



The Dean



The Magazine of The Dean Academy

Issue 20

Easter 2019



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Update from the Head of School



Dear Parent/Carers,
The school year continues to fly by, and our students have had a very successful term. I have been really impressed with the level of learning in classrooms all over the school. I try to get into lessons as much as possible and we continue to see the quality of teaching and learning improve. In a recent English lesson, I observed, for instance, I was blown away by the quality and confidence of Year 7 readers. A special mention must also go to Year 11 students whose commitment and focus in attending a 6th lesson 3 afternoons a week to help them prepare for their summer exams has been excellent. There has been some fantastic learning taking place outside of lesson time. It is a real pleasure to hear about the Cyber Security Workshops, the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition and the insight days at local colleges and

universities, to name but a few. There has 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 wish all students and staff going on the trip to Porto over Easter a very enjoyable visit.

I would like to say thank you and goodbye to Christine Scott who is retiring this week. Christine has been working in our school restaurant for an incredible 18 years and her commitment and enthusiasm has been second to none. We wish Christine a long and happy retirement.

It has been a great sadness to the whole school that Mark Thompson passed away last month following a long illness. Mark was a fantastic servant to the school over a number of years and he is sorely missed. It was an honour to hear about his incredible life at his thanksgiving service, and the number of staff and students in attendance was testament to the legacy he has left. We are planning some events in the summer in honour of Mark and we will keep the whole community up to date.

Have an enjoyable Easter, we will see you on Tuesday 23rd April. **Tom Beveridge**

A message from the Chair of Governors

I'm very proud of the efforts the school and the Governing Body are doing for our young people and the results of the work, but feel that not enough parents know enough about what the Local Governing Body does. I want to make sure that you know who your governors are and how we are working on your behalf to help the school in its continuing improvements. To start this process Karen Frost, Vice-Chair of The Dean Academy governors will be at the year 7 Parents' Evening. Feel free to pop over to

her between appointments for an informal chat about what we are doing and what you would like to see more of. If you are parent or carer to a child not in year 7 and are not going to be at the parents' evening you can ask any questions about our work, send suggestions or find how you can get involved by emailing me, Janine Fox, at:

info@thedeanacademy.org




**UNIVERSITY OF
GLOUCESTERSHIRE**

The Aspiration Programme

Over the next two terms, twenty of our year 10 students have been selected to participate in a bespoke programme delivered by Paralympian Andy Lewis MBE alongside the University of Gloucestershire.

The programme aims to raise aspirations and perceptions about attending further and higher education over the course of eight sessions. The programme will enable our students to explore future careers paths as well as learning the skills to get there. Additionally, these sessions are designed to boost self confidence and build aspirations in order to attend higher education.

The programme will finish with a closing ceremony at the University of Gloucestershire and parents are invited to attend. We think this is a really exciting opportunity for our students to get involved in.

Miss L White



Mark Thompson

10th October 1962 - 6th March 2019

Staff and students at The Dean Academy sadly lost a very special teacher, friend and colleague when Mark Thompson passed away on the 6th March following a long battle with illness.

Mark taught at the school for over 10 years and made an incredible contribution as Teacher of Geography, PE and Head of Year, caring deeply about the students

he taught.

Members of staff who knew and worked with Mark attended a special thanksgiving service alongside friends and family to celebrate his life.

One colleague, Mr Palmer in SSC, remembers Mark's dry sense of humour, cheeky laugh, and eclectic taste in Rugby shirts!

Geography teacher Mrs Price said "I was lucky to work with Mark for two years. He was the calmest, kindest man. One memory that springs to mind is when I had been off ill for a short period I came back and he had marked my books - for a teacher that was one of the most amazing things someone could have done. His calmness and unflappability is definitely missed as is his kindness and interest in those he taught. Rest in peace Mark."



Meeting the athlete Christian Malcolm in November 2013



Starting this summer the P.E Department will be awarding a new trophy in Mark's honour which will go to the student who shows the most enthusiasm, energy, positivity and commitment to tennis lessons, college matches and clubs over the summer.

Of all the sports that Mark taught at The Dean Academy tennis was by far his biggest passion and it was felt that the attributes required to receive this award best reflect Mark's enthusiasm, personality and teaching philosophy. **Mr P Glynn**



With his World Affairs colleagues on World Book Day 2017



Art, Design and Production Faculty

Vision Petlon Competition Winners

Vision Petlon, a local company based in Lydney, has continued their support of The Dean Academy by setting our students a challenge to design a Christmas Card that they could send out to their customers.

Vision Petlon wanted to involve local school children to come up with an artistic design. Alex Davies at Petlon wrote a clear brief for the required design;

- It should include their logo
- It should have a Christmas theme
- There should be a few words
- It should be appealing yet be able to be printed effectively.

Students in years 8 to 10 rose to the challenge and the response we received was fantastic.

Alex Davies and the Managing Director Gavin Rees came to the school to judge the entries and were blown away by the response. There was initially going to be just one prize winner but they soon realised from the high standard of the entries that they would need to draw up a short list of possible contenders.

They then decided to extend the prizes to 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

The winning designs were printed at Whitehouse Printing in Lydney. The prize winners were announced and received their prizes during a whole school celebration assembly.

Both Vision Petlon and The Dean Academy would like to congratulate everyone who took part in the competition – well done.

