



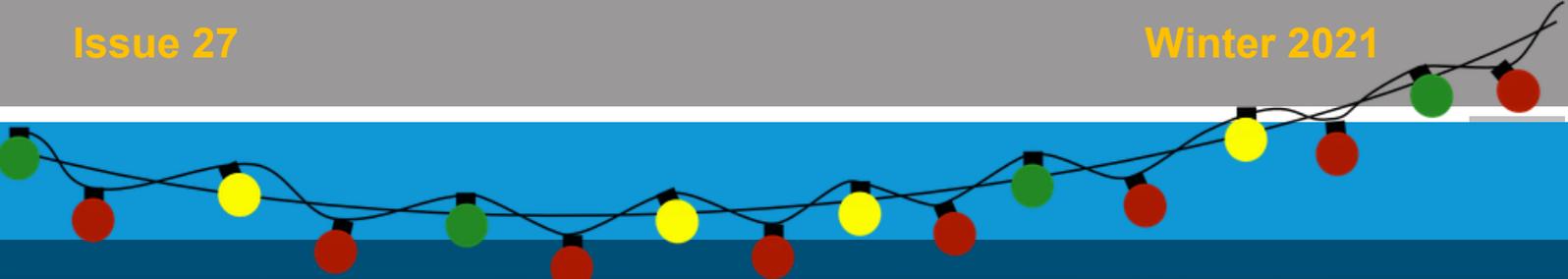
The Dean

The Magazine of The Dean Academy



Issue 27

Winter 2021



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Update from the Headteacher



As we close in on the end of this term and we think back and reflect on all we have achieved, September seems like lifetimes ago.

The highlight of the term was the visit from the Ofsted inspection team on 22nd- 23rd September. We were all so delighted with the outcome for the students, parents and teachers of the school to have all of our hard work recognised with the judgement – Good in all areas. The report written by Ofsted serves to highlight how quickly the school has improved in key areas with improvements in behaviour and attitudes and curriculum. We are particularly proud of the first line of the report, “this is a school where pupils thrive.”

We’d all hoped that we’d seen the end of the disruption caused by the pandemic and that this year would be brighter. However, this term has been disrupted by the pandemic to varying degrees too.

However, I have enjoyed seeing more of a return to more normal elements of school life – such as clubs, trips, visits and house competitions. All of this going on with so many challenges facing the sector is testament to the hard work and determination of students and staff.

There have been many other highlights this term (far too many to list) but most notably I want to recognise the positive, happy community feel the school has developed as we have all worked together – managing to negotiate this tricky period with largely disruption-free on site schooling with excellent attendance!! Thank you all for your support and efforts to achieve this!

I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you for the festive season. I sincerely hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. On behalf of all of us at The Dean Academy I would like to thank you for your continuing support.

Richard Brand, Headteacher

HERE ARE SOME OF THE KEY POINTS OF THE OFSTED REPORT:

- This is a school where pupils thrive. From the moment they join, they receive a warm welcome and quickly feel at home.
- Pupils and staff support one another.
- Staff work hard to motivate pupils to make their career plans a reality.
- Leaders have dramatically improved behaviour in the school. Pupils are sensible and respectful.
- Pupils have confidence in the way that staff manage behaviour, including bullying.
- Pupils have a track record of success in securing apprenticeships, including competitive placements with industry leaders. Alongside this, leaders prioritise academic subjects and celebrate the Arts.
- Pupils are eager readers. They relish the books they share with their tutors and peers. Some pupils are not confident readers when they join the school. Teachers adapt the curriculum so that these pupils gain the fluency they need.
- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are fully included in school life.
- Since the last inspection, the multi-academy trust has acted to strengthen the leadership of different curriculum subjects.

You can read the full Ofsted report by clicking here www.thedeanacademy.org/ofsted/



Ofsted
Good
Provider

Announcing the Ofsted result to the whole school

COP26: Pupils Pledge to Protect the Planet

Our students are on a mission to protect the planet following a special COP26 online session where they discussed issues around climate change and considered ways in which they can help by making their own personal pledge.

