higher value, DOPE BARBARIAN STUFF, if ya know what I mean!

So, the highest initiative goes first, they have a list of actions they can complete including but not restricted to attack, dash, help, and dodge. You can only use one action per turn, so use it wisely! Here is all of them and what they mean:

- **Attack-** Your character attacks, some classes gain extra attacks at higher levels, so make sure you use all attacks on your action.
- **Cast a Spell-** If your character has a casting ability, you can use this action to cast a spell. Spellcasting is a more complex action but quite powerful, so the next edition will be about casting.
- **Dash-** When using the Dash action, you can move two times your amount of movement (found near the middle of your character sheet)
- **Disengage-** When a creature willingly moves from the melee range of a creature (usually 5ft), that creature can use a 'reaction' to attack the moving creature. Using 'disengage' allows you to escape without taking this attack.
- **Dodge-** Until the start of your next turn, any attack roll made against you has disadvantage if you can see the attacker, and you make Dexterity saving throws with advantage. You lose this when a condition reduces your speed to 0.
- **Help-** A creature you aid gains advantage on the next ability check it makes to perform the task you are helping with, but it has to be before the beginning of your next turn. Alternatively, you can help a friendly creature in attacking a creature within 5 feet of you. If your ally attacks the target before your next turn, the first attack roll is made with advantage.
- **Hide-** Not as cowardice as it sounds, you make a stealth check to try and beat a creature's perception check, if you roll higher, they can not see you. You gain advantage on attacks and creatures that attack you do so at disadvantage.
- **Ready-** When an action is readied, it triggers on a command stated by the character or creature that readied the action. No matter what, it takes place as soon as the trigger happens, like it is someone else's turn, or a creature makes an aggressive move. Any action can be readied, but you can't attack and then ready an attack action on the same turn.
- **Search-** Depending on the type of the search, the DUNGEON MASTER (PRAISE THE MYSTERIOUS LORD OF OUR WORLD). Sorry, I don't know what got over me there. Anyway, where were we? Oh, they can make you roll Investigation or Perception to try to find something.
- **Use an object-** Unlike drawing a sword for an attack, an item that requires an action to use is usually powerful, like the Boots of Levitation, for example, they require your turn to use and usually have a magical effect.

Anyway, I have been rambling on for a little while now, so I will see you later to talk about being a caster!



# National Careers Week

## Mrs Linton & Student reviews

The week beginning March we celebrated National Careers Week with a series of talks from a broad range of industries. We would like to thank representatives, many of whom were Dane Court Alumni, from Flambeau Europlast, Kreston Reeves Accountancy, ADM Computing, Cummins Electrical Engineering, Kent Police, DDS Group, Migrant Help and Molly Pickle, for their interesting talks, that gave students insight into their roles and industries, and the pathways they can take to achieve their goals. Through these talks students are able to reflect on the vast array of employability skills they are developing at Dane Court and how they will use them in the future. We are very grateful to all the speakers for giving up their time, and look forward to welcoming them back in the near future.

For parents and students looking to explore career options online, excellent resources can be found at <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>

Furthermore, Michelle Donelan, Minister of State for Further and Higher Education, has written to you about the education, training and work choices available to young people after they finish their GCSEs and once they turn 18. This letter can be found on the Dane Court school website.



I attended the Cummins talk along with all the other yr 8s. It's was quite good. Everyone kept talking though. But it gave me an insight to what type of engineer I could be and how to get there.

**Harry**



I attended the Flambeau plastic and accounting talk - I found it really informative

**Tom**

In the assembly I was there were two people from the charity Migrant Help and a lady who ran her own illustration shop called Molly Pickle. She gets hired to draw logos and sells some of her own ink and pencil artwork. I think her job is really interesting.

**Megan**

I attended the presentation by the DDS Group, which while covering an industry I have no particular interest of pursuing, was very insightful. This was due to the common discussion of apprenticeships throughout, which provided some variety, as I felt that apprenticeships had been forgotten in other sessions related to National Careers Week in mentoring. And overall, I felt the presentation helped the discussion of the options and variety of careers and methods of entering industries.

**George**

	Tuesday 8/3	Wednesday 9/3	Thursday 10/2	Thursday 10/2	Friday 11/3
	Period 5	Period 5	12.50 - 13.40 Period 4/mentor.	Period 5	Period 2
Location	Theatre	Theatre	Theatre	Theatre	Theatre
Year group	Year 10  Year 12 interested in accountancy training programmes (apprenticeships)	Year 8	Years 10,11,12,13	Year 9  Year 13 interested construction apprenticeships	Year 7
Speaker	Kreston Reeves Accountancy  Flambeau Engineering	ADM Computing IT  Cummins Electrical engineering	Kent Police  PC Davidson Visiting presentation with 1:1 Q&A afterwards	DDS Demolition  Construction industry	Migrant Help Charity  Mollie Pickle Illustrator



# Looking towards the future



## What do you want to become?

### My dream job by Harry -Year 8

My dream job is to be a software engineer.