Mr A Winstanley



1st Prize

Alivia Scott in year 10 won a state of the art graphics tablet

2nd Prize

Aleisha Maguire-Toombs in year 10 won a graphics book and specialised marker pens

Joint 3rd

Harriotte Mills & Maisie James in year 10 won specialised marker pens

The short list included:

Emily Evrig year 8

Freya Symonds year 10

Aston Jeffs year 8



Scenery

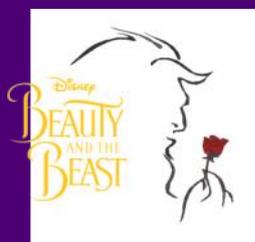
Painting

Year 10 Fine Art students have been busy painting the scenery for the upcoming school production of 'Beauty and the Beast' in May. They have done a fantastic job and given up their time to get the pieces completed.

Mrs K Charles



Cerys Ashby and Kai Powell



Taylor Worgan in year 10 hard at work on painting the scenery

Art, Design and Production Faculty

Visit to Gloucestershire College

A group of year 9 students who are interested in studying Hospitality and Catering next year were given the opportunity to visit the Cinderford campus this term to see what future there is for students who take the subject and to find out what opportunities are available for them.

On arrival the students were treated to mocktails and canapés. They were able to watch demonstrations from a master butcher, as well as established chefs. They also got to sample different

foods and take part in a student competition. Rachael Bailey and Ryan Vaughan were our brave representatives! They had to pipe a cream filling into an eclair and coat it with a chocolate ganache and sprinkles. We were up against, Dene Magna, Newent Community School, Forest High and Five Acres High School. Guess who won? WE DID!!! Rachael's creation was marked Bake Off style and she won a free meal for two at the college restaurant. Well done Rachael!

Mrs S Gittins-Jones & Mrs S Sayers



Cooking demonstrations, butchery skills and food sampling were just some of the highlights of the visit



Piping skills: Rachael Bailey and Ryan Vaughan show off their cooking skills in a baking competition

Lunch is Served for Year 10 Diners

The Dean Academy diners were treated to a fabulous February lunch, prepared and served by Hospitality and Catering students at Gloucestershire College in Cinderford.

To assist our Hospitality and Catering course, our year 10 students were asked to put themselves in the role of mystery diners. They had to consider the service they received by the waiting staff, the presentation of the restaurant and tables and of course the food. With most of the food devoured in minutes the general consensus was that "it weren't that bad!"

As well as being fed, the students had a tour of the impressive new campus and had the opportunity to ask questions about what is available to them in the future in terms of careers. Hospitality and Catering at the Cinderford campus looks to be very rewarding!

Mrs S Gittins-Jones & Mrs S Sayers



Easter Baking Fun



Some stunning Easter cakes were baked and decorated by year 9 students this week as part of our annual Easter competition. It was a very tricky decision to make but the overall winner was Jamie Chapman. Well done!



Winner Jamie Chapman and inset his winning bake

Art, Design and Production Faculty

Year 11 Food Preparation & Nutrition

Our year 11s have completed their practical exam in Food Preparation and Nutrition with excellent results. They were required to prepare, cook and present 3 dishes for either a vegetarian restaurant or for a street food vendor at an open air event.

As you can see, the selection of dishes were very good and the food presentation was really thought about. 50% of the GCSE down, just the exam to go! Good luck year 11.

Mrs S Gittins-Jones & Mrs S Sayers



Aeron Perkins



Lauren Davis



Abbie Stockham



Katie Worgan



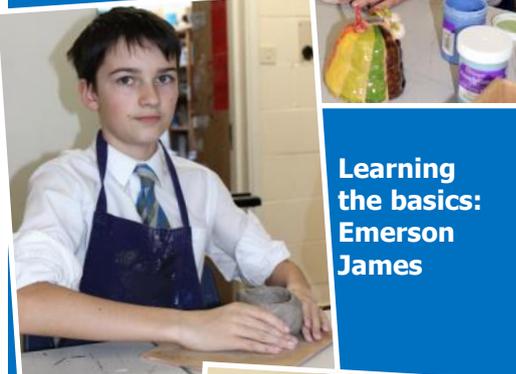
Above: Joanne Martin's three nutritious and tasty dishes

Monster Designs in Pottery Club

Art teacher Mrs Charles runs Pottery Club for year 7 to 9 students in the Art Room at lunchtime every Friday. Members are currently making bowls which they will glaze before taking home. Mrs Charles explained "Making the bowls is a good introduction for students to work with clay. It will give our students confidence when they embark on their next project which will be to make a monster out of clay using their own design. They will need to be very imaginative. It should be a lot of fun."



**Glazing:
Oliver
Edwards**



**Learning
the basics:
Emerson
James**



**Budding
artist:
Alfie
Norris**

Poetry Workshop

A group of year 7 and 8 students were thrilled to receive a visit from acclaimed author and poet Fiona Sampson as part of a special creative writing workshop funded by the Arts Council.

Fiona Sampson has written many books on literature and language as well as collections of poetry which have received international awards. Her visit to the school was part of an initiative of the literacy charity First Story who send professional writers to state schools to inspire young people across the country to pick up a pen and start writing.

Throughout the session students were given various fun and interactive tasks designed to make them think about the world around them, they were then asked to express their thoughts through the medium of poetry which they could share aloud with the group.

Ms Leah Cross, the Events and Education Manager for the Royal Society of Literature who helped to organise the event explained "The sessions are designed to interest young people in both reading and writing and to give them a positive experience of creative writing with a focus on poetry. With the centenary of the death of Wilfred Owen and the end of the First World War we felt that the theme of the workshop should be about peace rather than war."