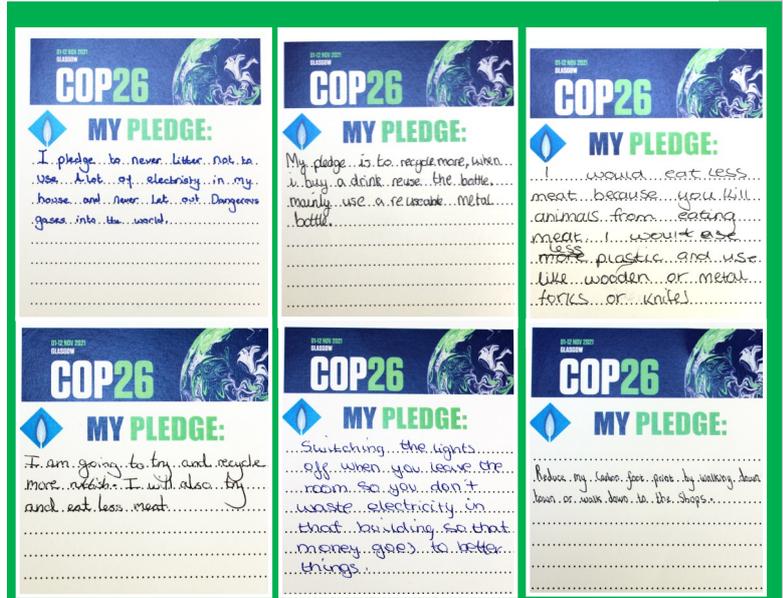
The interactive 'Great Big Lesson for Climate and Nature' was broadcast live from the COP26 conference in Glasgow and was organised by the AimHi Earth Climate and Nature School. At the end of the lesson students were asked to fill out a 'My Pledge' card stating ways in which they could help play their own small part in the bid to tackle climate change. There were lots of great ideas, one Year 11 student commented "I pledge to eat less red meat to stop the over production of cows. I also pledge to use less paper and use both sides of my book to reduce my paper usage." Other ideas included conserving electricity, planting trees and walking more.

During the lesson the AimHi Earth representatives explained how "we are all a part of nature, not separate from it and we all have a part to play to help guide the future direction of the planet." Students were encouraged to "spread the word, educate others and hopefully nature will bring our planet back to balance

through our small actions and communication of big ideas."

Mr Darren Webb, Head of Science commented "The lesson highlighted the plight of our planet and the need for everyone to work together to combat climate change. Sustainability forms a part of our curriculum at The Dean Academy and our students and staff got a lot out of this very important session."

Students also joined together with other local schools for the first ever 'Lydney Climate Summit' to demonstrate their commitment to the environment. The event was attended by local councillors and there was a special message for the students from the local MP Mark Harper.



Pledging to protect the planet: students at The Dean Academy are on a mission



Christmas at The Dean Academy

Taurus Crafts Christmas Music Event



Our students took to the stage at Taurus Crafts Christmas Markets performing a festive one hour set to shoppers, parents and market stall holders, on a chilly Saturday afternoon. Students raised the roof with their renditions of classic and current Christmas songs, in groups and as soloists, they made us very proud as they delivered flawless performances of their song

choices. It was a lovely opportunity to participate in a community event in Lydney, and for our students to get another, much sought after, chance to perform, in what has been a tough time for musicians and performers within the Arts. The Performance Department really look forward to being able to invite you back to a live show at the school soon, we have our fingers tightly crossed for the Spring!
Mrs K Rodway

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Year 7 students are hoping to spread some Christmas cheer this season by filling festively wrapped shoe boxes with lots of goodies and stocking fillers to send abroad to vulnerable and disadvantaged children as part of the Teams4U Christmas Shoe Box Appeal.

