



## Weekly Parent Bulletin No: 11 Week Commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025 Celebrating Student Achievements and Events

### Year 11 Trials Conclude

The Year 11 trial examinations are now officially finished. Our students have been amazing throughout the entire process. They approached the trials feeling well prepared, remained highly engaged, and demonstrated impressive calmness under pressure. For the next few weeks, we hope they can enjoy some well-deserved rest while we furiously mark their papers and prepare detailed feedback for their next steps.

Mock Results Day will be on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December from 8.15am until 8.40am in the Main Hall followed by an assembly that parents can stay to if they like.

### Tickets on Sale for Frozen the Musical!

The countdown is on for our major school production of Frozen the Musical!

The cast has been working incredibly hard, busily preparing to deliver a dazzling performance.

Behind the scenes, the technical teams are working magic, creating stunning sets and costumes.

Tickets are now on sale and are going fast! Come and watch our talented students shine on stage and get yourselves into the perfect Christmas mood!!

Performances are being held on

- Wednesday 10th December, 7pm
- Thursday 11th December, 7pm
- Friday 12th December, 7pm

**Tickets:** £4 (Full Price) / £2 (Concessions) Available via SCOPAY and from Reception

### Sporting Success Across the Board

#### Cross Country Champions

Last Friday, all year groups travelled to Newent School for the annual Cross Country Forest Competition.

All students who participated ran steadily and fast, demonstrating remarkable endurance, they were role models in behaviour and effort.



All the dedicated fitness work implemented by the PE department as part of their offer has truly paid off, as we are thrilled to announce that we came **1st overall** in the competition.

A phenomenal 16 of our students have now successfully qualified to represent the county on December 7<sup>th</sup>, they are:

### Year 7 girls

Valmai F - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Harriet C - 5<sup>th</sup>  
Molly B - 9<sup>th</sup>

### Year 7 Boys

Tyler M – 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Jack H – 7<sup>th</sup>

### Year 8 & 9 Girls

Ebony F – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Frankie C - 9<sup>th</sup>  
Boe H – 10<sup>th</sup>  
Willow D – 10<sup>th</sup>

### Year 8 & 9 Boys

Zac M - 4<sup>th</sup>  
Levi F – 5<sup>th</sup>  
Zac G – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Ethan H – 7<sup>th</sup>  
Otto H - 10<sup>th</sup>

### Year 10 Girls

Lily F – 6<sup>th</sup>

### Year 10 Boys

Jacob R – 2<sup>nd</sup>



3 students were presented with medals for finishing second. Well done to all and good luck at the County Trial on 7<sup>th</sup> December.



## Year 7 Rugby Dominance

Our Year 7 rugby boys again did not disappoint with a fabulous win over Forest High with a score of 45-5. This phenomenal team has yet to lose a single match this session. Their collective teamwork and

determination continue to shine through in every fixture. The boys have raised the quality of their understanding, organisation and performance and are now passing the ball to exploit the space. This has seen them improve in effectiveness and more of the team scoring tries and creating chances to score. A real team performance



### U13 Girls Football

The U13 Girls' football team played a thrilling match against Five Acres, resulting in an exciting 4-4 draw. The girls displayed great skill both on and off the ball, showing an excellent ability to get into space and create crucial scoring opportunities.



### U12 Girls Rugby

Fantastic effort from our U12 Girls Rugby team on Wednesday against John Kyrle! The girls tackled superbly, scored plenty of tries, and showed outstanding sportsmanship throughout.

A huge well done to Scarlett B for being awarded Players' Player — fully deserved!

Brilliant work, everyone!



## Year 12 Enrichment: 'One Health'

Our Year 12 enrichment program is truly coming to life, with students leading engaging and practical sessions.

This week, students led a fantastic session on One Health. They were taught essential first aid techniques, with students practising CPR on our Anne dolls. This is a critical skill to learn as it could genuinely save a life one day. Well done to Poppy and Alyx in Year 12 who led a brilliant session.



## Gold DofE – Training & Emergency

The Sixth Form Gold DofE is underway & this week we looked at emergency first aid for the students.

They started with CPR & recovery a very good and interesting session. The students have to work their way through sections including, Volunteering, Physical, Skill & Residential as well as an Expedition as a team.



