



Weekly Parent Bulletin No 4 Week Commencing Monday 22 September Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

What a fantastic week we have had here at Dene Magna, with so many moments to celebrate and be proud of.

Year 7 Rugby Triumph

Our Year 7 boys played their first competitive rugby fixtures for Dene Magna this week, and what a way to start their journey! They faced Dean Academy, Newent, and Five Acres and came away with victories in all of their games.

I have been so impressed with the effort these boys have put into their lunchtime training sessions. They turn up with commitment and determination, and that showed on the field in the way they played together as a team. Their discipline and focus really stood out.



It was also very special to see so many parents on the side-lines supporting them. The atmosphere was brilliant, and I know the boys appreciated hearing your cheers as they represented the school for the first time. I felt incredibly proud of them and can't wait to see what they go on to achieve in the months and years ahead.

An Amazing Open Day and Evening

We welcomed families into school this week for our annual **Open Day and Evening**, and it was one of the best yet. During the day, 61 families joined us to see lessons in action, experience the buzz of our classrooms, and talk to staff and students about what life at Dene Magna is really like.

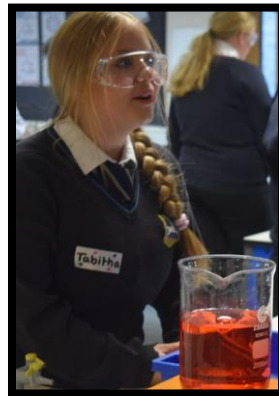
The evening was something quite special too, with most of those families returning and joining over 250 parents for a showcase of all that our departments have to offer. The school was alive with energy and activity, every corridor and classroom felt full of excitement.

Departments really went above and beyond to make the evening memorable:

- In **Maths**, visitors played chess, exploring the connections between problem-solving and strategy.



- In **Science**, Mrs Hammond wowed the crowds by setting fire to vaporised alcohol—always a favourite!



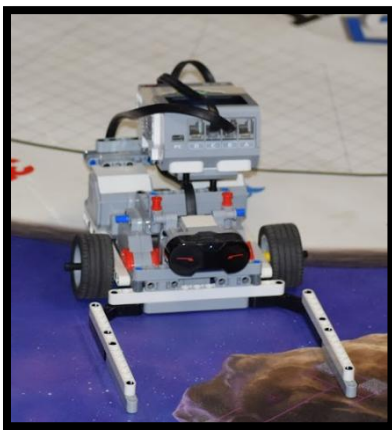
- In **Technology**, delicious food was on offer, with homemade bread and garlic butter proving to be a real highlight for many.



- Around the school, families were able to get involved with quizzes, practical demonstrations, and even some dressing-up activities.



Of course, the real stars of the show were our students. From delivering speeches in the hall to guiding families on tours, to representing their subjects with pride and enthusiasm, they embodied what it means to be part of the Dene Magna family. I couldn't have been prouder watching them showcase not only their knowledge but also their warmth and confidence.



Year 10 Preparing for Work Experience

For our Year 10 students, the focus has now turned to **work experience at the end of this term**. This is such an important part of their development, giving them the chance to step outside the classroom and experience the world of work first-hand. It is always wonderful to hear the stories that come back, how students discovered new skills, gained confidence, and sometimes even found a pathway they want to follow in the future.

I know that some students are still finalising their placements. If your child is one of them, please do encourage them to talk to their tutor or Mrs Rich for help. We want every student to benefit fully from this opportunity, and we will do everything we can to support them in finding a placement that excites and challenges them.

Primary Football Festival

This week at Dene Magna. Mr Beard, our School Games Coordinator, organised and hosted a **primary schools football tournament** on our site.

These occasions are always a joy to watch, as they bring together pupils from across our local community and give them the chance to play sport in a supportive and fun environment. What made me particularly proud, though, was the role our own Year 10 students played in the event.

Instead of simply being participants, they stepped into new roles, helping to coach, referee, and organise. For many of them, this was their first taste of leadership in this context, and they rose to the challenge

brilliantly. Events like this help our students see the game from a different perspective and develop skills they will take far beyond sport.



Your Art Department Needs You

The Art Department are collecting plastic drinks bottles in order to make poppies for a Remembrance Display. Please can all bottles be cleaned and brought into Reception.

There will be poppy making clubs running every Tuesday after school until 4: 20, and on Wednesday lunch time up until half term. Students in Year 7 and 8 are welcome to attend



RSHE Update

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.