According to Google, Software engineering is an engineering approach on a software development of systematics application. A software engineer is a person who applies the principles of software engineering to design, develop, maintain, test, and evaluate computer software.

### What is the salary?

- Typical graduate software engineer salaries start from £18,000 a year.
- The average annual salary for a software engineer is between £25,000 and £50,000.
- At senior or management level, software engineers can earn £45,000 to £70,000 or more per annum. Bonus schemes may be available.

### What inspired me to do this?

We had a careers talk on 9/3/22 from people who come from a company called Cummins. They brushed up against the topic of engineering as well. Cummins specialises in diesel and alternative fuel engines and generators, and related components and technology. When I got home that day, I had a conversation with my parents and decided on the job of software engineering.

## MINECRAFT UPDATE continued...

By Yash - Year 9

In every update, there are new blocks, new items and possibly new mobs. Some additions should've come out in 1.18 part II but are now in 1.19.



#### **Spore blossoms**

Nice particle effect, 65% chance of raising composter by a level



#### **Mangrove tree**

Unique look, new type of wood, found in mangrove swamp



#### **Mangrove log / plank**

New texture, as practical as any other type of wood



#### **Mangrove Propagule**

Plants Mangrove Tree



#### **Mud**

Can be crafted into packed mud using wheat, created by dirt and water



#### **Packed mud**

Can be crafted into mud bricks



#### **Muddy Mangrove root**

Crafted with mud and roots



#### **Reinforced Deepslate**

Found in ancient city, blast-resistant and can be moved by pistons



#### **Sculk**

Grows under corpses, gives xp only without silk touch



#### **Sculk Catalyst**

Spread sculk, gives xp when mined without silk touch



#### **Sculk Shrieker**

Shrieks when activated by a sculk sensor



#### **Sculk sensor**

Can detect vibrations from 9 blocks away except wool and sneaking



#### **Sculk vein**

Like lichen and snow, found in deep dark and can be broken with silk touch



#### **Boat with chest**

Boat with a chest

### There are also four new Mobs in the update

**Allay**-The chosen mob out of the three, goes to note block, can find dropped blocks and drops near note block

**Firefly**- Glows in dark and forests, smallest mob, 2 pixels

**Warden**- Completely blind. Spawns in Deep Dark. Can hear and smell. Does 8 to 22.5 hearts of damage, burrows in if no vibration for 60 seconds

**Frogs**- Grows from tadpoles. Has 3 variants: temperate (forest), cold (tundra), warm(desert)





# Choosing GCSE Options

## Michaela - Year 9

Our GCSE choices are a part of growing up and a natural progression where we live and our next step to getting our ideal future and to explore our interests. I feel as though I should put out a disclaimer on this topic before going into more detail about how Dane Court GCSE system works, do not stress overly about your GCSE choices contrary to the sometimes overwhelming belief if you choose an option that perhaps isn't what you feel is the best choice it isn't the end of the world. If you find yourself completely unhappy with one of your choices you can discuss with the faculty and move to a more suitable option. In addition if you don't know what you want to do just yet, neither do half of us, ultimately the best advice anyone can give you is to choose a combination of subjects you are good at and subjects that you enjoy and if both apply then that's even better! This article's intentions are purely just to give an overview of information on the process and hopefully give a rough idea of what may draw your fancy.

Let us first consider the GCSEs we do that aren't optional. All students are required to take English literature and English language in addition to this we are all required to take Mathematics however an interesting change to note is Statistics is in fact now an option, not obligatory, this could be a positive or negative change depending on how you view it but a definite bright side is we gained another option because of this. Consequently our choices can now be more varied which suits the school's IB (International Baccalaureate) program. We also must choose a science and students who are recommended to triple science also known as additional science (if you are not already aware picking additional science takes up one of our four options-if you count picking a modern language as a GCSE) are sent an email and Dane Court heavily stresses the teacher's perspective and opinions although if you really wish to take it you are able to, many teachers have said that not taking triple science isn't a massive deal in the future you can always expand on your knowledge at a higher level. Moving on from the sciences we have modern languages, for our year the language choices we have been learning from year 7 are French and Spanish. Other years learn German in the place of one of these. And we do have the option between the two.

