



Weekly Parent Bulletin No: 8 Week Commencing Monday 3rd November 2025 Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

It is wonderfully refreshing to be back in school and see all of our students looking so rested and invigorated following a lovely and well-deserved half term break.

Clearing Up the Uniform Rumour

I must address a rumour that seems to have been circulating among students and even outside of school concerning our uniform policy. The suggestion is that I plan to implement a change to the school's uniform. I want to state clearly **this is FALSE**. I have **no current or future intention of changing our school uniform**. The current attire is an important part of our identity, and we remain fully committed to it.

End-of-Term Sponsored walk

Thinking back to the end of last term, the whole school community had a genuinely fabulous time participating in our annual sponsored Walk. It was a memorable event that truly encompassed our school spirit.

- Year 7 Performance: Mr Derrick and his team led our newest students, Year 7, on their first ever route. They performed brilliantly, demonstrating great stamina and teamwork, and completed the walk in record time.



- The Extension: As is his tradition, Mr James took his year group on a slightly longer extension to the main walking route, providing them with an extra challenge and scenic views.

- Sixth Form Involvement: It was especially heart-warming to see our Sixth Form students contributing by setting up a station to sell cakes at the campus before joining the rest of the school to complete the walk alongside the younger students.

I would also like to extend my deepest gratitude to all parents for their cooperation and patience during the collection process at the conclusion of the walk.

The total collected so far across all houses and 6th form is £4803.26. If you have any outstanding sponsorship money, please can this be paid on line via our ScoPay app or brought into school, as soon as possible.

Sporting Excellence This Week

The competitive spirit is already high, and this week has delivered some truly exciting sporting events, netball versus John Kyrle and EFL U13s Girls football cup.

Year 10 and Year Girls 8 netball teams played brilliantly this week against John Kyrle. It was a wonderful opportunity for our younger Year 8s to observe the skill level and experience of the Year 10 players. More importantly, it was lovely to witness the supportive atmosphere as both teams cheered passionately for one another.

- The Year 10s won convincingly, showcasing their advanced tactics and superb execution winning 14-2.
- The Year 8s fought incredibly hard and played a dynamic game, narrowly losing by the slimmest of margins, just one single point, final score 4-3. Well done to all the girls
- The U13 girls took part in the EFL Cup yesterday at Tewkesbury School and put in a great performance. The girls finished 2nd in their group and narrowly missed out to reach the semi- finals by 1 goal!



Primary School Athletics

Yesterday, our school had the honour of hosting the Primary School Athletics event in our sports hall. We welcomed almost 20 primary schools to the competition.

I must offer special thanks to all of our Year 10 student volunteers who provided invaluable support. They took on roles as coaches, referees, and motivators, inspiring the young primary students to achieve their personal best. Witnessing our students serve as such excellent ambassadors for both sport and our school community was a genuine highlight for me.

Remembrance Day Next Week

We are looking forward to observing Remembrance Day next week, an important event for which our students have been preparing.

Our students have been dedicating time to making poppies which has formed a central display in our school reception area.



On Tuesday, we welcome students who are part of any uniformed services (e.g., Cadets, Scouts, Guides) to wear their full uniform to school.

The entire school will gather on the field to host a formal two-minute silence.

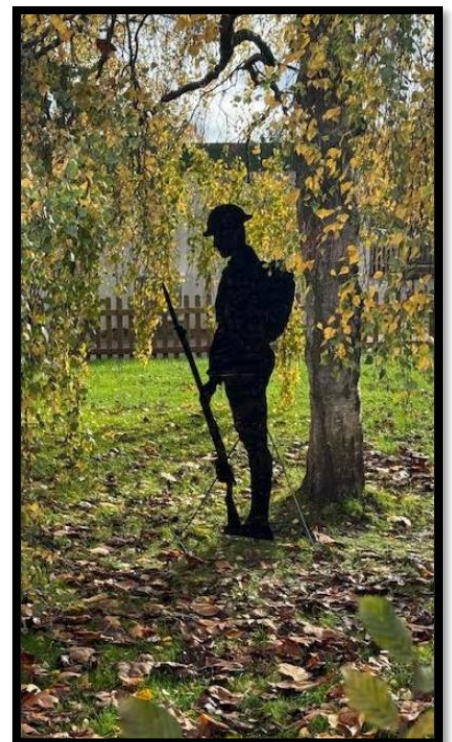
- This will be observed respectfully across the campus.
- The silence will be marked by one of our students playing the Last Post.
- We will be honoured by the presence of members of the British Legion, who will address the school to share a few words, helping us to remember the fallen dead from the World Wars.

We encourage all students to reflect on the importance of this day and its significance in history.

Our D&T department have created our very own “Tommy” statue which stands proudly under the silver birch tree at the front of the school. **“We will remember them”**.

6th Form Open Evening

It was so lovely to see so many people at the campus for our 6th form open evening. Students from across the forest came to find out more about all the subjects on offer at “A level”.



Applications to join us are now open online, find us under the “6th Form” area of the Dene Magna Website.



