



# The Dean



The Magazine of The Dean Academy

Issue 17

Easter 2018



ROLLS ROYCE  
APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS  
FOR YEAR 11 STUDENTS  
(SEE PAGE 4)

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# Update from the Head of School



Dear Parent/Carers,  
The school year continues to fly by. I am certainly looking forward to the weather getting warmer and no further disruption from snow! Despite this disruption, our students have had a very successful term. As we continue to strive towards being a Good school, learning in lessons remains our bread and butter. I try to get out into lessons as much as possible, and it is always great to see students challenging themselves in all subjects. In January we ran our Challenge Week, rescheduled from December following the first batch of wintery weather. Students took part in a number of workshops and activities and listened to inspirational speakers. The aim of the whole week was to get students thinking about career paths that they might not have considered and to improve their confidence. Since January, we have continued to run events to get students to consider future options, including trips to Denmark Road and Malmesbury Sixth Forms. In April there will be a Year 10 trip to Cardiff University. There has also been a large array of other trips, sporting events, and activities this term, and it has been great to see students getting stuck in. I would like to encourage any students who have not been involved in extra-curricular activities to take something up in the summer term.

In Mrs Smith's article in this newsletter, she outlines a major project we are working on this year, the push to become a Restorative Practice School. As part of this change, and in order to continue to improve the school, we feel the time is right to review our behaviour policy and procedures. In September 2018, we will launch a new behaviour procedure for the whole school. This is a big bit of work and we would like to involve the whole school community in the process. Throughout the summer term we will be running consultation meetings with all key stakeholders, and I would welcome the involvement of parents and carers in this. Early next term I will write to parents with dates/times of the meetings – please attend if you are able to, we really value your views. I would like to publicly thank Jane Nicholls, who leaves us at Easter. Having worked at Malmesbury since 2003, Jane will be retiring at the end of this term. Over the last 3 years, Jane has been a great support to the finance team and SLT at The Dean Academy, tirelessly working in the background to establish the Multi-Academy Trust and helping to manage the **school's finances in an unprecedented time of change.** Although we will be extremely sad to see her go, I wish her all the best for a long and happy retirement, and would like to offer our sincere thanks. Have an enjoyable Easter, we will see you on Monday 16th April.  
Tom Beveridge, Head of School

## A Bright Future for The Dean Academy

Staff from The Dean Academy and representatives from the local community joined together in recognition of the **school being taken out of 'special measures'**.

The event was organised as an appreciation of the huge amount of effort and hard work from members of staff. **Mr Beveridge commented "Staff and students should be proud of what they have achieved so far. We will continue to work tirelessly to make further improvements."** Mr Beveridge also thanked Rev Sarah Fenby and Lydney Town Mayor Cllr Bob Berryman, who attended the event, for their support in making The Dean Academy a community school.

Tim Gilson, CEO of the Athelstan Trust added "Staff

have been a phenomenal role model to the children at the school through their team work and support of each other. Their optimism and determination to make the school better has raised the standards for a first class comprehensive education. They have demonstrated an unshakeable commitment that has been truly inspirational and its impact on people in the community **will be life changing."**

The Ofsted ruling was announced following an inspection visit to the school in November 2017. Inspectors were impressed by the rapid and sustainable improvements made at the school acknowledging that a **"culture of aspiration has now been established."**



Rev Sarah Fenby, Athelstan Trust CEO Tim Gilson, Chair of Governors Janine Fox, Head of School Tom Beveridge, Lydney Town Mayor Cllr Bob Berryman, Sheila Berryman and Deputy Head Declan Mooney



## Introducing Restorative Practice at The Dean Academy

At the beginning of this academic year, we began working with Gloucestershire County Council to develop an understanding and implementation of Restorative Practice throughout school life.

This is a new initiative being launched around the county, of which we are the first in the Forest of Dean to engage.

Restorative Practice is a school wide approach with one specific goal in mind: to support and facilitate the building of healthy and happy relationships.

It has been proven beyond doubt that when individuals live and work in a supportive, collaborative and restorative community that there is abundant personal growth, capacity for character building and a high level of engagement and achievement in all areas of life.

We see the future of The Dean Academy as a wholly restorative one. This means that we are working hard to develop a school ethos, whole school policies, lessons and tutor time activities that teach students how to reduce the possibility for conflict and harm.

Effective use of Restorative Practice should foster awareness of how others are affected by poor behaviour and encourage students to take responsibility for the part they play within their communities (friendship groups, tutor groups, year groups and school).

Restorative Practice, as an approach, provides both high challenge and support through a framework which we hope will improve relationships, establish accountability and responsibility. These three areas are all parts of school life which we think students need to focus on in order to continue to help move the school forward. One

of the main strands of the restorative approach is collaboration through fair process, and we will be inviting you and all students to be part of a safe and honest forum to share ideas and discuss issues like behaviour and challenge in the classroom.

Our aim in the future is to have an increasing number of parents and carers involved in our restorative school life.

We are planning on offering several opportunities towards the end of the school year for parents to learn more about the principles of Restorative Practice. In the **short term, Julia Davey, our school's Restorative Practice Volunteer Co-ordinator** will be hosting an information and recruitment event for parents and members of the local community who may be interested in finding out more and even becoming a volunteer Restorative Practice Co-ordinator themselves. This event will run from 10.00 – 11.30am on Friday 11th May in school. If you have any questions about this event, please email Julia via

[Julia.davey@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Julia.davey@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

By working together as a true community – staff, students, parents, governors and the local people of Lydney – we can help prepare the young people within this school for bright, happy futures where they are able to succeed and achieve their potentials, and beyond. As a community, we can use Restorative Practice to support our students now, whilst also investing in the long term future of Lydney itself.

