



## WEEKLY PARENT BULLETIN NO 6 – WEEK B

Week Commencing 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	Silver DofE Expedition
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Silver DofE Expedition
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	9.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Visit of Keval Shah, Chair of Trustees & Tim Gilson, CEO
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Hello Yellow Day in support of World Mental Health Day 5.00 – 10.30 p.m. An Inspector Calls trip to Bristol Hippodrome – 45 students
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	

Hello TDA Families, we hope that this finds you keeping well. I can't believe that we are now over halfway through this first term! It has been yet another full and busy week at The Dean Academy with lots to celebrate.

Following our open evening we have run lots of open morning tours; in these tours I have the privilege of being able to share what happens in our school on a day to day basis with visiting families of children in Years 5 and 6 and it is always such a joy popping in to lessons and showcasing the wonderful working ethos and attitudes of our students. As a gentle reminder to our parents & carers of children in Year 6, you can still book on to an open morning tour up until Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October if you wish, to help support that ever important, decision and submissions need to be made to GCC by 31<sup>st</sup> October.

On Thursday we held our Year 7 tutor evening which was an opportunity for parents and carers to touch base with our Year 7 tutor team alongside Mr Swain and Miss Kestevan to discuss how the students have been settling in since the start of term. It was so lovely to see so many families coming in and having those really positive conversations about how well things have been going and also those conversations to discuss where we may be able to support further. I have been so very impressed with the positive attitude that our Class of 2029 have started their TDA journey with and look forward to seeing them thrive. Many thanks to our Year 7 pastoral team for their time on this evening.

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October we are looking forward to welcoming Keval Shah, the new Chair of Trustees of The Athelstan Trust. Keval will be visiting with our CEO, Dr Tim Gilson, and they will be popping into lessons to see the fabulous work that takes place and also meeting with some of our students.



On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October we are participating in the “Hello Yellow” mental health event to raise funds and raise the profile of the importance of supporting the mental health of our young people. On this day students are invited to come dressed in yellow – either in a full yellow outfit or an additional item of yellow clothing (t-shirt/jumper/socks...) alongside their normal school uniform. We are asking for a donation of £1 to Young Minds for students who wish to take part – this can be paid either via ParentPay or if you would prefer to send in cash, our Mental Health Ambassadors who are part of our Senior Student Team will be doing a collection during tutor time.

As we are now full swing into autumn with wetter weather and the darker mornings and afternoons, we are seeing an increase in students being driven to and from school. To ensure that all students, staff and other visitors are kept safe please may I kindly ask that all drivers follow the one-way system and avoid dropping off on the double yellow lines directly in front of the school. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Lastly from me, last week we worked hard on sustaining and improving punctuality and attendance. Assemblies were run with all year groups and the expectations and importance of arriving to school and all lessons on time was shared. We also celebrated those students with 100% attendance on Friday in our termly “doughnut dash”. Did you know that if a student is 5 minutes late to each lesson per day, then that equates to 19 lost school days each year!? We know that communication is key to supporting with this, so tutors are making well-being calls if your child has shown a recent decline in attendance. During these phone calls please do let us know if there is anything we can do to help your child further.

My hard working and dedicated colleagues have been sent lots of examples of the incredible work that our students have been producing so please do enjoy looking through these.

Wishing you all a wonderful week ahead,

Hannah Rowlands  
Headteacher

**@thedeacademyofficial**

**@thedeacademyofficial**

**@TheDeanAcademy**



ENJOYMENT

ACHIEVEMENT

COMMUNITY

Congratulations to the following weekly winners of our attendance raffle week ending 27<sup>th</sup>  
September 2024

KS3 – Aleia-Rae R – Year 7

KS4 – Martin C – Year 11



## TERM 1 DATES FOR THE DIARY

20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Bronze D of E Expedition
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	School Photographs
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Term Ends (3.15pm)

## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY – 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

**Wear it loud.  
Wear it proud.**

#HelloYellow M&S | YOUNGMINDS

**Why wear yellow?**

Wear yellow this World Mental Health Day on 10th October and stand together for young people's mental health.

