

December 2022

DENE MAGNA SCHOOL & SIXTH
FORM

DENE MAGNIFIER



News from the headteacher

This term has been jam-packed as exams are quickly approaching. Please see all the amazing things our students have done this term.

Points of interest

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Key Dates for Next Term

Students return to Week A April 17th

Monday 17th April - Y9 HPV Vaccination

Wednesday 19th April - Head Boy & Girl Interviews

Wednesday 26th April - Y8 Black Country Museum Trip

Wednesday 10th May - Start of Exams

Thursday 11th May - Y7 Parents Evening

Friday 12th May - Y10 Prefects Assembly

Monday 22nd May - Y10 Trip to Glos Docks

**[Click here to see the Term Dates for both
2022 - 2023 and 2023 - 2024](#)**

Student Voice

Here you hear from our Head Boy and Head Girl...

Hello everyone; I hope the rain isn't dampening your mood and you all remembered Mother's Day. It's been a busy period at school this past month for everyone. Yr11s having more mock exams in preparation for May GCSEs. There are also school trips coming up, so we hope you all have a fabulous time and learn a lot. Enjoy the experience.

Another very important announcement is that we would like to congratulate our very own receptionist Miss Underwood on her fantastic achievement of being called up for the England Women's rugby team! Not all heroes wear capessome wear rugby boots!

Parents' evening is looming for everyone. We wish you all well and hope you get the feedback you want.

I am sad to say that this is my last month as Head Boy and Macy's as Head Girl, and we hope some of you will be putting yourselves forward for these positions if you have any questions, you are more than welcome to approach either of us. We will try to help if we can. All we can say is that it has been a great privilege representing you all, and we would recommend it.

It won't be long until the end of the school year, so work hard, everybody.

Finally, Macy and I want to say goodbye as our roles end. Please feel free to stop us if you see us around the school for a chat before we leave.

Hasta la vista!

Kieran and Macy

Catering

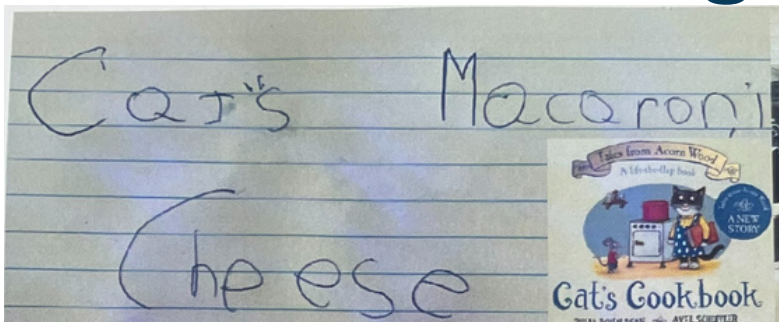
Our students have been extremely busy this term!


Firstly, the Year 11 students have been preparing for their controlled assessments and exams. They have all been working hard, and we know they will smash it! As you can see from these snaps, they made some yummy sausage rolls and desserts!



Catering


Cat's Macaroni Cheese



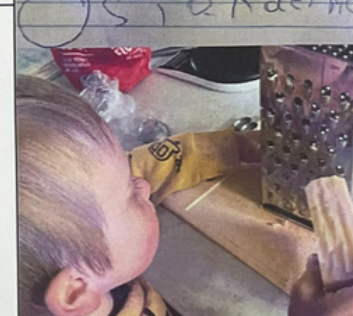



Ingredients


1. 500ml milk
2. 4 tbsp plain flour
3. 50g butter
4. 150g grated strong cheddar
5. 250g macaroni
6. ¼ tsp mustard powder




1. Pour 500ml milk into a large saucepan and add 4 tbsp plain flour and 50g butter.
2. Turn on the heat to medium and start to whisk the mixture. Keep whisking fast as the butter melts and the mixture comes to the boil – the flour will disappear and the sauce will begin to thicken.
3. Whisk for another 2 mins while the sauce bubbles then stir in ¼ tsp mustard powder and 100g grated strong cheddar cheese until melted. Season to taste.
4. Cook macaroni according to packet instructions.
5. Mix the macaroni into the cheese sauce and top with the other 50g of cheese. Cook in the oven on 180°C until the top is golden. Enjoy!










Cat has cooked a tasty meal.



It's macaroni cheese!

