



DEER PARK

newsletter

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024

ISSUE 10

HEADTEACHER'S HELLO!



DEAR PARENTS,

WE HAD SEND OUR NEWSLETTER
UNTIL TODAY AS WE WANTED TO
ANNOUNCE SOME EXCITING NEWS...

OUR FIRST WHOLE SCHOOL
PRODUCTION WILL LAUNCH THIS WEEK!
STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE A SIGN UP
FORM FOR AUDITIONS THROUGH THEIR
TUTOR GOOGLE CLASSROOM THIS WEEK
AND THERE WILL BE A FEW HINTS AS TO
WHAT THE PRODUCTION WILL BE ON
THURSDAY. WORLD BOOK DAY SEEMED
LIKE THE PERFECT TIME TO FIND OUT
WHAT THE SHOW WILL BE. WE'RE
LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING HOW
MANY OF THE STUDENTS AND STAFF
GUESS WHAT IT WILL BE.

THE PRODUCTION WILL BE IN THE
SUMMER TERM AND I'M SURE IT WILL BE
FANTASTIC.

I HOPE YOU ENJOY READING THROUGH
THE NEWSLETTER AND AS EVER WE'RE
INCREDIBLY PROUD OF WHAT THE
STUDENTS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

MR JONES

MEET MRS FRY



Hello, I'm Mrs Fry and I am the newly
appointed Family Support Worker.

I started at Deer Park in January
coming from another secondary
school in Hampshire doing a similar
role.

Over the last couple of months I
have enjoyed meeting some of our
lovely families and supporting the
students at the school.

In my spare time I am busy Mum and
Nanna, Spending my weekends going
on long walks with my family and my
French Bulldog, Frankie.

YEAR 7

...and the boys have done it! Congratulations to our Year 7 boys football team with their hard-fought 2-1 home victory against another local secondary. It was wonderful to cheer them on from the sidelines, and to see so many students and parents in support!

Talking of victories, we also had winners of the Safer Internet Day competition in Team 2028, I cannot wait for you to receive your well deserved prizes! In other news, the second reporting data window is currently underway for year 7, with staff busy analysing student progress from earlier on in the academic year. This information will be released to you all in the near future.

Kind wishes,
Mrs Wilson

YEAR 8

Year 8's journey on deciding their pathways options for Year 9 is now reaching its final stage. The first week back included a week of assemblies where each subject was presented, with information around the content of each GCSE course, as well as important considerations like coursework and how long the exams in Year 11 are. This has been followed by a variety of successful GCSE taster lessons, giving the cohort a true flavour of what their option subjects could look like next year. As ever, Year 8 continue to impress with their resilience and willingness to try new things, challenging themselves and always looking for opportunities to improve.

As parents, please reinforce with your children the themes discussed at pathways evening - they must pick subjects they enjoy and are happy to invest time in!

Keep up the great work Year 8!
Mr Gregory

YEAR 9

It's been a busy start to the ½ term for Year 9, with students representing the school in Badminton and Football. I continue to receive nothing but positive feedback from Mr. Hughes and the PE team regarding students who represent us; well done Year 9!

By the time I write my next newsletter article, students will have received their second set of data for the year, demonstrating the progress they have made since the first report, before Christmas. This also means that Parents' Evening is fast approaching, a chance for you to speak to your son or daughter's teachers about how things are going with their Year 9 studies.

Since ½ term there have been a number of staff reporting that Year 9s are arriving to lessons without basic equipment. Could I ask that you take a minute to go through school bags to ensure that your child has all basic stationary to support them with their learning in the classroom?

Finally, I would like to wish Mrs Walters the best of luck as she leaves us to welcome her baby into the world. Year 9 will miss her incredibly; none more than all of Roe! We look forward to lots of pictures and updates over the next couple of months!

Mr Smith



SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: MFL – FRENCH

In French, we continue to deliver a curriculum that is based on our three pillars: grammar, phonics and vocabulary.



