



WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN NO 21 – WEEK A

Week Commencing 19th February 2024

Monday 19 th February	Start of Term 4 Year 11 Mocks 19 th February – 1 st March 10.00 a.m. – 3.30 p.m. Cross Trust visiting Theatre Company Performance at Bradon Forest – 13 students
Tuesday 20 th February	
Wednesday 21 st February	Visit from Tim Gilson, Athelstan Trust CEO
Thursday 22 nd February	4.45 – 7.45 p.m. Year 7 Progress Evening
Friday 23 rd February	

It was great to be able to host four of our Local Governing Body to come into school on Wednesday. Our Governors met with senior and middle leaders, spoke to students and staff, and visited lessons and gave some great feedback on what they had seen. In particular they commented how strong the start of the day feels, with students in Year 7-10 enjoying their “Beyond Words” reading programme and students in Y11 thoroughly focused on exam revision.

We were pleased to see so many Year 10 parents join us in person on Thursday night for parents evening. There were some great conversations taking place about how we work in partnership to help your child achieve their best and nice to be having these events back on-site at school.

I am hugely grateful and wish to say thank you to Mr Fessey who has stepped in and done a brilliant job as Acting Head of Year 10 (alongside his substantive role) whilst Mr Kelley has been recovering from a nasty ankle injury. Mr Kelley is now fully fit and will be back in business leading Year 10 again from Monday 19th.

We had some great sporting/performance cameos this week with excellent contributions from our U13 girls football team away at Wydean, Molly and Lily-Sienna who excelled in cross county and those who took part in a dance workshop at the end of last week!

At this time of year it starts to feel more serious for our Year 11 students with just one full half term left before the summer exam window begins. We have a packed schedule of revision sessions running during the half term break (more details [here](#)) and we encourage all students to attend where they can. Teachers will be giving last minute tips and advice before the second set of mock exams begin when we come back on Monday 19th February.

Have a nice break and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 19th February ready for an 0845 start.

Richard Brand
[Headteacher](#)

[@thedeacademyofficial](#)



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11 th March 2024	Inset Day
20 th March 2024	Year 8 HPV vaccinations
21 st March 2024	Year 11 Parents Evening/Mock Assembly/ Reports to Parents

ENJOYMENT

ACHIEVEMENT

COMMUNITY

Congratulations to the following weekly winners of our attendance raffle week ending 2nd February 2024:

KS3 – Lily W, Year 8

KS4 – Rio W, Year 11

EMBRACE THE GEEK

Congratulations to our hard working 'Embrace the Geek' Year 11 raffle winners. Some fabulous prizes were up for grabs including a £25 restaurant voucher, a £20 cinema voucher, a free breakfast baguette from the school restaurant and a Nintendo Switch! For students to be entered into the raffle they had to really impress their teachers with lots of hard work, well done!!

Dexter W - £25 voucher for a meal in a variety of restaurants

Phoebe B - £20 cinema voucher

Alyssa M – free breakfast baguette for a week from the canteen

Zosia B – Nintendo Switch





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Church Road, Lydney
Gloucestershire, GL15 5DZ
01594 843202
info@thedeacademy.org

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S
P
A
R
X

Student Of The Week

Year 7: Ashley (7SK)

Year 8: Zac (8KM)

Year 9: Tilly (9SMU)

Year 10: Charlie (10EJW)

Year 11: Gracie (11FP)

M
A
T
H
S

Sparx Maths

578,323

questions answered correctly in Sparx
Maths so far this year



Highest completion:
7x/M1 (90.0%)

Biggest completion
improvement vs previous
week:
11xy/M1 58.3%
(+33.3%)

Reached a new XP Level:
19 students
[view](#)

Highest average XP per
student:
9xy/M5 (601 XP)



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BRIGHT SPOTS

FOOTBALL FIXTURE

Fantastic fixture yesterday and improvement on performances from previous fixture vs Wydean, a combination of Year 8 & 9 players and a fantastic team effort!!

POM Lily-Sienna LH

CPOM Bella S



U14 GIRLS DISTRICT FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Another outing for the U14 girls in blue as they took part in the U14 Girls District Football Tournament in Cinderford. All the girls played outstandingly well and put in an amazing team performance to get a mixture of results on the day!!

CPOM: Erin W



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Carlie H, Ruby-Jayne G, Lucy SP, Lily Sienna LH, Emily H, Erin W, Selenia N

SOUTH-WEST SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY COMPETITION

A huge well done to Molly H (Year 7) and Lily-Sienna (Year 8) who represented Gloucestershire at the South-West Schools Cross Country Competition last weekend.

