



Weekly Parent Bulletin No 3: Week Commencing Monday 15 September Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

It has been another busy and positive week here at Dene Magna, and I'd like to share a few key updates with you.

Year 11 - Preparing for Success

Thank you to all the Year 11 parents who joined us last night. It was fantastic to see so much support as we discussed how well students are doing and the steps needed as they prepare for their trial exams in November.

- The week beginning 29th September, students will spend their RFL sessions learning five different revision techniques to support their preparation.
- Period 6 sessions will also begin next week for some subjects. These after-school sessions will focus on revision and exam practice to give students every opportunity to succeed. Students will be coming home today with their personalised invite to period 6.

A timetable of sessions is below:

- Mon A= English
- Tues A= Science
- Weds A= Option A
- Thurs A= Option B
- Tues B= Maths
- Weds B= Option D
- Thurs B= Option C

Every Friday there is an extra exam practice session after school in S4 with Miss Clarke and Mr Derrick.

Year 8 French Café

This week Year 8s have been using their French language skills to order food at the café. They all loved their breakfasts, all ordering in French with some lovely accents.



Dream Makers

Our Year 7 students continue to impress us with their enthusiasm. They are eager to earn their MPVs in lessons and are actively asking staff how they can achieve them. I was really impressed this week walking around lessons, especially in PE where students have been doing gymnastics! Well done girls!



All our Year 7 Dream Makers have received loyalty cards, these are to encourage students to try 8 different clubs and activities this term, which is a great way to make new friends with similar interests. , ! If they achieve it, they will be invited to Mr Derrick's Dream Makers breakfast in the last week of term!



We held our first breakfast meeting this week, thanks to all those who attended. We discussed the year so far, any issues to solve as well as a project that will be launched on Monday!

Mr Derrick will be giving all Year 7s a new laminated timetable Monday morning. This is running alongside something to help them with their ILT organisation! Details to follow next week!

Sponsored Walk – Coming Soon!

We are busy organising our annual Sponsored Walk in the Woods, which will take place on the last day of this half term and is a whole school event. Sponsorship forms will be going out soon.

Last year, the funds raised went towards Young Minds, Great Western Air Ambulance, Different Strokes, Royal British Legion, Dementia UK, Parkinsons UK.

This is always a highlight of the school year and a wonderful way for our community to come together.

Sporting Fixtures Begin

It has been brilliant to see so many students attending lunchtime practices, and we are excited for fixtures to begin next week.

On Tuesday after school, Dene Magna will host the Year 7 Rugby Festival against other Forest schools on our playing field. Parents are warmly invited to come along and cheer on the teams.

Student Leadership

A big thank you to my Headteacher students, who have been very patient while I finalised the design of the new ties.

I'm also delighted to announce that Aoife and Becky will be leading the Student Council, working with me to represent the views of the student body and help shape the future of Dene Magna.



Year 8 Interactive Play – Friday 26th September

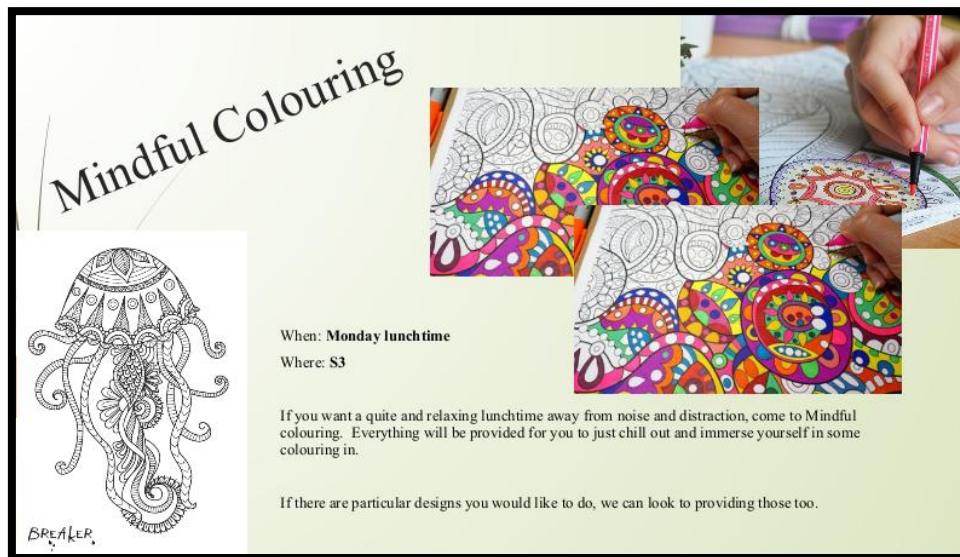
As I am sure you are aware, the sexual exploitation of children across the UK has been in the news recently. Dangers can come from the any area of their lives, the internet and social networking sites such Facebook, twitter and snapchat but also through friendship groups and people known to the young people themselves. We also know that the best protection we can give to young people is knowledge of the dangers so that they are aware and can protect themselves, as well as letting them know where they can go for help and support if they are worried.

