



DEER PARK

newsletter

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH 2024

ISSUE 11

HEADTEACHER'S HELLO!



Dear Parents,

Spring is starting to show across the school site. The bulbs that the students planted are just beginning to flower and are brightening up the surrounding area. If only it would stop raining...!

There have been some great trips, sporting events and clubs taking place over the past two weeks and I was really heartened by the number of students who attended the launch of the school production. I have loved going into lessons this week and seeing what the students are doing. I've made sure to pop up to the Food Tech room as the GCSE classes have been cooking up a storm. There were some impressive dishes being created. I have also had the pleasure of being toured around the school by two exceptional students who told me everything they loved about Deer Park and what they think could be improved. My particular favourite was a suggestion for a slide in the atrium so they could get down from the top floor a bit quicker!

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend and Ramadan Kareem to our families observing Ramadan.

MR JONES

March *Highlights*



YEAR 7

What a fantastic fortnight we've had! Firstly, our key stage three girls team travelled to the Hampshire Football Championships and played against other schools in the district. I am excited to announce that after playing 20 different schools, they came away with a bronze medal! A massive congratulations to everyone involved. It has also been busy for Team 2028 as their second round of data has been released - I cannot begin to explain how proud I am of the year group, and the strides they continue to make. Please keep up the hard work

Team 2028!

Kind wishes,

Mrs Wilson

YEAR 8

Firstly, a massive thank you to all the parents and guardians of Year 8. It has been incredibly clear to me that conversations around GCSE Pathways have been happening at home, and students have engaged brilliantly with the signing up process during tutor time, whilst carefully considering their choices. Secondly, I would like to echo Mrs Wilson on congratulating the Girls Football team - a superb achievement! Elsewhere at Deer Park, Year 8 students continue to flourish in lessons. In the last week I have observed debates in English on Animal Farm, intricate designs for pull along toys in Technology, students challenging the use of social media in Education for Life, and a student-led musical demonstration of the abilities of metals to be sonorous in Science. Keep challenging yourselves Year 8, you are impressing across the board!

Thanks,

Mr Gregory

YEAR 9

As ever, it's been another busy fortnight for Year 9 who will currently be receiving their latest set of data ahead of Parents Evening. This has included some of the Year 9s helping to organise and then collect items for the Food Bank, before supporting by volunteering to run the items down to the KCC - a fantastic effort by all involved!

Last week, Mrs Stratton took a number of the cohort to London to the Science Museum - more details below.

Additionally, a number of Year 9s were involved in World Book Day last week, visiting Boorley Park to read with some of the youngsters there, as well as helping to dress up the library at Deer Park.

Finally, it was exciting to be involved with the launch of our first ever school production, with a large number of Year 9s in the Hall to hear the reveal of the show. All students who have expressed an interest in being a part of the show should keep an eye on their emails for information about auditions.

Year 9, let's keep giving our all for the final couple of weeks of the Spring term.

Thanks,

Mr. Smith



SUBJECT SPOTLIGHT: HISTORY

Within the History department, our aim is to educate students with the skills and knowledge of the past in order to understand the world around them. To foster a love of learning and curiosity to help students become global citizens of today.

YR 7 CURRENT LEARNING

Year seven are currently investigating the English Civil War, following our recent studies of the Tudor Period.

Within our English Civil War unit, pupils consider why the relationship between Parliament and King Charles I was eroded by considering key factors such as taxes, religion and the 'Divine right of Kings.' Pupils will then go on to consider the experience of the English people during the war itself, and its outcome - the execution of King Charles I

Year Seven are now completing self study for their Humanities subjects, and we have been incredibly impressed with the outstanding attitude to learning that has been demonstrated in our first piece of self study, the Time Traveller's guide to Tudor England!

YR 8 CURRENT LEARNING

Year eight are investigating the time period between World War One, and World War Two by considering the events happening in Germany in the 1930's, and how the wider world reacted to elements of the Treaty of Versailles being broken. Pupils are focusing on concepts such as democracy and dictatorship, and applying their knowledge of the world around them today to the events of the twentieth century. In the coming weeks, year eight will begin our new topic on World War Two, considering how this conflict was experienced around the world.

YR 9 CURRENT LEARNING

Year nine have made a fantastic start to their GCSE studies in History, and have recently completed their first unit - Germany: Democracy and Dictatorship 1890-1945. Pupils have enjoyed following the changing narrative of German History, from our starting point ; German monarchy, to a republic - and ending in a dictatorship.