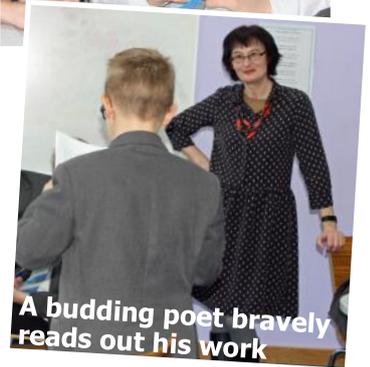
Mrs Pearce, the Director of Communications commented "We were really spoilt to have had the opportunity to not only meet but work with and learn from a phenomenal author. The workshops were a truly eye opening way to



Creative writing: Fiona Sampson engages with students Libby Brooks and Callum Ross



Archie Stafford gets some advice



A budding poet bravely reads out his work

explore the writing of poetry from different angles and perspectives and our students have learnt techniques and methods that will stay with them forever."

The First Story so far!

A group of year 8 and 9 students have been exploring their inner writer during some fun and challenging creative writing workshops with Jonny Seagrave, a poet, storyteller and performer who has been visiting the school.

The sessions were arranged through the literacy charity First Story and span a total of 8 weeks. They are designed for students to explore and foster their creativity. Jonny explained "Students will find out what they enjoy writing, they will discover that their lives and who they are is a valuable source of material for creative writing. It will be a journey to explore themselves and put their thoughts, stories and poems onto paper."

Ms Westgate commented "Our students have undertaken the challenge of expressive writing with First Story and are currently halfway through the programme. They are really enjoying the experience so far.

A selection of the work they produce over the 8 weeks will be published in a book that will be launched in September. The sessions are encouraging our students to develop their creative writing skills which will enable them to continue their literacy throughout all of their lessons and education."



Jonny Seagrave poet, writer, storyteller

Maths & Computing Faculty

Computer Workshop is Raspberry Pi in the Sky

Year 8 and 9 Computer whizz kids attended a special Cyber Pi Projects workshop as part of an initiative by the National Cyber Security Centre.

Mr Warren, a Computing teacher at the school who organised the trip explained "The workshop was designed to provide students with the ability to create a number of Cyber Security, STEM and IoT projects all based around the Raspberry Pi, a small computer that helps you to learn programming. The session allowed our students to build a number of projects from their complete range on the Cyber Pi Projects website under the guidance and assistance from the Cyber Security consultants. Students were able to discuss and develop their own Cyber Security or IoT project."

"It was really good and we learned lots about how to code, decrypting passwords, weather station and lots more. My favourite part was the weather station because we had to use lots of code. It was hard but fun at the same time. The day opened my eyes to a range of jobs that I didn't even know about. This is a really good experience for anyone who wants a job in computing or coding. It was a fun trip and I hope I can do something like this again in the future."

Harry Taylor

"We learned how to scan Wi-Fi, rogue APs, hash cracking, Wi-Fi jamming and Weather Station. I found this incredibly fun and educational and it has inspired me to work harder and join more cyber clubs and activities in the future. I recommend this to anyone who enjoys computing."

Maddie Head

"When we arrived the associates (Guy and Alex) led us through to a room full of high-tech equipment. It was fun and interesting. I learned a lot about coding with the help of Raspberry Pi, a microcomputer which functions in many more ways than a normal computer. The whole class had a fun, engaging time and most were inspired to learn more about coding and opportunities for students future careers in a coding job."

Syrus Dimond and Charlie Boughton

"I learned how to do hashing and how to get Raspberry Pi to do numerous things such as Wi-Fi scanning and jamming.

I really enjoyed being able to create my own project which I found inspiring."

Jess Geelhoed



Year 9 students enjoyed an inspirational day on the Cyber Pi Projects



Year 8 students discovered possible future career pathways in computing

Maths and Computing Faculty

Maths Trust Event

Budding mathematicians from schools across The Athelstan Trust joined together for a special year 8 Maths Challenge 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.

Miss Hykin, the Assistant Director of Maths at the school organised the event for the year 8 students. Miss Hykin commented "Another brilliant Maths Trust event took place on the 22nd January 2019. The day included numerous Maths problem activities such as a 24 number challenge, a cross number puzzle and a problem solving relay (involving some 'quick walking' to ensure as many questions as possible were answered within the time limit)!"

Year 8 students Maddie Head, Jess Geelhoed, Todd Gray, Ben Nash, Emma Kear, Erin Hewitt, Jago Blamey, Ayden Le Roux, Mia Carter, Tommy Davey, Jasmine Chandler-Brown, Fern Clare and Sophie Allen all took part in the event, joined by year 7 student Sam Hunt-Clark.

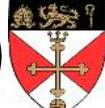
Miss Hykin added "The whole day was a great success, both for Maths problem solving and for building cross Trust friendships. The event could not have taken place without the help and support from our year 10 helpers Pippa Manley, Aleisha Maguire-Toombs, Harriotte Mills, Eleanor Kiely, Lucy Hughes, Alivia Scott, Lydia Hewitt, Wiktor Jarosz, Nico Green, Tyler Prosser, Leon Allen, and Travis Wintour. These students helped to manage the teams and to ensure that the whole day ran smoothly – with Pippa's team just taking the lead as the day came to a close. A fun day was had by all!"

Maddie Head, Ayden Le Roux and Mia Carter from The Dean Academy were all part of the winning team alongside Matt Farnfield from Malmesbury School. Well done!

