

DENE MAGNA SCHOOL & SIXTH
FORM

DENE MAGNIFIER



News from the headteacher

Dear Parents and Students,
Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! This term has been filled with exciting activities, from the Year 11 trials and Results Morning to our successful Ski Trip, with daily updates shared on Instagram. We were also thrilled to host visitors from Spain and Japan, enriching our school community.

The term's highlight was *Shek: The Musical*, a fantastic performance showcasing our students' talent and hard work.

We bid farewell to Kath Green, our RAIS Manager, as she moves on to a new role. We look forward to welcoming Gemma Turley in mid-January. We also say goodbye to Charlotte Probert, our Marketing Co-Ordinator, and thank her for her contributions. Thank you for your continued support this term. We look forward to a wonderful new year ahead!



Key Dates for Next Term

Students return to Week A on Monday 6th January

6th January - Y13 Trial Exams begin

16th January - Y9 Options Evening

17th January - Y11 Exam Preparation Assembly

21st January - Holocaust Survivor Talk

6th February - Y9 Parents Evening

13th February - Y12 Parents Evening

[Click here to see the Term Dates for both 2024 - 2025 and 2025 - 2026](#)

Student Voice

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

Well, what a hectic and exhausting term it has been for everyone. As we get closer and closer to Christmas, everyone is absolutely shattered by how much we have achieved this term.

One exciting event was our school play rehearsals and performances, one of our best performances ever. This went well considering the technical issues we had to start with, but our fantastic cast triumphed through the problems, and in no time, our fabulous crew resolved the issues in what felt like no time. The whole cast oversaw every minute of the performances and expressed what a joyful experience they had been.

Another event was our sixth form open evening, which was a resounding success as everyone managed to experience what the sixth form had to offer. Parents and students were warmly welcomed by the staff, who showed them what the sixth form had to offer by giving tours around the sixth form and presenting about what the building had to offer. Everything went well, and I'm sure the staff and students who helped run the open evening were pleased with their efforts.

The visit from the Spanish exchange students was a great success, creating an excellent opportunity for cultural exchange and new friendships. The students were warmly welcomed by staff and peers, and they quickly settled into school life, participating in lessons and activities. The Spanish and local students enjoyed sharing experiences, practising language skills, and learning about each other's cultures. The visit was enthusiastic and positive, leaving everyone with lasting memories and a deeper appreciation for international connections. It was a fantastic experience that strengthened the bond between the two schools.

I know this will be a well-deserved break for everyone, so have a great Christmas from Noah and Ella.

Police Boosting Programme

This term and after Christmas, we had the fantastic opportunity to be part of the 'Police Boosting Programme'. This allows our older students to learn some vital life skills. This term, we learnt about teamwork and the importance of working together. We are excited to put these new skills into practise within the new year.



Our Community Bookings Programme

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

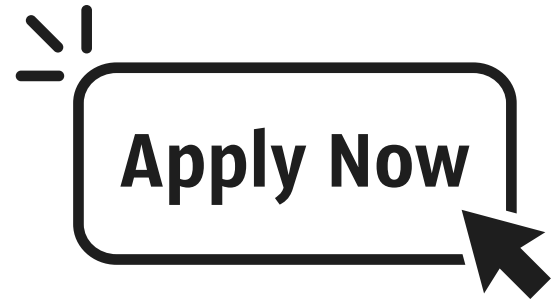
If you are interested in our facilities, please get in touch with Mr Beard at:
a.beard@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk



Sixth Form News

Sixth Form Applications!

The application form for Dene Magna Sixth Form is now live on our website! This means you can now secure your place for next academic year. To apply please click [here](#). If you have any queries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us.



Student Success

This is a massive well done to Leo, one of our Sixth Form students who recently signed with Study & Play America for his fantastic golf skills. We are very proud of you, Leo! Well done to everything you have currently achieved, we can't wait to see what your future hold!



EDF Energy Visit

Many thanks to Hannah Loebel from EDF Energy who came in to speak with our students about careers in the energy sector. Our students enjoyed having the opportunity to discover the many routes available to them with their STEM qualifications.



Dene Magna Sixth Form Open Evening

This term, we had our Sixth Form open evening. We firstly want to thank everyone who attended. It was fantastic to see so many familiar and unfamiliar faces. This evening was an excellent opportunity for prospective students to view the tremendous campus, learn about our wide range of subjects, and meet our excellent staff and students. A huge thank you to all the students who volunteered their time to help give guided tours and to all the staff.



