

DENE MAGNA SCHOOL & SIXTH  
FORM

# DENE MAGNIFIER

## News from the headteacher

Another busy half term and the sun has finally started to shine! We are delighted to welcome our new Head Girl and Boy to their roles. Ella and Noah will be stepping up to fill the shoes left by Alice and JJ as they are now into their exams. Amongst the busy activities going on, we have Y11 and Y13 students sitting their exams and we wish them all the best. Thanks as ever for your support of everything we do here at Dene Magna.



# Key Dates for Next Term

Students return to Week A on Monday the 3rd of June

**4th June - Photographer on site**

**5th June - Cheltenham Science Festival Trip**

**6th June - Y6 Induction Welcome Evening**

**10th - 14th June - Y7 Spanish Students in**

**24th - 28th June - Y6 Induction Week**

**1st - 5th July - Timetable Suspension**

**11th July - Sports Day**

**[Click here to see the Term Dates for both 2023 - 2024 and 2024 - 2025](#)**

# Student Voice

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

**Hello all,**

**I can't believe my time as Head Girl is up already! It has gone by so quickly. I'm very grateful for my time as Head Girl and everything it has taught me, and thank you all for supporting JJ and me throughout.**

**Sadly, this is our last year with Mr Brady as our Headteacher. I'd like to thank him for doing such a fantastic job over the previous years, and I'm happy he was our Headteacher for our time here. I also wish the new Headteacher good luck and hope his time with us will be as successful as Mr Brady's.**

**Congratulations to Noah and Ella! I'm sure you will be fantastic as Head Boy and Girl, and I wish you the best of luck. Also, congratulations to all new senior students. Use your roles as opportunities to make a change for the better in our school. You will all be brilliant!**

**As we sit our exams, we cannot believe how fast everything has gone by. We'll be leaving next month. That's just unbelievable! Best of luck to everyone who's currently sitting their GCSEs.**

**I hope everyone has a great summer. Thank you for the last time, everyone.**

**Alice.**

# MFL

Our Language Ambassadors are hard at work creating Interhouse competitions with a global twist! They're focusing on Asia this term, aiming to explore this vibrant continent's diverse cultures and languages.

Join us in May for our 'Duoleague' where pupils can learn Asian languages on Duolingo and win exciting prizes! Plus, don't miss out on our MFL Asia Bingo – complete the grid to earn inter-house points and enjoy a movie during lunchtime at the end of May.

Have questions or need a bingo sheet? Head to Team MFL for assistance. Let's celebrate language, culture, and teamwork together!

Learning an Asian language using the schools

## DUOLEAGUE

is:

A fun way to win prizes..

gain inter-house points...

& compete with friends.

## MFL Asia Events

From DM Language Ambassadors

### MFL Asia Bingo

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Collect from L2 break or lunch. Bingo for Year 7-9.

### This half term:

- Bingo- gain interhouse points and movie entry with a complete grid. End date: Mon 20th May
- Duoleague to practice Asian languages.
- League winner to receive a prize!

# 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](mailto:a.beard@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk)



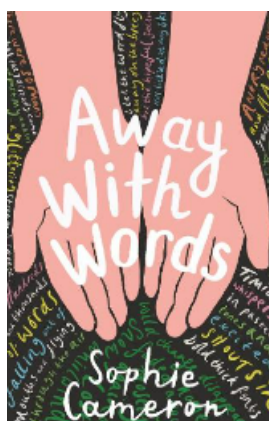
# Staff Teen Reading Book Club

This year, a number of the staff at Dene Magna have joined a Teen Reading book club led by Mr Marden. We aim to explore more of the fiction students may enjoy and have discovered some fantastic books. Some of our thoughts and recommendations are shared on a notice board in the main corridor for all to see (located at the end of the main corridor). We meet every term to share our thoughts on one book and choose the next.