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



Working together across the Trust



Maths Feast

On the 5th March, 8 year 9 and 10 students took part in a 'Maths Feast' event, hosted at The Dean Academy. The event involved some healthy competition between The Dean Academy students and the neighbouring schools of Wydean, Dene Magna, Five Acres and Beaufort School. Students took part in a number of rounds, answering lots of difficult Maths problems. Students from The Dean Academy were part of the winning team in the Decision Maths Algorithm round. The students involved were:

Year 9 Ella Lewis, Connor Toogood,

Year 10 Zander Roberts, Nico Green, Leon Allen, Jaime Payne, Emma Baldwin, Oliver Fleet.

Miss C Hykin



The winning team



Promoting a Passion for Reading

In a bid to promote a love of reading amongst the younger generation, members of The Dean Academy's Book Club recently visited two local primary schools to help encourage and inspire young children to read.

Mr Randall who runs the Book Club said "Congratulations to six of our book club students who visited Primrose Hill and Yorkley Primary School to promote and encourage a passion for reading. Ashleigh Baker, Josh Jebb, Simeon Evans, Micah Evans, Harry Turner and Thomas Davey gave the students advice on their reading as well as showing them how to read with expression and confidence. Well done!" Tommy Davey in year 8 added "Reading with the primary school pupils was a great experience, it improved their reading as well as our own. You had to listen to every word and check that they were pronouncing it correctly. Some of the children were really good readers and it was enjoyable to see them glide through their books with ease and tackle difficult words on their own. All in all, it was a fun experience and I think we all got something out of it."

Micah Evans in year 9 really enjoyed reading to the children, he commented "It was a great experience. They were intelligent, funny and great readers! I am really looking forward to the next session!"



Boosting confidence: Year 8 student Josh Jebb listened to Yorkley School pupil Cameron Breeze read his book



Yorkley School YORKLEY SCHOOL
'Valuing Learning, Learning to Value'



Primrose Hill
C of E Academy

Yorkley School comments

"I was proud of my reading." **Caden**

"I hope they come back." **Angelica**

"It was really fun to read to someone from another school!" **Cameron**



Promoting a Passion for Reading

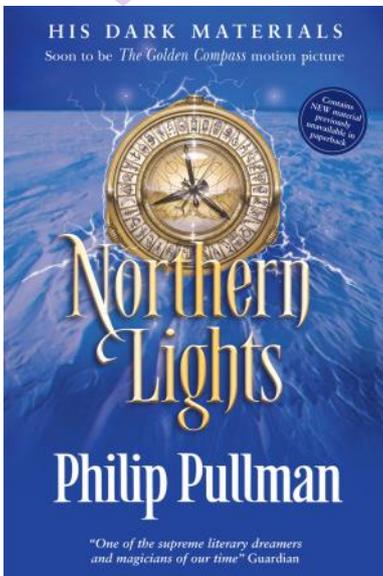


Book Club Book Recommendations

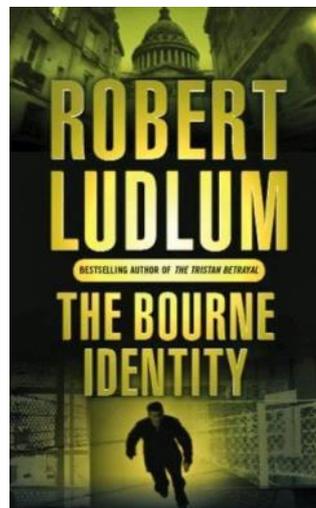
The Dean Academy Book Club meets every Thursday at 1.40pm with Mr Randall in the LRC to discuss the latest and greatest books for young people. Everyone is welcome!
For this newsletter, the members have compiled a list of recommended reading.



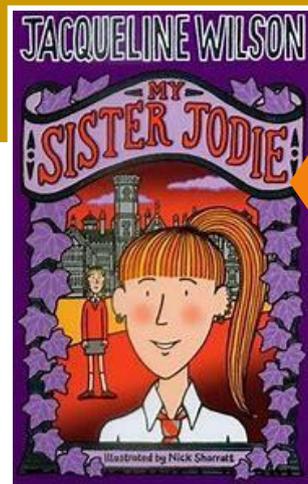
Book worms: Josh Jebb, Simeon Evans, Tommy Davey and Micah Evans



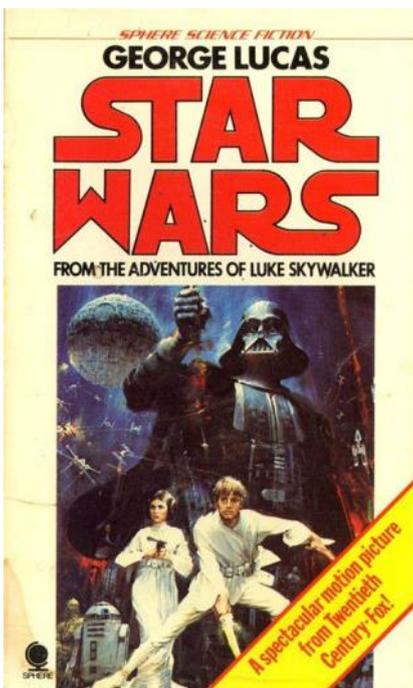
Tommy Davey recommends:
'Northern Lights' by Phillip Pullman. This is a magical tale crafted in an intricate world similar to our own but with many differences. The main character, Lyra, has a prophecy telling of her adventure. She must follow it without knowing this. It's a captivating story that you won't be able to put down.