Christmas Fayre

A big thank you to all who attended our Christmas Fayre on Saturday!
We raised nearly £500 as part of our fundraising for the KS5 Hiroshima exchange. Coming up next is a quiz night in January - please keep a look out for details!



Christmas Greetings!

Our Sixth Form is getting into the Christmas Spirit!

Recently our sixth formers had plenty of fun with board games, a delicious breakfast, and even a surprise visit from Father Christmas and his snowman helper!

We also love the creative and festive door designs —well done, everyone! Check out the photos below and feel the Christmas spirit!



Japanese Exchange Students

This term, we had the pleasure of hosting our Japanese Exchange Students! This was an excellent opportunity for our students to connect with people from different cultures and make new friends. Our students showed the exchange students what our lessons were like, and we even had an afternoon tea! This was a fantastic opportunity for our students.



Shrek Performance

Wow! What a performance! Our students put on a tremendous show - Shrek The Musical JR this term. A huge well done to all of the students who took part in this performance, your hard work did pay off. Also, thank you to all the behind-the-scenes staff who made this performance possible.



Spanish Visitors

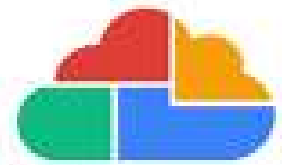
This term, we welcomed some outstanding students from Matadepera, Spain. This was an excellent opportunity for our students to speak some Spanish, learn about Spanish culture and life and, most of all, make new friends!

A huge thank you to all the students and staff involved in this and made it such a brilliant experience.



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.

Christmas Card Competition

This term, we had our annual Christmas Card Competition. It was a massive well done, and thank you to everyone who sent entries. We had an enormous number of entries, and they were all fantastic! 9W1 managed to win the chocolate hamper, so well done to them! It was a close call for the winners. To you, winners, well done! You should be very proud of yourselves.



Gloucester University Business Challenge 2024

This term a team from the Y12 Business Class competed in the Gloucester University Business Challenge 2024. Teams from 10 Sixth Forms competed to pitch their Business idea to a panel of experts; The Regional Head of Barclays Business, A partner in a leading Accountancy firm, an industry expert in AI and a leading Business consultant.

Our 6th Form team were awarded the Silver Medal for the business that was most ready to go to market This was a fantastic achievement and considering the excellent opposition they really stood out as a shining beacon for all Dene Magna stands for in achieving their best and really enjoying the process. Minnie was also the runner up in the Best individual presenter category.





A Huge WELL DONE to these students who excelled in their recent Work Experience

- Robson Trigg**
- Rick- Lee Hopkins**
- Chloe Moverley**
- Aoife Pedrick-Friend**
- Connor Whitehouse**
- Finley Drage**
- Bathany Lancett**

- Harley Tudgay**
- Izabeklle Little**
- Fibley haroun**
- James Twigg**
- Katherine Beechey**
- Lexie Schackell**
- Rae Barnard**
- Michael J Morgan**
- Lacey Jones**
- Rebecca Histed**



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



CAREERS



Y13 Mock Interviews

Well done year 13's for demonstrating some excellent Interview Skills



And a huge thank you to the employers that supported us





CAREERS



Coming Up...

14th Jan 2025

**Application Support
Gloucestershire College**

11th Feb 2025

**Gloucestershire College
Taster Day**

26th February 2025

**Dene Magna
Post 18 Options Careers Fair
2pm - 5pm**

Latest

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

External Open Events

Gloucestershire College

**20th Jan 2025 Gloucester
27th Jan 2025 Cinderford
29th Jan 2025 Cheltenham**

**Hereford and Ludlow
College:**

15th Jan 2025

Three Counties Careers Fair

23rd Jan 2025

**Please find links to full
information [here](#).**

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

Careers Lead Jo Rich

Foley House News

Hi everyone, I really hope you are keeping well over this festive season.

I would like to say a really big well done to 7F1 and 7F2, the newest members of team foley.

Both of these tutor groups have made a fabulous start to life at Dene Magna.

We historically have always been very good at school attendance, however this year it seems to be a bit of a struggle, however 7F2 are showing us how this should be done, they have the best attendance in school which is so so important.