The boxes will make their way to communities in Belarus, Moldova and Georgia in time for Christmas for children of all ages to enjoy. The parcels include sweets and treats, teddies and toys as well as useful items such as stationery and toiletries.

Teams4U, have been sending shoe boxes to children and families across Eastern Europe for over 25 years as part of their ongoing commitment to impact and change lives. Mr Keith Jones who is a volunteer for the charity thanked the students for their generosity and

presented them with a special certificate, he explained how special it is to see the happiness on the faces of the children when they receive their gifts.

Mr Ben Grant, Head of Year 7 at the school, who organised the collection commented "I'm so grateful to the families of our Year 7 students for their generosity in supporting our Christmas appeal. Even though times are tough, our amazing community have rallied together to bring a bit of Christmas cheer to other families who may not be as fortunate as we are."



Making a difference this Christmas: Year 7 students Connor, Cameron and Miley with Mr Brand and Teams4U volunteer Keith Jones

Christmas at The Dean Academy

Christmas Bakes

Year 10s have done an amazing job decorating their festive cakes and have made some tasty mince pies. They look amazing!



Christmas Dinner

Our catering staff have been really busy serving up some delicious festive dinners to our students.



Christmas Card Competition

We have had some fantastically festive entries this year in our annual Year 7 Christmas Card Competition. Mr Brand had the very tricky job of choosing the winning design.

Winner: April - 7SDC

Runners up: Isy - 7SDC & Izabelle - 7AH

April, Isy and Izabelle will each receive a special pack of Christmas cards printed with their designs.

Here are some of the amazing entries for you to enjoy.

Well done!

Mrs K Charles



Primary School Transition Programme

Severnbanks Primary Science session not for the faint hearted

Year 6 Severnbanks Primary School pupils were invited to the Science Labs at The Dean Academy to help with their studies of the circulatory system. The pupils spent a morning with Science teacher Mr Edy who dissected the heart, lungs and liver and then asked the pupils to have a go at dissecting a heart themselves.

The children have been learning all about the heart in class and have a pig's heart in a jar in their room so the session was a great opportunity for them to get hands on and explore all of the different parts of the heart.

Mr Edy commented "The pupils were fantastic and did a great job with the dissection. I was really impressed with their knowledge of the heart! They asked lots of brilliant questions and were clearly engaged with the session!"

Their teacher praised the experience, commenting "They thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity and the session really supported and extended their learning so far this term. A great big thank you for having us!"



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

"I learnt how many systems we have in our body and what they're called."

"It was an extraordinary experience that we actually got to cut open a heart ourselves."

"I enjoyed it and I loved seeing the chambers inside the heart."

Although cutting it open made me feel a little queasy."

"What I enjoyed about going to The Dean Academy was that I got to cut open the heart, see what was inside of it and put my finger inside the vessels."

"I was shocked when I found out it wasn't the actual heart making the beating sound but the valves inside opening and closing!"

"I found it really exciting when we got to open the heart as we were able to see the vessels and chambers."

"I had so much fun that I could see the other organs in the circulatory system and that I could cut open a real sheep's heart."

"I loved it because we were able to meet Mr Edy and he told us about the misconception that deoxygenated blood was blue - it is actually all red!"

"It was really fun to quite literally 'pull at the heart strings'."

"It was exhilarating because we got to see what it was like inside a heart."



Primary School Transition Programme

Ellwood Primary School sessions

Organised by Mr Edy, our Primary Liaison Lead, Year 5 and 6 pupils from Ellwood Primary School have attended some special sessions this term in our Computing and D&T classrooms where they have been able to complete specific areas of the KS2 curriculum.



In the D&T workshops the children have learnt lots of woodworking and CAD design skills with Mr Winstanley to create a wooden automata.