It's a changing world, where new pressures and stresses can be overwhelming. From the cost-of-living crisis to the climate emergency, it's a tough time to grow up. And when you reach out for help, the systems in place aren't good enough, or they're not there at all.

We want you to know that you're not alone. Things can get better.

We're not saying you have to dress up like SpongeBob Square Pants (although you do you), just a bit of yellow somewhere can show other young people like you, that you stand with them. And if you've been going through it, show up for yourself.

Wear it loud, wear it proud, and demand a world where all young people get the mental health support they need, when they need it.

#HelloYellow M&S | YOUNGMINDS

**Where to get help**

If you are struggling with your mental health, you are not alone and support is available.

Asking for help from an adult you trust is always okay. The YoungMinds website also has practical guidance to help you look after yourself as well as advice on how to get help.

Remember, your feelings are valid and things can get better.

Find out more at [youngminds.org.uk](http://youngminds.org.uk)

#HelloYellow M&S | YOUNGMINDS



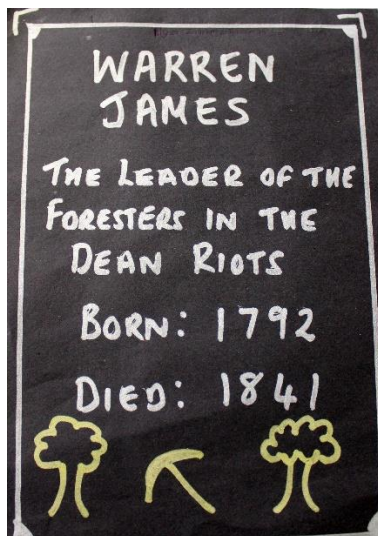
## GLOUCESTER SAXONS BASKETBALL TEAM

Noah Young recently joined Gloucester Saxons Basketball team and had his first game on Sunday. They won 79-40 against Cheltenham Chargers and Noah scored 7 points.



## HISTORY

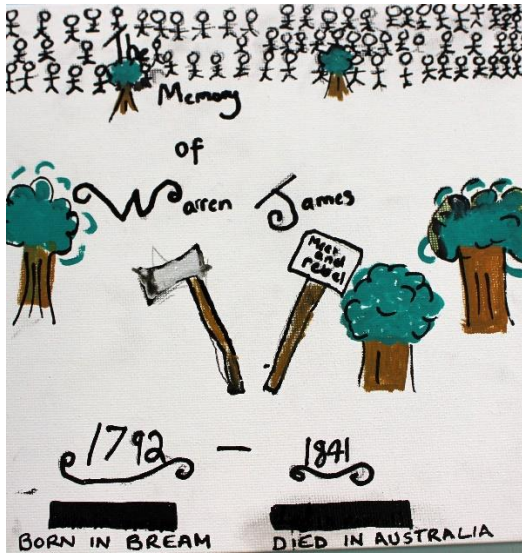
Year 7 students have created some fantastic memorials to Warren James (1792-1841) as part of their History topic with Mr Hole. He was really impressed with the effort and creativity that went into their work. Well done!