All her friends hold out their plates. Second helpings, please!

Careers Information...

We have had a jam-packed term! Our very own Post 18 Careers Fair, with 25 exhibitors, was a great success! Our Year 11's had the opportunity to attend Gloucestershire College's Taster Day, and the Year 12's participated at the Bristol UK University & Apprenticeship Fair to help them start thinking about their Post-18 Options.

We have a Year 11 Parents Evening on the 23rd of March coming up: myself, Mrs Balmer, our Sixth Form Head and representatives from GlosCol will be present to help with any questions you may have about the next steps after school.

On the 30th of March, our Year 12's have a talk from Somerville College, University of Oxford, planned.

Our Year 10's and 12s are busy planning their work experience, which needs to be completed by the end of July. Any year 10s that still need to undertake or arrange their work experience by the end of June need to spend three days making career-related learning with me during timetable suspension week.

To say a little bit about Unifrog, we are working hard to embed the use of this tool in schools to help deliver careers-related learning. Despite what its name might suggest, this tool isn't just about assisting students in applying to university; it has many valuable tools to help you think about your next steps after school and beyond. You can explore job profiles in the Careers Library, e.g. the skills and qualities you need for different jobs, the working hours, the average salary and the routes into them. You can take personality quizzes to help you think about the type of career you might be interested in. You can explore apprenticeship information; we now use it to administer work experience. Unifrog can be used at home and in school to discover helpful information and help you learn about yourself and the types of careers you might be interested in.

I have recently added a couple of widgets to our Labour Market Information (LMI) page on the school website. These can be used to look at the UK National Average information about the world of the word and explore different careers in more detail by [clicking here](#).

We also supported National Careers Week 6th - 10th March!

Check out our Dene Magna Careers Facebook page for updates and more Careers information!



Careers Information...



GLOUCESTERSHIRE LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION

JAN 2023

Top ten occupations	Job postings	% of all jobs posted
Care Workers and Home Carers	1,339	5.4%
Other Administrative Occupations	952	3.8%
Sales Related Occupations	761	3.1%
Nurses	679	2.7%
Programmers and Software Development Professionals	652	2.6%
Customer Service Occupations	631	2.5%
Kitchen and Catering Assistants	586	2.4%
Elementary Storage Occupations	485	1.9%
Cleaners and Domestic	456	1.8%
Nursing Auxiliaries and Assistants	419	1.7%

Job postings:

24,888 ↑ + 4,014

Claimant Count (unemployed):

8,740 ↑ +70
2.2% of population aged 16-64

2021 Census Results in Gloucestershire

19.7%

of all residents aged 16 years and over in employment were employed in **professional occupations** - making it the largest broad occupation category.

13.1%

of people were employed in **associate professional and technical occupations**.

13.8%

of people were employed as **managers, directors and senior officials**.

This means that almost half of people in employment in Gloucestershire (46.5%) were employed in managerial, professional or associate professional occupations

Vacancies by broad occupation	Job Postings
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	1,726
Professional Occupations	5,519
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	3,962
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	2,635
Skilled Trades Occupations	1,887
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	2,881
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	2,203
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	1,326
Elementary Occupations (eg. agricultural, construction, process plant occupations, goods storage, administration, personal services, cleaning, security, and sales occupations.)	2,744

Top hiring companies in Gloucestershire:

1. NHS
2. Gloucestershire County Council
3. General Electric (GE)
4. Ultra Group Company
5. Northrop Grumman
6. Safran
7. Amazon
8. The Orders of St John Care Trust
9. Barchester Plc
10. Whitbread



education@gfirstlep.com



www.skillsportalgloucs.com/career-coach

Careers Information...

In Design and Technology, we had two very successful 'Make Days' with the year 11 students concentrating on their coursework. It was brilliant to witness the students getting fully involved with their products in the workshops, and the department had a really fantastic atmosphere. Every student is making an individual piece of work for their coursework which is 50% of their GCSE, so it was great to see the students focusing and working hard.

Year 9 have been opting for their subjects for Key Stage 4 in recent months. As a department, we have been overwhelmed and invigorated with the numbers (120) opting for one of the three department subjects (Design & Technology Textiles, Hospitality & Catering and Product Engineering) These are exciting times, as the department rooms will be getting a 'makeover' to accommodate our new curriculum changes - more to follow soon!