Mrs Emily Smith, Assistant Head



## Student Council welcomes new members

This term, 6 members of year 7 were welcomed to the Student Council. Following a challenging application and interview process Erin Hewitt, Emma Kear, Emily Ervig, Jasmine Chandler-Brown, Amelia Davies and Ayden Le Roux all joined the council ready to work hard to continue to improve the school community. The newly appointed members commented **"We feel it is an honour to be members of the School Council, and as our first assignment we have organised to place recycling bins around the school. By doing this, we can prevent recyclable materials being thrown in the bin as waste. This will help to make the school become more eco-friendly. This is just one of our many ideas."** Mrs Emily Smith



Ayden Le Roux, Emma Kear, Amelia Davies, Emily Ervig, Erin Hewitt and Jasmine Chandler-Brown

# Art, Design and Production Faculty

## Geared up for Engineering Success

Three Engineering students from The Dean Academy have earned themselves a prestigious 3 year Advanced Practical apprenticeship with Rolls Royce beating thousands of other applicants.

Jordan Shuttleworth, Jack Powell and Michael Saunders were among 15,000 students who underwent a rigorous selection process for 36 places. They were assessed on competence, resilience and attitude. Only one hundred applicants were successful in passing the initial stages and were invited back to spend a day at Rolls Royce in Bristol to complete interviews, panel reviews, technical tests, compliance tests, team building skills and awareness tests.

**Engineering teacher Mrs Kirsten Westgate commented "I am extremely proud and delighted for these boys as they have continually worked hard in Engineering throughout years 10 and 11 and for me they totally deserve all of the success. The feedback from Rolls Royce was that Michael had 100% in the technical test and Jack had 100% in the compliance test. Both obtained the two highest and best scores in the interviews and panel review assessment. I am delighted that Jack, Michael and Jordan will be able to have the potential to achieve great things in the future."**



**"I have always had an interest in engineering and working to the highest tolerances. I applied for a place with Rolls Royce as I felt that this would allow me to follow my passion. The hardest part of the process was the interview and assessments; it was a very long day. I am really proud to have been offered this apprenticeship."** Jack Powell

**"I was really nervous before the interviews but they made me feel relaxed. When they rang me to say that I had a place with them I was told that I had done really well in the interviews and that I was motivated and dedicated. My family are really pleased for me. I can't wait to start in September."** Michael Saunders

**"I really enjoy the hands-on aspect of engineering. I am looking forward to starting my apprenticeship with Rolls Royce as they are world famous and have a great reputation. They will be able to teach and support me and help me to become part of the engineering community."** Jordan Shuttleworth

## Home Cooking Skills



Charlie Denman and Charlotte Crote with their colourful BTEC Home Cooking Skills display board

**"For our Home Cooking Skills we made a coursework display board on 100 calorie snacks because the government is trying to encourage children to eat lower calorie snacks. The government is suggesting that we should eat two 100 calorie snacks a day. We found some good snacks and have added them on the board. Did you know that 100 calories = 15 minutes of dance? Also on the board is my favourite recipe of Tagliatelle."** Charlie Denman Year 11

**"In BTEC Home Cooking Skills we made a display board about 100 calories and under. The government recommended that the snacks should be 100 calories and under and no more than 2 snacks a day. Also on the board is our favourite recipe that we have made this year. Mine was the sausage rolls."** Charlotte Crote Year 11

## Delicious Desserts

Year 10 Food and Nutrition students have been demonstrating their pastry skills this term by creating delicious desserts.

Fruit bowls with crème patisserie and profiteroles with zesty cream filling.

Mrs S Gittins-Jones

Left to right: Seb Thomas and Aeron Perkins



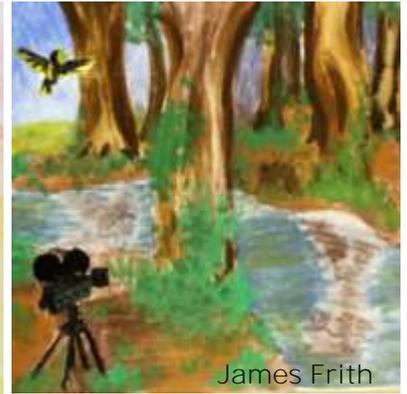
# Art, Design and Production Faculty

## Forest Inspired Art

Students from The Dean Academy have been invited by The Rotary Club to participate in an art competition that they are organising for schools across the Forest. Students from years 7 to 9 were asked to create a piece of artwork based on life in The Forest of Dean. We have already received some fantastic work from our students who will each receive a £10 voucher for their entries. Mrs K Charles



Erin Hewitt



James Frith



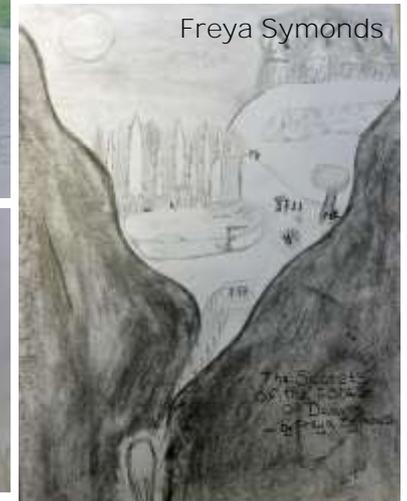
Holly Gardiner



Eve Jones



Hannah Fox



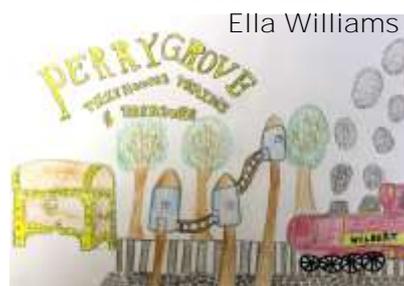
Freya Symonds



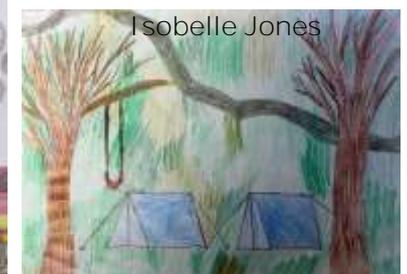
Lara



Bethany Fawke



Ella Williams



Isobelle Jones



Ben Thomas

## Art Competition



Gloucestershire College are running an art competition to celebrate the opening of their new campus in The Forest of Dean. They are asking students from across the Forest to submit their artwork (any media) which represents the theme of 'learning that works'. This can be something that either prepares you for your career or something that represents the heritage of The Forest of Dean. Winning entries will be displayed at the new campus.