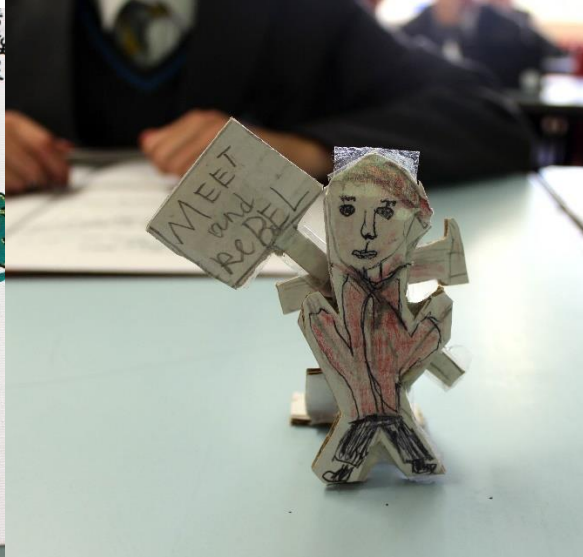
Alyna Z



Cisero N



Darcey L



Dasha A



Esme



Ethan N



Harry F



Jay D



Oliver T



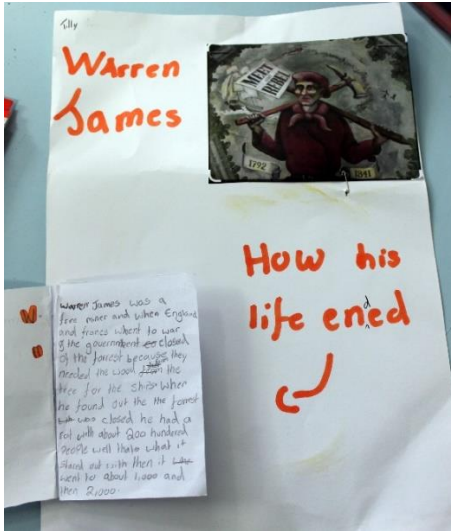
Rylee James G



Jayden P



Ruby D



Tilly I



Vinnie W



Zara R



## WRITER OF THE WEEK

This week's Writer of the Week is Alex P in Year 9, well done!

### THE DEAN ACADEMY WRITER OF THE WEEK IS . . .

#### Alex P (Year 9)

Late at night, on an eerily quiet street in London, a red double-decker bus glided past, its windows fogged up as if from invisible breath. Inside, only a few passengers sat, none acknowledging each other. At the back of the bus, Tom fiddled nervously with a set of pliers, glancing at the faint glow of his credit card's chip. He was trying to stay calm, though he could feel the pressure of something unseen closing in on him.

The pliers weren't ordinary—they were haunted, or so the old man in the market had said. "Ghosts can linger in anything," the man had warned. Tom had laughed it off then, but now, sitting on this nearly empty bus, he felt the weight of their presence.

Suddenly, the bus jerked to a stop. He glanced outside. The driver was gone, and the street had transformed into a shadowy alleyway. A chill swept through the bus as if something otherworldly had climbed aboard.

Out of nowhere, a small drill rolled down the aisle. It made an odd whirring noise, spinning on its own, and Tom knew he wasn't alone. He could sense the weight of invisible eyes watching him. His phone buzzed in his pocket. He pulled it out to find a message from an unknown number: **\*\*\*THEY KNOW.\*\*\***

Before he could process what was happening, a robot-like figure materialized at the front of the bus. It was old, like something from a forgotten era—dust-covered, its battery flickering weakly. It wasn't moving aggressively, but its head turned slowly toward him, its eyes glowing dimly. In one of its metallic hands, it held a tennis ball, tossing it up and down as if mocking him with the simplicity of it.

His heart raced, and in a panic, Tom clutched the pliers tightly. He could hear faint whispers around him, ghostly voices tangled with the wind. Then, something slimy brushed his leg. He looked down—there was a fish flopping next to his foot, gasping for breath as though it had just appeared out of thin air.

The bus's doors creaked open, and through the fog, the outline of the bus driver emerged—only now, the driver was transparent, his body shimmering like a phantom.

"We're almost there," the ghostly driver whispered in a voice that seemed to come from all directions.

Tom's grip tightened on the pliers as the robot slowly advanced, and the fish on the floor began to twitch, moving in sync with the ghostly voices. The tennis ball bounced eerily across the bus, its hollow sound echoing louder with each bounce.

His credit card suddenly sparked in his pocket, and the bus flickered like a dying light. Tom knew this wasn't a place he could escape—not without finishing what he had started with the haunted pliers.