In Computing with Mrs Mehrotra-Hughes they have been busy creating programs using Scratch to draw shapes and patterns. They have also been debugging a game and completing its code to get it to work and in another session the pupils used Audacity and the sound editing tools to create a radio advert.

Primrose Hill Primary School Ukulele sessions



Mr Peacock had the pleasure of travelling to Primrose Hill Primary School to teach some wonderful and talented Year 2 pupils how to play the ukulele.

He was accompanied by some delightful student helpers from The Dean Academy, Katie F and Katie S, who were excellent with the children.

They had a lot of fun learning their first two chords on this superb instrument. They also developed their ensemble playing skills and played many fun games; a firm favourite being Larry the lost lamb, in which the children had to use their ukulele's to help a student find Larry!

Mr Peacock said "It was great to see them get to grips with the Ukulele so fast and for them to develop their critical listening skills by learning to play softly and loudly." Overall, this was a wonderful experience for Mr Peacock and for the pupils.

Parkend Primary School Dance Workshops

A group of Year 10 and 11 Performing Arts students visited Parkend Primary School this term as part of our Primary Outreach programme. The school were unable to do a planned workshop for Diwali, and asked us to step in and help. Our students spent time learning and rehearsing some Bollywood dances to teach and perform for their pupils. They then

assisted in the teaching and choreography of the workshops with the children at their school.

Our students spent the entire day at Parkend Primary and worked with every class in the school.

The younger children explored the importance of light in Diwali celebrations, and choreographed group performances around the idea of Fireworks. Our students led this session superbly, showing excellent communication skills, patience and empathy with the much younger children. The final performances were excellent and there were smiles all around.

As the day progressed, we worked with the older students and replicated a Bollywood routine with them. The Dean Academy students performed the routine to the older students and then took them through the steps of learning it, and we ended with one whole group performance, with every single student showing excellent Bollywood skills!

Our students were absolutely fantastic and really showed what fantastic students we have here, with such wide ranging skills. They were a credit to the school. Well done!

Mrs K Rodway



Remembrance Day 2021

Staff and students worked together to create a special Remembrance display at the front of the school. Organised by Mrs Jones, old plastic bottles were transformed into bright red poppies. In the morning there was a whole school assembly and at 11am the whole school joined together for a two minute silence.

Abigail in Year 7 attended the Festival of Remembrance with her parents at the Royal Albert Hall in London on the Remembrance weekend. Abigail went to the service to watch her Dad who was the Standard Bearer for the Royal British Legion Lydney branch. The event marked 100 years of the Royal British Legion and was a celebration of all those who have contributed to the Legion's history. It was an emotional weekend and Abigail was really proud to see her Dad representing the Lydney branch at this very special event. She has kindly donated to the school some memorabilia from the service.



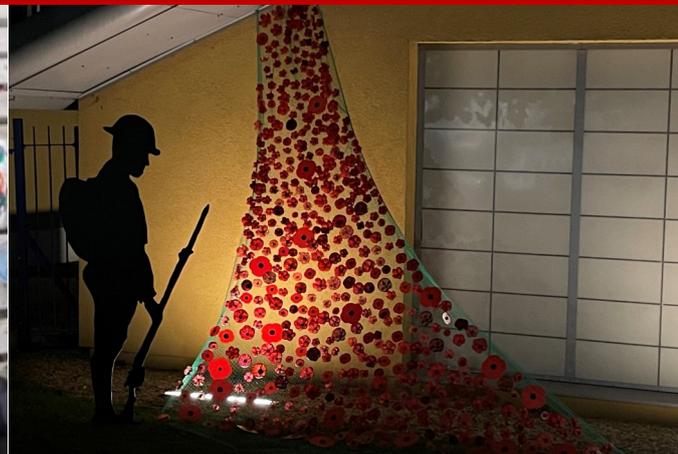
Students came to school in their army, sea cadet and explorer uniforms



Abigail with the memorabilia and at the Royal Albert Hall



Students worked hard to create poppies from old plastic bottles for the Remembrance display



Students across the school observed a two minute silence to honour all those who have fought and lost their lives



Maths and Computing

Maths Trust Event

On Friday, 12th, November, Year 7 students from across The Athelstan Trust were treated to a performance from mathematician turned slam poetry world champion, Harry Baker.