- 1st prize = an iPad
- 2nd prize = £200 vouchers
- 3rd prize = £100 vouchers

Please see Mrs Charles for more information.

# Art, Design and Production Faculty

## Lets get Cracking!! Easter Cake Competition



Our annual Easter decorated Victoria sponge cake competitions have as always been very impressive.

With current Food students entering from year 8 and year 9, we have been baking for Britain!

Our winners are:

Y8 Makenzie Venner and Luke Evans  
 Y9x Holly Gardiner and Harry Thomas  
 Y9y Aston Cassidy and Jade Grindle



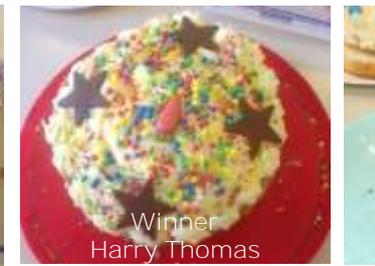
Winner  
Makenzie Venner



Winner Luke Evans



Winner  
Holly Gardiner



Winner  
Harry Thomas



## Good Old Skills!



As part of the Food and Nutrition assessment, students are required to have experienced filleting fish and portioning a chicken. All of the group came

with a strong stomach for period 1 on a Wednesday morning and showed some impressive knife skills, as well as some squeamish faces! The parts were then made into a variety of excellent dishes. Fish goujons, sticky chicken wings and chicken roulade. Mrs S Gittins-Jones

## Gloucestershire College Trip

Future Foodies?  
 Tikka Masala Ice-cream?  
 Prawn cocktail in wafer cones?  
 RFDC hosted a fantastic food event where our students had the experience to sample and see the range of careers that the food industry has to offer. From creating weird new dishes, butchery skills, catering and hospitality, the trip was informative and gave the students an idea of the excellent facilities that will be available to them at the new Forest College.  
 Mrs S Gittins-Jones



# Art, Design and Production Faculty

## Year 9 Create and Cook Competition

We have been really busy in Food this term trying to challenge students to do something new. We hosted an in school cooking competition open to all year 9 students. The aim was to plan and present a menu using local produce.

Five teams entered and the 3 winning teams put forward their menu to enter a regional competition sponsored by the Midcounties Co-op.

The dishes were well thought out and presented beautifully to the Senior Leadership Team who judged the event. Of course Mr Mooney HAD to taste test! Our winning menus have been selected and submitted— we are waiting to hear if we have been chosen. Well done to all that entered— fingers crossed.

Mrs S Gittins-Jones



David Hale, Amy Thorne, Taylor-Mae Worgan, Abbie Scrivens, Wyatt Kehoe, Joe Greenhalgh, Courtney Stephens, Ella Knight, Alfie Paine and Ryan Zerniak

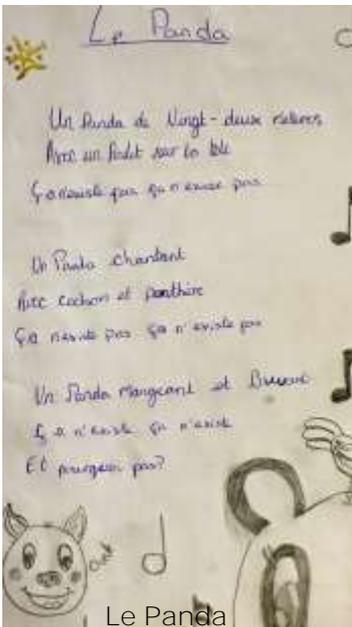


## Communications Faculty

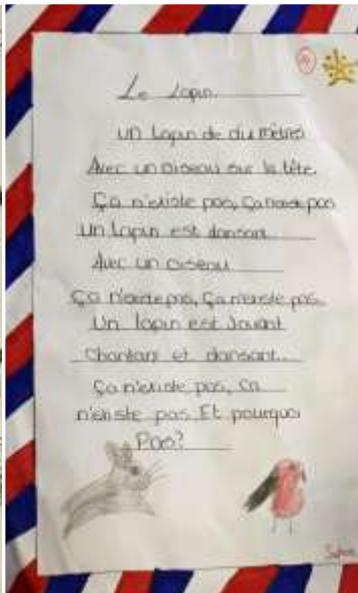
### Exploring and Creating French Poetry

Year 7 students have been getting creative with poems about animals. In class they have been reading the famous French poem 'La Fourmi' (*The Ant*) by Robert Desnos. It is a surreal poem that was written to entertain children during WWII.

The class were tasked with translating the poem and then to create their own version inspired by Desnos' surreal style. They came up with some fantastically imaginative and colourful creations! Miss H Deans



Le Panda  
by Madeleine Head  
Page 7



Le Lapin  
by Sophie Gwilliam



Le Chien  
by Todd Gray



Le Chenille  
by Amelia Tye

# Maths and Computing Faculty

## Maths Trust Day

Budding mathematicians from schools across the Athelstan Trust joined together last term for a special year 8 Maths workshop which was hosted at The Dean Academy. Students travelled from Malmesbury School and Bradon Forest in Wiltshire to solve some complex mathematical puzzles and challenges which included a maths crossword and a relay event.

Mr Chris Knibbs, a teacher at Malmesbury School commented "Our students were really enthusiastic about the day. One student said that they found the maths challenging but rewarding when they got it right. Others commented on how well their team had worked together."

Mrs Ruth Jones, the Maths Curriculum Leader at the school organised the event for the year 8 students. Ruth said "It was a great event; there was lots of energy in the room and a real buzz about Maths. It was lovely to see students from across the Trust mixing together. I was particularly impressed by our year 10 helpers who assisted with the marking and organising of the day."

Other Athelstan Trust events are due to be hosted later in the year.



Year 10 helper Beth Willetts with students from across the Trust



Winning Team: Jaik Aji and Emily Nolan from Bradon Forest with Lola Porter and Lily Fitzsimons from Malmesbury School

## Tenner Challenge

The Dean Academy has been participating in the Tenner Challenge which is a national competition for year 7 and 8 students.