YR 7 CURRENT LEARNING

In year 7, we have been looking at Hobbies and Free time. Pupils should be able to express likes and dislikes of hobbies and understand the grammatical points around verbs and conjugation in the present tense. **'Est-ce que tu aimes regarder la télé?'**

YR 8 CURRENT LEARNING

In year 8, pupils have started a series of GCSE Taster lessons alongside their Pathways choices. These lessons include all the four skills of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. We have also looked at the Cultural topic of Music and expressed our opinions on different genres of music. **'Est-ce que tu aimes la musique classique?'**

YR 9 CURRENT LEARNING

In year 9, we have been looking at the topic of food expressing our opinions on what we eat and drink. Tenses have formed a very big part of our content as of late. It is important for ALL students to understand and be able to use verbs in the Present, Past and Future. We will also start to look at key aspects of the Speaking exam with particular focus on the Speaking Exam Role play. **'Qu'est-ce que tu manges pour le petit-déjeuner?'**

TIPS FOR SELF STUDY

Use Memrise on a regular basis.

Using the paper copy of the vocabulary. Parents or carers to quiz on the vocabulary.

Create flashcards with the vocabulary.

Look, cover, write, check

Use Sentence Builders correctly and effectively

Attend Self Study Drop in on Mondays Break 1

FOOD BANK RUN 2024!

A huge thank you to everyone that donated to our first ever Food Bank Run organised by the Rights, Respect & Community Focus Group. Six students from the group ran with the food from school to Kings Community Church to hand the donations over. They then helped volunteers stack the shelves and were an absolute credit to the school. Thank you once again.