Our additional options, which there are three of, contain the following: a second language, Art and design, Business, Computing, Drama, Food preparation and Nutrition, History, Geography, Music, PE and sport, Religious studies and Philosophy, Statistics and Triple science. Dane Court has suggested taking a humanities GCSE especially if you aren't sure of your future career as it opens up more opportunities and will give you a larger variety so that when you identify what lies in store for you these humanities may help. In addition to this our P.E department offers a qualification where you can demonstrate your leadership abilities and qualities, students get an opportunity to put this on their CV which may give them an extra edge and in addition to this you get to help out students at events at other schools. This qualification doesn't come with doing GCSE P.E you can take it regardless of the subject or even if you do the subject.

In conclusion, do not stress about your options as there is time before the end of the school year to request a change if you truly feel that the subjects you had previously chosen are not suitable for you or the best choice for you. Even if you start the subjects next year and you find it traumatising and you are at the least not a good fit, then you can reach out to the school and request help and they will do their best to help.



# Royal Jubilee, Queen & Celebrations

By Eliana - Year 7



Many now know that the queen is slowly awaiting her Platinum Jubilee In celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Jubilee in 2022, a very special event will take place in the private grounds of Windsor Castle from 12th to 15th May. Also Her Majesty The Queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, seventy years of service, having acceded to the throne.

## Are we getting an extra bank holiday in 2022?

In 2022, there will be an extra bank holiday on Friday 3rd June to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. This will result in a four-day bank holiday weekend, as the regular May Bank Holiday Weekend date has moved to be on Thursday 2nd June. Unfortunately for us students this date is in the May half term holidays so we don't miss a day off school!

## What else is going on in Thanet to celebrate the Jubilee?

There are a variety of events going on around Kent to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. These include a Prom Picnic and Tribute in Quex Park on 4th June, A Jubilee Party in Silvers, Margate High Street, The Oval are doing various Platinum Celebrations at the Oval Bandstand, Cliftonville and a tribute night at the Powell Cotton Museum.

**Chatter Jubilee Bake Sale** - on **27th May** Chatter will be having a bake sale outside reception at breaktime. We will be raising money for the Dogs Trust, as voted for by the Chatter team. We wanted to support one of the Queen's charities so put it to a vote - the other choices were the RSPCA and the Red Cross. **Founded in 1891, the Dogs Trust is a British charity that specialises in the wellbeing of dogs. The charity is best known for its slogan "A Dog is for life, not just for Christmas".**

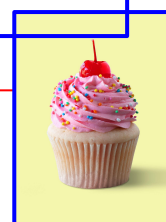


Win! Win! Win!

£15 Cash for 1st Prize  
£5 cash for 2nd & 3rd Prize

## Dane Court Jubilee Bake off

### *Create a cake fit for a Queen*



*On 24th May Dane Court will be holding our very own Bake Off competition in the run up to the Jubilee Celebrations. We would like you to create a cake or cupcake- fit for the queen, with a Jubilee design.*

*Here are some ideas for your designs: the crown jewels; corgis; the Union Jack; Buckingham Palace; a throne.*

*Flavour ideas could include traditional or original ideas such as lemon, cranberry, caramel or even fish & chips*

**Please bring in your creations to C9 before school on 24th May to be judged by our very own Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood.**

*They will be judging your creative bakes by using the 'Hedonic rating test' aka the sensory analysis you are all already familiar with in the food technology department.*

*Remember they will be tasting your cakes & looking at the flavour, texture, smell and design.*

**Good luck**





# Army Cadets- Skills for life!

## Hayden - Year 9



The Army Cadet Force (ACF) has around 41,000 cadets and 9,500 adults in 1,600 detachments across the UK. If you're aged 12-18 and are looking for fun, friendship, action and adventure, the Army Cadets are hard to beat. As an Army Cadet we'll challenge you to learn more, do more and try more. Join us and you'll be spending your spare time taking part in adventurous activities like rock climbing, mountain biking, shooting, archery and abseiling and, if you're keen on sport, you'll

find plenty of opportunities (such as the Duke Of Edinburgh) to take part in competitions at all levels. Ok, so you might end up a little wet and muddy, but wouldn't you prefer to have the time of your life with some great new mates than sitting at home with your computer? If you wish to join, you will start by learning the basics of personal camouflage and how to move as an individual in the field, then go on to learn how to work together as a team in the field, before eventually (with training) commanding your own team. Working as a team to patrol an area at night and deal with a mock ambush situation is one of the most exciting exercises you will experience. Fieldcraft is one of the most favourite subjects by all cadets and is taught throughout the year but during an amazing annual camp you will get to live out in the field over a number of days. Working as a team to patrol an area at night and deal with a mock ambush is one of the most exciting exercises that you'll experience during your cadet training. Along with other things such as paintball and parades. Teamwork and communication are both skills developed in these fieldcraft exercises that are readily transferable to everyday life.

I have recently been on a camp down in Folkestone and it is an extremely unique experience, these camps are extremely exciting and you learn something new, from military knowledge, to shooting air( or even real) guns. I would highly recommend joining the ACF just for these alone, but with everything else combined, I am confused on why you wouldn't join!