Chipping Sodbury School kindly hosted this event with students from other Athelstan schools arriving by minibus to experience the event and subsequent workshops. Athelstan students who were not lucky enough to meet Harry Baker in person were able to watch a live stream of the performance which included poems about prime numbers, falafels, dinosaurs, the creation of the universe, paper people and Angel Delight!

It was fantastic to see students so engaged by Harry's performance and whether in the hall at Chipping Sodbury School or watching via a screen from a different school, students were encouraged to join in; a particularly fun moment involved everyone shouting out in German: "Wie viel falafel ist zu viel falafel" (How much falafel is too much falafel?!)

The theme of the morning was opening our minds to the creative potential of different subject specialisms and Harry's performance showcased this through sharing his passion for Maths, Science, and History through the medium of performance poetry. In workshops, students wrote and shared their own poems with Harry, whilst with Mrs O'Neill and Ms Kilburn-Bond students read an autobiographical extract from one of NASA's 'hidden women', Katherine Johnson, as a prompt for discussing why Maths matters in our everyday lives, they then wrote a persuasive speech arguing that Maths should remain on the curriculum of a futuristic school built on Mars.



STUDENT COMMENTS

The comments from students at the end of the morning are a joy to read, and speak volumes about the power of enrichment opportunities like Harry Baker's visit:

- "My favourite part was writing my own poem because I didn't know that I was so good at making poems"
- "He is a very cool guy"
- "My favourite part was the dinosaur poem because of the sound effects"
- "It was fun to learn about NASA"
- "It was amazing to hear Harry Baker read out his poems"
- and last but not least, "It was all brilliant!"



You can watch this engaging performance using the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wC98qq-CEVY>
ENJOY!

Computing Bebras Challenge

In November our KS3 students learnt about computational thinking. Before computers can be used to solve a problem, the problem itself and the ways in which it could be resolved must be understood. Computational thinking allows us to take a complex problem, understand what the problem is and develop possible solutions. We can then present these solutions in a way that a computer, a human, or both, can understand.

At the end of the unit all our students took part in the Bebras Computing Challenge, a competition that aims to enthuse students in all things Computer Science whilst helping students and their teachers to identify hidden talent. Bebras is organised in over 50 countries and sponsored by Oxford University and The Raspberry

Pi Foundation. Our students competed in age categories against thousands of students from across the UK and attempted to solve 15 puzzles in 3 categories of difficulty. These puzzles required logic skills, identifying patterns, breaking things down and completing algorithms.

We are really proud that 8 of our students finished in the top 10% of all entries nationally with several achieving in the top 5% and they have been invited to compete in the Oxford University Computing Challenge, a competition for talented UK students to produce programmed solutions to computational thinking problems. We have additionally invited 8 more students who scored very highly and only narrowly missed out on success. The first round will take place online in February. Those successful will then be invited to the finals on 15th March.

Mrs Mehrotra-Hughes



Performance

ICC Wales Trip

In November we were invited to participate in the Newport Children's Variety Performance at Newport ICC at The Celtic Manor. Our students were incredibly excited to finally get a date for a real live performance with an audience! It really has been so long since we've had something like this to aim for!

We travelled by coach to Newport, after weeks of rehearsals in bubbles at school, and arrived at the very impressive ICC building, where we were welcomed by staff and helpers and shown to our back stage waiting area. The waiting area itself was impressive enough, with a huge screen relaying the show to the students whilst they waited for their turn.

We took to the stage to rehearse our performance, with costumes, sound and lighting, and were amazed at the size of the stage and the hundreds of seats in the audience! Some of our students have been lucky enough to perform to 140 people in our school hall, but this was another level again!

