



## Weekly Parent Bulletin No: 34 Week Commencing Monday 9 June 2025 Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

### New Term, New Sport!

As we start the final half term of the year, it's been fantastic to see the energy and enthusiasm around sport continuing to grow.

### Rounders Success

Towards the end of last term, our PE department and students ran a lunchtime rounders club, and it's been brilliant to see others getting involved even practising with water bottles as makeshift bats at break times. A special congratulations to our Year 10 girls who **won** the district rounders tournament once again showing that our students can turn their hand to any sport and shine.

### Boys' Softball Victories

Our Year 9 and 10 boys played softball matches against Wydean and Five Acres, winning three of the four games, an outstanding achievement and a testament to their hard work and team spirit.



The sporting successes of our students, both in and out of school, continue to make us proud.

### Farewell Approaching for Year 11 and Welcoming Year 7

As we prepare to say goodbye to our wonderful Year 11 students next week, it was lovely to welcome our prospective Year 7s and their families to an Information Evening last night. Meeting our new students and seeing the excitement (and nerves!) on their faces was a reminder of the journey that lies ahead for them.

Year 11's final day will be next Thursday, and we will be marking the occasion by celebrating their achievements over the past five years, no doubt with some emotional goodbyes along the way. We are asking that Year 11s arrive at school at 11.10am for shirt signing, then the assembly will commence at 11.35am, followed by food and entertainment on the field.

### Lunch Accounts

Please can we ask that all Year 11 lunch accounts are cleared before their last day.

## Senior Student Team Expands

Our senior student team has grown with the addition of our newly appointed House Captains. Congratulations to:

- ❖ **Wilson House** – Arthur Poole and Izzy Jones
- ❖ **Jenner House** – Anais Jarrett and Finley Haroun
- ❖ **Foley House** – Alaina Williams (second captain to be confirmed following sports captain interviews today)
- ❖ **Dowty House** – Daisy Sterry and Finley Drage

These students spoke brilliantly to parents and our New Year 7s last night. They are all a credit to our school, and I'm excited to see them work alongside Aoife and Becca in the year ahead, continuing to leave a lasting legacy.

## Year 7 Art

We were thrilled to welcome back former student Tim Baldwin, founder of Pooki Presses, who returned to our school today to share his expertise and passion for lino printing. Tim has gone on to establish a successful company making high-quality lino printing presses. We are proud to have three of his presses in our department, which have already elevated the standard of student work. During his visit, Tim worked closely with students on their lino cutting techniques and gave an inspiring demonstration on how to achieve better results with the presses. The students had a lovely time experimenting with different colour options and liked seeing the results of all their hard work.



## Sporting Success

Kye B is a member of Forest Fighting Fit Boxing & Fitness. Kye has been training for less than a year, he had his first competition at a WKO European Event in Barnsley and even won the mat competition the following day. Congratulations Kye!



Katie P is a member of Forest of Dean Gymnastics. She competed in the Forest of Dean Club Championships and was awarded the club Bronze Champion. It was her first time competing at the Bronze level and so lots of new upgrades and new moves including Tscukahara pike on vault, clear to handstand on bars and straight front and full twist on floor the tumblers which she nailed. She was also recognised by her coaches as she was awarded the Lynn Hammersley award for achievement perseverance and dedication out of the whole of the club

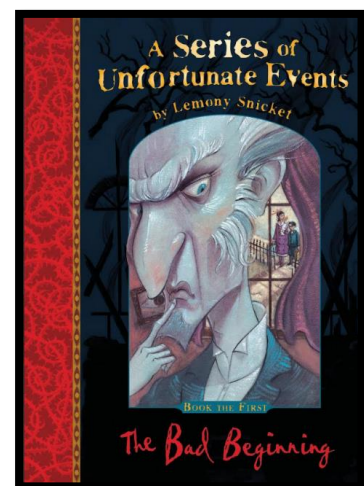
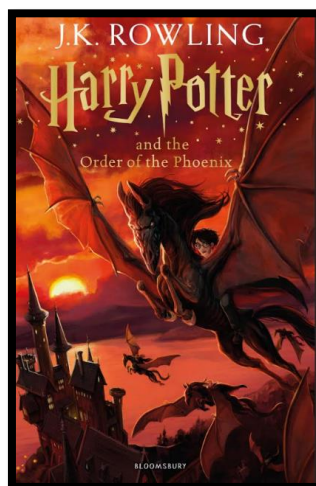
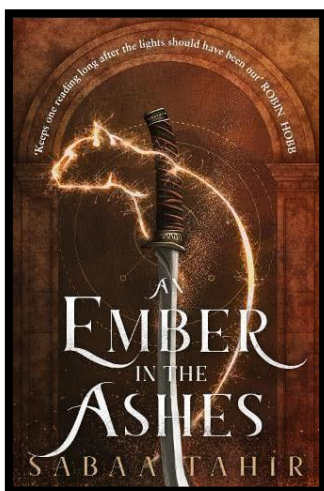