#### References:

Personal experience

<https://www.cadetdirect.com/blog/army-cadet-force-history/>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Army\\_Cadet\\_Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Army_Cadet_Force)

<http://www.youlondon.org.uk/organisations/army-cadets/>

<https://armycadets.com/>





# Horoscopes



## Florence - Year 8

### Aries

Aries may find their studies more difficult than last year but 2022 is the time to advance your skills.

### Taurus

Taurus are expected to concentrate more on their work. They will do better with a study plan and think about their concentration and follow it religiously.

### Gemini

Gemini may be bothered by their school work this year. But their spirit will keep them working hard and their effort helps them improve their grades.

### Cancer

Cancer will probably have quite a progressive year academically so they should start studying as soon as possible to make use of the time and perform outstandingly.

### Leo

They will be very competitive in exams and sports events and with a lot of hard work they will progress well this year.

### Virgo

It will be a good year to pursue academics and try to spend a lot of time studying and try to concentrate.

### Libra

Libra is highly competitive and will work very hard to get good grades this year no matter what.

### Scorpio

It is suggested to learn how to negotiate and to have patience. And try to have balance from studying and social belief.

### Sagittarius

For sagittarius it is good to go over what they did last year. They will find that they will feel involved in creative work.

### Capricorn

Capricorn should make learning a priority and try to advance their knowledge and try to use different spectrums of learning.

### Aquarius

Aquarius will succeed in their admission tests and competition from their dedication and perseverance when it gets hard.

### Pisces

Pisces will do really well academically because of all their positive energy and their friends will show great support for them.





# Mitchels vs the Machines, turning red and the future of animation

Grace - Year 12

## Mitchels vs the machines

One of the funniest and most heartwarming films I think I've seen in a very long time. The comedy and slapstick in the film is expertly timed (something so difficult to do, even in live action) the characters are all incredibly relatable and had brilliant interactions with each other. I especially love the relationship between Katie and her Dad, Linda's superhero moment and everything about Monchi the pug. It's also important to mention that this film is incredibly significant for LGBTQ+ representation. Whilst I don't know if it can beat Soul at the Oscars this year it absolutely deserves its nomination

## Future of animation?

Mitchels is a clear sign that Sony animation is going strong after the success of *Spider-Man - Into the Spider-Verse*. This increase in the quality of animated films after *Boss Baby* and *Angry Birds* is a great sign for the future of Sony animation and possibly the animation industry as a whole, with Disney and Pixar making hit after hit with *Encanto*, *Luca*, *Soul* and now *Turning Red*. I can't wait to see what brilliant animated films the next few years will bring.

## Turning Red

Pixar's overwhelming reputation can unfortunately get the better of it, with more grounded films like *Onward*, *Luca* and now (I suspect) with *Turning Red* being compared negatively to Pixar's grander films like *Wall-E* and *Soul* (No I will never stop talking about how much I love *Soul*) despite being just as excellent. Due to being released on Disney+ these slice of life films are able to find much more success which I hope will lead to good things for animation and the film industry, and allow Pixar the space to make more of these amazing but grounded films. *Turning Red* was a joy to watch and my jaw dropped at the quality of the animation. The story is quirky and fun whilst still packing that signature Pixar emotional gut punch.

## Disney + upcoming movies

Deep water  
Death on the Nile  
Turning red  
The ice age adventures of Buck wild  
Doctor strange in the multiverse of madness  
The Bob's burgers movie  
Lightyear  
Thor: love and thunder  
Russell film  
Black Panther: wakanda forever  
Avatar 2

What great films to  
watch out for- coming  
to Disney+ in 2022.....

Isaac - Year 9





# Just for fun



## Guess the teacher...

Idunumi - Year 8



## 10 FUN FACTS I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW

1. The severed head of a sea slug can regenerate a whole new body.
2. The heads on Easter Island have bodies.
3. Our nostrils work one at a time.
4. Copper door knobs are self-disinfecting.
5. Chewing gum boosts concentration.
6. Showers spark creativity.
7. Most laughter isn't because things are funny.
8. Dogs understand some English.
9. Sea lions can dance to a beat.
10. Technically Pluto isn't even a year old yet.

## PTA News

The PTA do a fantastic job in helping to raise funds for the school to enable students to have the chance to participate in great opportunities as and when they arise or to buy much needed equipment around the school to enhance our students learning, allowing them to reach their full potential.... Why not come along to their ever popular quiz nights, or boot fairs and help them raise even more money for the school community!

Please find below things that the PTA are doing to raise money for the rest of this school year.

### Second-hand Uniform Shop

We run sessions on the first Tuesday of each month from 3pm-4pm in the school entrance area. We will endeavour to open the shop at as many events as possible when the school is open to parents. You shall find a range of uniform available in assorted sizes.