The Dream Makers Challenge

All Year 7 students have been taking part in a presentation competition, whereby they all did a presentation in front of their tutor group on a topic of their choice! I then asked the tutors to pick just two that would go forwards to the Dream Makers final.

The finalists were:

- Ben H (D1)
- Cole G & Oscar E (D1)
- Alyssa B & Emily L (F1)
- Max (J1)
- Ruby & Millie (J1)
- Seren N & Darcey D (D2)
- Karis C & Neve D (D2)
- Harriet & Autumn (W1)
- Tilly & Matilda (W1)
- Eryn & Erin (W2)



The final for this presentation will be held in the Hall on Monday 10th November. They will be competing for the first of the Dream Makers Trophies! I am so excited to see the presentations!

MVPs

Throughout the first term, students have been awarded MVPs in every lesson they have attended. MVP is for the student that shows the most effort in lessons and it has been fantastic to see so many students achieving them!

As it was the end of the term, instead of Dream Makers of the Week, Mr Derrick has selected Dream Makers - Team of the Term. All of these students achieved at least 10 MVPs in the autumn term and will receive a special prize in the assembly today! These students are:

Clara, Isabel, Rory, Skyla, Bobi, Kyle, Max, Ben, Erin, Molly, Scarlett, Darcey, Elena, Gilad, Xanthe, Harriet, Matilda, Joey, Scarlett, Oscar, Amelia, Samuel and Ruby

Mr Derrick's Shop

The Dream Maker committee met on Wednesday to decide on the 'pricing' for Mr Derrick's shop!

Students will now be able to trade in MVPs for items such as stationary, water bottles even a skip the lunch queue pass! This shop will be launched in today's assembly.

Exciting news - As part of us all being part of the Dene Magna family, Mr Derrick is planning a quiz night for you all! Details will be in the next bulletin! Looking forward to seeing Mr Derrick in his sparkly quiz master's jacket!!

Inter Faith Week 2025

Next week marks the national Interfaith Week which is celebrated every year around this time. The theme for the week will be "Community: Together We Serve," and events around the country aim to strengthen interfaith relations, increase understanding between people of different faiths and beliefs, and highlight the contributions of faith communities to society. Over the next couple of weeks, KS3 lessons will have a real focus on community and how this can be celebrated; in practical terms, classes will be taking part in a shared meal during lessons, something that figures in many world religions. Students will be asked to bring a few extra snacks, if they are able, to share in a classroom meal. [Care will, of course, be taken with regards to any allergies].



Year 7 Art

Year 7 students have been working incredibly hard on their Creative Colour Wheel ILT for the Art department. They have explored a wide range of materials and techniques to bring their ideas to life, including mosaics, crochet, paintings, pressed flowers and leaves, canvas work, wax crayon melting, feathers, and collage. The results have been wonderfully imaginative and vibrant, showcasing the students' creativity and enthusiasm for experimenting with colour.



Insight Into Healthcare

Year 11 students and parents: On the 19th of November the Sixth Form will be hosting an Insight into Healthcare afternoon, and we would like all interested students to have the opportunity to come along! Any Year 11 interested in attending just need to ask their science teacher for a letter.

Healthcare professionals - if you would like to join us and share information about your career, please email our Head of Biology (Mrs Salisbury) a.salisbury@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk.

Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 Mock Exams commence on Monday 17th November. Period 6 subject sessions are in full swing. Please can all Year 11 Parents complete the revision questionnaire shared with you on the 6th November.

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				
	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							

Christmas Card Competition 2025

The Art Department the Christmas Card Competition and I was wondering if you could help to spread the word and get your tutor groups involved. Please play the video using this link, <https://animoto.com/play/0aAycW6D7ZYcz0UHJckGg> and as a bit of an overview these are the main dates they will need:

- 3rd November - Competition begins - Start designing
- 17th November- Deadline to hand in to Miss John. Make sure all designs have NAME and TUTOR GROUP on the back
- Week Commencing 1st Dec - Winners announced for
 - Best designs - Chocolates and pack of cards
 - Runners up - Chocolate
 - Tutor Group with the most finished designs - Chocolate Hamper



Here are some of the winners and winning designs from previous years.




SEND Survey


Gloucestershire County Council has asked that all parents complete a survey on SEND Services, please see information below, and if you would like to complete the survey click on the QR Code.




Help us improve SEND services
(Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)

The Annual Parent Carer Survey is now open




from 6 October 2025 to 5 December 2025



Your views matter and will help us shape services




SCAN ME

To read our 'You Said We Did Report 2025' and see what has changed in response to what you told us last year please visit:
www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Gloucestershire's Local Area Partnership wants to hear your views on services for children and young people with SEND

Share your thoughts about what's working and what needs improvement for children and young people aged 0-25 years

The survey will open on 6 October 2025 and close on 5 December 2025

GCC-RE-25-9/25

RSHE

RSHE topics your child is discussing this half term:

- Year 7 - Belonging, Mattering, Building Trust, Conflict Resolution
- Year 8 - 7 Senses & Wellbeing, Personal Safety, Peer Pressure, Communication
- Year 9 - 7 Senses & Wellbeing, Understanding Mental Health, Sticky Beliefs, Conflict Resolution
- Year 10 - Health Checks, Respect & Tolerance, Human Rights, Sexism & Misogyny
- Year 11 - Organ & Blood Donation, Independent Living, Fake News

Congratulations

Dene Magna School was recognised for its excellent GCSE results, with 59.3% of pupils achieving a Grade 5 or above in both English and Maths! This places us among the top-performing schools in the region.