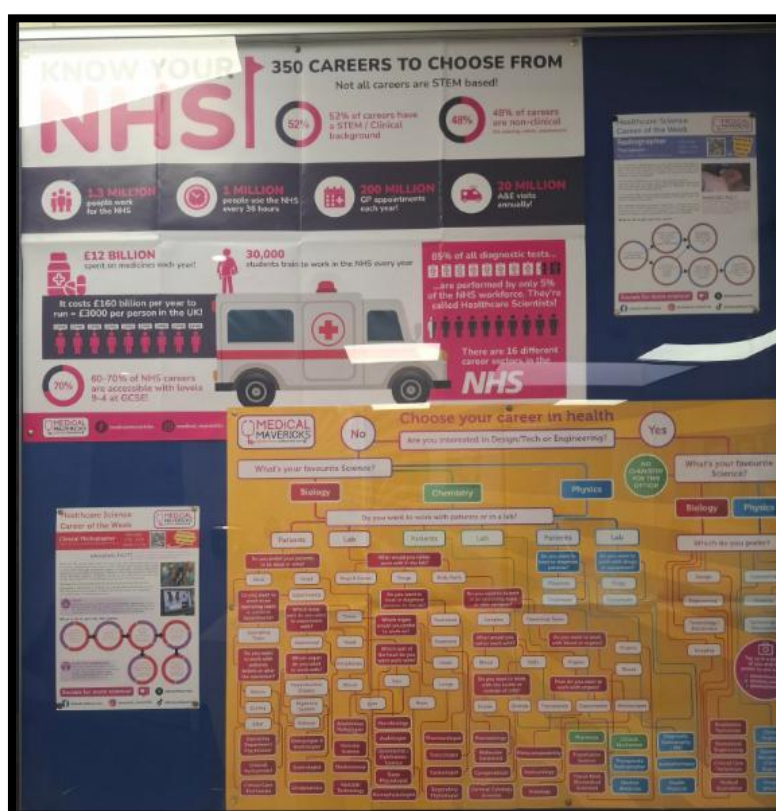
What the students are saying about circles...

- "I like the lessons because they are interactive"
- "I like it because we get to talk about how we are feeling"
- "I am excited for the lessons as they are fun"
- "I get to interact with people I don't normally work with"
- "It is good because everyone has a chance to talk"
- "It helps us to connect with each other and work together"



NHS Careers

We recognise that medical careers are very exciting, and you have the opportunity to help change lives, which appeals to most of you! But you do need to appreciate that there are other jobs in the NHS apart from "Doctor." Outside S1 there is now a noticeboard giving you information about the wide variety of medical careers you can have, depending on your interests in STEM and your aptitude. Come and look at it and see if anything interests you. Your science teachers also have posters in their rooms about NHS careers, and we will be changing these regularly. If you would like further information about NHS careers, you can always speak to Mrs Rich, our careers advisor or your science teacher!



FROZEN JR. FUNDRAISER - FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER

Get ready to "Let It Go" and join us for a magical evening supporting our upcoming school production of Disney's *Frozen Jr!*

Our fundraising event will take place on Friday 10th October from 6-8pm in the Main Hall, featuring an exciting quiz for just £2 per person to enter. There will be games and competitions galore to keep the whole family entertained, plus snacks and drinks available for purchase throughout the evening.

We're also looking for generous donations of cakes and raffle prizes to make our fundraising efforts even more successful. Any contributions, big or small, would be greatly appreciated and will help support our talented students in bringing this beloved Disney story to life on stage.

To register your quiz team in advance, please email Mrs. Mazelin-Browne at m.mazelin-browne@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk. While we encourage pre-registration, limited tickets will also be available on the door.

Come along for a fun-filled evening and help us raise vital funds for what promises to be a spectacular production. We look forward to seeing you there!

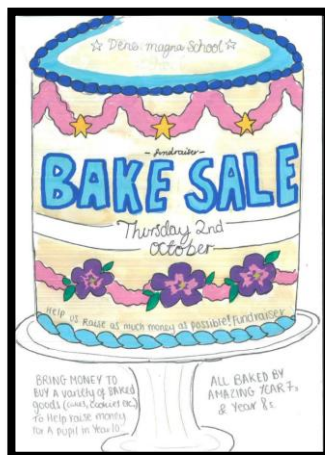
All proceeds will go towards costumes, props and production costs for Frozen Jr.



Cake Sale – Thursday 2nd October

One of our students has recently been diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma a form of bone cancer.

We at Dene Magna have decided to host various fund raising activities, the first being a Cake Sale which will be held on Thursday 2nd October with all proceeds from this going to the family. Year 7 & 8 students will be baking cakes to sell to the whole school during break and lunch time, please can we ask that students come to school next Thursday with cash to purchase a cake.