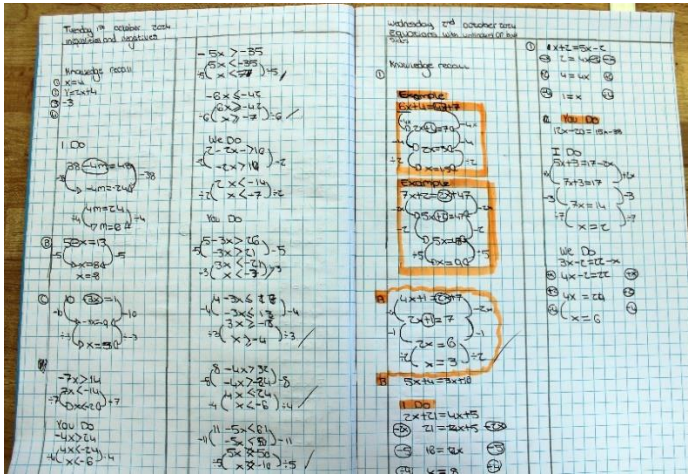
The pliers buzzed with energy, and Tom raised them high. If he could fix the bus—or maybe exorcise the strange mechanical spirit haunting it—there might be a chance.

Or he'd be trapped on this spectral bus forever.

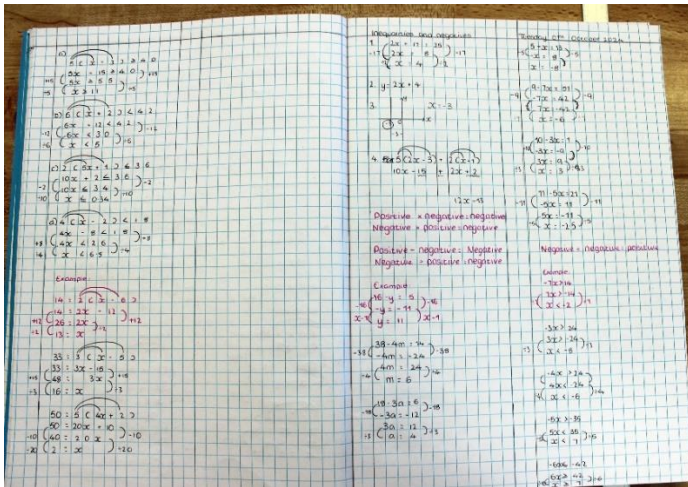


# MATHS

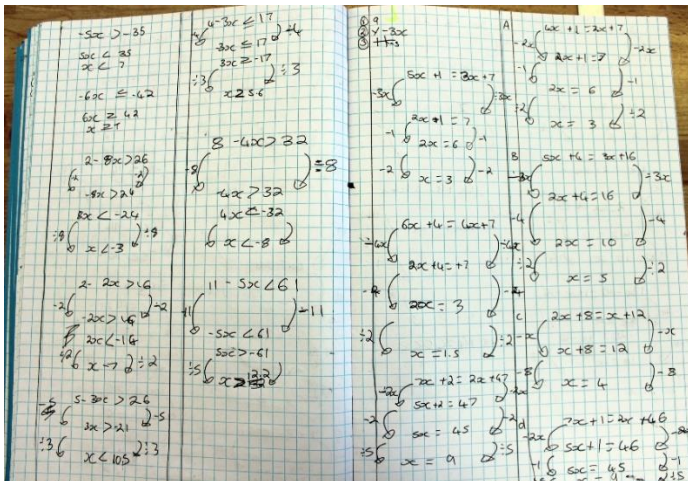
Ms Meredith was really impressed with 9xy3 who demonstrated some great algebra skills this week. They have all really embraced the topic and produced some fantastic work.