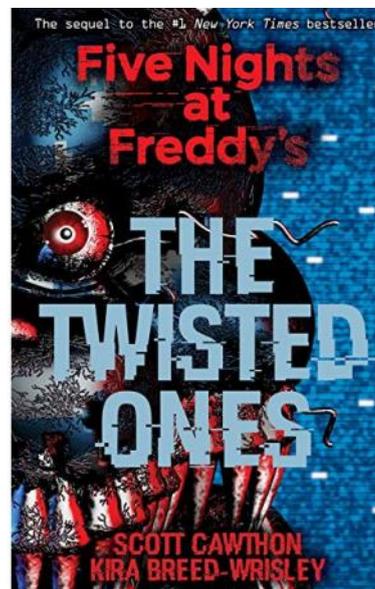
Micah Evans recommends:
'The Bourne Identity' by Robert Ludlum. This is a thriller based around an amnesiac who needs to figure out who he is. A fascinating book for those with a higher reading level.



Ash-Leigh Baker recommends:
'My Sister Jodie' by Jaqueline Wilson. It's about two sisters called Pearl and Jodie. They move to a new school called Melchester College. Will Pearl and Jodie cope? I highly recommend this for teenage girls.



Simeon Evans recommends:
'Star Wars Omnibus' by George Lucas. This is Star Wars episodes IV-VI in the saga in book form written by the director and creator of Star Wars. It's very fun and easy to read. I highly recommend this to all Star Wars fans.



Harry Turner recommends:
'Five Nights At Freddy's: The Twisted Ones' by Scott Cawthon and Kira Breed-Wrisley. This book is scary because it's playing on your worst fears like something lurking underneath the bed. I highly recommend it.

Science Faculty

National Science Week at The Dean Academy

Students were taken on lots of exciting scientific journeys during their lunchtimes when they participated in a variety of fun and educational activities for National Science Week (8th - 17th March 2019).

Mr Webb the Assistant Director of the Science Faculty who organised the sessions explained "Science is all about journeys, so, each lunchtime during National Science Week our students had the opportunity to create and explore a different mini-project ranging from journeys to the afterlife and transport of the future. The aim of the week is to inspire and engage children with this subject."

Students looked at mummification, the Ancient Egyptian process where the body was prepared for its journey to the afterlife, and undertook their own

mummification process using an orange. Other activities included making alternative modes of transport and using DNA profiles to create a character from the past.

Year 7 student Daniel Head who attended all the sessions commented "I've gone to all of the lunchtime events and have really enjoyed all the activities that we've been doing in Science. The mummification of the orange was really interesting but my favourite was making cars from cardboard and then racing them."



Ella Turner learns about the mummification of oranges



Laci-Jai Hyett and Daniel Head prepare their oranges for mummification



British Science Week is a celebration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)



Ella Turner, Ben Jebb, Daniel Head and Esme Pearson with their mummified oranges

Year 7 Rugby

Our year 7 Rugby team made it three wins in a row in March with yet another impressive performance, this time beating Wyedean 45 - 0. With over 20 boys involved the team scored 9 tries and played some great team Rugby.

There was also lots of moments of individual excellence; Jack George was the star man scoring a hat trick, Fletcher King and Riley Baldock both scored two, with Will Butcher and Toby Nelmes also crossing over the line.

In addition to some excellent attacking play was some outstanding defensive work with Oliver Barrett and



Coby Scriven leading the way with excellent tackling and physicality.

The boys have been undefeated in matches so far this term, also beating Five Acres both home and away.

Mr P Glynn

Year 7 Girls Football

The year 7 girls produced some great football and played with increasing confidence as the tournament progressed. They eventually finished as runners up in their first district 7-a-side tournament hosted by The Dean Academy. Well done to all the girls involved.

Mr P Glynn



Isabelle Kiely, Katie Screen, Charlotte Jones, Millicent Maass, Maddie Wyllie, Keira Davies, Keira Fisher, Libby Taylor and Ellie-May Shumer

U12 Rugby Success

Congratulations to eight of our year 7 students who were victorious in The Land Rover Premiership Rugby Cup in February. The students, who play for the Lydney U12 Rugby team, played an exciting match which was hosted by Gloucester Rugby as part of a grassroots developmental festival.

Well done boys! **Mr A Stradling**



Jack George, Oliver Barrett, Riley Evans, Luke Cunliffe, Coby Scriven, Will Butcher and Will Roberts

Gloucester Rugby

Congratulations to Hayden Robins in year 10 who was selected to play for Gloucester Rugby this term.



The Performing Arts Department at The Dean Academy, consists of lessons in Music, Drama and Dance. We also offer a range of extra curricular activities, and opportunities to all of our students, ranging from peripatetic music lessons, to whole school productions and shows, as well as trips and visits to the theatre. This year has seen a marked increase in the number of students participating in Performance related opportunities, and has also seen numerous musical instruments come out of retirement! You may have heard your son or daughter talking about playing a Double Bass, or a Cajon (ca-hon) Drum in their Music lessons.



Eve Jones and Charlie Davis try out various musical instruments

Musicians are becoming more and more comfortable performing in front of their peers - the last day of this term will see an 'Epic Music Extravaganza', as year 11 BTEC students perform their exam pieces to camera in a mini gig within school, as well as our newly formed band taking their opportunity to perform their debut gig in the final whole school assembly of this term. Dancers are constantly appearing and showing off their talents at the numerous Dance Clubs available to them - you will have seen a lot of performances at Christmas, but we have plenty more lined up for you!

Year 10 BTEC students are hard at work planning and preparing the Summer Showcase to be held on July 2nd, with our GCSE Dance students choreographing their group performances in readiness for this - the girls are also loving showing off their new dance kit for lessons and performances.

In Drama, we are very much in the final throws of rehearsing, and preparing, for our upcoming whole school performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' on May the 1st and 2nd 2019.