Some 40 students have opted for the Technical Award in Product Engineering. We have made this change as we feel the course offers students increased vocational training that they could use for further engineering study as Apprentices in one of the many engineering companies in Gloucestershire or for pursuing an A Level in Product Design at Dene Magna and then beyond to university. We are looking for local sponsorship and support for this course - funding for curriculum materials and equipment or visits to local engineering companies would be highly welcomed and help us make the course really appealing in the future aim that the students contribute to one of the many engineering sectors in British businesses.



Y7 Trip to Goodrich Castle

Year 7 students had a fantastic (and thankfully not snowy!) day out at Goodrich Castle on March 10th. The visit was used to support the work that they have been doing in class on the Norman Conquest and how William the Conqueror controlled England after 1066. Year 7 have done lots of work in class about castle development, so this was a great opportunity to go and explore a real Medieval castle. They were able to see the castle's defences, pretend to be guards and take in the views from the top of the keep.

Students completed an Inter House treasure hunt competition; the tie-breaker question being who could get the best team photo. Mr Brady picked the winner - 7F2 vs 7D1 for their dramatic re-enactment of a battle - who will receive 10 House points each to go towards the House Cup - well done!

All of the students were a credit to the school and the Goodrich Castle staff were very complimentary about them.



Student of the Month

'students who always work really hard no matter what'

7F1	McKenzie Burns
7F2	Nola Bent
8F1	Brandon Davison
9F1	Jack Matthews
9F2	Darcy Baker
10F1	Shumirai Muzorewa
11F1	Caitlin Jones
11F2	Macy Phillips

7J1	Ewan Roberts
7J2	Thomas Rawlings
8J1	Seren Brown
9J1	Fran Stokes-Richardson
9J2	Danny Dunthorn
10J1	Aiden Moore
11J1	Demi Long
11J2	Luna Kelly

7W1	Iris Brady
8W1	Katherine Beechey
8W2	Annabel Lyons
9W1	Iris James
10W1	Tyler Baldwin
10W2	Ruby Blackwell
11W1	Sophia Benatar

7D1	Issy Noble
8D1	Olivia Farbowski
8D2	Courtney Emery
9D1	Ella Jones
10D1	Johnny Neville
10D2	Kacey Tilling
11D1	Hayley Jade Knight

Parking - Before/ after school

Can we ask parents and carers collecting students after school to respect the disabled parking spaces, and not park in these spaces unless you hold the disabled badge, and not to park in front of the blue gate accessing the playground. Could we also remind you all not to park on the double yellow lines and across the roundabout. Buses turning into the school require the full turning circle when arriving at the road entrance.

Over the past few weeks there have been some near misses with vehicles parked inappropriately, please assist us in ensuring that someone doesn't get hurt in the future

Thank you

School opening Times

Whilst we appreciate that we all live busy lives, and trying to coordinate children being dropped off and getting to work on time can be difficult, can we please remind parents that school is only open to students from 8am in the morning.

Thank you

Community Work

This lovely team of volunteers from NatWest in Gloucester recently came to do some community work to paint our Math block. They did a fantastic job; we really appreciate it and know the students do too. Thank you again, everyone!



Our Community Bookings Programme

**A few clubs have finished over the winter,
so we have availability on our mini Astro
pitch in the evenings.**

**If you are interested in our facilities, please
get in touch with Mr Beard at:
a.beard@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk**



Foley House News

Hi to you all

This term really has flown by, and it is the term when the year 11s have their final trial exams.

This exam week which they have just had is a real eye-opener, and it is very intense and deliberately so. Inevitably it has led to tears and a little stress by some, but overall it is aimed at ensuring they now begin to really focus and understand what they must do to achieve their best possible greats.

If you are a parent of a year 11 student, please feel free to contact me if you feel that your son/daughter needs any extra support or if, indeed, you are worried about them in any way.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

For this month, I have based it on top all-round performance for this term. As always, there were a number of students whom I could have awarded this to, but my choices are;

- 7F1 - McKenzie Burns
- 7F2 - Nola Bent
- 8F1 - Brandon Davison
- 9F1 - Jack Matthews
- 9F2 - Darcy Baker
- 10F1 - Shumirai Muzorewa
- 11F1 - Caitlin Jones
- 11F2 - Macy Phillips

Congratulations to them all; certificates of achievement are on their way.