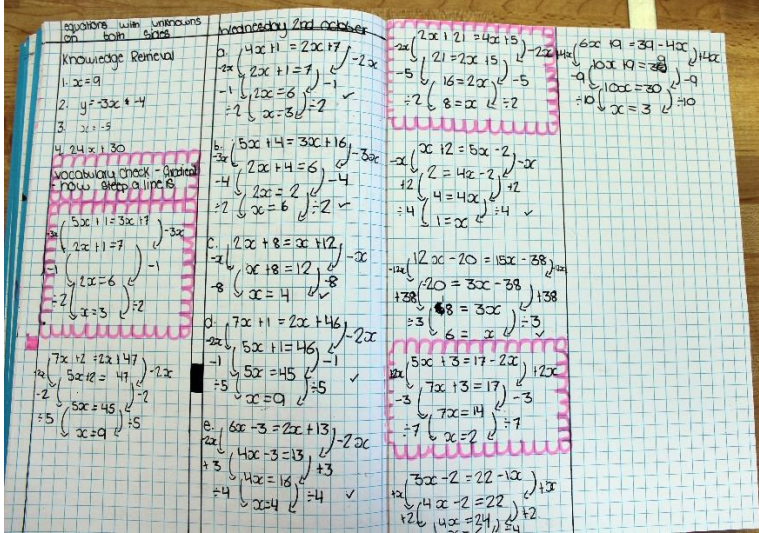
Kyann S



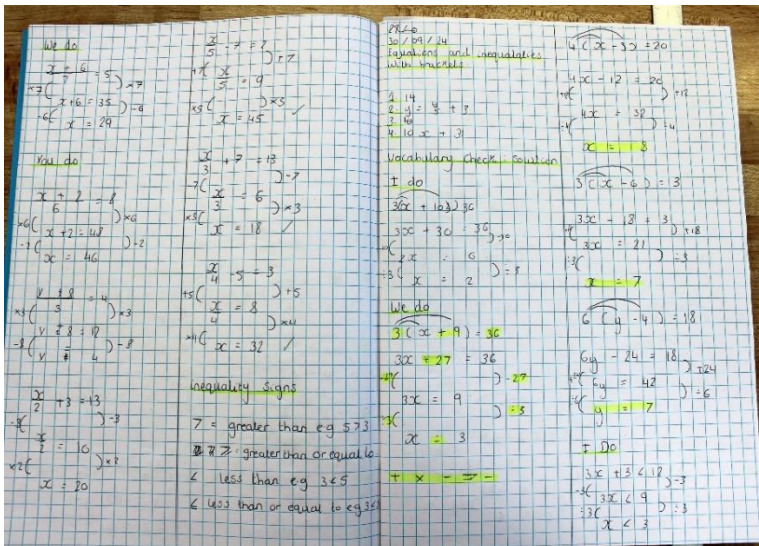
Lily S



Marlow T



Michaela H



Skye H



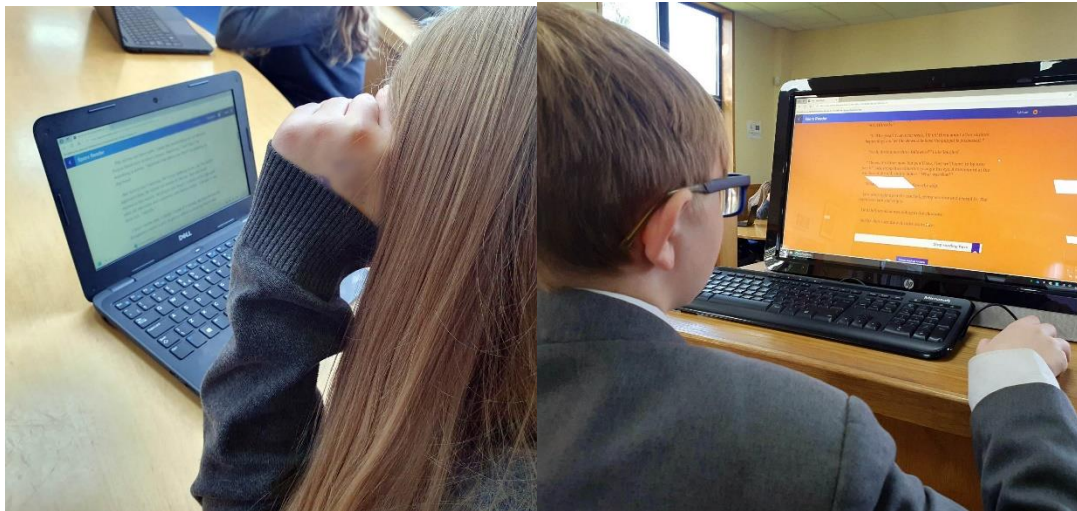
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## SPARX