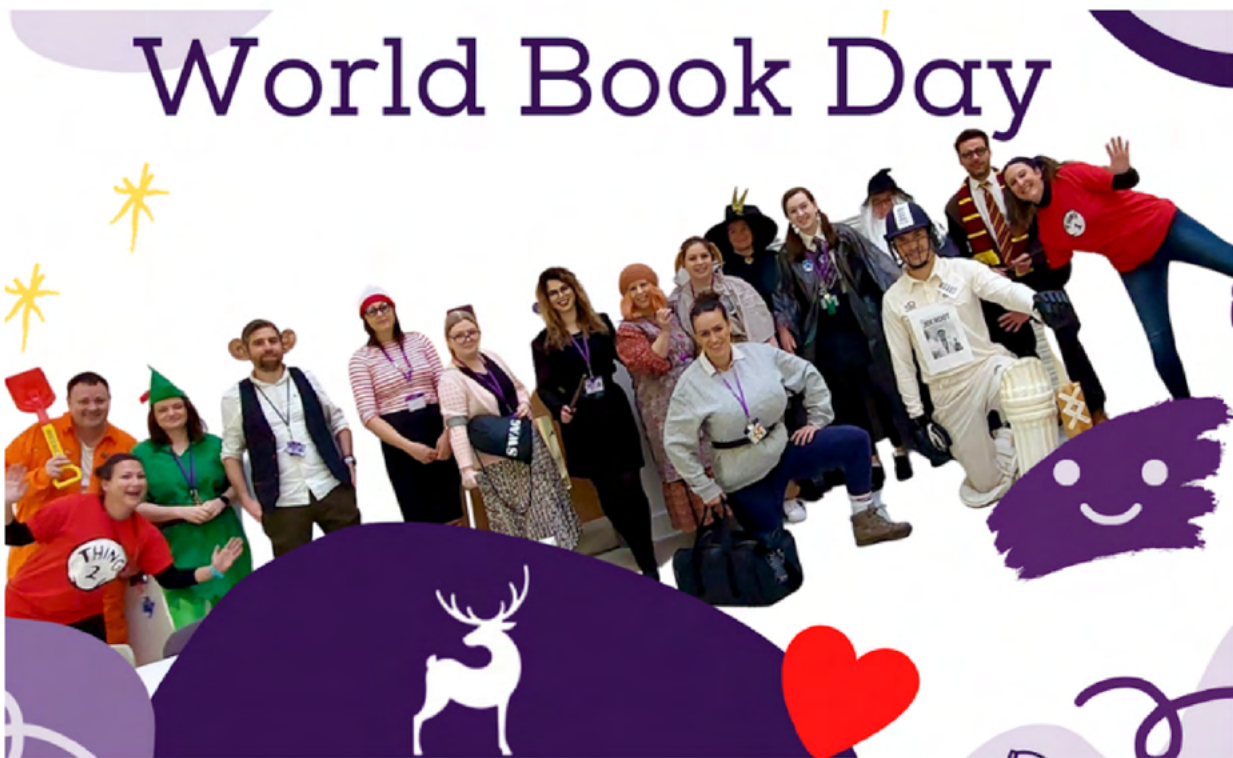


LITERACY

As you may be aware, Thursday 7th March marks World Book Day. This is a day where books, reading and stories are enjoyed in schools and homes throughout the U.K. and Deer Park School is no exception.

Reading for pleasure is a vital indicator of a child's future success - more than parents' educational background or family income. We want all young people, therefore, to enjoy a life-long habit of reading for pleasure and the improved life chances this brings.

This World Book Day, our celebrations will encourage students to 'Read Your Way'. Every reader is different, and there is no right or wrong way to enjoy reading, so we want to encourage our young people to think about what reading looks like to them. Let's encourage each other to start our reading journey with a sentence, a page, a chapter or more. We can all be readers!



WBD - Celebrations

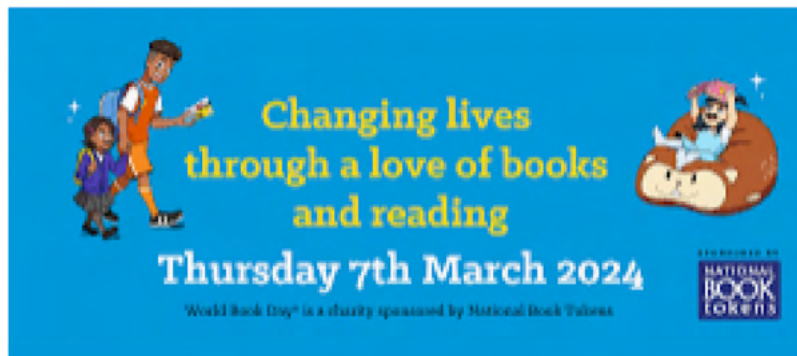
At Deer Park, we will be marking and celebrating World Book Day in various ways. Students can expect to see the members of staff dressed as famous book characters and throughout the day there will be activities, from a class reader at the start of each lesson and 'Blind Date with a Book' to 'guess the reader' where staff will be hidden behind a book. We will be celebrating all the joy that reading brings and hope our students will enjoy the day.

LITERACY

WBD - Your £1 book token

Every year, World Book Day releases a series of books which can be purchased for £1 using a book token. You can find out more about the World Book Day book selection [here](#). This year, our students have loved Dread Wood, so why not try Jennifer Killick's WBD special story, 'Dread Wood: Creepy Creations'!

This year, the token can be accessed electronically [here](#). The £1 can also be used as a discount against any other book at participating stores.



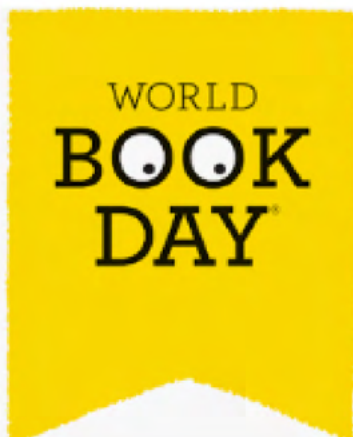
What should I read next?

One of the issues that many young readers face is knowing what to read next, especially when they have finished a series of books that they have enjoyed.

The 'What Should I Read Next' website is a fantastic solution! All students need to do is type in a book they have previously enjoyed, click on it and then see the books that are recommended based on that! It is free, quick and easy to access.

<https://www.whatshouldireadnext.com/>

As always, thank you for your continued support.