### Car Boot Fairs!

The Dane Court Grammar School Parents' Association are pleased to announce the dates of our popular boot fairs for this year! There's no need for stallholders to book, just turn up at 6:00am. £8 for cars and £10 for vans. The boot fairs are open to the general public at 6:30am and refreshments are available.

If any parent would like to help on gate duty at any one of these events please contact Gloria Riley at [riley@danecourt.kent.sch.uk](mailto:riley@danecourt.kent.sch.uk)

This year's events are as follows:



Saturday 14 May 2022

Saturday 11 June 2022

Saturday 9 July 2022

**No August Boot Fair**

Saturday 10 September 2022



# Easter fun

## Short story By Shannon - Year 8

Chenzi fell unconscious. All she had to do was save the Easter Bunny, but she had failed that mission. Chenzi and her three friends, Blackbear, Grofin and Niffy, had noticed that a group of 4 people planned to attack a small village with fake Easter eggs for the hunt that was going to happen the next day. Instead of finding treats inside their Easter Eggs, they would find a trick, as they had been replaced with bombs. Suddenly, as Chenzi and her friends were disarming the last bomb, the ground starting shaking as a large amount of ogres started charging at them. Chenzi, thinking fast, turned around and started climbing up the side of the nearest house, to have the high ground against the ogres. However, this plan didn't work as well as planned, as a rather large ogre threw a spear at her, and she fell off the roof. Luckily, Niffy was an expert healer, so Chenzi was standing after about 10 seconds, however she kept shaking, and nearly fell over a lot of times. After the ogres had all been killed, the group turned around, to be met by a group of evil elves. As the elves scattered, the group released the rather large Easter Bunny - who was trapped in a small cage - stood up by a tree on the edge of the tree line. Whilst the other 3 started fighting the evil elves, Chenzi furtively ran around the tree line, in an attempt to free the large bunny from the small cage he was trapped in. As Chenzi started unlocking the cage, she whispered "Be quiet, and stay out the way. Me and my friends will protect you."

The Easter bunny stepped out and crept silently over to where his own weapons were kept. He picked them up, tip-toed over to one of the evil elves, and stabbed him in the head. Blackbear held up his hand, as if to high-five the Easter Bunny, but the bunny didn't realise, so Blackbear awkwardly tapped the Easter bunny on the back. "Thank you for saving me. You were on a rampage!" The Easter Bunny explained what happened before muttering, "You guys really are shot warriors!" and hopped into the tree line, and out of sight. "That was fun!" Niffy exclaimed. "Let's go on another adventure!"

## Annabelle & Charlotte - Year 8

### Easter wordsearch

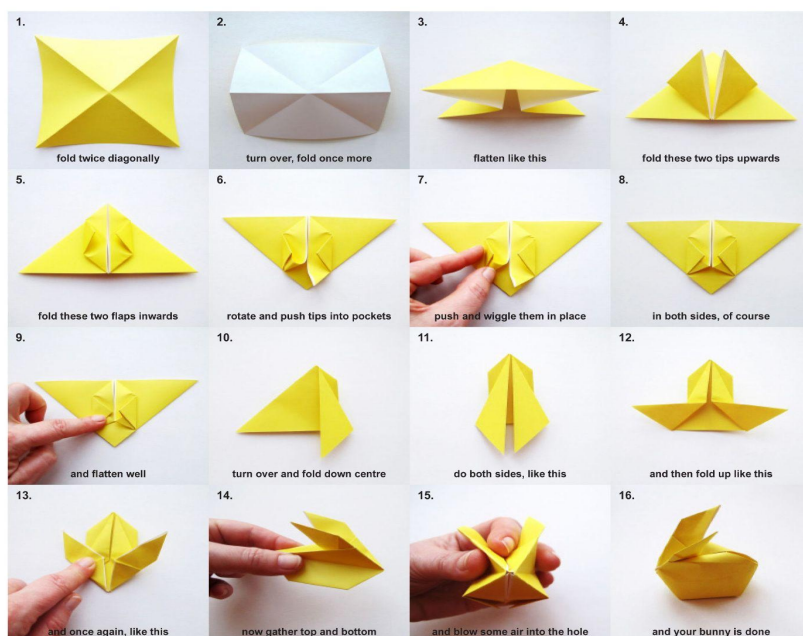
o	c	h	o	c	o	l	a	t	e
d	e	t	m	a	b	o	n	n	y
i	w	b	u	n	n	y	o	j	b
s	g	b	c	i	i	v	q	e	q
c	x	e	g	g	q	c	j	s	a
c	i	f	u	s	y	r	f	u	b
i	w	e	h	s	l	o	t	s	r
p	i	w	i	n	e	s	o	j	e
l	y	a	g	u	s	s	m	k	a
e	a	s	t	e	r	s	b	w	d

Find the hidden words below:

Bunny	Cross	Chocolate
Easter	Tomb	Wine
Egg	Disciple	bread

## cute little inflatable origami easter bunnies

Shown with 15 x 15 cm. origami squares here, but see PDF below for 12 x 12 cm. square designs, easy to cut out for smaller bunnies, such as shown on the blog. Make sure you work with the printed pattern side facing outwards. The inflated bunny needs a few well placed dents and a bit of bending to the ears, try for yourself, and see if you can get that proper bunny expression. Happy easter!