As a house we are not any where near our normal level and we need to work together to get this back where it needs to be, at the time of writing our house attendance is 93.63% which is well down from our norm!

7f2 97.23%
9f2 96.41%
7f1 96.36%
11f2 95.01%
10f1 94.16%
9f1 93.70%
11f1 92.82%
8f1 92.19%

If I can help you in any way of improving your child's please let me know, at is vital to ensure they make best possible progress.

A massive well done for achieving 100% attendance so far to the following;

7F1.	George Lingham
Vinnie Bullock	Oakley Mansfield
Caitlin Godwin	Declan Paish
Ruby Hill	Maiya Thorne
	Ellie Williams

7F2

Georgia Cowan	Josh Murrell
Hester Dixon-Gough	Orla Savidge
Alfie Hunter	Sandy Stead
Betsie Matthews	Alex Wheeler
Christy McCarthy	Sophia White

8F1

Tristan Chapman Brown

9F1

Mckenzie Burns	Ted Matthews
Stryder Mansfield	Troy Tudgay
	Izzie Waite

9F2

Summer Bullock	Lily Fisher
Adam Davis	Freddie Hornchurch

10F1

Ophelia Chapman Brown	Milly Kujawa
Brandon Davison	Molly Kujawa
	Libby Ochiltree

11F1

Max Cruickshank
Jack Matthews

11F2

Seth Harper

Our year 11s have recently gone through their two week trial exam period, I do hope on trial exams results day, they get what they wanted. Whatever their results, I urge you as a parents to work with us in ensuring they commit for the actual final exams in the summer of 2025.

Wishing you all a great Christmas and a fantastic new year.

Thanks
Ashley

Dowty House News

Wow! Well hasn't the last few weeks flown by! I cannot believe this is my last time writing to you in 2024. This has been a packed last few weeks as it always is.

Perfect Week

Perfect week is weekly statistics that get shared to tutors, this information is based on students having no 'negatives' and no absences. If students achieve all of this then they achieve a perfect week!!

1st – Wilson 0.7705

2nd – Jenner 0.7680

3rd – Foley 0.7630

4th - Dowty 0.7364

So as you can see we are currently last within the whole school for the 'perfect weeks'. This is definitely something which we need to work on during the new year. I understand that sometimes we slip up but I know you can do better than this.

Cross Country Results

Recently, all students in school competed in our Inter House cross country event. Well done to everyone who took part, the results are in.....

1st - Wilson

2nd - Foley

3rd - Dowty

4th - Jenner



I know how tough Cross Country can be, so a huge well done to everyone who participated in this!

This term consisted of so many different activities and opportunities for our students from the ski trip to the Spanish student visitors. A huge thank you to all of the staff who make these opportunities possible.

I hope everyone has a fantastic Christmas and New Year! Enjoy the time off with friends and family, I cannot wait to hear all about it in the New Year.

Thanks,

Mr Underwood & Dowty Team



Wilson House News

I cannot quite believe I am writing this and it is nearly the end of our first full term! What a busy period we have had since September....House Council Elections, House Cross Country, Mock Exams to name but a few!!

Our Student of the Months for November were selected based on their commitment to anti-bullying and fundraising:

7W1 - Ava Allen	10W1 - Katie Beechey
8W2 - Darcey Turley	10W2 - Izzy Jones
8W2 - Penelope Tudor	11W1 - Aaron Perret
9W1 - Cora Meek	

Attendance

Our attendance is a real cause for concern at the moment and we have dropped massively over the last few weeks. We know that there is a direct link between attendance and progress in school, so every day is a really important one!

Wilson - 95.19%	Foley - 93.84%
Jenner - 94.15%	Dowty - 93.02%

Merits

Look at this list of students who have the highest numbers of merits within Wilson House – well done to you all!! Can you add your name to this list?

Top 10 merit winners KS3:

Summer Clark	Jack Beeston
Penelope Tudor	Harvey Higginson
Andrew Green	Amelie Hughes
Amber Whitehouse	Zachary James
Kenzie Burge	Lacey Hubbal

Top 10 merit winners KS4:

Holly Sumners	Robson Trigg
Tia Walding	Olivia Benetar
Elin Duncanson	Imogen Hadfield
Ilan Skroban	Morgan Smallpage
Jack Southwell	Priya Sreetharan

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2nd - Foley

3rd - Dowty

4th - Jenner

Amazing results well done!! As a result of our cross country we then selected a school team, to go to the District Cross Country Finals held at Newent School, Well done to Frankie Cross 7W1 who progressed onto the County Finals!