Within our new unit, Conflict and Tension: The inter-war years, 1918-1939 pupils are beginning their investigation into how the events that were intended to establish peace following WW1 could be considered a key starting point for WW2.

MARWELL ZOO YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY TRIP

On the 27th of February we took 60 year 7 geographers to Marwell zoo. While there, students received a presentation from a zoologist about the importance of rainforest biomes and biodiversity. They took part in geographical data collection and fieldwork within the living rainforest enclosure, collecting light, soil and temperature data. They also got a chance to visit the animals and learn how the animals' adaptations have allowed them to thrive in their natural habitats.

Every student represented the school beautifully and the zoo complimented us on how incredibly knowledgeable and sensible our Deer Park students were. They were model examples of what it means to be a Deer Park citizen!

A huge thank you to our year 7 cohort who attended from Miss Emmett, Miss Philpot, Miss Outhwaite, Mrs Downer, Mrs Appleton and Mr Shoushtarizadeh for such a fantastic day.



LITERACY

Deer Park had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day this year. Staff dressed up and read an incredible short story throughout the day, tutor groups decorated their doors with a brilliant book theme, and the LRC was buzzing with our Book Fair and Blind Date With a Book!

Beyond the dressing up and fun activities, the real heart of World Book Day is promoting reading to young people. If you struggle with recommending appropriate books, why not try the following website to give you some great ideas:

<https://www.peters.co.uk/100-books-for-every-year-group-in-secondary>



MATHS

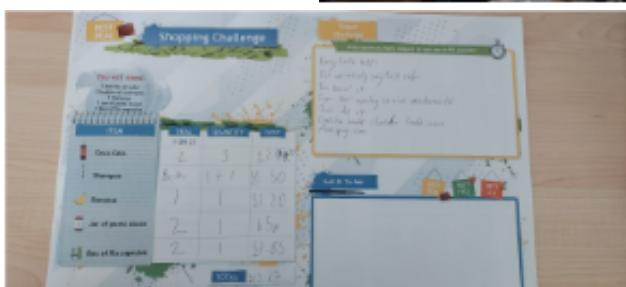
Year 9 trip - The Winton Maths Gallery

On the 4th March 32 Year 9 students visited The Science Museum in London. They visited The Winton Maths Gallery designed by Zaha Hadid Architects, discovering the fundamental role of mathematicians, their tools and ideas that have played a part in building the world we live in, and gaining a better understanding of how maths connects to our daily lives. In the afternoon they took part in a Wonderlab session - a hands-on exhibit where they were able to interact with scientific and mathematical phenomena. Students particularly enjoyed the friction slides!!!



YEAR 7 FINANCE SESSIONS

On Friday 8th March, some of our Year 7 students took part in Finance sessions run by mybnk, where they were able to learn about and discuss real-life money issues with experts from the banking world. They discussed the power of advertising and how it affects our spending, budgeting issues, and how to choose the best mobile phone finance options. Students not involved in today's sessions will get the opportunity to attend a session later in the year and the whole year complete a unit on Finance in Education for Life after May half term.



EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

COOKERY CLUB

Cooking Club 2 have been producing really fantastic Cheese straws and pasties in the savoury topic for this half term. They have honed their modelling and baking skills and are looking forward to the rest of the dishes/products before Easter.



DRAMA CLUB

School Production rehearsals will be starting soon and will run on Monday's After School. The current Drama club for year 8 & 9 will not run from Monday 18th March



ROBOT CLUB

Robot Club began this week and students had great fun programming their robots to draw pictures, tap dance, and even sing! Over the next few weeks students will get their robots to compete in challenges such as a dance off and an obstacle course. Who will be victorious?!



YEAR 8 PATHWAYS

A letter was sent home last Friday with a link to the options online website to enable students to choose their preferred pathways options for next year. The deadline to complete this is Friday 22nd March. If students have any issues accessing the website they can visit their tutor, Mr Gregory or Mrs Dixon. As we have shared the link directly with parents it is not necessary to tick the parent approval box but please remember as well as choosing either History or Geography students must select 3 free choices and one reserve. There is a comments box students can write in if they wish us to know any additional information about their choices but this isn't a requirement. Thank you for all your support you have given your children during this process.