ATTENDANCE

I cannot possibly write a newsletter without mentioning attendance. I say this every time, but it is the most critical area in your son's/daughter's education, as without good attendance, quite simply they will not achieve their maximum potential.

There are a number of students who still have 100% attendance and this is a massive achievement so a big well done to the following;

7F1

Amie Cowan
McKenzie Burns
Jacob Rodway

Zac Halifax
Izzie Waite

7F2

Maisie Morgan
Miles Cook
Lily Fisher
Tanatswa Muzorewa

8F1

Rudi Cook
Milly Kujawa
Molly Kujawa
Ophelia Chapman-Brown

10F1

Chloe Robinson
Shumirai Muzorewa

9F1

Jack Matthews

11F2

Finlay Norris
Tyler Hopkins

A massive well done to all of the above, and thanks so much for your support. As a house, we continue to lead the way on attendance, and I really do believe we will stretch our lead still further next term.

INTERHOUSE MATCHES

These are well underway for all year groups but the only finalised results so far have been for year 7.

Both the boys and girls played football on this occasion, and it makes me very pleased and proud to announce the following results;

7F1 boys came first in the boys matches
7F2 boys came second in the boys matches
7F1 girls came second in girls matches
7F2 girls came fifth in the boys matches

This is fab, massive well done to all of those that took part. Whilst discussing sporting issues, it is great to see we have two of this term's PE top achievers in our house, they are;

Annabel Sanders from 7F1
Lacy Jones from 8F1

Well done girls!!

That's about it from me, I am very much looking forward to the next couple of weeks of holiday, although no doubt I will be busy supporting the year 11s with their maths!!

Cheers for now

Ashley



Dowty House News

February falls in the middle of a very short 5-week half term in school - which we manage to squeeze one hell of a lot into!

Throughout February, Dowty students have worked hard to contribute to their houses across many areas. The accelerated reader has been a particular success over recent weeks, with 8D2 being the tutor group with the highest score across the school, which is fantastic! Please continue to read and complete the quizzes - this will contribute to house points and benefit students' attainment in the long run.

With Year 11 entering their final set of trial exams, actual GCSE exams are looming in the not-too-distant future, which has given rise to the launch of our prefect roles for our two Year 10 tutor groups. We are taking applications until the 30th of March - please get your letters in for the roles of Head Boy/Girl, House Captain, House Monitor, Head Mentor and Prefect. I thoroughly enjoy hearing how our Year 10's want to contribute to the house over the coming year!

There have been other reasons to congratulate students in Dowty house this month - Chloe Bishop 8D1 has joined police cadets, which sounds like the start of an exciting career, as well as a special mention for Alex Molnar in 7D1 who admirably helped out the local community by clearing roads/pavements with friends when poor weather hit.

I would like to congratulate the following students who have been awarded Student of the Month for February; this has been based around the following title: 'rewarding the students who always work really hard no matter what'.

7D1 - Issy Noble
8D1 - Olivia Farbowski
8D2 - Courtney Emery
9D1 - Ella Jones
10D1 - Johnny Neville
10D2 - Kacey Tilling
11D1 - Hayley Jade Knight

Looking ahead, we have sports inter-house competitions coming up this term. I know that Dowty students are really looking forward to getting stuck to try and earn valuable house points - the boys will be competing in football and the girls in various sports depending on their year group.

In addition to this, we continue to work hard on our attendance which is slowly but surely improving week by week - please try your very best to be in school every day; that way, you will make the most progress. There is the added incentive of the amazon voucher draw each week, which anyone can win as long as they have 100% attendance for that individual week - current prizes are £20 and £30 for KS3 and KS4, respectively!

It is most pleasing to see our progress on the 'Perfect Week' leaderboard; Dowty house has increased by an incredible 7% since January, closing the gap on the rest of the houses considerably - Remember, students are awarded a perfect week if they have 100% attendance, no demerits and no lates!

Best wishes

Mr Underwood
Stronger Together

Wilson House News

Another term day, we have just one full term left to go! Time to have a look back on some of the great achievements so far this term.

Our very own Dennis Cholefko won the House Talent Show with his amazing piano skills! Well done Dennis, we are so proud of you and well done to all Wilson students who entered!