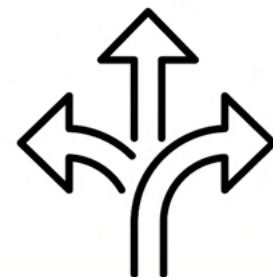
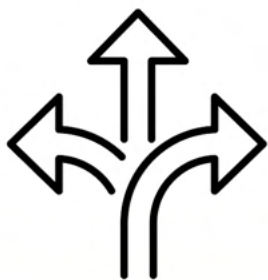


Mrs Smith



PATHWAYS

Following on from students completing all their taster sessions next week, Options online will open for all students on Friday 8th March to enable them to choose their preferences. The deadline for all students to submit their choices will be Friday 22nd March. All students will be set up with their log in details in school and will be able to access this from their school google accounts. All of our pathways information including virtual assemblies can be found on our pathways page on our website [here](#). Our frequently asked questions document can also be found [here](#).



GCSE DRAMA

In January, the Year 9 GCSE Drama class went to the MAST, Southampton, to watch 'Oh What A Lovely War' performed and adapted by Blackeyed Theatre. As part of the GCSE students are expected to complete a Live Theatre Review based on a live performance they have watched. In order to prepare students for this challenging section of the exam, the GCSE group went to watch the performance to subsequently inform Year 9 lessons and develop the skills required for the exam. Furthermore, the experience exposed the students to an abstract style of theatre, which will aid their development as actors, giving them new and innovative approaches to creating theatre.

Currently in GCSE Drama, students are completing both theory and practical lessons.

Their theory lessons are focused on the performance of 'Oh What A Lovely War' and exploring beginning to answer the Live Theatre Review section of the exam. In practical lessons, students are staging and rehearsing a performance of DNA by Dennis Kelly. Prior to this exploration, all students in Year 9 studied the play in English, which has allowed the Drama students a better understanding of the play in rehearsals. The performance of DNA will be performed to the entire cohort of Year 9, creating a great link between the two subjects.



ANTI BULLYING WORK

As one of only 18 schools nationally to be on the Anti-bullying Plus Programme, all staff engaged with a CPD session delivered by the Anti-bullying Alliance last week. It was great to see that so much of our good practice is working well so far as well as some great new ideas ready to go. You can find out more about the work the Anti-bullying Alliance does [here](#).



On Tuesday 27th February, it was wonderful to see the Deer Park Anti-Bullying Ambassadors working collaboratively with the Wildern Anti-Bullying Ambassadors creating a student friendly anti-bullying policy that will be used across the trust. Well done to all the anti-bullying ambassadors who were involved!



EXPERIENCE MEDICINE WITH LIFELAB. APPLICATIONS OPEN!

Barton Peveril College has contacted us with an opportunity to get involved in LifeLab summer school. It is a 2 day in person event based in the LifeLab facilities at the University Hospital Southampton. This event is for students in Year 9 - 11 with places allocated on a first come first served basis. The summer school costs £150 but we do have bursary places available for students who meet certain criteria.



If your child is interested in this opportunity please contact Mrs Turner via the usual Deer Park email address.



SAFER INTERNET DAY 2024

Pupils took part in Safer Internet Day this year with celebrations and learning based around the theme "Inspiring change? Making a difference, Managing Influence and Navigating Change Online". The students not only took part in a poster competition in ICT, there were some very mature discussions, and fantastic work was created to demonstrate their learning; with prizes and certificates awarded to the following pupils:





SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATION FOR LIFE

This half term we are revisiting the theme of 'Health and Wellbeing'.

All Year groups

Students will be looking at a variety of whole school and national events this half term. These include:



World Book Day
British Science Week
National Careers Week



Please see below for a brief outline of what each year group will be studying in their Education for Life lessons and Tutor sessions this half term:

YEAR 7: HEALTH AND PUBERTY

In this unit students will be exploring how to maintain a healthy lifestyle to ensure both physical and mental health during puberty. They will focus on the importance of eating healthily, completing regular exercise and having a good bedtime routine. Students will also explore the issue of FGM, what the law says about this and where to access help and support if required as part of the statutory RSE framework.

YEAR 8: EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

In this unit students will explore issues surrounding self-esteem and body confidence. They will investigate what can impact their self-esteem and be provided with positive ways of boosting their self-esteem that support them in dealing with pressures from social media and their peers.

