



Weekly Parent Bulletin No 38: Week Commencing Monday 7 July Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

Summer Soiree

A Huge Congratulations to Our Incredible Performers! What a truly magical evening of music! We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to **all the students who took part in Monday night's concert**. Each and every one of you brought something special to the stage – from powerful solos and emotional ballads to energetic duets and inspiring ensemble performances. The level of talent, confidence, and commitment on display was simply outstanding. It was a joy to watch you perform pieces ranging from The Beatles to Billie Eilish, Olivia Rodrigo to George Michael – not to mention stunning instrumental works and heartfelt songs. A special thank you as well to our **fabulous choir**, who opened and closed the show with energy and enthusiasm, setting the perfect tone for the evening. We are so proud of the way you supported one another, took to the stage with courage, and truly celebrated the joy of music. Thank you also to the families, friends, and staff who came along to cheer our young performers on – your support means the world. Well done, everyone – you were amazing!



Achievement Evening

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every parent and carer who attended our recent Achievement Evenings. This was my first experience of these events, and I can honestly say, what an incredible evening it was!

The night was a true celebration of what our students can achieve, recognising those who have gone above and beyond in all subjects across the school. Seeing students proudly receive their awards and hearing the applause from peers, staff, and families was a wonderful reminder of the talent and effort that shines at Dene Magna.



We were also honoured to present a special award, and it was a privilege to award Callum Lancett with the “Spirit of Dene Magna” award.



The atmosphere was festive, with banquet tables set out like a summer fête, and it was lovely to meet new parents and chat about students’ next steps and how much they enjoyed the evening. The Greek-style food was delicious, and I want to express a huge thank you to the Year 9 and 10 students who volunteered their time to prepare, serve, and clear up, their efforts truly embodied the spirit of the Dene Magna family.



These evenings are a reminder of what makes our school community so special. Thank you again for joining us in celebrating our students.

We received lots of great feedback.

“We just wanted to say thank you so much to everyone involved in the Achievement Evening yesterday. We appreciate the amount of time, effort and organisation required by all involved. The food prepared by

students and staff was absolutely delicious, thank you for all your hard work. Dene Magna students are always a credit to the school. The hall also looked amazing!

Thank you for inviting parents to attend and we hope everyone has a great summer

A Fantastic Day of Sport, Spirit and Sunshine – Sports Day Success

We are delighted to share the huge success of our annual Sports Day, held on Tuesday 8th July for students in Years 7 to 10. The event was a true celebration of athleticism, teamwork and school spirit with students participating in a full day of competitive athletic events.

Held under perfect summer skies, the day saw our students give their all in a wide range of track and field events, including sprints, relays, long jump, triple jump, shot put and more. From the roar of support on the finish line to the incredible displays of perseverance and sportspersonship across every activity, it was a day to remember.

Congratulations go to all of our participants, who demonstrated outstanding determination, respect and enthusiasm throughout and especially in the entrance parade. Special recognition must go to our track and field event winners and the overall winning House (a secret until the last day assembly), who claimed the Sports Day Cup after an exceptional all-round performance. **Also a well done to Florence J, (our very own Flo Jo) in Year 8 who broke the 300m record which has stood since 2002.**



A huge thank you to our dedicated PE staff, student leaders and all members of staff who helped make the day run so smoothly. The support from those who positively cheered on our athletes was also greatly appreciated.

Events like these are a proud reminder of the energy, talent, and unity that defines our school. We look forward to building on this success in future sporting events.





Career Journey in Football

We were delighted to welcome Tom Hitchings to Dene Magna on Wednesday, to speak to our A Level students about his inspiring career journey in professional football. Tom is the Lead Academy Performance Analyst at Port Vale Football Club and shared insights into his role in performance analysis, the importance of data in modern football and how his academic background in sport and coaching led him to work at this elite level. His talk gave students a valuable glimpse into the growing world of sports analytics and inspired our students to learn how hard work and choosing the right course after A Level's can lead to exciting opportunities behind the scenes in sports.