Thank you to all of the Wilson community, students, teachers, parents / carers for your continued support of us.

A massive well done to Georgia Dix 11W1 who won the Christmas Card competition for the 3rd year in a row!! We are so proud of you! 9W1 also for the 3rd year in a row won the most entries for a tutor group!

As the term draws to a close, Mrs Hoare, myself and all your tutors hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and wish you all a very happy New Year. We cannot wait to see you all back in January, ready and eager to continue the Wilson march to fill our trophy cabinet to the brim! Merry Christmas!

Jenner House News

I can't believe that we are nearly at the end of 2024.

I know that some of us have been through some trials and tribulations this year and I am hoping for a more positive and settled 2025.

For Jenner House, this term has been quite a positive one. There are still some little areas we need to iron out, but on the whole, students are settled and doing well...that's all I can ask for!

Attendance

As you can see from the table below, we are in 2nd place. I am actually really pleased with this as last year we were in last place with very little hope of changing that.

This year, my Jenner students have come back with a vengeance and are very eager and determined to show the other houses that they are a house to be reckoned with and I am extremely proud of them all.

Year to Date	%
Wilson	94.98%
Jenner	93.95%
Foley	93.58%
Dowty	92.78%

Merits

Since September, Jenner has received a staggering 6815 merits...and this has put us in 1st place, 8J1 & 11J1 have received the majority of these merits...not only making them the top scorers in Jenner House, but top scorers in the entire school...I AM SO PROUD OF THEM ALL!!!

A BIG push from now until half term would mean the world to me...that way, we can finish on the top of the leaderboard. Merits are being given for meeting the WALT & WILF in lessons...this means that every student goes into every lesson with a merit...all they need to do is, KEEP IT!

Students of the Month

We have had the following students chosen as Student of the Month by their tutors. These students were chosen for showing kindness to others during Anti-Bullying week!

7J1 - Lily Carne & James Gilson

7J2 - Oliver Sweet

8J1 - Lily Bevan

9J1 - Emily Burnard

9J2 - Caleb Fisher

10J1 - Alfie Brown

11J1 - Hattie Savidge

11J2 - Frasier Warren

Comments from LB

I would like to thank each and everyone of you for your continued support. I really appreciate it. I am extremely proud of all the students in Jenner who consistently 'GET IT RIGHT'! I don't think I say it enough, as sometimes the day can be caught up with other things and for this, I apologise! So...MAHOOSIVE WELL DONE to all of you!

I can not wait to celebrate all of your successes and help you on your journey at Dene Magna. Just remember - Concentrate on the process, not the outcome and everything will turn out right in the end.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year and I will see you all on Monday 6 January, ready to show the other houses who Jenner really are!!!



Library

Book of the Month

Title and Author

Ramya knows she is different, she is constantly reminded of it by those around her but it is only when her family relocates to Edinburgh that she begins to discover how different she is.

When she sees the statue of Greyfriars Bobby come to life it leads her to the start of an adventure: one that will reunite a family and prove to her that sometimes differences are what make us special.

This was a book that took me by surprise! A skillfully crafted fantasy set in our recognisable world which weaves in all sorts of folklore, this book has all the pace and drama you could hope for!



Library in focus

Study Space

We have plenty of space and chrome books for students to use in order to study, revise and complete ILT while the library is open.



Student Book Clubs

Tuesday - Years 7-9

Thursday Week A - Years 10-11

Student Book Review

Title and Author



In a small town in America, all the adults suddenly disappear. In the resulting chaos, the young people left behind must learn to fend for themselves. And then there are those who begin to develop powers...

I would rate Gone 5 stars because it is written really well and it is very engaging. It is also a series of books which makes the story longer instead of being too short.

Year 10 student

Library Opening Hours

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Friday 8.30am - 4.00 pm

Library



Spotlight on

Reading Events

This has been a term of fantastic library events from the trip to the Literature Festival and our author visit in October through the Year 7 Book Buzz Breakfast in November to the Scholastic Book Fair in December. I hope you enjoy some of these photos from them.



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



With the Book Fair in the library, I have been particularly grateful to the library volunteers for their help and support in running this at break and lunchtimes.

