



Weekly Parent Bulletin No 2: Week Commencing Monday 8 September Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's hard to believe we are already two weeks into the new term. The school has been full of energy, and I'd like to share some of the highlights from this week.

Year 7 Settling In

Our new Year 7s have made an excellent start to their Dene Magna journey. The excitement around receiving their MPVs has been wonderful to see, they've created a real buzz around school.

It was also lovely to meet so many of you at the Year 7 Tutor Evening last night.

Thank you for your positive feedback about how well your children are settling in, we really value your support.

"The induction week was absolutely fantastic and enabled my son to settle in well to the start of year 7. The support and communication is excellent and I am grateful for the year 7 tutor evening to ask additional questions and raise support queries. The staff have all been friendly, welcoming and helpful. I am so glad my son is attending Dene Magna



First impressions of Dene Magna are very good and communications have been positive. My daughter loved the induction week and thought it was a great way to introduce her to the school, she was more than ready to start in September.

I'm grateful to all the staff for helping my daughter feel safe and settled. She was so anxious about moving up, but thoroughly enjoyed her induction week and has settled really well.

The week-long induction was excellent; a really good opportunity for my son to get a clear understanding of what secondary school was like. Teachers have been very caring.

I cannot thank and praise Dene Magna enough for the start my daughter has had with the short notice of her joining the school"

Communication & BROMCOM

Our IT team has been working closely with BROMCOM to address some nationwide issues that affected communication last week, text messages and emails even though sent were not being delivered, we sincerely apologise for this. We're hopeful that these will be resolved so that all messages reach you smoothly this week.

Clubs and Enrichment

Clubs have now started in earnest, and it was fantastic to see so many students joining in with netball and rugby practice at lunchtime.

I've set a challenge for all our Key Stage 3 students: if they haven't joined a club yet, to try one this term or even better, try something new! Parental encouragement makes all the difference, so please do keep nudging them to take part. Being involved in activities outside lessons is a big part of life at Dene Magna.

A	B	C	D	E
Monday: Week A	Tuesday: Week A	Wednesday: Week A	Thursday: Week A	Friday: Week A
Year 8 & Year 9 Rugby - Boys	Year 7 Rugby - Boys	KS3 & KS4 Football - Girls	Year 10 & Year 11 Rugby - Boys	KS3 & KS4 Rugby - Girls
Year 9, Year 10 & Year 11 Netball - Girls	Year 7 & Year 8 Netball - Girls	Technology Club - T4 - Yr8/9/GCSE	KS3 & KS4 Badminton - Boys & Girls	Year 10 & Year 11 Basketball - Boys & Girls
KS4 French ILT club (12.35pm-1pm)	KS3 Basketball		KS4 Book Club	Chess Club - M2
	KS4 Spanish Film Club - L2	Battle of the Books Book Club		
Esports - Rocket League - KS3 - ICT 1	KS3 MFL Board Games - L3		Esports - KS4 - ICT 1	KS4 Art Club - C4
		BOCCIA - Sports Hall	Coding club KS3 and 4 - ICT 2	Choir - SWAD - Music Room - Lunch
	KS3 Book Club		School Production Rehearsals - 3.30pm - 5pm	
	LAMDA - Selected Year 8 and 12- After School		Running Club - Lunchtime	KS3 & KS4 Warhammer Club - 3.30pm - 5.30pm
Monday: Week B	Tuesday: Week B	Wednesday: Week B	Thursday: Week B	Friday: Week B
Year 8 & Year 9 Rugby - Boys	Year 7 Rugby - Boys	KS3 & KS4 Football - Girls	Year 10 & Year 11 Rugby - Boys	KS3 & KS4 Rugby - Girls
Year 9, Year 10 & Year 11 Netball - Girls	Year 7 & Year 8 Netball - Girls		KS3 & KS4 Badminton - Boys & Girls	Year 10 & Year 11 Basketball - Boys & Girls
KS4 French ILT club (12.35pm-1pm)	KS3 Basketball	Battle of the Books Book Club	MFL Duoleague Club - L4	Chess Club - M2
	KS4 Spanish Film Club - L2	BOCCIA - Sports Hall		
Technology Club - T4 - Yr8/9/GCSE	KS3 MFL Board Games - L3		Esports - KS4 - ICT 1	Choir - SWAD - Music Room - Lunch
Esports - Rocket League - KS3 - ICT 1	KS3 Book Club		School Production Rehearsals - 3.30pm - 5pm	KS3 & KS4 Warhammer Club - 3.30pm - 5.30pm
	Year 7 Science Club		KS4 Art Club - C4	
	Creative Writing Club - Lunch		Running Club - Lunchtime	

Sports Clubs This Term

Our PE Department organise a full programme of sports clubs that are run during lunchtimes.