Another massive congratulations to Lily Sienna who qualified for English Schools Cross Country Finals in March. Lily is a member of our Elite Performance Programme and has been working hard in her sessions in working on her strength, speed and acceleration for her races!! Amazing work to both students!!





SWINDON DANCE CENTRE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING

A massive thank you to Zoe, a choreographer and teacher from Swindon Dance Centre for Advanced Training, who visited our school last week, to deliver a special dance skills and techniques workshop for a group of our students in Years 8 and 9. Dance students in Year 10 also took part in a choreography workshop with Zoe which enhanced their choreography skills and they created some really well-structured group performances. It was a valuable insight into Dance education and the opportunities that are available.





STEM CHALLENGE

Year 9s were set a fun and exciting STEM challenge in their Technology class this week! Ms Muirhead tasked her students to produce a package that would safely transport Egbert the Egg from Birmingham back to The Dean Academy to visit Mr Brand. They had to meet specific size, weight and material requirements for the task and Ms Muirhead was very impressed with their creations. Mr Brand is looking forward to the big unveiling after half term!



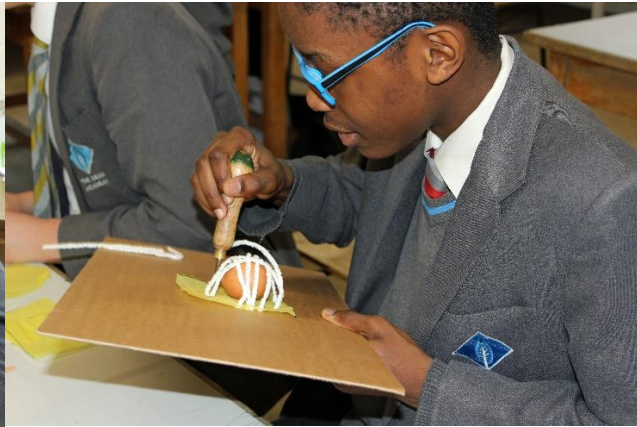
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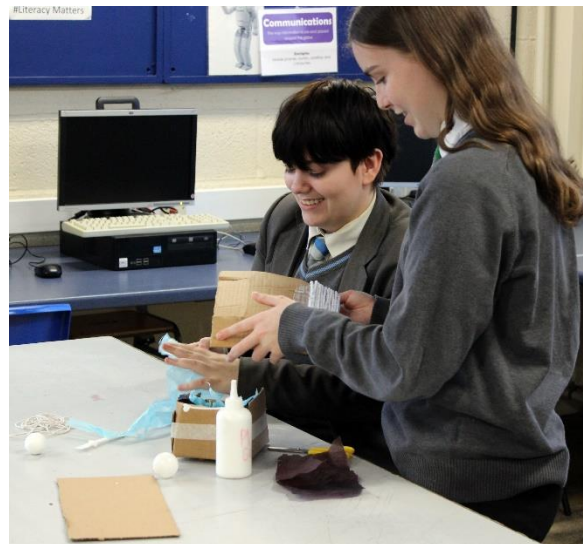
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Charlie G & Tyler K



Dylan A



Millie Jean D & Alice D



Megan B & Tayla G



Noah N & Dylan A



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April D & Frankie T





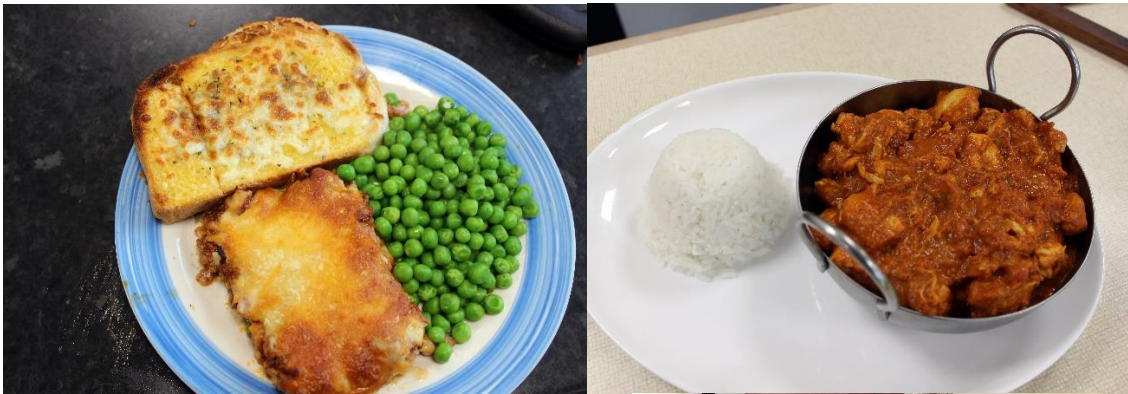
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HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Year 11 Hospitality & Catering students have created some lovely dishes this morning as part of their practical exam. They demonstrated safe working practice in the preparation and cooking of their food and displayed a variety of cooking techniques. Well done!