RAMADAN MUBARAK

Ramadan began on Monday 11th March and is expected to last until Tuesday 9th April with Muslims throughout the world participating in this fourth pillar of Islam - Sawm. This involves Muslims fasting during daylight hours, carrying out additional acts of charity and focussing on prayer to remember the month that the Qur'an (the holy book of Islam) was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

For those students participating in Ramdan, Young Minds has some helpful tips on how to look after yourself during this month.

We wish all of our staff, students and families taking part in Ramadan our sincere best wishes.

Ramadan
Mubarak



PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT UPDATE

House Sports Events - Spring Term

Basketball - Tuesday 26th March 15.00-16.30

Football - Wednesday 27th March 15.00-16.30

Tutors have been sent a sign up link for those wishing to take part in the Spring Term house sports competitions. This gives all students and those who have not represented a school team an opportunity to play competitive sport and be crowned house champions of football and for the first time ever, house basketball. We are currently working in partnership with Outlet basketball club who will be supporting our house basketball event, and provide an after school session here at Deer Park. If you are interested please contact Gareth at outletbbclub@gmail.com, Head Coach and Chairman of the local Whiteley Warriors basketball team.

Please note the additional time added to allow a full competition to be played finishing at 16.30.

RECENT FIXTURE HIGHLIGHTS:



PHYSICAL EDUCATION & SPORT UPDATE

Summer Term Sports Clubs

Our summer sports programme will begin after the Easter holidays. Please keep a lookout for future newsletters where summer sports activities will be shared including, tennis, athletics, rounders and cricket.

GCSE PE | Quick fire questions to support your child's learning

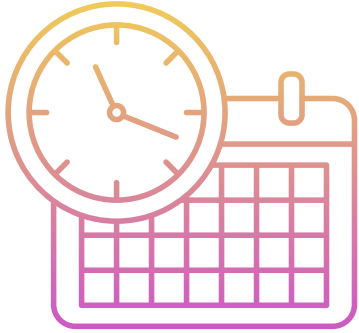
What is the fitness test for reaction time?
What is the fitness test for cardiovascular endurance
What is the fitness test for agility?

LES COURS D'ART

Students from Year 8 & 9 had a fantastic time watching Les Cours d'Art; a play in French about five students attending an art club after school. This was delivered entirely in French and the students were able to follow along with the story and thoroughly enjoyed it. Well done to everyone for being a fantastic audience!



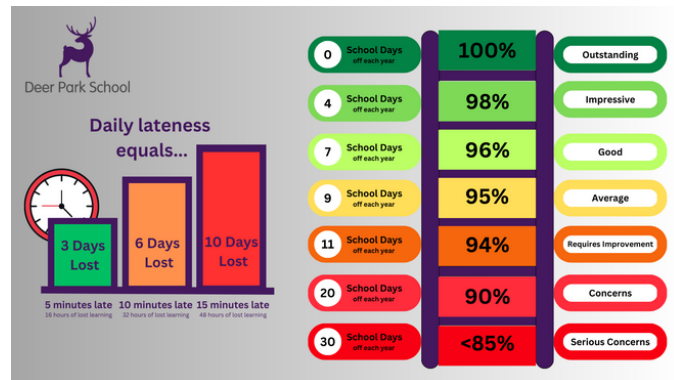
UPCOMING DATES



Date	Activity	Year Group
Thursday 21st March 2024	Parents Evening	Year 9
26th March 2024	Exams Meeting for Parents	Year 9
Thursday 28th March 2024	Parents Evening	Year 9
Thursday 28th March 2024	Last Day of Term	All Years
Friday 29th March 2024	Austria Ski Trip	Year 8 & 9 Students

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.



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.



TERM DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR

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

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](#).

STAY SAFE ONLINE

1

Don't share your personal information



2

Only talk to people that you know



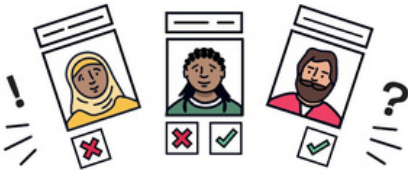
3

Don't meet up with anyone you have only met online



4

Only accept friend requests from people you know personally



5

Always think carefully about what you post



8

Report inappropriate content immediately



6

Make use of the privacy settings on all of your social media accounts



7

Remember that not everyone online is who they say they are



9

Only share images that you'd be comfortable with your friends and family seeing



10

Never share your pass