### **Battle of the Books – Finalists Chosen**

When the Cheltenham Literature Festival stopped running their Battle of the Books event we made the decision here to take it in-house and run a Dene Magna version of it whereby members of staff agree on a theme and nominations before recruiting students to form a book group to nominate further titles, longlist and shortlist the books and, finally decide on the final 3 to champion at an event in October. Now in its second year, this year's theme is the 'Monster of Monsters' the most monstrous human (or human-like) character in a children's or young adults' book.

The book group have been meeting since we came back from Easter and have now made their decision about which 3 books have characters deserving of a place in the final: Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (Delores Umbridge); A Bad Beginning (Count Olaf) and An Ember in the Ashes (the Commandant). Voting was fierce and took place in two rounds - the first to eliminate any shortlisted title that didn't make the high standard of the group and the second to reduce the remaining options down to 3.

The group has been amazing with passionate debates raging about the books and characters and we are now turning our attention to re-reading these books and crafting short speeches that will be presented at an event in October. There is still time to get involved, and if any student (year 7-10) would like to participate they can come along to the library at lunchtime on Tuesdays!



## National Book Tokens

National Book Tokens have launched their annual draw where individuals can nominate a school to win £1000 in Book Tokens and be in with a chance to win themselves £100 of National Book Tokens too! The closing date is 29th July 2025 and terms and the form can be found

here: <https://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools-prize>. Please do consider nominating a school of your choice!

## Year 10 Exams

Year 10 Exams commence on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June, please see exam timetable below.

	AM	PM
Monday 16th June		
Tuesday 17th June		BIOLOGY
Wednesday 18th June		MATHS
Thursday 19th June	CHEMISTRY	
Friday 20th June	ENGLISH	
Monday 23rd June		MATHS
Tuesday 24th June		
Wednesday 25th June	PHYSICS	
Thursday 26th June		ENGLISH



## 6th Form Transition Day

The Sixth Form Transition day is on Friday, 20th June, this is by invitation only.

If you haven't confirmed your place with us, use the QR code sent on your invite or contact the sixth form office on Dean 838549.

**When:** Friday 20th June

**Where:** Gloucester College Campus, Northern United Way, Cinderford, GL14 3FF

**Time:** 08:45am

This will be a great opportunity to:

- Meet your future classmates and teachers
- Explore the 6th Form and get a feel for life as an A Level student
- Take part in taster sessions and activities

## Outside Achievements

If your son/daughter takes part in any activities outside of school and you would like their achievements to be published in the weekly bulletin, please send in a small paragraph or two about them and a photo.

## Victory 80 Day

Please remember to support Victory 80 on 15<sup>th</sup> June - a celebration not to be missed! Please do come along and support this fantastic event.

Have a great weekend, fingers crossed that the sun shines.

Declan Mooney  
Headteacher

## Dates For Your Diary

- 15.06.25 – Victory 80 Celebration Day
- W/C 16.06.25 - Year 10 Exams commence
- 17.06.25 – Year 7 Science (Big Bang Fair)
- 17.06.5 - Year 8 Girls District Rounder's Tournament (Away)
- 18.06.25 - Year 7 & 10 Softball Match versus Forest High (Home)
- 19.06.25 - Year 7 Girls District Rounder's Tournament (Away)
- 19.06.25 – Year 11 Students Final Assembly
- 20.06.25 - Year 12 Transition Day
- W/C 23.06.25 - Year 6 Induction Week.
- 26.06.25 - District Athletics
- 26.06.25 - Year 6 Parents Evening
- 27.06.25 - Year 11 & 13 Prom