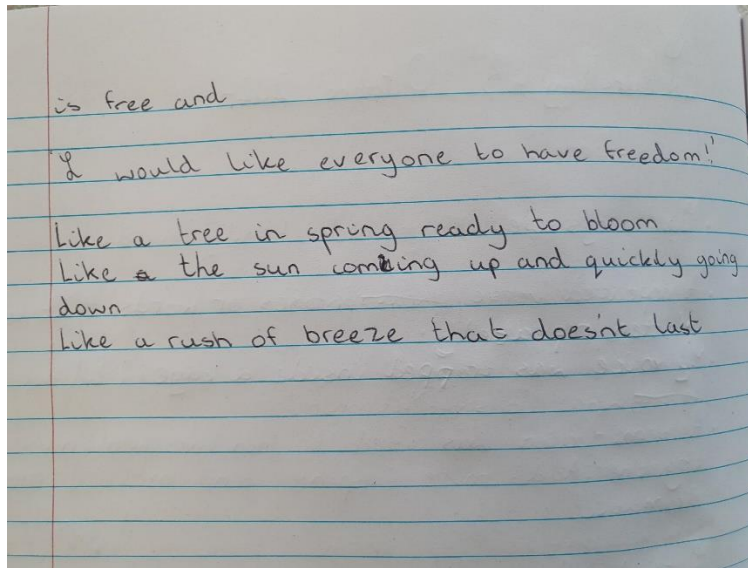
My Year 8 class are enjoying their Sparx Reader work and completing lots of books online. Sparx can be accessed in school and from home. Here we have Cody LM, Carter G, Jayden P and Tilly E from 8y1.



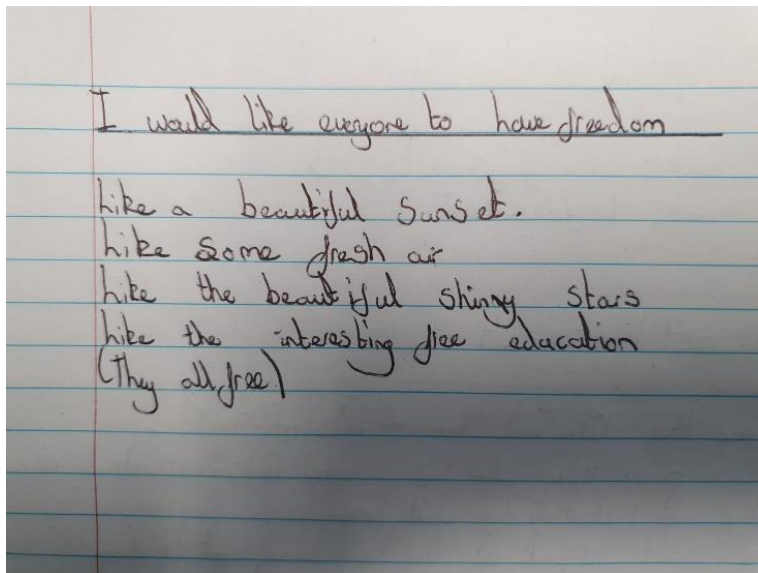


## ENGLISH

Some brilliant freedom poem openings from Year 7 English based on the poetry of Eida Wiezell.



Bella N



Iowa A



I who I would like evone to  
like an a briel flapping in  
the wind  
Like an whale swimming in  
coral reef.

Zara R

freedom and nature  
something that is similar  
over the pines, trapped by love and  
enormous wave. it is supposed to spre  
nobody owns them.  
Like a goild of joy that grows.  
Like a wave of kindness.  
Like a sea with lots of light.

Ben T

2. 'Like an enormous wave', 'Like an  
immense, vital heartbeat' and 'Like  
the moon and the river trapped by  
love'.  
I would like everyone to have freedom  
Like a bird flying in nature  
Like the sun in the sky shining down  
on us  
Like the leaves rustling in the wind.