Thank you all!

The volunteers have also been working towards various training awards. I hope that by the time you read this, they will have received their certificates of achievement in this and will be looking forward to the next stage in the new year.





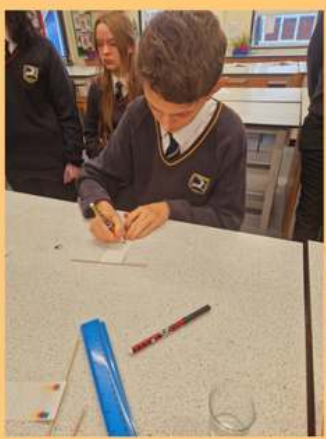
Scholars programme!



The scholars programme runs for selected students in year 9. This supports option choices, future career aspirations and outlook on university.



Did you hear about the new archaeology book?
It was ground breaking



This weeks focus

The use of Chromatography in Archaeology



DENE MAGNA

Leading : Learning : Training : Technology

Remembrance Day

Supporting the Poppy Appeal

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our Poppy Appeal this year. We're proud to announce that Dene Magna raised an amazing £137.80!

Your generosity helps support veterans, serving personnel, and their families. Together, we remember and honour their sacrifices.



LAMDA Examinations

Our Year 8 students shone brilliantly in their LAMDA examinations this weekend! Each one of them performed exceptionally well, demonstrating outstanding commitment and focus

To our performers: You were absolutely fantastic. We are very proud of you!

Congratulations to you all!

Well done!



PE Fixtures

EFL Cup

The U13 Girls recently competed in the EFL cup and had a great time! They played some fantastic football and came up against some tough teams and finished 4th in their group!

Well done ladies

POTM = Polly

Song recommendation from Phoebe and Polly!



Rugby vs Five Acres

This term, our Year 8 boys played some great rugby against Five Acres and Wyedean. Both of these games ended in 20-20! Well done to all the boys involved; you all demonstrated great gameplay. We are very proud of you!



Netball vs Wyedean & Five Acres

Earlier this term, our Year 8 girls won their netball matches against Wyedean and Five Acres, 10-0 and 9-0! The player of the game was Florence. A massive well-done, girls!

Keep up the hard work!

Duke of Edinburgh Award

A fantastic opportunity for students and parents/carers to connect with Rob from AtoZ Expeditions! He shared insights into the Expedition section of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, helping students prepare for the exciting challenges ahead. Great to see everyone getting inspired for their DofE journey!



Gold DofE Walk

A mix of year 12 & 13 Gold Duke of Edinburgh students went out & about with Mr Beard & Mr Osborne from the College site.

We spoke about day walks & kit and introduced the year 12's to a bit of map work. We are blessed to be near lovely woods near the College & we had some warm winter sunshine. Well done to our students who participated and thank you Mr Beard and Mr Osborne for accompanying them



Community

Thanks for Joining Us at the Large Schools Football Event!

Despite the grey skies, we had an excellent turnout and saw a fantastic standard of football! A big shout out to all the students who came along to play and to our Dene Magna student leaders who did an outstanding job supporting the event. Special congratulations to Forest View for taking the lead! They'll go on to represent the Forest of Dean at the County ESFA finals.



Sports Hall Athletics

We recently held the Sports Hall Athletics Small Schools Event, where schools from the Forest came to Dene Magna to compete against each other in this tight competition! We hope all students enjoyed themselves and thank you for coming along. Thank you to all of our Dene Magna students who helped this event run smoothly



Results from the ESFA Small Schools Forest of Dean Qualifier!

Thank you to all players, parents, and supporters for braving the cold to make this event a success. Shout out to the PE team for providing the facilities and to our Dene Magna leaders who did an amazing job refereeing, scoring, and keeping the games flowing. We appreciate your efforts! Congratulations to Offa's Mead, who will represent our district at the County ESFA Finals on December 3rd. Best of luck!



FoD North Area Girls Football Qualifiers

Thank you to the fantastic Newent staff and student leaders who helped make this event successful! Your efforts, from organising to refereeing and scoring, are appreciated and ensure these opportunities can happen for our primary school participants.

We witnessed some fantastic football, with St Whites and Hope Brook securing their spots in next year's finals. Congratulations to both teams!

Well done to everyone who participated, and good luck to St Whites and Hope Brook in the finals!