Having started with 'Swan Song' by Gill Lewis, a book about a boy who discovers a love of nature when he reconnects with his grandfather after problems at school, we moved on to 'Medusa' (a retelling of the Greek myth) and then to 'As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow' (a hard-hitting tale of the Syrian war as seen through the eyes of a teenager who used to dream of being a pharmacist). Our current challenge is our biggest yet: we are picking individual books from the Carnegie Award shortlist to read and discuss at our next meeting at the end of May. The shortlist is here:

<https://yotocarnegies.co.uk/writing-shortlist-2024/> and there is such a range from poetry to prose, from Paris in World War II to an aspiring rap artist in today's London, and from a girl lost in the Australian outback to an Asante boy growing up in his small 19th-century community. Take a look and let us know which you might enjoy reading!

Keep an eye out for more information coming soon...



# Y8 Black Country Living Museum

Year 8 history students had a fantastic day visiting the Black Country Living Museum, where they were able to see and experience what they had been learning about Victorian Industrial Britain. Highlights of the day included:

- A lesson in a Victorian school (where inevitably all of the teachers got into trouble!)
- Exploring the coal mine
- Speaking to 'residents' of the town who enlightened them with incredible knowledge of the area
- Riding the old double-decker bus
- Enjoying the new fairground rides, the museum had just opened (although not many appreciated the rainstorm that hit when they were on these!)

We were able to enter houses and shops that had been painstakingly rebuilt exactly as they would have been during the Victorian era, eat delicious chips, and fill up on traditional sweets from the confectioner. We really lucked out with the weather (just!) and all students had an enjoyable and enlightening time, with many saying they would love to go back to see all of the bits we didn't have time for. The students were incredibly well-behaved and we can't wait to go back with the current Y7s next year! If anyone wants to visit this summer we highly recommend it; details can be found at <https://bclm.com/>



# MCAS APP

**Bromcom**



No.1 Choice for Cloud MIS & Finance

## What can the app do?

**This app will allow parents/carers to view students -**

Attendance

Behaviour

Classes

Reports

Timetable

Academic calendar

Update parent/carer and student details.

## Why do I need the app?

The app is a great tool for Dene Magna to communicate with parents/carers and for all student information to be in one place for parents/carers.

# Mental Health Awareness Week

It is Mental Health Awareness Week from 13th -19th May 2024.

The theme this year is Movement: moving for our mental health.

Movement is important for our mental health. But so many of us struggle to move enough. We know there are many different reasons for this, so this Mental Health Awareness Week we want to help people to find moments for movement in their daily routines. Going for a walk in your neighbourhood, putting on your favourite music and dancing around the living room, chair exercises when you're watching television – it all counts!

The link below shares some tips on how to get started:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week/boost-your-mental-health-moving-more>

## Bronze DofE

Our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students recently completed their practice walk which included an over night stay! 🚶

🌳 A huge well done to all of them, they are coming close to completing now... 😊



## BBQ Tickets

This year's Sports Day is on Thursday, July 11th, and we are, as usual, having a BBQ! For these tickets, please look on Scopay or head to reception for more information. Each ticket is £2.50. Let's hope for warm weather!

# CAREERS

WORK  
EXPERIENCE

The following have excelled  
in their work experience  
over the last term:

Lola Scrivens

Emily Swanson

Lincoln Skidnore

Immy Harding

Charlie Matthews

Natasha Powell

Lucia Dodsworth

Ella Mae Rawlings



Thank  
you!

A tree was planted for  
Dene Magna School and  
Sixth Form for taking  
part in The Young  
Reporter Scheme. We  
have offset 50kg of CO2.