There really is so much happening at the moment, that it's hard to keep up!

If your son or daughter is yet to be involved with anything happening in the department, please do encourage them to look at the posters printed on these pages advertising our clubs and encourage them to come along and try something out. If our extra curricular opportunities aren't something that they feel ready to participate in now, perhaps they could consider a peripatetic lesson!

In addition to all of this, please do come along to 'Beauty and the Beast'. Tickets for this are on sale at £5 and can be purchased from Resources. We are really excited about the performance and being able to show off our talented students.



Spotlight on . . .

WHO'S WHO IN PERFORMING ARTS



Mrs Rodway is Head of Performing Arts. She teaches GCSE Dance, although she also teaches KS3 and KS4 Music and Drama. Mrs Rodway's favourite subject is Dance, but she also plays Piano and Oboe. Mrs Rodway runs various clubs throughout the week to pass on her passion of performing to the students.



Mr Spyridakis is new to The Dean Academy and he teaches Music. Mr Spyridakis is a true musician and loves sharing his passion of Music with the students.

In his spare time he teaches Saxophone, regularly performs music on his beloved Bouzouki - a traditional Greek instrument and also has a very keen interest in learning to fly!



Mrs Charman is also new to the school this year, she teaches Dance at GCSE and also in year 7. Mrs Charman has years of experience teaching Dance in various settings, but has

been instrumental in the success of Dance at Malmesbury School. Mrs Charman is keen to pass on her passion for Dance and performance and she runs clubs at a lunchtime and after school which are open to all students of all abilities.



Mr McNeill teaches GCSE Drama and has responsibility for our whole school production which will be 'Beauty and the Beast' this year. Mr McNeill has a love of performing and creating characters. He is well known for his epic costumes, designed and created especially for themed days at school! Currently he can be found rehearsing, rehearsing, rehearsing!

YEAR 8

DANCE CLUB



Starting on 11th September 2018
in M1 every Tuesday lunchtime
with Mrs Charman 1.40pm - 2.05pm

DROP IN GUITAR CLUB



For all abilities
Every Wednesday
lunchtime at 1.30pm
in M Block
practice rooms

YEAR 7

DANCE CLUB



Every Wednesday in M1
at lunchtime 1.30pm
and after school 3.15pm - 4.30pm
with Mrs Rodway

Performing Arts

Peripatetic Music

We have an excellent peripatetic music team at The Dean Academy. We offer music instrument tuition in Piano, Guitar and Drums and this can be arranged through Mrs Rodway for anyone who is interested. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, they would also be entitled to free peripatetic music lessons, so please register your interest as we currently have piano and guitar spaces, but a waiting list for drums.

Guitar is taught by Mr Thurston - a renowned musician in his own right, who has toured the world with his band Vega, selling out arenas and the O2 Academy! But Mr Thurston's first love, is teaching, and we are very lucky to have secured his services in school. Mr Thurston also runs our lunchtime Guitar club every Wednesday, for anyone who wants to drop in and give guitar a try.

Piano is taught by Mrs Bezani, a very sought after local piano teacher. Mrs Bezani has so much experience that it is likely she has previous taught some parents - she has taught some of The Dean Academy staff! Mrs Bezani also runs a lunchtime keyboard club on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Drums are taught by Mr Frost, and he has worked for a number of years at The Dean Academy and at our local feeder primary schools. Mr Frost has engaged numerous students in percussion playing, and has an exceedingly popular Drop-in Drum Club on a Thursday and Friday lunchtime.

All of our peripatetic teachers have offered our year 7 students a free taster session this academic year, and we hope to continue this into our year 8 classes by offering each year 8 child a free taster lesson too.

There are so many opportunities available to students at The Dean Academy within Music, Drama and Dance, and we would all really encourage students to think about what they might be able to do to enrich their time at school.

If you are looking for something specific for your child, please do get in touch, as we would be very happy to assist.



CHOIR CLUB

Every Thursday lunchtime

1.40pm to 2.00pm in M2

with Mr Spyridakis

Boys and girls of all years welcome



SECRET SINGING CLUB

Do you enjoy singing?

Why not come along to The Dean Academy's

SECRET SINGING CLUB

Every Wednesday in M2 Music room

COME ALONG AND JOIN IN!

See Mrs Rodway, Mr Spyridakis, Mr McNeill or Mrs Charman for more details ...



Drop-in Drum Club

Every Thursday and Friday lunchtime

1.30pm to 2.00pm

With Mr Frost in the Drum Room next to M2



Peripatetic Music Lessons



We can offer:

- Piano
- Keyboard
- Guitar
- Ukulele
- Drums

Lessons take place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday during curriculum time and on a rota displayed within performing arts.

Prices vary but are a maximum of £15 per half hour lesson

Students in receipt of Free School Meals are entitled to free tuition!



Beauty and The Beast rehearsals

Tuesday and Wednesday after school with Mr McNeil and Mr Spyridakis.



SPACE to Perform

Every Tuesday 1.40pm to 2.00pm and 3.30pm to 4.30pm

A space to perform anything you want. Music, Drama or Dance. Ask for the help of your teachers, or just take advantage of the performance space to practice anything you want.

With Mrs Rodway, Mr Spyridakis, Mrs Charman and Mr McNeill in M1 and M2

ASDAN Gardening

As part of their ASDAN journey, year 10 students are completing challenges on The Environment. They recently cleared the school's Sensory Garden of weeds, stones and dead plants, in preparation for new seeds and plants grown by the Year 11s. The students worked well as a team and really enjoyed the experience. Those involved were Seb Churcher, Tom Billingham, Misha Morse, Tia Mackie and Grace Lawrence.