Jordan B



She's using similes to make nature or her  
speed more interesting  
like a fast car  
like a 2d playhouse  
like that one <sup>you</sup> ~~glider~~ that gets <sup>you</sup> ~~truly~~ in the air  
with excitement  
like in 3d but with loads of games ~~available~~  
more games available

Harley W

like an enormous wave that lies down  
my heart.  
like  
like birds gliding in the air like a glider.  
Like butterflies glapping ~~by~~ like bats  
Like stars twinkling like diamonds.

Dylan P

... are ~~not~~ ~~and~~ ~~more~~ a ~~simple~~  
meaning  
2. Like all the dreams, like the moon in  
the river, like the stunning beauty.  
Like a whale diving into water.  
Like a monkey swinging from tree to tree.  
Like a hippo sleeping in a swamp.  
Like the sun beaming bright.

Kaidon S



## Fabulous Foodies

Across all year groups we have had an amazing few weeks of practical cooking. Here are some of the highlights.

Year 7: Fruit muffins to encourage cooking with fruit and learning about the melting method of cake making.



Year 8: Apple and Ginger snap glory– a layered dessert with stewed apple



Year 10: Swiss rolls- Making a fatless sponge

Apple and apple and blackberry pie– learning about seasonal food and how to make shortcrust pastry.



Year 11: Homemade hidden vegetable meatballs and spaghetti in a tomato sauce– Demonstrating a nutritious dish suitable for a 10 year old child.





## DofE

Our Silver Year 11 DofE students have been busy this week preparing for their qualifying expedition in the Brecon Beacons over the weekend. Our Year 10 Bronze participants are also preparing for their qualifying expedition in the Forest of Dean and Wye Valley in a couple of weeks! We wish them lots of luck!



Bronze - Artur P



Bronze -Phoebe A



Silver – Toby G, Alfie B & Oscar P



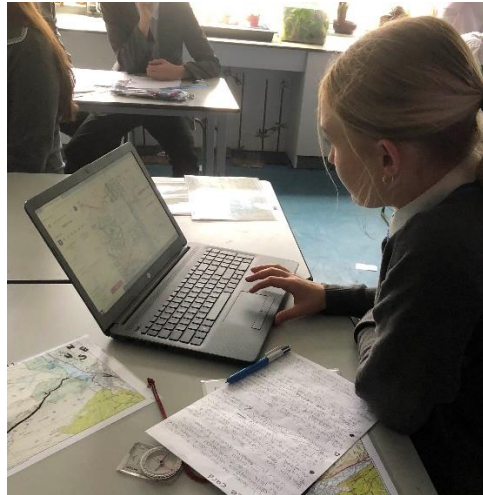
Silver – Ines L



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Silver – Katelyn B

## CHESS CLUB

There is quite a competitive atmosphere in our Lunchtime Chess Club which runs most days in P1 for different year groups! For more information please see Miss Meredith.





## SCIENCE, ARTS & CRAFTS CLUB

This week, our Science Arts & Crafts Club members had a very energetic session as they attempted to make ice-cream in a bag! Once they had put all the bagged-up ingredients into another larger bag with ice and salt, they then had to shake it, for quite some time. I think they enjoyed the results!



Miles W & Alfie Y

Jonah R & Jake D



Cohen P & Alex P



Alfie, Miles & Layla



Eden Mae H

## CHELSEA'S CHOICE

A massive thank you to the wonderful performers from Narrative Alchemy who visited The Dean Academy this week to perform their hard-hitting play, Chelsea's Choice, to our Year 9 students. The play aims to highlight the dangers of unhealthy and exploitative relationships through the telling of Chelsea's story, offering advice and guidance to anyone who may be affected by these issues



## Did Chelsea's Story get you thinking?

Safeguarding children and young people in Gloucestershire



### Sexual Exploitation

We are running **Chelsea's Story** in schools in Gloucestershire because we want you to be safe and happy and able to recognise unhealthy, exploitative relationships.

Sexual exploitation is difficult to explain and everyone's situation is different. It can mean that someone may be forcing or coercing you to have sexual contact with them, or other people. It could also be an adult taking advantage of a situation you are in to get you to have sex with them. This could include sexual contact in return for money, alcohol, somewhere to stay, gifts or favours.