Check out the Young  
Reporter Scheme here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kMECHzbT0Bc>



# CAREERS

**Well Done to our budding Young Reporters who have recently completed an intense 8 months of writing and publishing articles**

**Jack Bishop  
Poppy Jones  
Mia Collis  
Eliza Davis  
Sophia Benatar  
Tom Manning**

**Please see a link to one of Poppy Jones' (Y10) articles:  
<https://www.ledburyreporter.co.uk/news/23906108.young-reporter---authors-visit-forest---poppy-jones---dene-magna/>**

**If you think you might be interested for 2024/25 please email  
[Jo Rich](mailto:Jo.Rich@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk)**

**Follow Dene Magna Careers Facebook  
School Website Careers: [Click Here](#)  
Contact: [j.rich@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:j.rich@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk)**



## Coming Up...

**7 May 2024**

**Y12 & 13 Business Breakfast  
with Millie Brown from  
Coventry University**

**22 May 2024**

**Y12 & 13 Law Business  
Breakfast  
with Michelle Mazelin-  
Browne**

**5 June 2024**

**Years 7 & 8 Cheltenham  
Science Festival**

**12 June 2024**

**Year 12 UK University &  
Apprenticeship Fair**

## External Open Events

**Gloucestershire College  
(Gloucester Campus)  
13 May 2024 5pm-8pm**

**Latest  
Labour Market  
Information  
[Click Here](#)**

**Careers Lead  
Jo Rich**

**Tuesday 8am - 4pm  
Wednesday 8am - 4pm  
Sixth Form Wednesday  
Morning: Week B**

# Foley House News

As we enter the final stretch of the academic year, we have several exciting events and updates to share with you.

**Good Luck to Year 11s in Their Exams:**

We extend our heartfelt best wishes to our Year 11 students as they embark on their exams. Your hard work and dedication have brought you to this moment, and we believe in your ability to excel. Remember, you've got this!

**Time Flies:**

It's hard to believe how quickly time flies! As we reflect on the past academic year, we're amazed at the progress and achievements of our students. Let's continue to make the most of every moment together.

**Congratulations to Year 10s:** A big congratulations to our Year 10 students who have recently been appointed to new senior roles within the school. Your leadership and commitment are truly commendable.

**Perfect Week**

Once again, we have won this competition more than any other house. To get a perfect week, your child must be here every day that week and not gain any demerits. This year, we sit in a disappointing third position, way behind the leader, Wilson House. Let's all work together to close this gap.

**Attendance Reminder:** For the last 8 years, we have been the proud winners of the attendance house cup; this year's competition is very close; we currently sit in 2nd place at Dowty House, but there are only around 10 student absent days behind them.

Attendance is vital for your son/daughter's progress, so please do all you can to ensure your child is here every day.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and involvement in our school community. Together, we continue to inspire excellence and make a positive difference in the lives of our students.

Wishing you all a wonderful term ahead!



## Foley Senior Student Team 2024

**House Captains**  
Ko-Ko Cowmeadow  
Harry Thomas

**Vice Captains**  
Bronwyn Burford  
Phoebe Goodfield

**Sports Captains**  
Anais Cricthley  
Jack Lewis

**Vice Sports Captains**  
Darcy Baker / Tom Savidge

Jess Saunders  
Liam Jenkins  
Harrison Ryder  
Max Cruickshank

**House Mentors**  
Mia Collis  
Max Sanders  
George Sanders

Immy Harding  
Jack Matthews  
Natasha Powell

# Dowty House News

April brings about the start of the summer term which certainly feels like a long time coming!

This time of year is one of change for us in Dowty House with Year 11 sitting their exams over the weeks and months ahead and therefore starting to relinquish their roles as Dowty senior students. I would like to thank each and every one of our Year 11 senior students for their efforts and contribution to the house.