A number of students have signed up and run their stalls during lunchtimes. It has been very busy and they have been successful in their chosen business.

Their enterprising ideas have included key rings, sweets and cakes, as well as a raffle. Some activities are continuing up until the Easter break.

It has been great to see students enjoy their businesses and see their confidence grow.

Mrs N Cook



Sweet Success: Ella Lewis and Jamie Chapman in year 8



Enterprising: Brayden Love, Ayden Le Roux, Simeon Evans and Joshua Compton

# Maths and Computing Faculty

## Business and Enterprise

Business and Enterprise students have been exploring each stage of creating and running a successful business, from branding to product design, from marketing to management, from production to sales.

As part of their final assignment, students were given £25 in start-up cash from the school and were tasked with holding an enterprise event in order to raise money for charity. As a team they needed to come up with original ideas for products or services which could be marketed or sold at lunch time. From here they worked together as a team to assess the viability of their ideas, produced business plans, designed their marketing campaigns and produced their goods. Their work culminated on Thursday 22 March with them selling their wares and services to our school community.

The teams worked incredibly hard to offer everything from car washing to hair styling, home made baked goods to pick 'n' mix. Well done to all the students involved who showed great team work, leadership and creativity. All profits made by the students will now be donated to various charities including Narcolepsy UK. Miss J Rosbrook

**Best Marketing Campaign**  
Bacon and Milkshakes: Jordan Shuttleworth, Oliver Rothery-Jones, Ben Leighton.  
Their innovative meme based advertising captured our students' attention and led to big queues all lunchtime!

**Best Store**  
The Tiki Bar: Codie Smith and Harvey Imm.  
On a cold, damp day, Codie and Harvey's taste of Hawaii packed a fruity visual punch!

**Most Profit**  
Sportswear: Eva Marie-Kear, Molly Popplewell and Miya Davis.  
The popularity of their Dean Academy hoodies led to a wallet-busting £201 profit! Students can already be seen sporting theirs in PE lessons.



Sugar Rush: Summer Elliott, Sarah James & Beth Howley



\*James Saunders gets cleaning



Happy customer: David Hale with his hoodie



Jordan Shuttleworth with the popular bacon rolls



Harvey Imm and Codie Smith with their mocktails

## Vote 100: Wonder Women

The achievements of 'Wonder Women' both past and present have been recognised and celebrated by students in a special vote to mark the centenary of the Representation of the People Act. This important electoral reform Act became law in February 1918 giving women over the age of thirty and of property the right to vote. Although it would be another ten years before full electoral equality was achieved the Act was monumental.



7JB post their voting slips

Staff and students at the academy voted from a selection of fifteen inspirational women ranging from the Victorian computer engineer Ada Lovelace to the fearless war reporter and Chief News Correspondent Kate Adie.

Miss Jo Rosbrook, the Director of World Affairs at the school, explained "It was vital to celebrate and re-affirm the importance of female suffrage with our students. Our year 9 students, during their History lessons, assessed the most significant developments in female social history and across the school students investigated the accomplishments of the 'Wonder Women' before voting for the one they felt was the most inspirational. The overwhelming winner was Malala Yousafzai. In a world where 264 million children are denied the right to an education, Malala's empowering story served as reminder of not only how far we've come as a society but also that there's much work still to do."



# Sports News

## Year 10 Boys Design New Canterbury School Rugby Kit



During the autumn term, four lucky year 10 students spent the day at Gloucester Rugby Stadium working with Canterbury Sportswear to design a new school rugby kit. In March, the production and manufacturing process was finally completed, and the unique new school kit arrived in school.

The boys inspiration for the kit

was based on the colours of the school tie and current PE kit.

They then drew out a number of draft designs themselves before working with one of Canterbury's top kit designers to fine tune the final selection.

Kieran Williams, Mason Cunliffe, Connor Price and Jake Turley are pictured proudly sporting their new kit.

Mr P Glynn

## U14 Girls Football

The U14 girls entered the District Football Finals at Rednock School where they played Thomas Keble, Wyedean, Five Acres and Newent. They had an unfortunate first game, losing to Newent in the last minute to a penalty goal. They beat Wyedean 1-0 and went 0-1 down to Five Acres in the first few minutes. However, the girls fought back and beat Five Acres 2-1, qualifying in 2nd place.

The girls then went to the County

Football Finals at Rednock School where they played Thomas Keble, Beaufort, Cleeve and All Saints Academy. The girls played exceptionally well, their effort, attitude and behaviour was brilliant!

Well done girls!

My player of the tournament was awarded to Aleisha Maguire-Toombs who captained the team and put in an amazing performance in every game!

Mrs K Jones



## Hockey Club



Captain Libby Beddis with team mates Emily McCoy, Jaime Payne, Connie Rees, Paris Cherry, Megan Underwood, Taiya Huxstep, Anna-Fleur Geelhoed, Eleanor Kiely, Aleisha Maguire-Toombs, Hariotte Mills, Declan Rosser and Emma Baldwin

The Dean Academy Hockey team did themselves proud at a recent home match against Wyedean. The score was 1-1. Ms Julia Pitt who runs the hockey club commented "This is a brilliant result as their

training has been limited due to other commitments."

After school Hockey training is available to all year groups for both boys and girls. It runs every Wednesday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm.



## Year 7 Girls District Football

Year 7 girls recently took part in a Football tournament with Wyedean, Newent School and Five Acres High. The girls played really well against other strong teams. The scores were 1-1, 2-1 (Newent win) and 1-0 (Five Acres win).

Ms J Pitt



Jess Geelhoed, Rachel James, Taylor Turley, Libby Peacey, Alisha Carling, Ruby Truman, Sophie Allen, Maddy Head and Libby Brooks

# Challenge Week: 29th January to 2nd February

Students proved they were up for a challenge as they attended various events and motivational workshops designed to get them thinking about their future.

Challenges that were on offer to students throughout the week included an exciting parachute egg drop in Science, following a recipe entirely in Spanish, designing your own keyring, a quiz and a Newsround challenge for budding reporters.