YEAR 9: WHEN I GROW UP – LIVING IN THE WIDER WORLD THEME

'When I grow up' allows students to begin thinking about careers and life choices. Students will consider what they think they need to be happy and reflect on their dreams for the future. They will also explore the costs of moving out, possible jobs and skills required, and begin thinking about how to budget their money effectively. Linking to life in Modern Britain, students will also explore taxation and the upcoming U.K Budget. Finally, they will explore the positives and negatives of renting and buying a house.

More details about the whole curriculum and how it aligns with the RSE framework can be found by watching this [video](#).

Further information about the RSE curriculum is also available on the [Department for Education website](#).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT UPDATE

RECENT FIXTURE HIGHLIGHTS:

Year 7 Boys Football - 2-1 win against Bitterne and 6-3 win against Redbridge

Year 8 Boys - 4-0

Year 9 Boys - 6-1 win against Lordshill

Year 8 Netball - The team went out on their first league match on Tuesday 27th February, with some good performances. Well done to all!



Students that competed in the recent sporting events enjoyed a complimentary breakfast this week with Mr Jones to celebrate their success - well done to everyone involved!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT UPDATE

KS3 Fit4Life | Year 7 & 8 have begun to explore their new topic Fit4Life. We have enjoyed discussing the impacts of exercise and how they can keep

GCSE PE | Please ensure students have a range of equipment suitable for their classroom learning. An increase in those asking to borrow has occurred.

Quick fire questions to support your child's learning

What is cardiac output?

What is stroke volume?

Can you name four chambers of the heart

FLAG FOOTBALL

Students enjoyed another session of Flag Football that was delivered by Solent University. It was great to see all year groups participating together and enjoying learning a new sport despite the rain!

If you would like to join in these sessions are on a Wednesday after school between 3-4pm on the 3G.



UPCOMING DATES



Date	Activity	Year Group
Monday 4th March	Science Museum Trip	Some Year 9 Students
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day	All Years
Wednesday 13th March	French Play	Year 8 & 9 Students
Tuesday 14th March	Kidscape Anti Bullying Workshops	Year 8

ABSENCES

Please, where possible, could you contact us before 8.30am if your child is unable to attend school.

Absences can be recorded via the Insight App or by e-mailing absence@deeparksecondary.org.

Alternatively please call the school on 01489 351100 and select option 1 to report your child absent.

TERM DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#) TO VIEW TERM DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR (2023-2024).

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Please find attached this half term's Extra Curricular timetable. Students are still welcome to join any club that they haven't already signed up to even if they have already begun

[Extra Curricular Spring Term 2](#)

Lost Property

All lost property is kept in the hygiene room (next to first aid). If your child(ren) has lost anything, please ask them to collect anything that belongs to them. Thank you.



HOLIDAY FORMS

If you need to request an authorised absence from school, for example for holidays, attending family funerals, etc Parents will now need to complete an online google form. This should make it easier for parents to complete. The link for the form is [here](#).

LOST PROPERTY

We are seeing an overwhelming amount of lost property at the moment, the majority of which is unnamed. Please have a good look through the pictures to see if anything belongs to your child(ren) and encourage them to take it home.

Anything unnamed that isn't collected before Easter will be donated to charity.



ONLINE SAFETY - WHATSAPP

We would like to remind all parents regarding their child's involvement in certain Whatsapp groups. We are aware there are certain large groups that students are being added to without their consent; this can potentially pose certain risks around viewing content and contact with unknown individuals. We would always recommend that students only join groups with people they are familiar and are of a reasonable size.

Should you have any concerns or need any additional information regarding online safety please visit our website [here](http://www.deerparksecondary.org)

WhatsApp is one of the most popular messaging apps in the world, with more than 1.5 billion people in more than 180 countries using it to send and receive text, photos, videos and documents, as well as make voice and video calls through an internet or Wi-Fi connection. The free app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient in one-to-one chats, or all members if it is a group chat. Not even WhatsApp can read them.