A huge congratulations to the students, teachers, and staff on this achievement!

Celebrating Success

Congratulations to Toby Daughtrey on receiving the U15 Top Wicket Taker Trophy at the recent Ruardean Hill Cricket Club presentation evening, well done Toby!!



Poppy Appeal

The school are selling poppies, key rings, snap bands, bracelets etc. for the annual poppy appeal, any donation will be appreciated. Senior students will be going around during tutor time with the items, or they can be purchased from Reception.

Winter Workshops

“The Drama Company” are holding winter workshops at Walford Village Hall on Saturday 22nd November and Saturday 13th December, all details can be found on their advert or via the Dene Magna Facebook Page.

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.

A colorful advertisement for 'The Drama Company' winter workshops. The top section features a snowy winter scene with the text: "WINTER WONDERLAND" Sat 22nd November 2pm-5pm £15. Below this, it says: "The DRAMA COMPANY is pleased to present our November & December Saturday workshops. Mostly suitable for ages 4-14. Both Saturday workshops will be held at Walford Village Hall. Price includes all snacks & drinks, craft activities and a take home goody bag. Check us out on Facebook and Instagram #dramacompanyross. To book a place, contact Sarah on 07814 624417 or email sarahoneill362@btinternet.com". The bottom section features a Christmas tree and a person in a Santa hat with the text: "CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA" Sat 13th December 2pm-6pm £20. The advertisement includes several small images: a skull and crossbones logo, a robin, a penguin, a girl in a red and white striped shirt, and various craft supplies.

Forest Of DeanTrust CPD

If you would like a place on our upcoming CPD session on AI in Education then please email cpd@fodt.co.uk for a place.

Outside Achievements

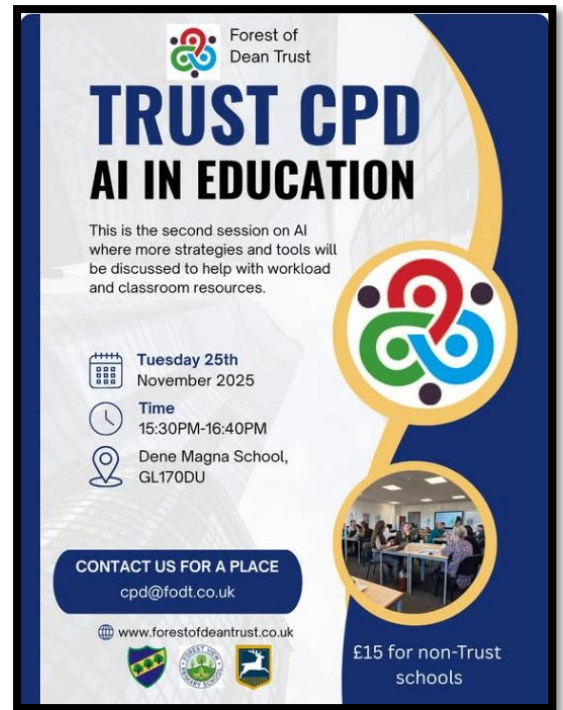
If your son/daughter takes part in any activities outside of school and you would like their achievements published in the weekly bulletin, please send in a small paragraph or two about them and their success and a photo to reception@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk.

Have a great weekend.

Declan Mooney
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary:

10.11.25 – Yr 9 Girls Netball Challenge Cup @ Cheltenham Ladies College
10 & 11.10.25 – Flu Vaccinations – all years
10.11.25 – Ski Presentation Evening in the Main Hall from 5pm
11.11.25 – Yr 7 Rugby @ DM
13.11.25 – Yr 7 Girls Netball @ Five Acres
13.11.25 – Yr 7 Boys Rugby @ Five Acres
W/C 17.10.25 – Year 11 Trial Exams Start
19.11.25 – NHS Information Session for Year 11 @ 6th Form
21.11.25 – 2nd Instalment of £100.00 for the Year 7 Normandy Visit



Forest of Dean Trust

TRUST CPD AI IN EDUCATION

This is the second session on AI where more strategies and tools will be discussed to help with workload and classroom resources.

**Tuesday 25th
November 2025**

Time
15:30PM-16:40PM

**Dene Magna School,
GL170DU**

CONTACT US FOR A PLACE
cpd@fodt.co.uk

www.forestofdeantrust.co.uk

£15 for non-Trust schools

The poster features a large stylized logo on the right side, composed of three interlocking loops in red, green, and blue, with a yellow outline. Below the logo is a circular inset photograph showing a group of people in a meeting room. At the bottom, there are three small logos: a crest with a shield and a cross, a circular logo with a tree, and a crest with a stag.