This has given the opportunity to our Year 10 Dowty students to put themselves forward for the roles for next year. We have had lots of students apply for roles across the House - including 3 students applying for Head Boy/Girl which is a testament to the aspiration of our students. Following an excellent set of interviews I am delighted to announce the senior students for the next academic year:

**Dowty Senior Student List 2024/25**

**House Captains: Tom Pugh and Liz Frost**

**Vice House Captains: Bobby Dowding and Paige Hopkins**

**Head Mentors: Max Martin, Amie King, Ella Jones, Phoebe Kalus, Elise Pearson, Holly Turley, Harry Rudge, Ava Lancett, Ethan Kibble, Dan Davis.**

**Sports Captains: Elisha Symonds and Josh Andrews Weaver**

**Progress on Attendance**

Attendance in Dowty house has always been something that we have strived to improve. I am delighted to say this is certainly becoming a reality this year, with Dowty House currently leading the way in this regard. This is thanks to the hard work that parents have been putting in to keep their students in school which will be hugely beneficial in the long run! Students have an opportunity to win amazon vouchers for good attendance - ask them about it!

**Progress on Perfect Week**

Students are awarded a perfect week if they have 100% attendance, no demerits and no lates. The house competition on this is a fairly close run thing now, with us sitting in second place, followed closely by Foley house.

**Interhouse**

There will be softball and rounders inter house events in the not too distant future for all students to get stuck into and try and win house points for their respective houses. This is a big opportunity for us to move up the house leaderboard!

**Sports Day**

Finally, you know it is the final term of the year when 'Sports Day' gets mentioned. This is coming up after May half term, so students need to be thinking within their tutor groups around which events they will be completing. We are the current Sports Day Trophy holders! We need to keep our title!

**Best wishes**

**Mr Underwood**

**'Stronger Together'**

# Wilson House News

Another term is done....albeit a very short one; we have just one term left to go! It is at this time of the year that we wish the best of luck to our Year 11 students who have started their GCSEs this week. As we say farewell and good luck to our Year 11s, the Year 10 students started their interviews for senior student roles within Wilson House. Miss Graham and I were blown away by the students' enthusiasm and passion for Wilson House and the changes they would like to make! It is with great pride to announce our Senior Students for 2024/2025

Team	PL	W	D	L	Pts	Position
8W1	8	7		1	37	1
7W2	8	6		2	32	2
10W1	7	4		3	24	3
9W1	8	3		5	20	4
7W1	7	3		4	19	5
9W2	8	2		6	16	6

We continue to work hard towards the attendance trophy. We currently sit in a disappointing third place, but we are so close to Foley now. Tutors and tutees are working super hard to ensure we all aim to be in school and do our best.

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	Wilson	0.6731
2nd	Dowty	0.6450
3rd	Foley	0.6406
4th	Jenner	0.6306

Next term will be a busy one for sure, inter house matches, sports day, welcoming our Y6's up for Induction Week and timetable suspension.....phew!!

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

<u>House Captains</u> Amber Fransham Curtis Higgins	
<u>Vice House Captains</u> Georgie Dix Iris James	<u>Mentors</u> Annika Deering Isla Allen Imogen Hadfield Ellie Hayward Miruna Zimcenco Dylan Davies Aaron Perrett Stan Lock Wayne Walding Sofia Retsis
<u>Sports Captains</u> Macy Walby Darcey Terry-Lush	

Well done to all of you who have secured Senior Student Roles. Everyone in Wilson is really excited to work with you over the next year.

## Inter-House Matches and Sports Day

This term, we see Rounders and Softball interhouse and the elusive Sports Day! This is a huge opportunity for us to gain some huge house points! Make sure you are attending all the clubs available to you so we have the best chances of winning these!

## Attendance

As you know we run our own attendance league in Wilson and our final league table looks like this:

# Jenner House News

It's hard to believe we're already diving into the Summer Term, isn't it? Time flies by so quickly. And with this term comes a whirlwind of activity. We're gearing up to welcome our Year 6 students for their induction week, a time filled with excitement and new beginnings. As if that wasn't enough, Sports Day is just around the corner, and the preparations for it are well underway. But perhaps the highlight of this term is our annual Timetable Suspension Week. It's a week like no other, packed with thrilling activities and unforgettable trips. Trust me, the memories made during this week will stay with our students for a lifetime.