AGE RESTRICTION
16+

What parents need to know about WhatsApp

AGE LIMIT CHANGE
Since May 2018, the minimum age for using WhatsApp is 16 years old if you live in the European Union, including the UK. Prior to this, the minimum age was 13, which still applies for the rest of the world. WhatsApp has not yet stated whether it will take action against anyone aged between 13 and 16 who already had accounts under the old terms and conditions, such as deleting their account or seeking parental permission.

SCAM MESSAGES
Occasionally on WhatsApp, people receive spam messages from unauthorised third parties or from fraudsters, pretending to offer prizes to lucky people, encouraging recipients to click on a link to win a prize. A common scam involves messages warning recipients that their WhatsApp subscription has run out with the hope that people are afraid into providing their payment details. Other scam messages include instructions to forward the message in return for a reward or gift from WhatsApp or another person.

FAKE NEWS AND HOAXES
WhatsApp has been linked to enabling the spread of dangerous viral rumours. In India, for example, a number of attacks appear to have been sparked by fake messages shared on WhatsApp.

THE 'ONLY ADMIN' FEATURE AND CYBERBULLYING
Cyberbullying is the act of sending threatening or teasing text messages, voice messages, photos and videos, with the aim to hurt and humiliate the recipient. The group chat and group video call features are great for multiple people to chat simultaneously, but there is the potential for people to hurt others with their comments or jokes. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin of a group chat greater control over who can start a message. Whilst this can be good for creating more structure, the group admin has the power to block someone from responding to an offensive message in a chat, which could result in a child being upset and unable to reply.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS
To start a chat in WhatsApp, you need to know the mobile number of the contact you want to speak to and they also need to have the app downloaded. WhatsApp can find contacts by accessing the address book of a device and recognizing which of these contacts are using WhatsApp. If your child has shared their mobile number with someone they don't know, they can use it to get in touch via WhatsApp.

LIVE LOCATION SHARING
WhatsApp's Live Location feature enables users to share their current location in real time to their contacts in a chat, allowing friends to show their whereabouts. The feature, which can be found by providing the contact's address, is disabled by WhatsApp as it's simple and easy way to let people know where you are. Location sharing is already a common feature on other social apps, including Snapchat, Instagram and Facebook. Message and can be a useful way for a child to let loved ones know they are safe. However, if your child is in a group that with people they do not know, they will be exposing their location.

NOS National Online Safety

Top Tips for Parents

CREATE A SAFE PROFILE
Even though somebody would need your child's phone number to add them as a contact, as an extra security measure we suggest allowing their profile settings to control who can see the profile photo and status. The options to choose from are 'Everyone', 'My Contact' and 'Nobody'. We suggest selecting 'My Contact' or 'Nobody' to ensure their profile is protected.

EXPLAIN HOW TO BLOCK PEOPLE
If your child has received spam or offensive messages, such as advertisements from a contact, they should block them. Messages and status updates sent by a blocked contact will not show up on the phone and will stay unacknowledged. Blocking someone will not remove this contact from the contact list - they will need to be removed from the phone's address book. To block a contact, your child needs to open the person's chat screen and tap on the setting.

REPORT SCAM MESSAGES
Advise your child not to tap, share or forward any message that looks suspicious or doesn't seem too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they will be given the option to report the number as spam directly inside the chat. They can also report a contact or a group as spam using the following steps: 1) Open the chat. 2) Tap on the contact or group name to open the profile information. 3) Scroll to the bottom and tap 'Report Spam'.

LEAVE A GROUP
If your child is part of a group that they no longer feel comfortable or has been added to a group they don't want to be part of, use the group's settings to show them how to leave. If someone adds a group, the admin's contact name will show. If they leave again, they cannot be added again.

USING LIVE LOCATION SAFELY
If your child needs to use the 'Live Location' feature to share with you or a friend, advise them to only share it for the amount of time they need to. WhatsApp gives the option of either 15 minutes, one hour or eight hours. However, your child can choose to stop sharing at any time.

DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES
If your child has sent a message in the wrong chat or if a message they sent has contained a mistake, they can delete it. To do this, simply tap and hold on the message, choose 'Delete for Me' and then 'Delete for Everyone'. The app allows seven minutes to delete the message after it has been sent, but it is important to remember that recipients may have seen and to restrict a message before it was deleted.