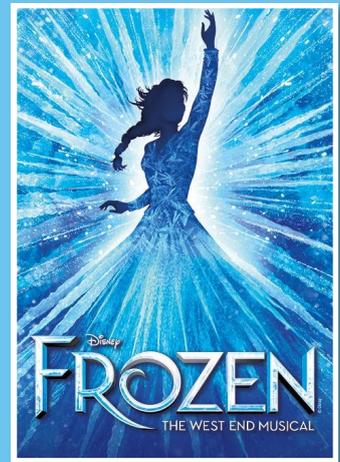
As the day went on, the audience seats began filling and the show began. We enjoyed performances from comedians, magicians, singers, ballet dancers and street dancers, and waited patiently for our turn to perform again. The students gathered together for their grand finale dance, lasting 12 minutes!

They performed superbly and received rapturous applause alongside Rodney and Anwen the Dragons, and Spytty the Dog, who were all part of the party dance performance!

Mrs Rodway, Mr McNeill, Mrs Mehrotra-Hughes, and Ms Wilkes were incredibly proud of all our dancers, not just for their performances on stage, but for their outstanding behaviour whilst waiting an extremely long time backstage for the day. They were an absolute pleasure to spend the day with! **Mrs K Rodway**

'Frozen the Musical'

Unfortunately, due to Covid, our trip to London to watch Frozen the Musical was postponed, but we are very excited to have this to look forward to in the New Year. Our visit will now be taking place on Thursday 3rd March 2022, and further details will come out in due course. This trip is now full. However, if you would like to be placed on a waiting list, should a space become available, please let Mrs Rodway know.



Performance

Year 7 Brass

Our Year 7s have had a great opportunity to enjoy a 10 week course in whole class Brass ensemble tuition.

Mr Richards from Gloucestershire Music has been visiting the school to help the year group learn the trumpet and the baritone horn.

Our students have been so enthusiastic and have really excelled with several of them signing up for lessons!

They have learnt some key skills such as keeping in time, reading music and how to make a lot of noise!

Mr J Peacock



Remembrance

Remembrance Day this year, was marked when the whole school gathered together at 11am for the two minute silence. Oliver in Year 9 and April in Year 7 performed solos of 'The Last Post' and 'Reveille' as the whole school fell silent.

Their performance of 'The Last Post' was a key element of our Remembrance Day, they both performed it excellently, Oliver made the school proud playing his Baritone Horn as did April on her Cornet. They helped to set the atmosphere for the two minute silence reminding us of the importance of remembering those who lost their lives. Following this, both students played the 'Reveille' to end the ceremony.

Next year, we hope to have more students able to perform with them as our number of brass players is set to grow. **Mr J Peacock**



Oliver in Year 9 played 'The Last Post'

Success at clubs and activities

Because of Covid restrictions our clubs and activities have again been hard to maintain this term, but we are very proud of our diverse range of activities that we have regularly updated to enable as many students as possible to continue learning, practicing and rehearsing within the Arts.

MUSIC CLUBS are being regularly attended by small groups, and we are excited to be finding many hidden gems amongst our cohort of students, as music is being more regularly played again, and students are showing us what they've taken up learning in lockdown.

We are currently offering Jazz Band, Rock and Pop Band, Singing Groups/Choir, Karaoke, DJ Club to name a few, and these are updated weekly on the Tutor notices so that students know what's on and when.

DANCE CLUBS are growing weekly, and we now have a significant number of regular attendees:

- Year 8 on a Monday
- Year 9 on a Tuesday
- Year 7 on a Friday

These clubs are open to all students, and it's not too late to attend. You are able to pick up the choreography in time for a Spring Spectacular if you join now. We also look forward to upcoming workshops with Swindon Dance in January, for Year 9, 10 and 11. With in-house workshops for Year 7 and 8 to be arranged.