The accelerated reader challenge continues and here are the results so far:

Spring 3 winners are 8D2					
Tutor	Points	Tutor	Points	Tutor	Points
7D1	51.9	8D1	59.8	9D1	4.9
7F1	31.7	8D2	125.7	9F1	29.2
7F2	67.9	8F1	3.9	9F2	0
7J1	82.5	8J1	38.9	9J1	2.8
7J2	0	8W1	55.7	9J2	12.8
7W1	16.3	8W2	81.7	9W1	42.9

Running house point totals

Dowty	1283.5
Foley	1444.4
Jenner	1376.9
Wilson	1223.7

Since September, we've read 1497 books!

Plenty of work to be done on accelerated reader, with 7W1 having the lowest score of all of the Wilson tutor groups! Let's make a difference over Easter and change these scores around!

Our Student of the Month for February, which was based on the highest number of positives were:

7W1 - Iris Brady	10W1 - Tyler Baldwin
8W1 - Katherine Beechey	10W2 - Ruby Blackwell
8W2 - Annabel Lyons	11W1 - Sophia Benatar
9W1 - Iris James	

Well done to you all....who will be on March's list!

Inter - House Matches

At the time of writing the house news, house matches are currently being played and I hope to report in the next newsletter that we have lots of wins in Football, Handball, Basketball and Netball!

Attendance

We continue to work hard towards the attendance trophy and we currently sit in a disappointing 3rd place.....but it is sooooo close!!

Tutors and tutees are working super hard to ensure we all aim to be in school and be doing our best, our breakdown by house is:

Foley - 95.11% Jenner - 94.43% Wilson - 94.35% Dowty - 93.75%

Well done to 8W1 who won the Wilson Attendance League for the spring term and who will all be awarded their treat at the end of term!

- Pupils with no absence are 1.3 times more likely to achieve level 4 or above, and 3.1 times more likely to achieve level 5 or above, than pupils that missed 10-15% of all sessions

This really highlights the importance of being in school, ready to learn and achieve your best.

Perfect Week

Our 'perfect week' challenge is based on, 100% attendance, no negatives and no late marks. As a house we are making great progress in this! Well done to all of you who contribute positively to this each week!

1st	Foley	0.6797
2nd	Wilson	0.6547
3rd	Jenner	0.6381
4th	Dowty	0.6336

Merits

Congratulations to the following students who are the highest over and above scorers in each tutor group:

7W1 - Iris Brady, Megan Matthews and Ocre Marshall - Andrews

8W1 - Katherine Beechey, Jessica Beechey and Connor Whitehouse

8W2 - Annabel Lyons, Teagan Lee and Isabelle Brown

9W1 - Iris James, Darcey Terry - Lush and Sofia Retsis

10W1 - Tyler Badlwin, Abi Marshall - Andrews and Lauren Kear

10W2 - Ruby Blackwell, Tiesha - Louise Harding and Paige Drew

11W1 - Sophia Benatar, Sam Drew and Keilah Grace Tobias

Mrs Hoare, tutors and myself, all hope you all have a fantastic Easter break, and we will see you with a renewed energy after half term! Stay safe and enjoy! Mrs Hill

Jenner House News

We are nearly two thirds through this academic year! I, for one, can't quite believe how quickly time is flying. We will be in the Summer Term before we know it.

Attendance

Looking at the latest data for attendance, Jenner House is currently 94.42% That figure sees us remain in SECOND PLACE!! Dowty and Wilson are hot on our tails!!

The breakdown of tutor group attendance is as follows:

1st - 9J2: 95.87% 5th - 11J1: 94.21%
2nd - 10J1: 95.56% 6th - 9J1: 94.14%
3rd - 11J2: 95.07% 7th - 7J2: 93.96%
4th - 7J1: 95.02% 8th - 8J1: 92.23%

The following students still have 100% attendance since September, which is incredible!

11J1: 11J2:
Kieran Ballinger Harry Goodman
Callum Beard Warren Betteridge

10J1: 9J1:
Aiden Moore Mujeeb Nauman
Charlie Goodman Millie Trigg
Chay Freeman
Logan Watkins
Alex Carpenter
Emily Swanson

9J2:
Danny Dunthorne
Callum Lancett
Edward Manneh

8J1:
Iona Moore
Jake Beard

7J1:
Allegra Harman
Scarlett Roberts

7J2:
Zlatka Zhileva
Molly Witts

Huge congratulations to you all...you are contributing so positively to the Jenner attendance and I'm very proud of you all! Keep it up!