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# Millionaires Shortbread

By Leah - Year 7



## Ingredients

### For the shortbread:

- 250g plain flour
- ¼ tsp vanilla extract
- 100g golden caster sugar
- 200g unsalted butter
- A pinch of salt

### For the caramel:

- 2 tbsp dark brown sugar
- 2 tbsp golden syrup
- 90g butter
- 379g can condensed milk

### For the chocolate:

- 300g dark chocolate
- 50g butter

## Preparation

Preheat the oven to 160/140 fan/gas. Carefully line a 20 x 30 cm tin with baking paper.

With your fingertips, rub in the flour and butter until it has a breadcrumb-like consistency. Then, mix in the sugar, salt and vanilla extract.

Evenly pour the mixture into the tin and press it down with the back of a spoon. Bake it for 40-45 minutes until light golden brown and then let it cool for around 15 minutes

Now, pour all the ingredients for the caramel into a pan, and heat it until it starts to simmer. Then whisk it for around 6 minutes until it's thick and fudgy. **Be careful because the caramel will be very hot.** Leave it to cool for 5 minutes, pour it onto the shortbread evenly, and leave it to cool again.

To make the final topping, stir the chocolate and butter in a bowl above a pan of simmering water until it is melted. Pour the chocolate over the caramel and if you want you can add some small toppings ( how about different types of small chocolate like smarties or mini eggs)!

Next, leave it all to cool completely and cut it into squares. Now you can enjoy your delicious millionaires shortbread!!

## Medieval Banquet by Megan - Year 7

The Medieval banquet is an annual Middle-ages themed feast especially for the Year 7s, it is to be held in June this year but is usually held in March. It's a day jointly organised by History & Food departments in the school & is filled with games, activities and most importantly, food! The unlucky peasants sit on hay bales and have to eat only pottage (vegetable and wheat stew) and bread. But the richer lords and ladies and the king and queen sit up on the stage and have full meals of meat, vegetables and puddings.

Mrs Baker came up with this great idea over 20 years ago and did you know she still has her original planning sheet! Unfortunately last year the Year 7's missed out but we can't wait to take part in this years tradition, look out in Chatter 22 for the full run down on the event.







# Competition Page

WIN

## Looking for something to do over the holidays?

Are you a keen writer with a fascination for food? Then we've got the competition for you. *The Week Junior* is hosting The Guild of Food Writers' Young Food Writer of the Year 2022 competition, sponsored by Sacla'.

### How to enter

To be in with a chance of winning, write a short story or poem around the theme of "Food Fit for a Queen". You can explore the theme in any way you want. You could write

about a tea party you are planning to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year, or imagine a meal with a real queen, a culinary queen or even a fictional queen like the Queen of Hearts from Alice in Wonderland.

For example, you could imagine dining with your favourite historical queen. What would it be like to have dinner with Queen Victoria or Elizabeth I? Would it be exciting or scary? What would their table manners be like, and what would be on the menu? This is a great opportunity to write about fancy foods, as well as unusual meals from the past.

The competition is divided into three different age categories, each with a different word limit:

- 10 and under – 250 words
- 11-14 – 500 words
- 15-18 – 750 words

The judges will choose a winner and a runner-up in each category, based on the stories' relevance to the theme, food content, structure, originality and use of language. Your story or poem needs to be written without the help of a parent. Please include the word count at the end of your story, and send your entry by email to [competitions@theweekjunior.co.uk](mailto:competitions@theweekjunior.co.uk) by 30 April 2022. All entries must include your name and age, as well as the address, email address and phone number of your parent or guardian. Good luck! Find out more here: <https://theweekjunior.co.uk/foodfitforaqueen>

## The Inaugural Global Young Journalist Awards

Here is an opportunity for any budding journalists to enter a competition:

[https://i.emlfiles4.com/cmpdoc/1/8/2/3/4/1/files/107067\\_student-entry-pack\\_global-young-journalist-awards.pdf](https://i.emlfiles4.com/cmpdoc/1/8/2/3/4/1/files/107067_student-entry-pack_global-young-journalist-awards.pdf)

Prizes include a day's work experience in a national newsroom!