Please see schedule below:

Clubs List - Term 1				
When: Lunchtimes - get changed first and get lunch early from the canteen (you will only be allowed to the front of the queue if you are in PE kit).				
Where: Meet at (hall side) changing rooms at the start of lunchtime!				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y8 & Y9 RUGBY (PG/AU)	Y7 RUGBY (PG/MH)	ALL YEARS GIRLS FOOTBALL (BJ)	Y10 & Y11 RUGBY (PG/AU)	ALL YEARS GIRLS RUGBY (JDE/LH)
Y9, 10, 11 NETBALL (DH/BJ/MP)	Y7 & 8 NETBALL (DH/BJ)		ALL YEARS BADMINTON (SA/BJ/DH/JDE)	Y10 & Y11 BASKETBALL (SA/AU/PG)
	Y7, Y8 & Y9 BASKETBALL (SA- Week A) (AU- Week B)			

Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze Success

Last weekend, our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh group finally completed their qualifying walk, which had been postponed from the summer term due to the extreme heat.

They all gave it their best efforts as they completed the overnight camp and two day walk around the Forest of Dean area. They pushed themselves to complete the challenge as they move towards finishing the award. Many thanks to AtoZ expeditions and to Mr Beard for supporting them all on the journey!



We will be recruiting new Year 9's and 10's over the next month, so if you fancy a challenge, watch out for the messages in school and on social media...

It was wonderful to hear how they supported one another, showed determination, and demonstrated true leadership skills. We are looking forward to seeing them progress onto their next award.

Year 12 Icebreaker

After a very quiet and nervous start last week, our Year 12 students took part in team-building activities led by Mr Beard. There was plenty of laughter, squealing, and teamwork on display and we now see a much more confident and settled year group.



Mr Beard received the following feedback from a new year 12 student:

“Dear Sir, I just wanted to say thank you for hosting these games I had a ton of fun and I feel a lot less nervous and scared to speak around the people in my tutor! I even made a new friend. I really appreciate that you hosted them - it was the most fun I had in a long time”.

School Photographs

This week, Year 7 and Year 12 students had their new school photographs taken. Proofs will be sent home soon if you would like to order any prints please follow the instructions on the form that you receive.

LAMDA Success

LAMDA qualifications are the drama equivalent of music exams, and we are always proud of the students who take part.

During the summer, our former Year 13 student Sophia sat her Grade 8 LAMDA and achieved a distinction, a fantastic achievement and an inspiration for our younger students. Congratulations to Sophia and all those who took exams last year.

We are hiring

Senior ICT Technician to join the Forest of Dean Trust team!



 Forest of Dean Trust

WE ARE HIRING

SENIOR ICT TECHNICIAN

At the Forest of Dean Trust we are seeking an experienced ICT Technician to join our team, based at Dene Magna School, with the potential to work across our other school sites within the Trust

For more information, a full job specification and details of how to apply please visit the vacancies page of our website at www.fodt.co.uk

APPLY NOW

For enquiries please email HR@fodt.co.uk

Closing date for applications - 9am 26th September 2025

Art Installation

A huge thank you to ex-student Georgie Dix who has dedicated her own personal time to create this outstanding piece of art work for Mr Hoult's classroom! Mr Hoult is very grateful for your time and hard work!

Discovery Days – 15th, 16th & 17th October

We are pleased to confirm that we will be running Discovery Days (formerly known as *Yellow Week*) again this year. A wide range of on-site activities and external trips have been planned to provide students with enriching and memorable experiences.

The activities will take place on Wednesday and Thursday during the final week of term, and the week will conclude with all students taking part in our annual Dene Magna Sponsored Walk to Beechenhurst on Friday 17th October.

We have made a concerted effort to offer a range of enriching trips for our Key Stage 3 students this term.

For Year 7, there will be a whole year group trip to Viney Hill Adventure Centre, providing students with outdoor learning and team-building opportunities. In addition, we are excited to offer a Year 8 trip to Bristol, where students will visit both the Bristol Aquarium and the "We The Curious" museum.

Due to the size of the cohort, both trips will be split over two days to ensure a high-quality experience for all students.

You should have already received a letter from your son or daughter with further details last week. If not, please do let us know.

In an effort to make these trips as accessible as possible for all families, we have worked hard to reduce costs by negotiating group discounts, partnering with local companies, and minimising additional fees wherever possible.

There will also be a trip launch for our Year 9 students next week. As part of this, they will have the opportunity to visit the Imperial War Museum in London. Further details, including dates, costs, and itinerary, will be shared in a letter next week.

Meanwhile, Year 10 students are encouraged to begin exploring work experience opportunities during the week. To support them, there will be an assembly next week that will guide them through the process of finding a placement and explain the steps involved in organising it.

Year 11 students will take part in a range of subject-related sessions next week, alongside the Berlin trip. Activities will include a visit to a local nursery, practical coursework sessions, and a trip to an Amazon distribution centre, all designed to enrich their learning and provide real-world context to their studies.

Sixth Form students will also have a full programme of activities, including a team-building day at the 270 Climbing Centre, a variety of career-related workshops, and mock interviews for Year 13 students to help prepare them for future applications and interviews.