In order to do this, we are presenting an interactive play to all of our Year 8 pupils which will tackle the difficult issue of Child Sexual Exploitation on Friday 26th September. The play is called Crashing and will provide an opportunity for interaction with the actors helping pupils to see the choices the characters made and how they might have chosen differently. We will provide an information sheet which has been designed with input from young people to all pupils on where to go if they are worried about exploitation, feel forced into doing something they don't want to, or if they feel they are at risk. School staff will also be on hand to help with questions.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Emily Malsom, RSHE coordinator.

Launch of a New Club

We are excited to introduce a new club, "Mindful Colouring", this will take place in S3 during Monday lunchtime.



"Refresh Event" – Saturday 20th September

An event being staged in Kings Square by Bridge Training in conjunction with Kings Walk/Eastgate Shopping Centre/Kings Square and Gloucester BID. This event is next Saturday 20th September from 11-3pm. Aimed at 14-19 year olds, ReFresh is about reminding Gloucester young people of the activities, opportunities and support available to them on their doorstep. Please can you share the attached poster across your setting and include in any Head newsletters this week if possible? It's important we get the word out to young people that this is happening and encourage them to come along. Free crazy golf, free food (whilst it lasts!!!), free music and free art/craft activity... what's not to love?

RSHE Topics For This Term

RSHE topics your son/daughter is discussing this half term:

- Year 7 - Connecting thoughts and emotions, Gremlin Beliefs, Belonging
- Year 8 - Building Resilience, Communication, 7 Senses & Wellbeing
- Year 9 - Building Resilience, Sleep, 7 Senses & Wellbeing
- Year 10 - Developing a Growth Mindset, Managing Mood, Health Checks
- Year 11 - Happiness, Screen Time and Health Checks.

We have been thoroughly enjoying RSHE as part of our timetabled curriculum, with sessions led by Miss Malsom, Ms Beale, Mr Mooney, and Ms Barker.

This term, our Year 7 and 8 students have been trialling the use of *Circles* within RSHE to help strengthen relationships and encourage open, supportive discussions. Circles use a talking piece and interactive games to build trust and create a safe, inclusive environment for sharing ideas.



Our Year 7s and 8s have not only had lots of fun taking part but have also contributed many thoughtful and insightful reflections to our lessons.

Year 7, 9 & 12 Photos

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Sunday 28th September 2025**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk. If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Careers – Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 have been given information about work experience this week during an assembly. Students will have two opportunities across the year to secure a work experience placement. The dates are as follows: **13th - 17th October 2025** or **29th June - 3rd July 2026**. Students can also secure a work experience placement during the school holidays if those dates are unavailable.



Celebrating Success

We would like to congratulate all our students who won awards at the recent Ruardean Hill Cricket Club awards ceremony:

- Lacey Jones – U13 Batting Award
- Zack Coleman – U13s Coaches' Player & Bowling Award
- Harry Coleman – “Champagne Moment” for hitting the winning run for the U15s off the last ball of the match v Apperley



- Zack White – U15s Batting Award & U15s Coaches' Player
- Robson Trigg – U15s Bowling Award & Most Improved and Parents' Player
- Douggie Matthews – U15s Bowling Award
- Fin Drage – 3rd XI – Most Improved Player
- Pacey Drage – U11s Most Improved Player



Gloucester Rugby Developing Pathway

We would like to congratulate

Oli Andrew's Weaver
 Tyler Crowell
 Kai James
 Oli Evans
 Tyler Gwynne

Who have all been invited to join the Gloucester Developing Pathway, the boys were nominated either by the school or their current rugby club and will receive specialist rugby training at Gloucester Hartpury. We would like to wish them all good luck.



Open Day/Evening

If you have a son or daughter in Year 6 please don't forget to come along to our Open Day/Evening, being held on Thursday 25th September. Come and explore Dene Magna: meet our teachers and students, find out more about the subjects we offer, and discover how we can support your child to achieve their maximum potential and enjoy the process!



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

We Are Hiring

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



Have a great weekend.

Declan Mooney
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary:

- 22.09.25 - Payment Deadline for Year 7 Viney Hill Adventure Centre Visit.
- 23.09.25 - Year 7 Rugby Festival.
- 24.09.25 - Berlin Parent's Information Evening.
- 25.09.25 - Open Day & Evening.
- 26.09.25 - 3rd Instalment of £468.00 is due for the Ski Trip 2026.
- 26.09.25 - Year 8 "Crashing" Performance.
- 26.09.25 - Duke of Edinburgh Introduction Meeting.
- 26.09.25 - Payment Deadline for Cheltenham Literature Festival.