There are different categories to enter from Sports Journalist to Environmental, Political and Mental Health Journalists, and one of the judges is American actor and comedian Tina Fey!

## The Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award 2022 is now open.

<https://foyleyoungpoets.org/>

Our two judges, Anthony Anaxagorou and Mona Arshi cannot wait to read your poems.

Send in your poems on any theme, of any length and of any style. Winners receive a bunch of exciting prizes and will be published by The Poetry Society.

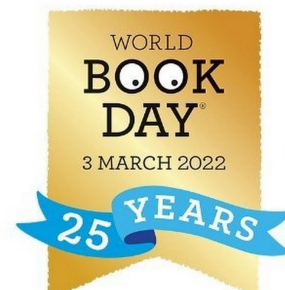
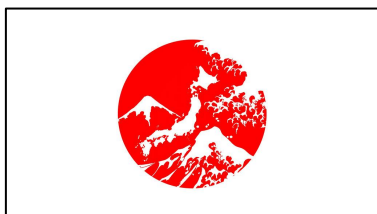
Entry is free to 11 – 17 year olds everywhere. Deadline 31st July 2022.

Looking for inspiration? Check out the <https://ypn.poetrysociety.org.uk/>, where there are a number of fantastic poetry resources, prompts and tips from past winners.

# Library News



Mrs Finlay



## World Book Day and Japanese Book Week 3rd- 11th March

This year, on the 25th anniversary of World Book Day on 3rd March, we listened to a fantastically brilliant story created by six students, with each cliffhanger chapter being read at the beginning of each period - well done to those involved.

We also had a wonderful collection of wrapped books in the form of a **Mystery Book Swap** that took place outside the library - each book had an age rating, genre and a bit of blurb, all put together by Miss Jessiman and her helpers. There was a great buzz of excitement at break time and the books flew off the benches.

It was a shame that not every student could get a book, but fear not, we have decided to do another mystery book swap before the summer holidays (details to follow).

Thank you to everyone who donated books to the previous book swap. You can donate books for the next book swap to the English office or the library - many thanks.

To coincide with World Book Day and to celebrate 10 years of Japanese being taught to the sixth form at Dane Court, we held a Japanese Book Week in the library, organised by Ms Myers.

There was a **display** of Japanese books and Manga, a **voting box** to add ideas for new Japanese and Manga books for the library to buy, as well as a display of book recommendations from teachers.

There were two exciting competitions to enter: a **Japanese book/ Manga review** competition and a **Manga drawing competition**. Well done to Abigail in year 9 for your winning book review on *A Silent Voice*, and for your wonderful Manga drawing - we hope you enjoy your prizes.

## The Carnegie Awards Shadowing Scheme

*The Yoto Carnegie Medal shortlist has just been announced and we have copies of the books in the library to read and review as part of the Shadowing scheme, where we help to judge the awards, but posting reviews. If you would like to take part in this please come along to the library on a **Tuesday lunchtime**.*

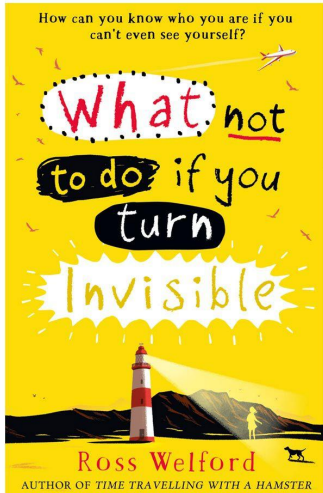




# Book Reviews



## What not to do if you turn invisible Elaina - Year 7



### What Not To Do If You Turn Invisible by Ross Welford

This is a heart warming book and I would recommend it to all those who want an adventure. The book 'What not to do if you turn invisible' is written by Ross Welford who is also author of time travelling with a hamster and the 1000 year old boy is an astonishing and funny novel about a twelve-year-old girl named Ethel who only meant to cure her spots, not turn herself invisible. It's terrifying at first (and exciting) but the effect fails to wear off, throwing Ethel into a thrilling adventure as she struggles to hide her invisibility while uncovering the biggest secret of all: who she really is.

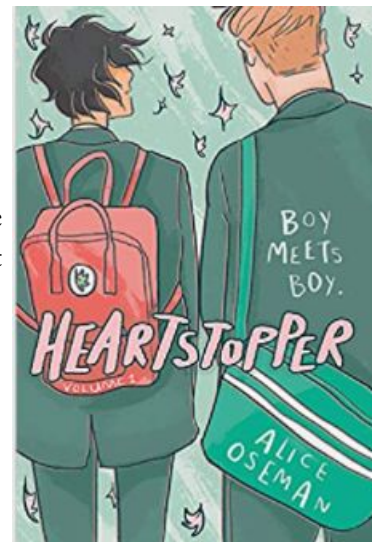
This is a heart warming book and I would recommend it to all those who want an adventure.