DRAMA CLUB has just started, and we are looking for students who are interested in learning new Drama skills, and extending those that they learn in the classroom, with Mr McNeill on a Monday after school. In particular, if you are in Year 9 and are considering Drama as an option, come along and begin your journey now!

Mrs K Rodway

Art, Design and Production

Year 11 Art



Scarlett in Year 11 has been working hard on this piece of work, a string of paper chain people based on her friends and family – she has spent hours completing it. Well, done Scarlett excellent effort!

Mrs K Charles

ASDAN Memorial Bench

After weeks of measuring, sanding, sawing, glueing and staining in the D&T workshop our Year 11 ASDAN students completed one of their set challenges to repair an item of furniture, the memorial bench.

They were a fantastic team, using knowledge from their Technology lessons to reconstruct the bench, which had seen better days, making it a focal point of the Memorial Garden once again.

It was a pleasure to see them all get stuck in and working so well together.

Well done Kieran, Josh, Erica and Lucas. I'm very proud of you. **Ms K McCormick**



Team work



Pride of place in the Memorial Garden

The Eyes Have It

Year 9 have been developing their skills drawing facial features – this term they have been learning how to draw an eye in colour. Here are some lovely examples of their work.

Mrs K Charles



Mental Health Message is Music to Students Ears

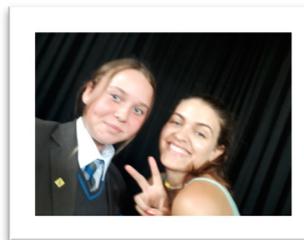
When singer, songwriter Irini Mando visited Year 8 students to talk about mental health issues and body image, she made a big impression on the year group.

Irini talked with students about the various factors which can be harmful to mental health such as bullying, peer pressure, and body image. Her message to students was loud and clear "Don't suffer in silence." Mental health was something that wasn't talked about much when Irini was at school and she is grateful that this is now changing. Irini believes that our differences and diversity should be both accepted and celebrated, "it's great that we don't look and sound the same." Because social media can influence perceptions of body image Irini advised students to use social media mindfully, "be aware that many images online have been edited and when you are posting think about what you are sending and always be kind."

Alice in Year 8 found the presentation helpful and enlightening, she commented "When Irini spoke to us about body image and how people compare themselves to others, I realised that we have to accept who we are and if people don't like it then it's their problem, not yours."

Linda Bellingham, the Deputy Safeguarding Lead at the school said "Our students really engaged with Irini and got a lot out of her visit to the school. They realised that it's ok to be yourself and learnt that if you are struggling or feeling unwell then you should confide in someone you trust such as a parent, friend or teacher and not suffer in silence."

Irini impressed the students with her performance of her latest single 'Outlaw' and they all joined in with the chorus of 'Ring Ring'.



Chelsea's Choice

This term, Year 9 students watched the hard-hitting production of 'Chelsea's Choice' by Alter Ego Creative Solutions who performed their safeguarding drama which explores and raises awareness of unhealthy relationships and their devastating consequences.

The cast creatively tackled the issue of child sexual exploitation, exploring the different ways that young people can be drawn into abusive relationships. They explained "Knowledge is power, by making young people aware of the differences between a healthy and an unhealthy relationship the less likely this exploitation can happen. Some people who find themselves in a similar situation to Chelsea are too scared or too embarrassed to come forward and report the abuse so it is really important to keep the conversation going."

Linda Bellingham, the Deputy Safeguarding Lead said "This production is a great way to inform our students about the grooming and criminal process leading to sexual and

criminal exploitation. It is a play within a play with the actors using a narrative section after each act, informing the audience how the skilled groomer manipulates and coerces the victim, a girl or a boy, and gradually isolates them from their family and friends making them dependant on the groomer for drugs and safety. The students talked afterwards about just how easy it seemed for Chelsea to be influenced and trapped by the groomer. This helps them to recognise the controlling and manipulative behaviour and report anything that feels wrong. We also find that friends, often, are the ones to really notice when something is wrong so it's been really valuable getting these important messages across to our students."