## Winter Bake Off

This week our Year 10 students took part in a 'Winter Bake Off'. They all created celebration cakes and decorated in a winter/Christmas theme. We saw some amazing efforts and the students showcased their baking and decorating skills with fondant work, buttercream, sugar shards and chocolate moulding. The quality of their cakes were fantastic and they were all worthy winners. Mr Mitchell judged the competition and his top bakes were 'The Nutcracker' by Erin and Michael and 'Santa' by Bel. Congratulations to all of them for creating such amazing cakes!



## Year 11, 12 & 13 STEM Event

Last Friday, we had the pleasure of welcoming engineers from Dowty, based in Gloucester, to visit our Y11, 12, and 13 STEM students at the Sixth Form Centre for a workshop. An aviation engineer introduced some of the well-known aircraft that use Dowty products and highlighted the global nature of aviation engineering through the company's worldwide presence. They also involved the students in activities modelling aeronautical principles and demonstrating the importance of balance in an aircraft.

A materials specialist, who is also a former Dene Magna student, spoke about the materials science and technology behind modern carbon-fibre composite propellers. This gave students valuable insight into how different materials are combined to achieve optimal structural and physical properties.

An engineering degree apprentice shared the company's history and explained how Sir George Dowty originally developed the business—fittingly, one of our school houses, Dowty House, is named after him. They also highlighted the wide range of opportunities available through apprenticeships and the importance of having a team working ethos and getting involved with activities outside of school.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the hands-on learning and many have commented on how the session has broadened their understanding of engineering and potential career pathways. We are incredibly grateful for the time and energy our visitors dedicated to the workshop and for the model propeller generously gifted to us in recognition of the ongoing connection between Dene Magna and Dowty.



## Scholastic Book Fair 1<sup>st</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> December

The Scholastic book fair is returning with an incredible selection of books to browse and buy: with prices starting at £3.99 we hope there will be something for everyone! The book fair will be open at break and lunch in the library and payments can be made by cash in school or via the Scholastic online payment system (please do remember that if you pay online, the completed wish list needs to be returned to the library so we know what books you have bought!). Books purchased during the fair are delivered afterwards to your child and the school receives a proportion of the takings back as Scholastic vouchers to spend on more books for the school. We look forward to sharing the excitement of this event with you in upcoming newsletters and, as ever, thank you for your support.



## Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

We will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, students can wear a Christmas jumper instead of their school jumper on this day.

We are asking for donations of food for The Forest Food Bank which can be brought into Reception from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Below is a list of items that the Forest Food Bank is desperate to receive but they do not need festive items as these will not make it into the boxes for clients to collect before Christmas

## Christmas Has Arrived

I'm sure you will all love to know that there is only 27 days till Christmas Day and only 15 days left of this term.

The Christmas trees are up and looking lovely.

We would like to say a very very big Dene Magna **THANK YOU** to **Slabs2U/Cinderford Garden Centre** for kindly donating a lovely real Christmas tree for the Foyer.

Thank you to some of our Year 11 students who decorated them.





# CHRISTMAS FOODBANK COLLECTION

**People in the Forest of Dean need your help!**

We are organising another Christmas Food Bank Appeal.

**Bring your food in to Reception between Monday 15th December and Friday 19th December.**

Biscuits	Tea/Coffee	Cereal
Pasta	Rice	Tinned Fish
Beans	Spaghetti in Sauce	Tinned Fruit
Fruit Juice	UHT of Powdered Milk	Instant Mash
Tinned Custard	Sponge Pudding	Tinned Meat
Tin or Packet Soup	Tinned Tomatoes	Tinned Veg
Jam	Noodles/Pasta/Rice Meals	Snacks



## Year 11 & 13 Trial Art Exams

Just a quick reminder that the Year 11 Trial Art Exam is being held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December (all day) and the Year 13 Trial Art Exam is being held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December (all day) – good luck to all our Art Students.

## For Year 12 and Year 13 Students - Business Breakfast

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - 08:45am, we have a guest speaker coming in to talk to our A Level students about careers in Logistics. Our guest, Pierre de Carteret represents a huge, growing industry - Logistics is one of the biggest sectors in the UK and globally, covering transport, supply chains, warehousing, technology, aviation, maritime, procurement and more. If you are interested in a career in Logistics, come along to this insightful morning and learn about entry level routes into Logistic Apprenticeships, find out what employers in this sector look for and hear about Pierre's own career journey.