## HeartStopper Series by Abigail - Year 9

By Alice Oseman, winner of the YA **Book Prize**, **Heartstopper** is about love, friendship, loyalty and mental illness.

I must say I am obsessed with this series. I love it so much! I read all 4 in one day and to be honest I don't regret a thing. The characters and diverse representation is incredible and also the art is amazing, like seriously Alice is insanely talented. I love Nick and Charlie, and all the characters to be honest they are just all so well written and illustrated. Also there is a Heartstopper show coming out on Netflix soon which I absolutely cannot wait for.

Overall, this series is really, really good. It totally beat every expectation I had for it, and I really honestly think it deserves all the attention it gets.



## Amazing women in literature by Grace - Year 12

Georgia Warr *Loveless*, Alice Oseman  
*Matilda*, *Matilda*, Roald Dahl

Valkyrie Cain, *Skulduggery Pleasant*, Derek Landy

Clarice, *Silence of the Lambs*, Thomas Harris

Jo March, *Little women*, Louisa May Alcott

Mary Poppins, *Mary Poppins*, P.L traver's

Hermione Granger, *Harry Potter*

Scout Finch, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee

Anne Shirley, *Anne of Green Gables*, Lucy Maud Montgomery

Violet Baudelaire, *A Series of Unfortunate Events*, Lemony Snickett

Bonus - Rebecca, *Rebecca*, Daphne du Maurier

Happy world book day, and also happy international women's day! With both events so close together in March I thought it would be a good idea to combine the two with a good ol' fashioned top 10 list - however this is in no particular order and isn't a comprehensive list of all the amazing fictional female characters in literature



# Must read books to keep you entertained this Easter

Sophie - Year 8

Here is a selection of books in all different genres. I've based this on my bookcase, which consists of a broad range of different genres and age groups. I learnt a long time ago not to judge a book by its cover. Be warned, as with most books, almost all these have a secondary plot with a love story but none of them are too cringy.

## **-Horror-**

Fear Street, the beginning by R.L Stine.

The book is split into four creepy stories, each linked to the same town. Although it may seem like a classic ghost story at first, things are not always as they seem.

## **-Adventure-**

Defy The Night by Brigid Kemmerer. A great tale told from two different perspectives, both of which are very different but definitely more similar than it makes you think.

## **-Historic-**

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak.

The way it is written and its moving story made this book properly addictive, it is based in wartime Germany.

## **-Mystery-**

Sister, Missing by Sophie McKenzie.

I don't normally read mysteries but this one was a great story which shows Lauren's version of family and her journey of self discovery.

## **-Greek Mythology-**

Circe by Madeline Miller follows the life of Circe from the Greek stories.

## **-Thriller-**

Agent 21 by Chris Ryan.

For those who loved Alex Rider as a kid this one is super good. It is about a 14 year old who becomes a spy and it's written by a real sas veteran.

## **-Fantasy-**

The Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy. In this book Stephanie meets a living skeleton called Skulduggery Pleasant and she partners up with him to find out what really happened to her Uncle. The good thing about this one is that there are at least fifteen more books after it.

## **-Dystopian-**

Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. If you haven't read this book you definitely should, in a world split into districts every year a boy and a girl from each one are entered in a competition where the last one alive wins.

## **-Sci-fi-**

The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness. A great book filled with twists and drama on a whole new planet.





## What to look forward to in the next Chatter edition...

**CHATTER 22**  
**Out 20th JULY 2022**

### Chattering ahead

- ★ Jubilee Celebrations - Update on all our celebrations in school and at home. Perhaps you are you having a street party or a different celebration?
- ★ Farewell to all of our leavers - we will miss you.
- ★ Business of Enterprise - Dane Court's very own Dragons Den!
- ★ The Medieval Banquet - porridge, pies and pottage galore
- ★ Sports Day - which house will win this year?!
- ★ The Year 9 Bistro - invites are out and the menu plans are being put together.
- ★ Dane Courts Bake off winners- Pictures and judges comments

### Would you like to join the Chatter team???

The **DCGS Chatter** team, currently meet in the library on a Monday lunchtimes for Year 7-9 & a Friday lunchtime for Years 10-13. We have an ever increasing team of reporters, who have many different skills to enable the team to deliver each edition of Chatter.

We welcome anyone who would like to contribute by ways such as: supporting the group, organising people, coming up with ideas, writing reports, drawing, being creative, developing competitions, telling jokes, interviewing people or simply telling us what you would like to read about.

Chatter is a drop in club, reporters come along when they can. If you are interested in joining a friendly, fun and lively group with time for everyone, why not come along to your next year group meeting and join us!