Some comments were "It was a fun experience" and "It made me bond with my friends and made me like gardening a little bit more."

The year 11s have planted Morning Glory, Marigolds and Cornflower seeds which are coming on well. Students involved were Dylan Morgan and Toma Ciurdarescu.

Ms K McCormick

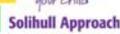


Fundraising for Cancer Charities

Former student Joe Tomley has been busy organising various joint fundraising events for the cancer charities CoppaFeel and Cancer Research UK. Joe, who is now in the Sixth Form at Wydean School has raised an amazing total of £603 between both schools. Joe has organised pink themed non-uniform days and cake sales to raise the money and there may be more fundraising events in the pipeline.



Mr Beveridge presents Joe with a cheque to Cancer Research UK for £250

Understanding your child's behaviour  *Understanding your child*
A Solihull Approach group for parents and carers  Solihull Approach

- Would you like to know more about your child's development?
- Do you understand your child's behaviour?
- Would you like a chance to meet with other parents with children of a similar age?
- Do you know why children have temper tantrums?

Groups are held for parents and carers in the Forest of Dean for age ranges from birth to 18 years.

The groups are for parents and carers who want to know more about parenting and how children develop, and to understand children's behaviour better. Our evaluation of previous groups has shown that parents have found this group helpful, they tend to feel less anxious and their children's behaviour tends to improve.

We will explore issues like:

• Having fun together	• Communication
• Development needs	• Parenting styles
• Behaviour difficulties	• Sleep

The group will be run for two hours once a week for ten weeks. Groups do not run in the school holidays.

This course and everything you need is free.

There will be a coffee morning before the group starts so that you can meet the group facilitators.

The next available course takes place 9.30am – 11.30am on:

Tuesday April	30 th
Tuesday May	7 th , 14 th , 21 st
Tuesday June	4 th , 11 th , 18 th , 25 th
Tuesday July	2 nd , 9 th

at St. James Church Centre, Coleford Road, Bream, GL156ES

Don't worry if you do not know anyone else coming to the group as one of the course leaders will contact you before the group starts.

We will tell you more about the course and ask you what you want to get out of it. If you would like to attend this group or for further details contact: Barry Stevens, Family Support Worker on 01594 562628 / 01594 562985 Or Email: fsw@bream.gloucs.sch.uk





Time to move on

Lots of things have been happening in the EPIC centre for all of our students, but the thing that is foremost in our minds at the moment is preparing our year 11 students for their transition to further education.

Many of our students have been visiting their chosen colleges with the support of their TA's so that they can get used to the new staff, new buildings, the journeys that they will have to take each day and the new courses that they hope to take.

We have also had visits to the school from representatives of Gloucestershire College in Cinderford so that our students can get to know them better and ask

questions that they may have not felt confident enough to ask whilst in a strange environment, (the biscuits helped too!).

All of this enables our students to feel more secure about the changes that are going to occur in their lives and will make their move to college more successful.

Mrs S Hankinson



Primary Pupils get their Aprons and Lab Coats at the ready!



Pupils from Woolaston Primary School enjoyed a whole new learning experience when they visited The Dean Academy this term for a hands on transition day learning all about food.

muffins and in the afternoon they got their Science Lab coats on to investigate the energy in the food that we eat.

It was a great opportunity for the pupils to make use of the specialist equipment and facilities at the school, to participate in new activities and learn new skills.



They spent the morning in the Food Technology rooms and baked some very tasty and healthy



Duke of Edinburgh Expedition to Wales

The Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition to the Brecon Beacons National Park in March was a great success.

We had one Bronze and, for the first time in recent years, one Silver group out. The Bronze group included a group of 5 year 9 students who are just beginning their DofE journey. They all coped admirably with the strains of carrying expedition size rucksacks, and the stresses of open country navigation!

The Silver group were a 7-strong mix of year 10 and year 11 students. They showed what a difference previous successes make to the whole experience. Walking, navigating, camping: they took it all in their very proficient stride! They Silver group had a third day for their practice, during which they took on the type of navigation challenges that will prepare them for when they go for Gold!

Dry weather, pleasant campsites, amazing scenery and all-round good team spirits made the expedition a rewarding and uplifting experience for all the participants and the staff who give up so much of their time to support our young people.

Our focus now will be on preparing for the Qualifying

Jack Davies, Kimberley Matthews, Charlie Willets, Alex Roberts, Nathan Meek and Emily McCoy with Ms Paton and Mr Kelley



One of the places they visited was the Chartist Caves where weapons were made and stockpiled in 1839 in preparation for the Great March to seize Newport. This uprising which resulted in over 20 deaths eventually helped win democratic rights for all British people.

Expedition. The students returned from the days out tired, but all keen to take the next step!

Ms S Paton, Expedition Supervisor

World Book Day - Thursday 7th March



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
7 MARCH 2019



The Marvellous Science Faculty dressed up as characters from X-Men: Firth Edy is Magneto, Dave Child is Wolverine, Hannah Rowlands is Rogue, and Darren Webb is Cyclops

Famous fictional characters from children's literature both past and present were on site at The Dean Academy when staff dressed up to celebrate World Book Day. From Dickens' Oliver Twist to Marvel Comics X-Men, staff at the school represented characters from many different genres of fiction to help promote and foster a love of reading.