Year Group	Wednesday 15 th October	Thursday 16 th October	Friday 17 th October
7	Group A – Vinney Hill trip Group B – In school activities	Group B – Vinney Hill trip Group A – In school activities	Sponsored walk
8	Group A – We the curious/ Aquarium trip Group B – In school activities	Group B – We the curious/ Aquarium trip Group A – In school activities	
9	Group A – Imperial War museum trip Group B – In school activities	Forensic Science and Medical day	
10	Work experience or In school career related activities	Work experience or In school career related activities	
11	A mix of practical and academic subject sessions	A mix of practical and academic subject sessions	
12	Teambuilding day at 270 Climbing	A mix of practical , academic and careers related subject sessions	
13	Mock interviews	A mix of practical and academic subject sessions	

Dream Makers Class of 2030

A massive congratulations to our first Dream Makers of the Week of the school year!

- Maddy Bryant
- Darcey Gorman
- Angel Otley
- Isabel Jackson
- Elena Matthews
- Harry Johnson



All our Year 7s have had an amazing start to the year and I am so proud of every one of them! I have been in tutor most days and speaking to them around the school and it is fantastic to hear such amazing things they have been up to!

Every lesson teachers select one or more students to be MVP, someone that has impressed them during the lesson. All MVPs are entered into a random draw to be selected Our Dream Makers of the week.

Next week I will be meeting my team of Dream makers to plan the year ahead!

Thanks to all those parents who attended the Year 7 tutor evening last night. The buzz was fantastic and it was great to see and hear so many smiling faces and great comments!

If you are struggling to find out from your child what they are studying, please feel free to go onto the website under curriculum which will tell you everything they do this year and beyond!

Any questions or queries, feel free to email Mr Derrick.

Year 11 Trial Exam Schedule

Please see schedule below, more information will be forth coming as we get nearer to the event.

Yr 11 Trials								
Day	Date		Subject and Paper	Length	start	finish	venue	
WEEK 1								
Monday	17-Nov	am	Combined Science	70	9.00	10.10	Sports Hall	
		am	Triple Science - Biology	105	9.00	10.45	Sports Hall	
		pm	Engineering	90	1.20	2.50	Sports Hall	
		pm	Textiles	105	1.20	3.05	Sports Hall	
Tuesday	18-Nov	am	English Literature	150	9.00	11.30	Sports Hall	
		pm	Languages - Reading FT	60	1.00	2.00	Sports Hall	
		pm	Languages - Reading HT	75	1.00	2.15	"	
Wednesday	19-Nov	am	History	120	9.00	11:00	Sports Hall	
		pm	ENRICHMENT					
Thursday	20-Nov	am	Maths Non-Calculator	90	9.00	10.30	Sports Hall	
		pm	IT - On Screen	80	1.20	2.40	ICT 1	
Friday	21-Nov	am	English Language	120	9.00	11.00	Sports Hall	
		pm	PE	60	1.20	2.20	Sports Hall	
WEEK 2								
Monday	24-Nov	am	Combined Science	70	9.00	10.10	Sports Hall	
		am	Triple Science - Chemistry	105	9.00	10.45	Sports Hall	
		pm	Computer Science - On Screen	90	1.20	2.50	ICT 1	
Tuesday	25-Nov	am	Languages - Writing					
		am	Foundation Tier	75	9.00	10.15	Sports Hall	
		am	Higher Tier	90	9.00	10.30	Sports Hall	
		pm	Geography	90	1.20	2.50	Sports Hall	
Wednesday	26-Nov	am	Drama	105	9.00	10.45	Sports Hall	
		am	Religious Studies	105	9.00	10.45	Sports Hall	
		am	PE	60	9.00	10	Sports Hall	
		pm	ENRICHMENT					
Thursday	27-Nov	am	Business Studies	105	9.00	10.45	Sports Hall	
		pm	Maths	90	1.20	2.50	Sports Hall	
Friday	28-Nov	am	Combined Science	70	9.00	10.10	Sports Hall	
		am	Triple Science - Physics	105	9.00	10.45	Sports Hall	
		pm	Child Development	75	1.20	2.35	Sports Hall	
		pm	Computer Science	90	1.20	2.50	Sports Hall	
		pm	Music	90	1.20	2.50	TBC	
Wednesday	W/c 1-Dec		Languages Speaking					
Wednesday	3-Dec	am	Art	300	9.00		Art Room	
		pm	Art		1.20			
	w/c 1-Dec		Languages - Listening					
RESULTS DAY- 18th December 8:15								

My Child At School App

Please can we ask that any updates to student's personal information, parents emergency contact details, email addresses and medical conditions be added via the "My Child At School" app

Year 11 Parent/Carers Evening – Thursday 18th September

We are holding our Year 11 Parent/Carer evening on Thursday 18th September in the Main Hall from 4.00pm – 7.00pm. The parents evening system is now open for you to make your appointments, if you have difficulties please do not hesitate to contact Reception.

Outside Achievements

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

It's been another busy but brilliant week at Dene Magna. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Declan Mooney
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary

- Thursday 18th September – Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening
- Tuesday 23rd September –Year 7 Boys Rugby Festival v Forest Schools at Dene Magna
- Wednesday 24th September – Berlin Parents Information Evening 5pm – 6pm
- Thursday 25th September – Open Day/Evening
- Friday 26th September – Year 8 Performance "Crashing"