## Senior Roles

A few weeks back, I wrapped up the senior role interviews, and I couldn't be more thrilled to share that the following students will be stepping up to represent our house with boundless ambition and unwavering pride. Working alongside them, I'm eager to elevate Jenner House to new heights! With their ties neatly in place, badges shining bright, and mentor training under their belts, they're all geared up and ready to dive into action!

## Attendance

As I type these words, our standing in the House Attendance League remains at 4th position with 93.70% attendance. Although, we are last, this % is actually an improvement on my last data check-in. In fact, we've even clinched the top spot in the weekly league at times since our last update. It's encouraging to see this progress, and I hold onto the hope that it persists, leading to substantial and positive transformations. Yet, it's essential to note that the school's target stands at 97% or above, stirring a sense of urgency within me. Your understanding of my concern in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

The following students are still riding the wave of 100% attendance and I am so proud of them all!

- Zachery Meek - 7J1
- Allegra Harman - 8J1
- Jake Beard - 9J1
- Iona Moore - 9J1
- Charlotte Loveridge - 10J1
- Logan Watkins - 10J1
- Katrina Scruton - 10J2

## Merits

There's no doubt in my mind that Jenner students are just incredible, however the following students are just AMAZING!!! They have the highest amount of merits in their tutor group!!

- 7J1 - Chloe Swanson - 156 merits
- 8J1 - Dougie Matthews - 141 merits
- 8J2 - Lucian Jarrett - 91 merits
- 9J1 - Elizabeth Lewis - 65 merits
- 10J1 - Poppy Udolloress - 75
- 10J2 - Ashleigh Williams - 53 merits

## Jenner Senior Students

Tom Evans	House Captain
Charlotte Jones	House Captain
Rhys Brown	Vice House Captain
Poppy Jones	Vice House Captain

Jakob Meek	Sports Captain
Summer Roberts	Sports Captain
Liam Cottrell	Vice Sports Captain
Ashleigh Williams	Vice Sports Captain

Mentors x 10
Katrina Scruton
Amelia Trigg
Emily Swanson
Lucia Dodsworth
Charlotte Loveridge
Isabella Powell
Kate Bodley
Harriet Savidge
Francesca Stokes-Richardson
Georgia Tuck

# Jenner House News

## Students of the Month

We have had the following students chosen as Student of the Month by their tutors. This month was based on students who took part in our Interhouse Competitions:

### March/April:

7J1 - Levi Frowen

8J1 - Ada Savidge

8J2 - Oliver Evans

9J1 - Daniel Hunt

10J1 - Maddie Partridge

10J2 - Harrison Butcher

### Comments from Laura Bendall-Burt

May I kindly request all parents/carers to bear in mind that unless you have received a direct phone call or text from the school, whether from myself, an SSM, or someone in reception, refrain from driving in to collect your child if they send you a text indicating that they feel unwell.

As we approach the upcoming half term, which includes a Bank Holiday, I'm hopeful that the weather will be delightful, allowing everyone to make the most of their well-deserved break. I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support.





DENE MAGNA  
PRESENTS

DREAMWORKS  
THEATRICALS

# SHREK

## THE MUSICAL JR

Would you like to boost your local business's visibility in our Shrek The Musical Jr. programme?

Advertising with us offers numerous advantages, including expanding your customer reach, enhancing brand awareness and amplifying the word about your products or services.

Prices:

- Full Page (A4): £50
- Half Page: £30
- Quarter Page: £15

If you're interested in advertising in our programme, please drop us an email.