If this is happening to you, it is definitely not your fault!

Have you been affected by the performance?  
Are you worried about sexual exploitation?  
Do you think that you or someone else might be at risk?

If your answer to any of the above questions is Yes, you need to ask for help - turn over for what to do next.



### What to do next

- Speak to someone at school, e.g. teacher, counsellor, link worker, nurse - they will get you the support you need.

### Other useful numbers

- Gloucestershire Police: Non emergency 101 Or emergency 999
- Childline: 0800 11 11
- NSPCC: 0800 8005000

### Other places for help if you need to talk about how you feel

- TTC: ring: 0300 303 8080 - free, anonymous phone line  
text: 07520 634063
- Samaritans: ring: 116 123 email: jo@samaritans.org  
ring: 0800 1111
- Childline: text: YM to 85258  
<https://www.childline.com/>
- Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/>
- Mindful: <https://www.mindful.org/>
- CrimeStoppers: ring: 0800 555 111 (100% anonymous, Always)
- Gloucestershire Self Harm Helpline: (5pm to 10pm daily): [www.gloucestershireselfharm.org](http://www.gloucestershireselfharm.org)  
Freephone: 0800 801 0606 text: 07537 410022  
<https://www.onyourmindgloucestershire.org/>
- Glas NHS: <https://www.glasnhs.uk/>
- Hopa House - Sexual Assault Referral Centre: <http://www.hopahouse.nhs.uk/>
- Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Support: <http://www.glasraas.org/>
- Safe Teenage Relationship Education & Empowerment Team (STREET)  
<http://www.gdass.org.uk/support-for-young-people/>

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership





## ARCHERY SUCCESS FOR AVA & AMBER

We are so proud of Ava and Amber, in Year 9, who recently represented Gloucestershire at the Grand Western Archery Society Intercounties where they both did brilliantly, with Ava beating all the U21 women recurve archers to become Supreme Lady Recurve Champion and Amber finishing in third place. The Gloucestershire Recurve team which contained both Ava and Amber were also crowned champions at the event.

It has been a successful season for the twins with Ava finishing in second place on the Junior Archery Series at the end of August.

Amber was also successful and claimed Silver at Stage 5 of the Junior Archery Series at Wallingford and was awarded Gold at the first indoor competition of the year with a fantastic score and a new Personal Best!





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**IF YOUR CHILD IS FEELING UNDER THE WEATHER,**

**IT CAN BE HARD TO KNOW IF YOU SHOULD SEND THEM TO SCHOOL OR NOT.**



**UNLESS THEY HAVE A TEMPERATURE OF 38 DEGREES OR ABOVE, THEY'RE USUALLY GOOD TO GO.**

**MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.**

SEARCH NHS SCHOOL ILLNESS GUIDANCE.



HM Government



[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)



## SCHOOL SUPPORT COURSE

We are trying to raise awareness about FULLY FUNDED courses to parents and carers in our area as the government (ESFA - Education Skills Funding Agency) have provided funding in our school's area. This is aimed to support parents and carers who are looking to get back into work or change their career, by offering them an opportunity for them to gain the necessary skills for free, for a school support job that fits in with their family.

**STUDY SMART**  
Free Online Courses

**Aspire Education**

**ncfe. | cache** | Education & Skills Funding Agency

**Fully Funded School Support Course**

[www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online)

**Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3**

CACHE Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent  
 CACHE Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours  
 CACHE Certificate in the Principles of SEN

**Six Week Course**  
 Mon - Fri  
 1st session 9:30 - 11:30am  
 2nd session 12:30 - 2:30pm  
 3rd session 4 - 4:30pm  
 ( optional session for reflection and support if needed)

Available In the following levels:

Level 1:	CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools
	CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment
	CACHE Level 1 Certificate in Wellbeing
	Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace
Level 2:	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Level 3:	Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

[www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online)

Please go to our website address above, for more information.

\*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that **MUST** be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.