Students with 100% attendance are 1.3 times more likely to achieve Level 4 or above in their GCSEs and 3.1 times more likely to achieve Level 5 or above, than students that have missed 10-15% of all sessions. This highlights the importance of being ready to learn and achieving your best in school.

During a House Council meeting at the start of the year, the students voted to have an attendance league, where each week, tutor groups have "fixtures" against each other, and the winner, at the end of the league, wins a prize of their choice!

I am so proud of 10J1 who are currently sitting at the top of the League Table...they're determined to get that prize! Well done!

League Table							
Place	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	% Diff	Points
1st	10J1	2	2	0	0	11.37	6
8th	11J1	2	2	0	0	1.53	6
11th	7J2	2	1	0	1	1.09	3
12th	11J2	2	1	0	1	3.96	3
15th	7J1	2	1	0	1	0.26	3
17th	9J1	2	1	0	1	-0.54	3
26th	9J2	2	0	0	2	-5.38	0
27th	8J1	2	0	0	2	-5.57	0

Merits

Jenner students continue to gain merits for outstanding work in lessons...**4974 Above & Beyond** merits so far this year, which is amazing! Congratulations to every student that has contributed to that number!!!

Our top Above & Beyond students in Jenner are:

Ewan Roberts (78)
Emily Burnard (75)
Dougie Matthews (64)
Allegra Harman (64)

Cosmo Hudson (62)
Heath rawlings (60)
Chloe Pflug (60)
Ada Savidge (59)
Martha Nelmes (59)
Scarlett Roberts (57)



Jenner House News

Congratulations to each and everyone of you!
Every student named here is from Year 7 and also from 7J1 - Mr Pike already describes you as the best tutor group in the school and you're currently proving him right! Well Done all of you!

Perfect Week:

The 'perfect week' challenge is based on 100% attendance, no negatives and no late marks.
As a house, we are making significant progress in this! Well done to all of you who contribute positively to this each week!

Year To Date:				
House average	0.6336	0.6797	0.6381	0.6547
Place	4th	1st	3rd	2nd

We've crept back from 4th to 3rd over the past couple of weeks but we need to do more to catch up with Wilson and Foley Houses.

Students of the Month:

Each month I ask tutors to nominate one student from their tutor group to award Student of the Month.

There are different criteria each month and January was: 'Students who work really hard, no matter what!'

7J1 - Ewan Roberts
7J2 - Thomas Rawlings
8J1 - Seren Brown
9J1 - Fran Stokes-Richardson
9J2 - Danny Dunthorne
10J1 - Aiden Moore
11J1 - Demi Long
11J2 - Luna Kelly

Huge congratulations to all of these students. I am so proud of you all! You are making the right choices...keep it up!

Comments from LB

I am extremely proud of all the students in Jenner who consistently 'GET IT RIGHT'!
The rest of this term will see interviews for all Year 10 students wanting a senior role and I look forward to hearing their ideas about how we can make Jenner House even better.
Year 11 students will be revising hard in readiness for their exams which will start when we come back from Easter break and I wish them all the luck in the world as they go through this challenging time.
Myself, Miss Beard and Mrs Freeman are all here for you whenever you need us!
Have a wonderful Easter break and I look forward to the sunnier, warmer days when we return in the Summer Term.
Mrs Laura Bendall-Burt



School & Community Games

Well done, all Forest of Dean Primary School runners at the Gloucestershire County Cross Country. We had 3 runners go through to the nationals. Thanks to Elliot for organising with his team & Newent School and hosting the event.



Well done to all the FoD primary schools at the Panathlon Challenge. Thank you to Chris for running the event - Congratulations to 1st place Tibberton Community Primary School & Early Years, 2nd St John's CofE Academy 3rd St White's Primary School. Thanks to Hartpury for their student leaders



This term was the Primary Netball Forest of Dean Finals, with some fantastic competition. A big thank you to Newent for hosting and their sports leaders for their help running the event. Another big thank you to Janice & Sandra from Lyndean Netball Club, who were super umpires. Hope brook, both A & B teams took the Netball win. Fantastic effort by Primrose Hill & Offa's Mead, who took the silver medal positions!