Ndidi Okezie, Executive Director at Teach First addressed over 150 students as part of a motivational 'Who Am I?' workshop. Ndidi spoke about how as a child she was told that she would never be successful, a comment which spurred her on to achieve her goals, "No-one tells me how far I can go, I will decide what my dreams in life will be."

**"Failure is not the end, the real loss is when you stop trying."**

She tasked the students to write down what they want their life to be like and to write a message to their future selves. One student wrote "I want to prove myself to anyone that has doubted me in the past. I want to cheer people up when they're down and let them know they have someone."

Keen cyclist, Megan Cumberlandge, shared her experiences with students about a personal challenge she set herself

back in 2016 where she spent three months cycling on her own from London to Athens. Megan commented

**"Only by stepping out of your comfort zone do you realise that you're actually capable of more than you can imagine."**

Miss Eve Knibbs-Rebane a teacher at the school who coordinated the week commented "I have been so proud of all the students involved in Challenge Week. They have demonstrated our school's core values of: respect, collaboration, resilience and excellence in all that they've done this week. They have represented The Dean Academy and the local community beautifully and all our visitors have complimented their behaviour and positive outlook. I just hope they've enjoyed themselves as much as I have!"



No limits: Teach First Executive Director Ndidi Okezie



Parachute Egg Drop: Tommy Davey in year 7 with his parachute



Egg drop challenge winner: Eve Jones, year 8



Cycle Challenge: Sophie Ball and Jessica Geelhoed with Megan Cumberlandge

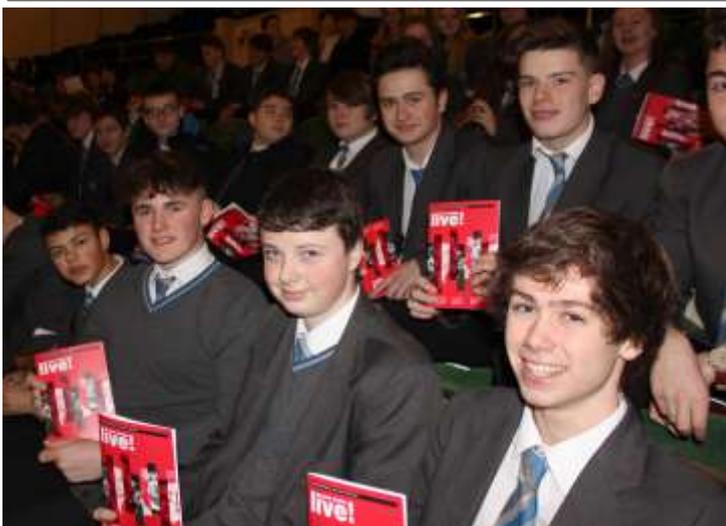


Micah Evans in year 8 shares his hopes and dreams for the future



A Challenging Week: Year 11 students Naomi Berry, Bethany Howley, Grace Pearson, Kimberley Matthews, Grace Chaplin, Victoria Frith, Carys Evans, Elizabeth Laughton, Summer Elliott, Ellie Ovens and Bethany Eltringham created some delicious food following a recipe in Spanish

# Out and About



Simon Armitage



John Agard



## Poetry Live

A group of year 11 students travelled to the Poetry Live show in Bath where they were treated to readings from great poets such as Simon Armitage, John Agard and the Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy. They were also given some invaluable advice from examiner

Tony Childs about tackling the unseen poem.

Gillian Clarke



gcse poetry  
**live!**

Student comments

**"It put the poems into perspective."**

"Decent day."

**"It was enjoyable."**

**"I LOVED IT."**

**"We really enjoyed the show.** We felt it really improved our relationship with the poets and the poems that we will be using in our exam. Thank you **for the opportunity."**

**"John Agard was the best."**

**"It was very interesting to** hear the poets interpretations and intentions of their poems.

The trip has improved my understanding of the poems, their contexts and how to **tackle the questions."**

**"I thought it was interesting and inspiring."**

## Year 7 Go to the Theatre

Some of our year sevens enjoyed a cultural enrichment trip to Malvern Theatre this month to watch a brand new and original musical production of the Jungle Book. We are really pleased with the success and popularity of the trip and hope to enjoy many more theatre trips in the future! Mr J Randall



**"IT WAS DIFFERENT AND I ENJOYED IT."**

*"I thought the play was really interesting and well-performed."*

# World Book Day - Thursday 1st March 2018



Teaching Assistants Anna Edwards and Yazmin Alimi aka The Mad Hatter and the Cat in the Hat

Staff braved the weather and came to school dressed as famous book characters for World Book Day.

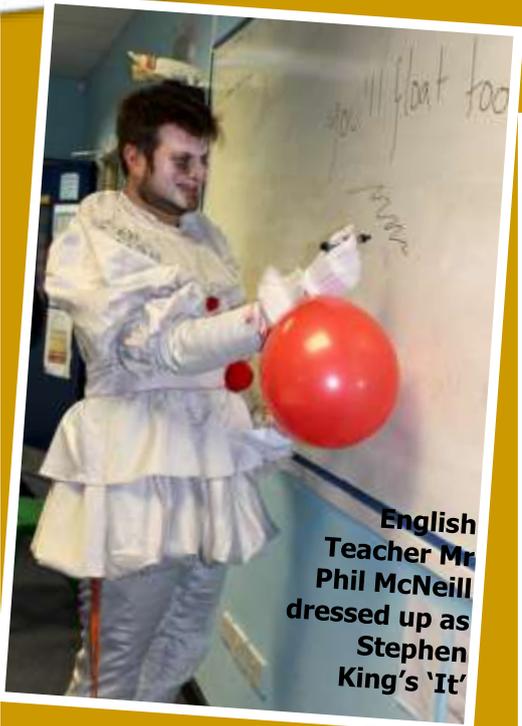
Students enjoyed being taught by characters such as Paddington Bear, Robin Hood, Mrs McGonagall and The Mad Hatter which initiated discussions about various genres of books. English teacher, Mr Phil McNeill, who helped organise the event commented "Despite the snow, The Dean Academy celebrated World Book Day in style with costumes and quizzes, all to foster a love of reading in our learners."