SET TIME LIMITS
A 2017 study found that by the age of 14 the average child will have sent more than 22,000 texts, 30,000 WhatsApp messages and watched more than three million minutes of videos. Although it is inevitable that your child will use technology, you can still set boundaries. This is not necessarily since teens use their devices for both schoolwork and free time, often in after-school.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

WWW.DEERPARKSECONDARY.ORG



Free Hampshire Teen Project

2ND APRIL - 11TH APRIL 2024 FROM 10AM - 3PM



Sign up for a fun couple of weeks with a range of activities to keep your teen entertained, making friends and memories that will last a lifetime, from learning the drums to cooking up a yummy dish.

Spaces are limited so book early to guarantee your place!

***Free for benefits related free school meal students**



BOOK NOW

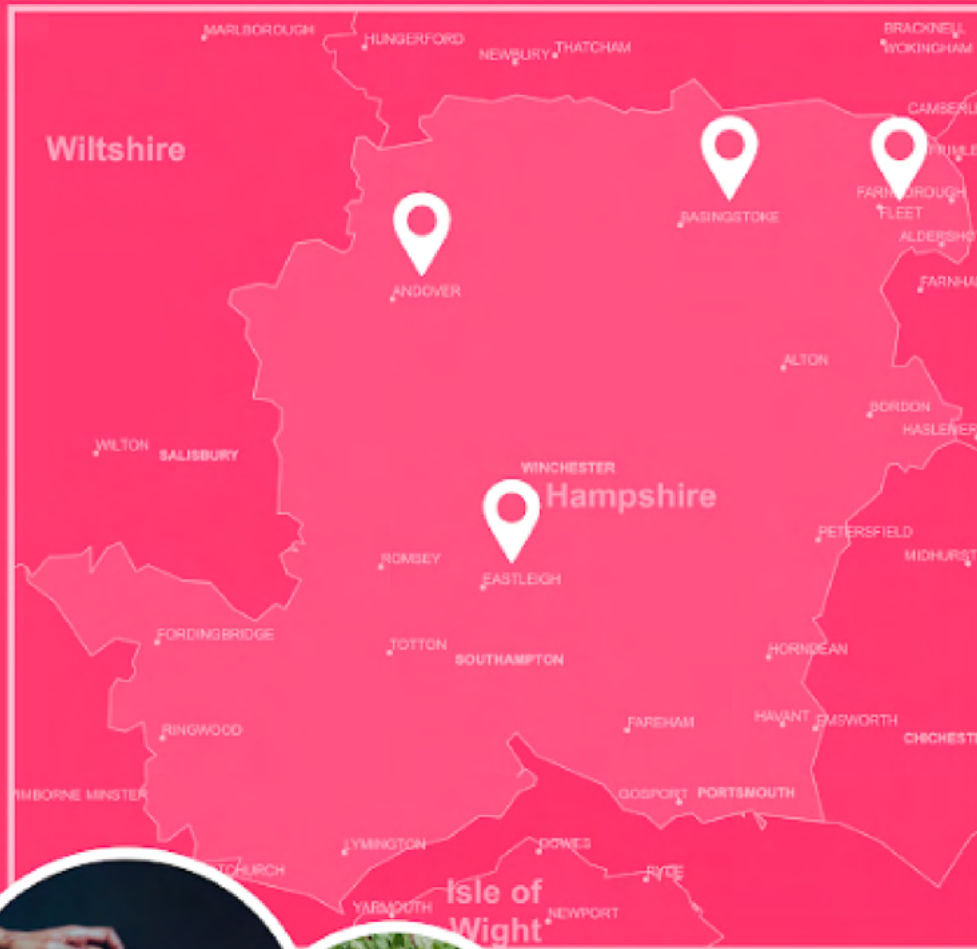


<https://personalbesteducation.com/teens/teen-projects/01794510225>



Hampshire Teen Project Locations

EASTLEIGH | ANDOVER | BASINGSTOKE | FLEET



**BOOK
NOW**



www.personalbesteducation.com
01794 510225