At the end of the performance students were encouraged to talk to a parent, carer, teacher, Student Support Centre or a friend if they are struggling with any of the issues raised by this performance. Children's charities such as Childline, NSPCC and Barnardo's can also help.



Open Evening



Staff and students were delighted to welcome local primary school pupils and their parents to its annual Open Evening.

The event was a great opportunity for prospective pupils to explore the school, meet the Headteacher and participate in various classroom activities to help them make their decision about the next step of their educational journey.



Year 7 students who recently joined the academy told the packed hall about their experiences so far, including Harry who said that he has settled in really well and made lots of new friends.

An impressed parent, whose child is in Year 6, commented "I found the Headteacher's talk really helpful and encouraging, particularly because he spoke about the importance of aspirations within the school and emphasised their aim for high standards. The students we have met here tonight have been polite and informative, they are a real credit to the school."



Some of the highlights of the evening included a grisly re-enactment of surgery in the 1800s led by History teacher Mr Hole and ably assisted by his Year 11 GCSE students, a mathematical ninja activity with Maths teacher Mr Swain, lots of fun science experiments in the labs and some rather energetic activities in the Sports Hall.



Headteacher Mr Richard Brand commented "It was really good to see so many families from our community interested to know more about the great things going on at The Dean Academy and see them leave having had a really good evening at our school. Our student tour guides and subject helpers were excellent in talking about the journey of improvement the school is on and talking about their experiences of coming to this wonderful school."



School Community

Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week is part of an initiative by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This year their theme was 'One Kind Word'. They explained that "kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us."

The week started off with Odd Sock Day where students were encouraged to wear their odd socks to school as a way to celebrate their uniqueness.

Throughout the week students and staff wrote messages of positivity and kindness to each other which really did brighten their day!



World Aids Day

Wednesday 1st December was World Aids Day and to mark it the school held a special assembly and ribbons were on sale for students to wear to show their support and to raise awareness. **Ms Wilkes**



Food Bank Appeal

Staff and students have been collecting items for the local food bank again this year. Food, toiletries and household items have generously been donated to help local families.



Nurture Group Calendars 2022

Students in Nurture have made some lovely 2022 calendars with Ms Buckley. Well done!



Holiday Activity Programme

The Holiday Activity and Food Programme (#HAF2021) funded by the DfE is running from 20th to 23rd December for children aged 5 -16 years. To find out more and stay up to date you can follow them on social media @GlosCC or visit www.glostershire.gov.uk/haf

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Extra Curricular

Izabelle gets crafting



With her winning dreamcatcher

Budding artist, Izabelle in Year 7, has really impressed with her creative talents this year, not only was she a runner up in our Year 7 Christmas card competition but she also recently won two first place rosettes at a local craft fair. Izabelle said "Art is one of my favourite subjects in school. I have



Izabelle's Christmas card competition entry

a craft room at home that I share with my mum who also likes crafting. My rosettes were awarded for a pumpkin carving and for a dreamcatcher that I had made."

Izabelle designed a logo for her tutor group 7AH and her tutor was so impressed he used the design on a bookmark for the whole tutor group to enjoy.



Award winning - Izabelle above with her rosettes and below is her 7AH design



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Five of our Year 11 students are to be congratulated for completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Despite being ready to qualify at the end of Year 9, covid has caused endless delays.

Last year, they were all awarded a Certificate of Achievement for completing their Voluntary, Skills and

Physical sections despite Lockdown restrictions. Finally, after a record number of covid-provoked delays, the expedition was completed and the students were able to claim their Bronze badges. Congratulations to Maddie, Josh, Jake, Simeon and Ayden. Well done!

Ms S Paton



Year 11s with their Bronze certificates

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