Year 9 & 10 Sports Leader's

Over the last couple of weeks our sports leaders have helped out at primary school sports days at Mitcheldean and Drybrook, we have lots of wonderful praise from staff and parents of both primary schools.

"Can I just pass on my thanks on behalf of Forest View for allowing Michael and the Dene Magna Year 9 sports leaders to support with our sports afternoon today. All of the staff here were extremely impressed with them and were overwhelmingly positive about them. Despite the long afternoon in the sun, they conducted themselves extremely well, engaging with our pupils,



supporting them and providing excellent instruction. They really were without fault and a real credit to Dene Magna. They certainly enabled the event to run smoothly, without issue”

“I am just writing to say that I am a grandparent who attended our twin granddaughters very first sports day at Mitcheldean Primary school. Your team of students who were there to help are a credit to your school. They were all well turned out, polite and took a great interest in every child that was participating. They were all focused on what they were doing and appeared to be enjoying all the activities they were involved in. I do hope they realise these things are noticed and it's a pleasure to give praise when it's well earned”

Headteacher
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3rd July 2025

Subject: Letter of Thanks

Dear Declan,

I wanted to take a moment to pass on my sincere thanks to you, your staff, and your fantastic students for the support you gave during our recent Sports Day at Drybrook.

The presence of your Year 10 pupils had a hugely positive impact on the event. Their maturity, encouragement, and willingness to get involved stood out across the day, and they were excellent role models for our younger children. It was clear how much pride they took in representing Dene Magna, and that pride shone through in the way they interacted with our pupils. They offered support and guidance with real kindness and integrity — a credit to themselves, your school, and their families.

I also want to express my appreciation for the continued collaboration between your PE department and our staff. The strong working relationship between the two teams really helps to bring Sports Day together each year. The coordination, planning and calm presence on the day from Jayne and Beth, in particular, played a vital role in making the event run smoothly. As always, they were outstanding – thoughtful, efficient, and completely in tune with how to make the day work well for our children.

We value the partnership between our two schools and the wider opportunities this link offers. Giving our pupils access to such positive older role models is a powerful way of helping them see what they can aspire to, and how they might grow into young leaders themselves.

Please do pass on our thanks to everyone involved – we’re very grateful for the time, effort, and care your team continues to give.

Warm regards,
Thomas Henesey
Headteacher
Drybrook Primary School

"I just wanted to pass on to you and Dene Magna how wonderful it was to see the Year 10 students at the sports day. As a great advocate for mentoring and positive leadership, it was great to see the older students stepping up as positive role models—offering guidance, encouragement. Good leadership not only helps younger students feel supported and more confident, but also fosters a culture of kindness, responsibility, and community within the school."

Triumphant Cricket Team

The U14 cricket team took on Five Acres on a hot Wednesday afternoon, they won by 36 runs, with Zach W 34 not out, the boys played very well and their fielding performance was exceptional.



Sporting Success's

Congratulations to **Ocre Marhsall-Kettle** who competed in an Artistic Figure Skating Competition in Bristol on Sunday, winning a silver medal in the duo category.

A round of applause please for the new British Kick Boxing U16 Champion, **Lacey Jones**. Lacey has been fighting from the age of 4 with White Lotus Martial Arts and Fitness, this weekend in London she competed in the U16 section and was crowned Champion.



Creative Textiles

The Year 8 project in textiles is to design and create a cushion.

Leo A did a fantastic job, great work.

DofE Bronze Expedition

The DofE Bronze Expedition that was scheduled for this weekend 12th & 13th July has been postponed due to the heat it is now been rescheduled for the 5th and 6th September.

End of Term

Just to make you aware that school finishes on Friday 18th July at 12 noon. The school buses will be running as normal at this time, except the **Stagecoach bus** that drops off at Longhope, All Saints Church, Dursley Cross, May Hill Turn and Huntley Red Lion. If your son/daughter catches this bus please can you make alternative arrangements for their collection.

Have a great weekend tray and stay cool

Regards
Declan Mooney
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary

14th & 15th July – Bio Field Trip

17th July – Reports Published

18th July – RIAT Trip

18th July – End of Term 12 noon