James and the Giant Peach: Mr Craig Palmer in his Roald Dahl inspired costume



The Science Faculty dressed up as famous authors and characters including The Cat in the Hat, Robin Hood, Paddington Bear and the Mad Hatter



English Teacher Mr Phil McNeill dressed up as Stephen King's 'It'



The World Affairs Faculty dressed up as characters from Harry Potter, The Old Man and the Sea and The Arabian Nights



Librarian, Mrs Williams dressed as the Lion from 'The Wizard of Oz' and Miss Browne was the 'Boy in the Striped Pyjamas'

# Peace, Power and Politics: CND workshop

KS3 students enjoyed some thought provoking and creative workshops all about Peace last week.

CND Peace Education Officer Mr Owen Everett visited the school to discuss and debate issues with students about weapons of mass destruction. Mr Everett explained "I visit schools all over the country working with children in a creative way to engage with them about important issues such as nuclear weapons. I am not here to tell them what to think but to encourage them to make up their own minds."

Year 7 and 8 students learned about symbols of peace and discussed issues around the nuclear bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. They were tasked with writing a message of peace on a sheet of paper and then making a crane using the art of origami. One student wrote on theirs "Have peace. Even light can be found in the darkest of times."

Truman on Trial: One group found him guilty and another found him innocent



A group of Key Stage 4 students learned about the political issues both past and present and staged a mock trial where President Truman was tried for his decision to bomb Japan. Ben Jones and Ellis Saunders were 'defending' and Oliver Rothery-Jones and Jordan Shuttleworth were 'prosecuting'. The result was a

thought provoking and informative session. Year 11 student Fynn Aston commented "The Peace Education workshop was interesting and gave me historical understanding of nuclear weapons and how they were used in World War II. This also relates to present day politics with the conflict between America and North Korea."



Paper Crane: Message of peace



Symbols of Peace: Connor Toogood, Oliver Thomas, Joseph Powell, Toby Bendall and Ben Hughes



Creations of Peace: Owen Everett with students Charlie Davis, Kyle Jenkins, Tommy Davey, Declan Tonks, Jasmine Chandler-Brown, Emma Kear and Ellie Hawkins

# Workshops

## Students Wax Lyrical about Creative Writing Workshop

A group of year 10 students waxed lyrical about a special visit to the school by esteemed author Anna Beer who delivered an inspirational and informative creative writing workshop focussing on the importance of metaphors in poetry and language.

The event was arranged through Speakers For Schools; a charity that sends professional people from various career paths to give inspirational talks to children across the country sharing their insights and enthusiasm for their chosen field.

Anna Beer explained "Language is important to all of us. Writing is about finding a voice that is powerful and interesting so that people will listen to you. Our entire language is built on metaphors, they run through our language without us even realising it."

Anna also gave some advice for those who were considering writing as a career, commenting "If you have a talent you should use it to give yourself options; by sticking at it and working hard you will get to the top. If you love your subject and commit yourself to it you can be successful as a writer."

Anna encouraged students to consider using unusual metaphors in their writing as a way to challenge the reader and grab their attention.



### Q&A

Q: What is the process for publishing your work?

A: Send your work off to as many places as you can. You need to be able to deal with rejection but eventually something will happen. Once you are published you have more traction and it can lead to other opportunities. Sheer hard work can get you to the top.



Metaphorically speaking: Author Anna Beer enthuses students about language and poetry

### Student comments:

"Ms Beer was entertaining and helpful: she guided us about confidence and hard work as well as the techniques and analytical reading of texts. The workshop was useful for both my English studies and future life."

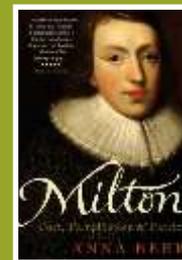
Gemma Kear



"I thought that the session was very interesting.

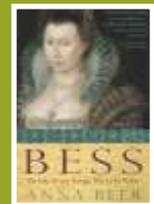
It has helped me with ideas about university."

Jack Davies



"I found the experience eye-opening and influential. It made me feel more confident and secure about my future. The workshop also really helped me with English."

Eleanor Cowell



Anna Beer pictured with year 10 students Abbie Stewart, Jessie Seymour, Gemma Kear, Eleanor Cowell, Lottie Cox, Kimberley Sharpe, Michael Richards, Oliver Shattock, Jack Davies, Ryleigh Turley and Holly Davis

# Workshops

## Using Football to Tackle Men's Health

Men's health was high on the agenda of a football based workshop for a group of year 10 boys at The Dean Academy when representatives from Cheltenham Town FC paid a visit to the school to tackle some important topics.

The 'MENTalk' workshop is part of a local community trust programme which uses football to initiate discussions about mental and sexual health issues. Coach Alex Parker explained "The session is designed

to improve young men's understanding and awareness of topics such as bullying, stress, body image, STIs, testicular cancer, as well as drug and alcohol abuse. It is done in a laid back manner so that the boys feel comfortable and are free to ask any questions."

One of the activities involved putting on a pair of 'beer goggles' which mimic the effects of alcohol. Students noticed when wearing the goggles that their co-ordination was

impaired and their reaction time was slower.

The Head of Year, Mr Alastair Cornish, commented "All the boys really enjoyed the experience and got a lot out of the day. The boys learned about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and the benefits of having a positive attitude. Thanks must go to Cheltenham Town FC who we hope to work with again in the future."



Cheltenham Town FC Coach Alex Parker (right) and Beckem Foley (left) with a group of year 10 boys

## Is It Worth It? E-Safety Workshop

'Is it worth it?' was the question that year 9 students at The Dean Academy were encouraged to ask last week during an interactive session that explored E-safety and the dangers of sexting.

The session was organised and funded by Gloucestershire Police in collaboration with Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board (GSCB) and Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning (GHLL) to help young people understand the risks associated with posting images of themselves and speaking to strangers online.