Reece B



Y10 Excellence!

Year 10 have been building on their food preparation and cooking skills. Microwave meringues to make Eton Mess and selecting their own recipes for non-meat (fish allowed) protein dishes





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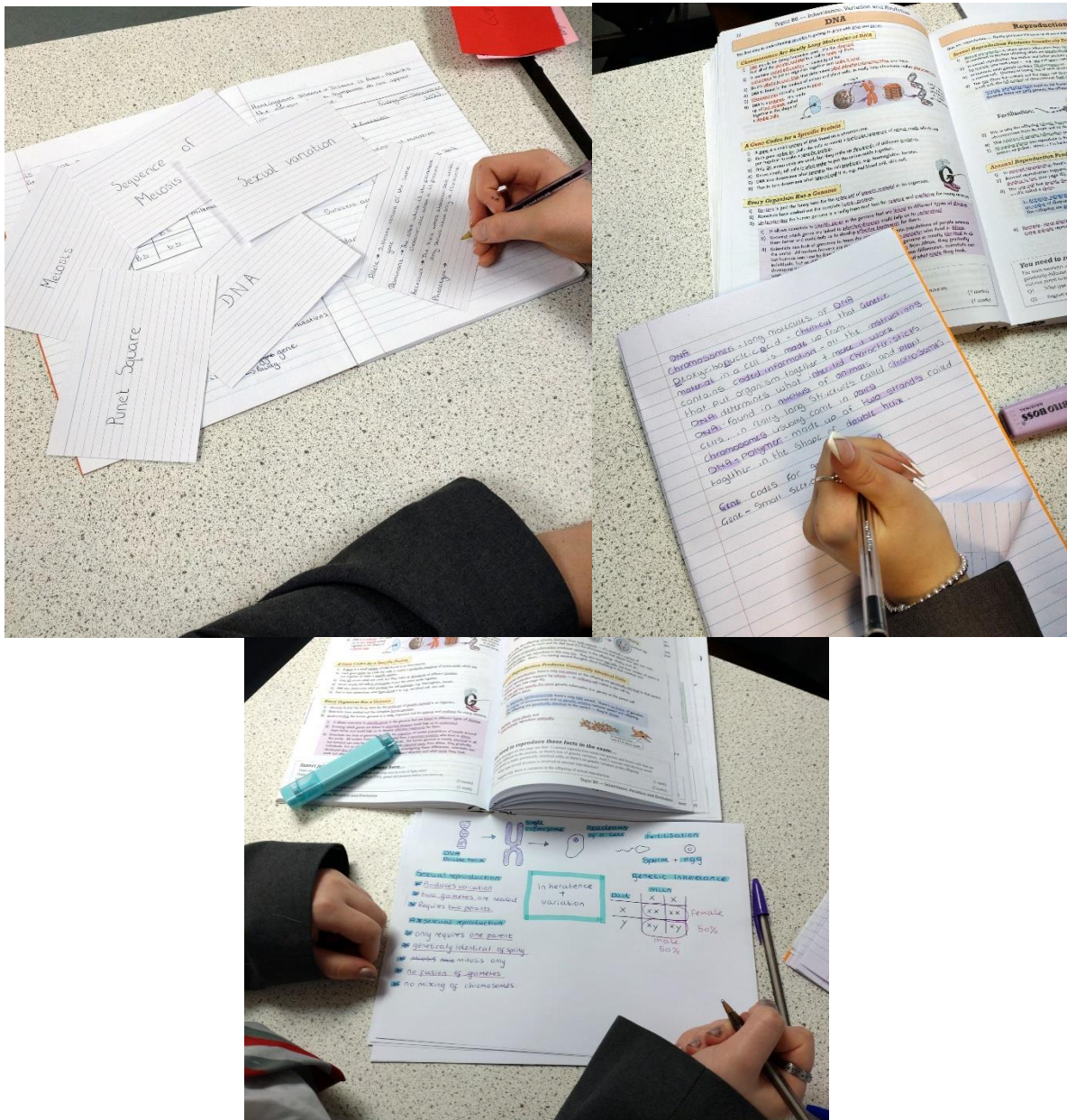
Tyler B





SCIENCE

Mr Webb's Year 11 Biology class are putting into practice the revision skills they learnt during the tutor time revision sessions! Great work.