## Year 13 Leavers Celebration - Tickets available now!

The Year 13 Leavers Prom is a brilliant way to celebrate everything you've achieved with Dene Magna. With a three course meal, a DJ set and dancefloor and an Awards section, it is always a night full of laughs and lots of fun. It's the perfect chance to dress up, relax after exams and enjoy one final evening together before everyone heads off on their next adventure. Tickets are £40pp and can be purchased via Sco Pay or in cash to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Office. Hope to see you all there!

## Celebrating Student Success

Congratulations to **Millie P**, who is a member of the Forest of Dean Swimming Club and on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> swam in 7 races for the Club Championships. Millie was awarded a medal for competing in the Championship during the award ceremony held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Massive well done to **Mirren B**, who has passed her very first grading in Taekwondo, she achieved an A Pass. In Taekwondo, an A pass is classed as a distinction, which means she performed significantly above the required standard. It's such a strong result that it allows her to move forward more quickly, halving the usual allotted time before the next grading, this shows her hard work and dedication especially as she only started training in May of this year.

Hats off to **Zach G**, who is a member of the GSFA (Gloucestershire Schools Football Association) and travelled to Liverpool in the week as part of the GSFA team. Sports report below.

*'The game was preceded by a 3.5 hour drive up to Liverpool's Academy ground.*

*Upon arrival, the boys were taken into the facility with all the parents left outside until 30mins before kick-off.*

*The game started quickly with Merseyside scoring a couple of goals before the boys really got started.*

*The Merseyside team were all very big, strong and fast and were also very well drilled.*

*The Gloucestershire boys didn't give up and kept battling until the end.*



As for Zach's part in the game. He was always a willing receiver of the ball, he continually passed the ball into the midfield and when he did go long, he always found the feet of the intended recipient. He was constantly aware of what was around him and did play an excellent game.

Although the result wasn't what the team were hoping for, the experience was'.



## Your Local Rugby Club Needs You!

Drybrook U14s are looking for new recruits. They train at Drybrook RFC, The Mannings Ground, Drybrook on a Wednesday evening from 6pm to 7pm. If you are interested first session is free to try and please bring a water bottle and sports kit. For further information please contact Ash on 07412549218 or Kirsty on 07554693295.



**JOIN US!**

- Wednesday 6-7pm & Sundays for Trainings/Games
- Drybrook RFC, Mannings Grounds
- Bring: Water bottle + sports kit
- First sessions are FREE to try
- Contact Kirsty on: 07554693295 or Ash on: 07412549218

Come try a session! You'll love it!  
No pressure, no experience needed! Everyone starts somewhere and we're on hand to answer any questions!

## Exam Certificate and Art Work Collection

We have now received the certificates for those students (ex Year 11 and Year 13 students) who sat exams during the Summer of 2025. Certificates can be collected from Reception at Dene Magna School. Please come along and collect them, they are a product of all your hard work! We look forward to seeing you.

## 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

## Teacher Taster Days

If you are considering a career change, Pates Grammar school are holding a secondary Teacher Taster Day on Tuesday 2nd December and Woodmancote School are holding a primary Teacher Taster Day on Wednesday 3rd December. Please see poster for more details

## 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](mailto:reception@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk).

Have a great restful weekend.

Declan Mooney  
Headteacher

## Dates For Your Diary

- 01.12.25 to 9.12.25 – Scholastic Book Fair
- 01.12.25 – 5<sup>TH</sup> Instalment of £200.00 for the Okinawa Exchange Trip
- 02.12.25 – Year 10 Boys Table Tennis (away)
- 04.12.25 – Year 7 A & B Girls Netball (away)
- 05.12.25 – 2nd instalment of £150.00 for Year 8 London Visit
- 09.12.25 - Year 7 Book Buzz Breakfast
- 09.12.25 - Year7 & 8 Table Tennis @ home
- 10, 11 & 12.12.25 - School Production- Frozen curtain up at 7.00pm



The poster features the Odyssey Teaching School Hub logo at the top right. The main headline reads 'Want to Train to Teach In Gloucestershire?'. Below this is a photograph of a man in a suit pointing at a whiteboard filled with handwritten notes. The text 'Join us for a Teacher 'Taster Day'' is prominently displayed, followed by the subtext 'to find out everything you need to know about training to teach locally'. The poster lists two events: a Secondary Taster Day on Tuesday 2nd December at Pate's Grammar School (9:30am) and a Primary Taster Day on Wednesday 3rd December at Woodmancote School (9:30am). At the bottom, there is a red button that says 'TO BOOK NOW OR FIND OUT MORE' and contact information including an email address (admin@odysseytsh.org) and a phone number (01242 538 276).