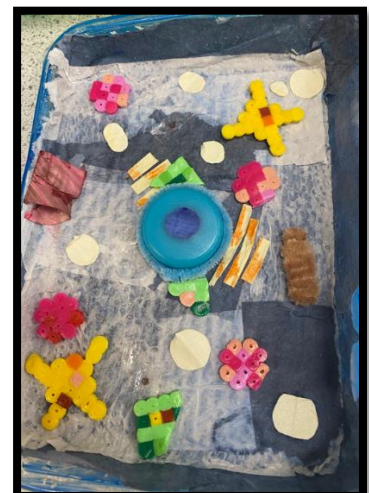
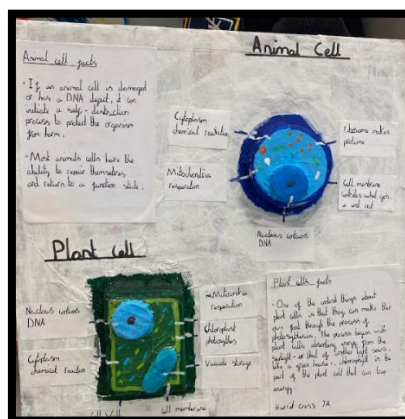
Dream Makers Class of 2030

Our year 7s have been working exceptionally hard this week and we are delighted to announce our Dream Makers of the Week are:

- Ruby W
- Clara G
- Freddie H
- Jacob H
- Harriet C



7Sc-A completed their first homework this week; making a model cell! After years of setting this as a project Miss Pope and I are blown away by the standard. The time and effort that went into every creation is remarkable. I wanted to email to thank all parents and carers for your support and enthusiasm in helping your children make this year's model cell homework so impressive! I am very proud of them and excited to see what else they will go on to achieve. What an amazing start to their Science studies at Dene Magna



Celebrating Success

We would like to congratulate Ben Heyworth on an incredible achievement. He completed the full Wild Boar bike ride alongside 400 other cyclists, last weekend. This was Ben's first ever ride, he covered 43 miles through the woods dealing with some substantial ascents and descent in an incredible time.



Macmillan Cancer Support

Our School Counsellor Mara is raising money for Macmillan, below is her story:

In April of this year my youngest daughter was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic breast cancer. This news was totally unexpected and I felt that in that moment my family's life and especially my daughter's life was about to change forever. I will never forget the look on her face the day she told me and her dad; a day that felt unbelievably terrifying. After several brutal rounds of treatment my daughter, my very brave and courageous daughter is doing very well. Thanks to the oncologist; the chemotherapy nurses and the excellent care she has received throughout the last six months she and we can breathe again. So next April I am running the London Landmarks for McMillan Cancer. I would like to help raise as much money as I can so that continued research into finding cures and the best available medicines are available to everyone who might one day be given the news we were given.



Please donate whatever you can; every pound goes towards saving a life.

To donate please go to "JustGiving" then search MG's fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Good Luck Natasha "Mo" Hunt

Dene Magna wishes our incredible alumni Natasha 'Mo' Hunt the best of luck for tomorrow, when she'll be facing Canada in the FINAL of the Women's Rugby World Cup!

Mo wears the number 9 shirt and plays scrum half for the Red Roses, who are on a record 32 test winning streak and are favourites to win on Saturday at a sold-out Allianz Twickenham Stadium. We wish Mo and all the Red Roses the best of luck. All the Dene Magna community will be cheering on from the Forest!



Reminder of our school uniform

As we come back from the summer holidays, we return to our official uniform. We have made some slight changes, with the addition of tailored shorts.

- Jumper: Dene Magna branded jumper
- Shirt/Blouse: Plain white
- Trousers/Skirt:
 - Trousers: Plain black, tailored (not denim, leggings, or skin-tight)
 - Tailored Shorts: Tailored black trouser material shorts, not sport shorts.
 - Skirt: Black "Banner" style only — pencil skirts not permitted
- Tie: Official Dene Magna tie
- Shoes: Plain black leather (no canvas, trainers, and no sports branded shoes, suede or boots)
- Coat: Plain coat
- Socks/Tights: Plain black, grey, or white socks; plain black tights (no patterns or fishnet)

PE Kit

- Navy shorts, polo top, quarter-zip top, socks (with white stripe), trainers (no flat daps), football/rugby boots

Appearance Guidelines

- No makeup permitted
- Hair must be natural colour and style
- Limited jewellery: one stud per ear; no nose piercings. If your son/daughter wishes to get a facial piercing, they must be able to remove it for school
- Clear labelling of all uniform and kit is essential (use name labels)

To see all of our uniform please visit the Dene Magna website (New Starter section).

After a very busy week, have restful weekend.

Declan Mooney
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary:

30.09.25	-	Year 11 Girls Netball Challenge Cup @ Cheltenham Ladies College
30.09.25	-	Year 7 Boys Rugby @ John Kyrle
1.10.25	-	3 rd Instalment of £200 for the Okinawa Exchange
6.10.25	-	Year 7 & 9 Boys Rugby @ Wyedean
6.10.25	-	Year 8 & 9 Girls Netball @ Wyedean
7.10.25	-	Year 9 Netball @ Newent
8.10.25	-	Year 10 & 11 Netball @ Dene Magna
8.10.25	-	Year 9 Boys Rugby @ Dene Magna
8.10.25	-	Year 7 Rugby @ Newent
8.10.25	-	Scholars Launch Meeting
9.10.25	-	Year 13 Parent/Carer Evening
10.10.25	-	Final Payment of £70.00 for Girls Netball Trip
10.10.25	-	Cheltenham Literature Festival Visit