Claire Walmsley who presents the show to schools across the county gave students lots of advice on how to deal with any problems they may encounter online "If you are struggling with something online then tell a friend or your school's Safeguarding Lead, please do not keep it to yourself. The consequences can be devastating and could affect your long term mental health. It is important to remember that if you post a photo of yourself online it is a lottery as to where that photo could end up."

Students were given some shocking statistics such as how 33% of teens in Gloucestershire had admitted sending or receiving sexual images and 16% of secondary aged girls had agreed to meet a stranger they had met online.

Head of Year, Mr Alastair Cornish commented "With a mixture of music and games the students joined in having



Quick fire round: Wiktor Jarosz and Alfie Paine go head to head to see who has learnt the most facts from the session ably assisted by team mates Maisy Popplewell, Codi Whitson, and Kacey McNeill-Jeffs

fun as well as learning about what was legal and not regarding the use of mobile phones and the internet. The response from students was excellent with all participating well and taking note of the important messages given to them. One thing they must remember – IT'S NOT WORTH IT!"

# Community

## Sea Cadets

Back in September T.S Verderer was established under the Cadet Expansion Programme (CEP). The CEP is part of the **Government's aim of promoting military ethos in schools;** to instil values in young people that will help them get the most out of their lives, and to contribute to their communities and country. This means students developing qualities such as self-discipline, loyalty and respect, strong leadership, teamwork and resilience which will help them achieve excellence and shape their own future.

Cadets Crote, Greenhalgh, Lade and Junior Cadet Le Roux have been through the process of becoming fully-fledged cadets. During the process they have learnt ceremonial processes such as drill and raising the colours, along with practical skills such as knot tying and uniform care. **Now we're officially in British Summer Time** cadets have had the opportunity to take to the water in their first rowing session of the year.

T.S Verderer runs on a Wednesday evening in C9. Please see Mr Palmer or Mrs Morgan for more details.  
Mr C Palmer

Joe Greenhalgh, Matthew Lade, Ayden Le-Roux and Charlotte Crote at Lydney Docks



Charlie Davis takes on Mr Palmer

## Relocation for Forest Sports Education

Forest Sports Education have relocated to the grounds of The Dean Academy as part of a move that is hoped will encourage collaboration between the school and the specialist post 16 college.

Managing Director of Forest Sports Education, **Richard Kear**, commented "We are delighted that we have moved to the site and are able to utilise the great facilities that they have to offer, such as the astro turf, football fields and gym. This is an exciting time for us at Forest Sports as we continue to expand and strive to offer the Forest of Dean an excellent higher education sports centre that allows students to study from Level 2 BTEC right the way through to University level HND courses, right on their doorsteps. Through our partnership with The Dean Academy we are able to offer Sixth Form facilities for children who would otherwise be priced out of, or who do not wish to have a long commute before attending college for the day. We very much look forward to welcoming new students in the new academic year."

Courses on offer include a Level 2 Extended Certificate in Sport, a 2 year BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Sport (Performance and Excellence) and a 3 year



Head of School Tom Beveridge (centre) with Jamie Henderson, Richard Kear, Dave Taylor, and Jordan Fishwick from Forest Sports Education

University level HND in Coaching and Sport Development.

**Mr Tom Beveridge added "We are delighted to be able to welcome the staff and students of Forest Sports Education onto our site. To have post-16 students studying here will provide opportunities for collaboration with our students, and we hope will raise the aspirations of those students looking to move into this field. We look forward to working closely together."**

## Trip to SkillZone

In February, 12 EPIC students, from years 7 to 10 visited SkillZone in Gloucester. SkillZone is a safety education centre where you can learn about staying safe in all aspects of our daily lives, from using public transport, walking through town safely and keeping safe in our own homes.

Students learnt about the hazards that can be found in the home such as bleach, tablets and uncovered food. We also learnt how easy it can be to cause a fire in the home with items such as hair straighteners and over loaded plug sockets.

We considered the potential dangers of using public transport such as what to do if we feel threatened by other passengers, getting on and off trains and buses and using a level crossing safely. Students also found out what it is like inside a Police Station and prison cell.

There was a re-creation of a dark alley and this had a massive impact on our



students as it was full of rubbish, discarded syringes and it smelt horrible. At the end of the alley was the model of a man, wearing a hoody and smoking a cigarette. It looked so realistic and was really scary. This was designed to encourage young people never to take short cuts through dark and secluded areas. I think our EPIC students never will after that

experience! Mrs S Hankinson

## Nurture Group Tea Party



"On Monday 12th March our year 8 Nurture Group hosted a tea party in H3, to let people see what we get up to.

Teachers came along and we provided everyone with tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes. We talked to all the teachers and told them what we do in Nurture Group. **We hope everyone had fun.**" Chloe Chant Year 8



## Raising Aspirations

The Dean Academy is one of 10 schools in Gloucestershire that is part of the Gloucestershire Aspiration Programme (GAP).

GAP is a partnership of Gloucestershire-based universities and further education colleges working together to provide young people with high quality impartial information and activities about education opportunities beyond GCSEs. The partnership is called GROWS. It aims to raise aspiration to university level study amongst students from targeted areas.

Funding has been given to work with those who meet all of the following criteria:

- Students from year 9 upwards whose postcodes have been identified as having progression gaps, that is; pupils who have the prior attainment to go to university but in comparison to other postcodes have much lower numbers of students who go on to study at university level.
- Students who have been identified as having the potential to study at university level.

The project delivers a range of activities and events, some of which will be open to all students from year 9 upwards, however, due to funding, a range of activities will only be available to those who meet the above criteria.

GAP fund and deliver a range of initiatives both in and out of school. These include residential events at a college/university campus, motivational speakers, study skills speakers to help with revision techniques. There are also subject taster sessions, access to online tools to help students discover potential careers and identify their skills and strengths, mentoring and buddying schemes and visits from university students.

In addition to the activities mentioned above, there are a number of resources which are available for everyone. The GROWS website ([www.grows.ac.uk](http://www.grows.ac.uk)) has both a student and a parent section with information and resources about pathways, career options and higher education. You can also sign up to a newsletter which contains useful updates on these topics as well as details about events which may be of interest.