Fun activities were organised throughout the day including a quiz



Liam Condon is Bill Sykes, Claire Morgan is Gansta Granny, Craig Palmer is Tintin and Ben Grant is Oliver Twist

where students were asked to identify and answer questions about characters that the teachers and support staff had dressed up as, there was also a special 'read along' story which was read out in instalments throughout the day.

Headteacher Mr Tom Beveridge commented "It was fantastic to see students' expressions as they were faced by Wolverine, Oliver Twist and Professor McGonagall instead of their normal teachers on Thursday. The staff really brought World Book Day to life and we hope this can help to encourage reading by our students. Thank you to everyone for their efforts."



Phil McNeill as Negan and Su Paton as Carol Peletier from the Walking Dead, Jane Burns as Mr Bump, James Randall as Batman, Hannah Deans as Tintin and Levi White as Lady Macbeth



Sheila Hankinson as Newt Scamander, Claire Lavender as Alice in Wonderland, Jo Rosbrook as the Grand High Witch, Anna McCoy as the Worst Witch, Yazmin Alimi as Pippi Longstocking, Hannah Deans as Tintin and Anna Edwards as Myst Waterbrand

Workshops

Music Works to Transform Lives

A group of students have been using music to help improve their lives and tackle conditions such as stress, anxiety and depression thanks to a pilot scheme run by The Music Works, a charity supported by NHS Gloucestershire.

The charity aim to transform lives through music by working with young people in challenging circumstances to help them reach their full potential. They specialise in music technology and production, singing and song-writing, rap and beatboxing and help young people to make the music that they are passionate about.

Sessions usually start with a game and circle time to discuss any issues and then students go off and work on a piece of music which can include mixing, singing, experimenting with musical instruments and song-writing.

Issachar Foster is the Session Leader for the charity and has been working with the students throughout the term. Issachar commented "During the first session the students were quiet and reserved but by the next few sessions they were full of energy and it has been great to see their self confidence build. I am really proud of how far they have come."

Deputy Head Mr Declan Mooney commented "The workshop uses music as a tool, it is a way to get

The sessions have even been the focus of a news item on Points West



to know the students, encourage them and address any issues they may have."

One of the students who has been attending the workshops said "I have found the sessions really helpful as it has helped me to release my feelings." Another student found that writing songs has really helped with her recovery.



County Lines Production

The Alter Ego Theatre production of 'County Lines' certainly packed a punch and hit home to our year 9 students the dangers of gangs who prey on and exploit the vulnerability and weaknesses of others.

'County Lines' is an interactive play that tells the story of two young people, Randall and Jess, who are targeted by gangs and manipulated into trafficking drugs and weapons.

The play is part of an initiative supported by the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board to raise awareness of and tackle the important issues of child criminal exploitation.

Mrs Bellingham, the Deputy Safeguarding Lead, commented "The best protection that we can give to young people is knowledge of

the dangers that are out there and to let them know where they can go to get help and support if they are worried. Thank you to Alter Ego Productions for coming in to the school, the response from our students has been really positive."

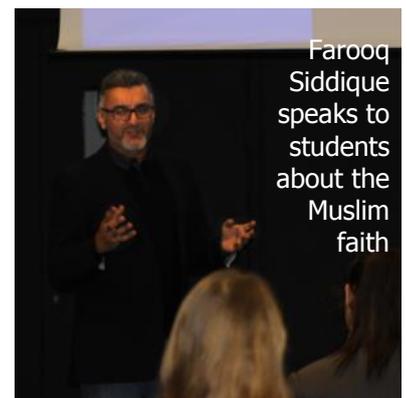


Highlighting the dangers of child criminal exploitation

A Matter of Faith

What are Muslims? What do they believe? These are just some of the questions that Farooq Siddique the Secretary of the Easton Jamia Masjid Mosque in Bristol addressed when he visited the school recently to talk to students about Islam and the Muslim faith to support their work in Values and Society.

The students found the talk very enlightening and asked some very important questions during the Q&A session at the end.



Farooq Siddique speaks to students about the Muslim faith

Quiz Night

Back in February a Quiz Night was organised to help raise funds for a forthcoming trip to Porto in the Easter holidays. Over £900 was raised on the evening from the sale of raffle tickets, drinks and snacks. A fun evening was had by all.



The winning team



School Terms and Holidays 2019

TERM 5

BEGINS Tuesday 23rd April (students return)
 MAY-DAY HOL. Monday 6th May
 ENDS Friday 24th May
 HOLIDAY Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May

TERM 6

BEGINS Monday 3rd June
INSET DAY Friday 28th June (staff only)
 ENDS Tuesday 23rd July (12.30 p.m.)
 HOLIDAY Weds 24th July – Friday 30th August

Red Nose Day



On Friday 15th March students came to school in non-uniform to raise money for Comic Relief. Students also organised other fundraising activities such as selling cakes and raffle tickets. Overall they raised almost £500 which will go towards Comic Relief and the Year 11 School Prom.



Fundraisers: Michael Richards, Simeon Evans, Oliver Shattock, Tommy Davey and Ella Lewis

Holly Helps the Homeless

Care and Guidance Leader Holly Davis, in year 11, has been busy this term collecting items for the homeless. Holly explained "I proposed the idea that the school should start a collection for the homeless as I was beginning to recognise that homelessness is becoming more of a problem. I believe that everyone should be treated equally and therefore we need to do everything we can to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

"As a school, we have collected many items from staff and students. The donations will be taken to Gloucester City Mission as they are a local charity who specialise in providing the homeless with the donations that have been collected."

Items collected include:

- sleeping bags
- toiletries
- sanitary products
- warm clothes