[c.wynn@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:c.wynn@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk)

[l.burt@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:l.burt@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk)

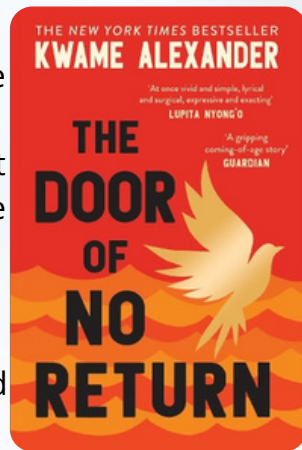


# Library

## Book of the Month

### The Door of No Return by Kwame Alexander

Kofi is 11 and desperate to be seen as grown up and be just like his older brother. But when a terrible accident destroys his life can he cope with the loss of everything he knew and stay true to himself? Can he grow into the person he dreamed he'd become?



**I started this book not expecting much: it is written in verse and not something I'd usually choose to read but I am so glad I did. This book took my breath away in several places and left me feeling like I couldn't look at the world in quite the same way again. I can't wait for the next book to follow Kofi's further challenges!**

## Library in focus



With exam season almost here, this seems like the perfect time to remind everyone that the library has plenty of space available for quiet study and is available at break and lunch as well as after school. Alternatively, it's a wonderful quiet space if you'd just like somewhere to relax!

## Student Book Clubs

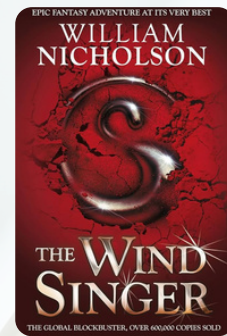
Tuesday - Years 7-9

Wednesday - Literature Festival

Thursday Years 10-11

## Student Book Review

### The Wind Singer by William Nicholson



'The Wind Singer' is definitely a unique book in the fantasy genre. It has a wonderful magic system that doesn't overtake the story or confuse you too much and it has complicated relationships that are entertaining to read. If you're looking for a book that has a different feel from the others, this is the one, and there are many surprises in the sequels that are worth finding out about too!

Year 9 student

## Library Opening Hours

**Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm**

**Friday 8.30am - 4.00 pm**

# Library

## Spotlight on The Environment

May and June have several awareness days related to the environment and the world around us, so this seems like an ideal time to highlight some of our natural world resources...

Fiction



Non-fiction

Magazines



## Remember...

1. To check when your books are due and to renew or return them in time!
2. Students can borrow books at any time using our e-book and e-audio library via the student quicklinks.
3. If you have any problems or questions, please contact Miss Jones in the library - I'm here to help!

## Volunteer update

In the last update, I mentioned that our first cohort of Duke of Edinburgh volunteers were completing their time in the library. This time, I am delighted to be able to say we welcomed our second cohort! In addition to these, we have also had 2 new Year 7 volunteers succeed in their applications to join the team.

It has been great to see all our new volunteers making a fantastic start to their roles: they've been spectacular at picking up the basics and are already making their mark in the library. Anyone who spotted the Year 7 reading suggestions board at parent's evening will have seen an example of their work and we are in the process of refreshing the appearance of the careers section with Mrs Rich and of auditing some of our fiction genres to make them even better!

# Community

## Soccer 7's 🌟🏆

It was a fantastic sunny day for some soccer 7's! A huge well done to all students who participated and to Tibberton & Huntley who will go into the finals against the South Winners 🙌

A massive thank you to Phoebe & Violet, our super referee leaders and to Newent PE staff.



It was a beautiful day for our local primary schools to take part in Quad Kids 🌻🌻

A huge thank you to The Dean Academy PE staff and students from Hartpury College who helped make the event run smoothly 👍

Well done to all who took part in Quad Kids & well done to those who had top personal bests 🙌😊



Last week some of our local primary schools tried out Archery 😊 Congratulations to Hope Brook School who's average pupil score was the highest!

A huge thank you to Viney Hill Adventure Centre for letting us use their facility and Sportily for supporting the event ❤️



Recently some of our (North) local primary schools took part in Mountain Biking! 🚴 Well done to Tibberton who won the team relay race! 🏆 A huge thank you for Newent who let us use their facilities, student leaders who were amazing and Neil who helped set up. A huge well done to everyone involved! 🙌