WRITER OF THE WEEK

THE DEAN ACADEMY WRITER OF THE WEEK

'Someone Can Always Stab You in the Back'

By Ellie P (Year8)

She loved him eternally; he loved her so. Once they moved in together, he treasured her, she too made him feel like her light. Getting her flowers every day along with gifts. He started to go out most nights, always coming back late. One night after, he offered to make dinner; wrapping her arms around him, she accepted, happy. She let her guard down, why shouldn't she? She blinks. He slammed the knife into her, sinking into her broken heart. Her pure blood on his dirty hands. The man she loved had stolen her life. A ring means nothing. Be careful.





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ART

Year 10 have produced some lovely lino prints this week to support their Life Aquatic project.





YEAR 7 BREAKFAST IN RECOGNITION OF PROGRESS AND EFFORT

Head of Year 7, Mr Grant, invited a group of Year 7 students for breakfast in the school restaurant this morning to celebrate their fantastic achievements for best performance in progress and effort! Keep up the good work, well done!



Eliza K & Nevaeh B

Eliza K



Isla C & Florence G



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Jasmine K



Olivia C

RAISING ASPIRATIONS

A great day out today at the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester for our Year 9 students. They took part in a workshop to design their own university, found out all about university life and they also had a tour around the site looking at all of the different facilities and locations.





TAE-KWON-DO COMPETITION

Massive congratulations to Arwen in Year 8 who did brilliantly in a recent Tae Kwon-Do competition. Arwen is now the blackbelt middle weight girls 2024 South West Champion having won gold in both individual and tag team sparring. Fantastic!



Arwen H

2023 U14 RECURVE GIRLS JUNIOR NATIONAL INDOOR CHAMPION

In December, Ava in Year 8, became the 2023 U14 Recurve Girls, Junior National Indoor Champion. She managed to beat the other 16 girls in her category and shot a new Personal Best.





GCSE PE SPORTS CAREERS TALK

Thank you to Paige who came to speak to our students on behalf of GROWS about careers within the sports industry.

Students took part in an insightful talk about different courses that they can take part in at University, and what career opportunities they open.

The students are attending Hartpury College after half term to take part in various workshops and activities to give them further insight.



SCEINCE ARTS AND CRAFTS CLUB

A special thank you from Miss Wheatstone to all the Science Stars who have attended Science Arts and Crafts club this past term.

This last week we have been observing the chemical reactions that occur within our 'one pot copper reactions', including lots of colour changes and weird smells, as well as using crystallisation to make pretty love heart ornaments, on theme for Valentine's Day.

Your effort and enthusiasm for science has been brilliant, and I look forward to more creative experiments next term. Wishing you all a lovely half term break!



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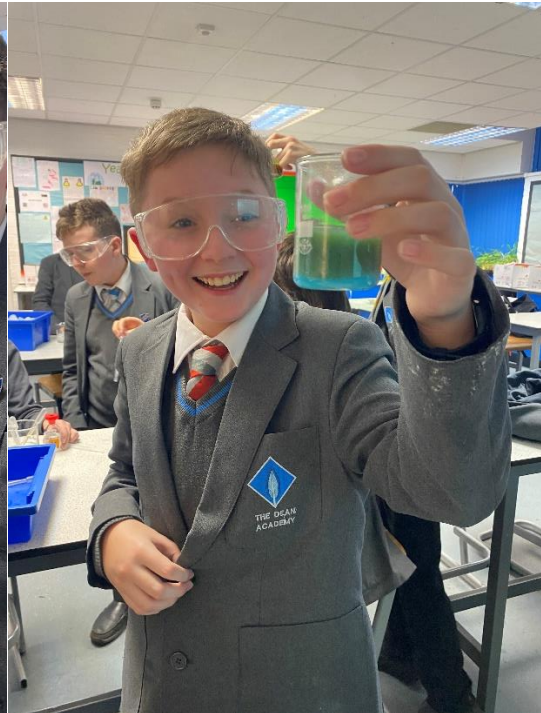
Charles H



Isla A-H & Jasmine S



Cohen P & Alex P



Jake D



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Hayden C

Arwen H



Charles H, Haydn C & Jasmine S



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE

This Sunday will be the International Day of Women and Girls in Science which recognises and celebrates the contribution of women around the world to Science. To mark this event, in tutor time on Thursday, students have been learning about the important work and discoveries of scientists such as Rosalind Franklin, Jane Goodall, Marie Curie and Dorothy Hodgkin.





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CALLING IT OUT PRODUCTION

Thank you to Josh and Kavita from Loudmouth Education and Training who visited our school yesterday to perform 'Calling it Out' to our Year 10 students. The performance explores unhealthy relationships and harmful sexual behaviour and raises awareness of the impact that this can have and how we all have a role in safely challenging and reporting these behaviours.