As the project is funded we are required to collect data on the students including personal and sensitive data. We will be asking students what their future plans are for education and employment and will be seeking their opinions on activities. We will be monitoring student outcomes as they progress through their education. Further detail on the data and security can be found on the GROWS website under legal information.

If you would like any more information please visit the GROWS website or contact Mrs O'Regan and Miss Knibbs-Rebane at The Dean Academy.



## The BIG Assembly

On Thursday 8th March, year 10 took part in 'The Big Assembly'.

**The Big Assembly' was a live video** which was streamed to thousands across the UK for those who wanted to find out more about apprenticeships and career options, post 16. Brought to us during National Apprenticeship Week and **on International Women's day, this second Big Assembly attempted to beat last year's record of 10,000 people being online all at the same time for careers advice and guidance.** This year, the focus was on diversity and social mobility, with students hearing from apprentices and employers who shared their stories and invited questions from a live and virtual audience through the interactive broadcast. This year it was broadcast live from Nottingham Academy featuring The BBC, Boots and Travis Perkins amongst others. The broadcast was **in a 'Question Time' style to a live studio and digital audience.** They anticipated more than 15,000 students, parents and teachers viewing from across England this year.

**Mrs E O'Regan**



## Careers Fair

Students had a chance to reflect on and make choices for their future at our annual Careers Fair as local businesses, colleges and organisations were on hand to offer guidance. Representatives from the Armed Forces and Gloucestershire Constabulary were also available to discuss career options.

**Mrs Ellie O'Regan, the Careers Co-ordinator explained "Our annual Careers Fair ran alongside the year 9 Options Evening as a complimentary addition to support students in their decision making.** Students were able to find out more about the subjects they were interested in pursuing and then visit the Careers Fair to speak to a range of providers about their next steps and career pathways. This will help our students to solidify their decision making and understand what is required to pursue their career goals. The Careers Fair also provided Year 10 with the opportunity to get ahead with their Post-16 choices and for Year 11s to address any outstanding questions they may have had. I would like to extend my thanks to all businesses and providers who attended to support our students and to Mr John Stanley for his leading role in **organising the event."**

Ms Donna Sutton from Waggly Tails in Lydney attended the event accompanied by a former student from The Dean Academy who has just embarked on an apprenticeship with the company. The Careers Fair gave her an opportunity to relay their first-hand experience of apprenticeship to other students who might be considering that option.



Practical demonstrations from Gloucestershire College



A year 9 student gets advice from the RAF



The police were on hand to answer any questions



gloucestershire college



Forest Sports Education



ARMY  
BE THE BEST



Gloucestershire  
COUNCIL



## Tae Kwon Do



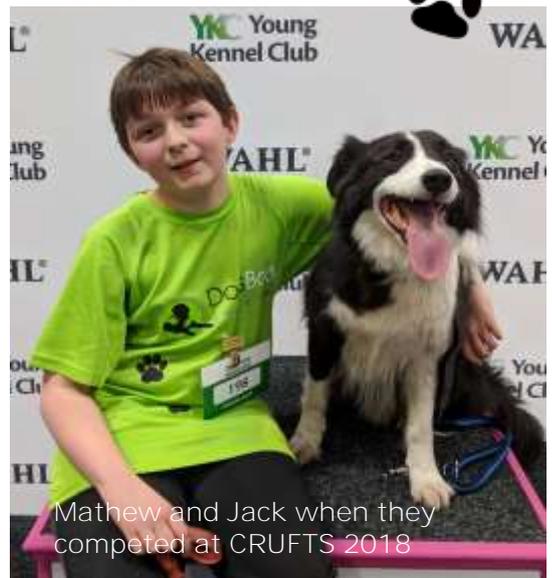
Isobelle Jones gained a medal for coming second in the Tae Kwon Do Championships in her Lightweight class of young people aged 10-13. Congratulations!

## Park Run Success



Ella Knight in year 9 received a medal for the 2017 Lydney Parkrun and was Top Junior Female with 42 runs-1 volunteer. Ella also recently completed the Portsmouth 100 Acre Wood 10k run. Well done Ella!

## Crufts 2018



Mathew Lade in year 7 competed in the Young Kennel Club Agility Dog of the Year competition.

In order to compete at Crufts Matthew had to qualify at one of the qualifying competitions held throughout 2017 which he achieved by coming 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Chippenham show in October 2017, this was his the last chance to qualify in 2017 without travelling to Scotland in December. This year, Matthew moved up to compete in the 12-17 year old category which meant that he was one of the youngest running in that class.

Unfortunately, the semi final didn't quite go to plan and Matthew was unable to win a place in the final. Despite this disappointment, Mathew really enjoyed the experience of competing at the biggest dog show in the world in front of huge crowds and he performed exceptionally well under great pressure.

Mathew has achieved this through dedicating himself to regular training over many years. His skills and knowledge are constantly improving and we are looking forward to him achieving great things during the 2018 competition season starting with an Easter show in the school holidays. Well done Matthew!

## Fishing



Before Christmas, Emily Ervig competed in a fishing competition and was named the Under 12 Championship Winner alongside gaining a participation medal, a most improved award and earning the Mark Burges runner up trophy. Isobelle Jones also competed and won a participation medal.

**Mrs E O'Regan**



## Prom Fundraising

The Year 11 Prom Committee have been busy organising various fundraising events for this year's Prom.

Fun activities have included, soak-a-teacher, a cake sale and a parents raffle. They have so far raised £545 towards the cost of the school Prom.

Year 11 students are looking forward to the event which will be held at The Speech House on Wednesday 4th July.



Mr Kelley gets a soaking from a student

## Sport Relief Fundraising



Aspen Harris and Max James collect donations

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March students came to school dressed in non-uniform to raise money for Sport Relief.

The school raised over **£490** for the charity which will go towards helping vulnerable people in the UK and in some of the world's poorest countries.

## School Terms and Holidays 2018

TERM 5 BEGINS	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April (students return)
MAY DAY HOLIDAY	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May
HOLIDAY	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June
TERM 6 BEGINS	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
INSET DAY	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June (staff only)
ENDS	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July (3.15 p.m.)
HOLIDAY	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> July – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> August