



NEWSLETTER

7th February 2022

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

Last week Year 11 pupils were busy preparing for their Trust Ebacc mock examinations which start this week. Their papers will be marked by external examiners from the examining boards. These second mocks will give pupils a second chance, following the first mocks in December, to focus their revision and finish coursework before the real examinations start in the summer term. We are encouraged that so many pupils are making the most of the variety of extra support provided outside of lesson times.

I am delighted we are now in a position to offer a further residential trip to those year 7 pupils who were unable to go in September, and a residential trip to our Year 8 pupils. We think it is so important that pupils have the opportunity to have these unforgettable experiences, and so the school is making a significant contribution to the cost. Please read the Heads of Years' messages.

Debate Mate is under way as they enter another competition. Please read on to find out more. We look forward to seeing you at Coffee Morning this Friday 9-10am when we shall share with you information that many of you asked for in our first meeting. Do come along and meet other parents and learn more about the school!

Please also take a look at how popular our prayer room is!

With best wishes,

Ms S. Finlay



Ms S. Finlay
Headteacher

Safeguarding Tip: Please talk to your children about crossing the road safely. We have had a number of pupils involved in serious collisions in the last 12 months.

Diary Dates

Ebacc Year 11 Mock Examinations	7 th February
Year 10 Mock Examinations	7 th February
Year 9 Options and Progress Evening	10 th February
Covid Vaccinations	17 th February



Head of Year Messages



Year 7 – Mrs Rashford *Year 7 have another opportunity to attend a residential trip!*

Due to the success of the Year 7 residential trip in September, plans are underway for another Year 7 residential. This will take place in May. Places will be available for those pupils who did not attend the previous trip. More information will be shared with you in due course. We hope that all our Year 7s will get to enjoy and benefit from this important experience.



Year 8 – Mr Smith *Year 8 have the opportunity to go on a residential trip!*

This week, Year 8 pupils have been given the information for their residential trip, taking place in July. We are going to Lockerbie in Scotland to stay at Manor Adventures for 3-days from 11th July. The pupils will participate in many activities, including climbing, mountain biking, archery and canoeing. This will be the first residential many of the pupils have had due to Covid restrictions, so we are really hoping for a positive response! Parents will be able to pay for the trip in 3 instalments to spread the cost. The first deposit of £50 is due by Friday 11th February. All of the necessary information is on the letter pupils have brought home this week. Please contact Mr Smith at headofyear8@deantrustardwick.co.uk if you have any questions.



Year 9 – Mr Diaz *Year 9 will receive their recommended GCSE pathways next week.*

Next week, Year 9 pupils will receive their recommended pathways for GCSE. This is a pivotal moment in their studies and it is vital that they take careful consideration when thinking about their options next week. If your child has any questions or concerns about their recommended pathway, they should address these with their form tutor in the first instance. The deadline for their submission is February 14th. We are also nearing the end of our New Year Best Me initiative, where all forms have been competing to accrue points for punctuality, uniform and equipment. Please continue to encourage your child to attend school ready to learn, in their correct uniform, on time and with their basic equipment to succeed in their learning.



Year 10 – Mr Chetwyn *Year 10 have been learning valuable life skills!*

Another great week for Year 10 as we develop our tolerance and understanding of the LGBTQ+ community and the challenges that they face. Tolerance and respect are vital parts of our community, so it is important that we develop our understanding of wider matters that impact society. We have also learned about the importance of being independent, an essential skill that we will all need as we move closer to our GCSEs. With the Year 10 mocks currently taking place, it has been truly humbling to see so many pupils revising and working hard to achieve the best results possible! These are great habits that will serve us all well in the next 18 months. Keep being great, Year 10!



Year 11 – Mr Hull *Year 11 are looking at inspirational figures for motivation.*

This has been our final week of lessons before the February mock exams. It is important that during these exam periods our pupils take care of themselves. As well as revising, pupils should also ensure they are sleeping and eating well, as well as having some leisure time. In order to assist and inspire pupils to face the challenges ahead, we are reading the Ryan Holiday book, *The Obstacle is the Way*. In this book, the writer considers how a simple attitude change can transform what seem like obstacles into one-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Pupils will be looking at how people such as Barack Obama turned electoral challenges into huge strengths. We can learn from these examples to help us create our own positive mindsets. Work hard, be kind.



Pupil Art Donations

Thank you to the pupils who kindly donated their artwork!

The artwork we put together for SPIN, our local homeless shelter, has been put up and the residents and visitors are thrilled! It is all artwork created by our pupils and has generated lots of interest and conversation. This is a great example of how our pupils support the local community.





Debate Mate

Congratulations to all pupils who took part!

Debate Mate is held every Tuesday and this week pupils had their first competition against many different schools in Manchester, Liverpool and the East Midlands. Three groups of six pupils competed in two debates. Team A consisted of Year 7 and 8 pupils, Team B Year 8 and 9 pupils, and Team C was Year 10 pupils only.

Debate One: This house says politicians lives should be private.

Debate Two: This house says schools should ban disciplinary measures such as detentions and expulsions.

We had two teams win the first debate and two teams win the second debate. We are so proud of all pupils who took part! Thank you to Miss Henderson for giving our pupils such a great opportunity.



Coffee Morning

Please join us at our parental coffee morning!

All parents and carers are welcomed to our next coffee morning on Friday 11th February from 9-10am. We look forward to meeting you.



News

Prayer Room

A prayer room is available to pupils.

A prayer room is available to pupils in room E103 every day. Pupils need to bring their own prayer mats. The timings are as follows:

KS3: 12.40-12.55

KS4: 12.55-13.05

Thank you to Ms Ashraf who has been facilitating the prayer room at lunch time. Please can all pupils bring their own prayer mats as the use of jackets will not be allowed.



Physical Education

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part!

Our sports teams took part in lots of extracurricular matches again this week. Read on to hear all about their successes!

Football, Year 8

DTA 2 – 1 Chorlton High School

We welcomed Chorlton High School to DTA this week as the Year 10s hosted their first league game of the season. DTA started bright, combining passes through the thirds, however, a lapse in concentration led to their number 10 rifling a great strike past Zak. DTA needed to respond quickly! Good link-up play led to Kellen driving down the left and cutting a fine ball into the box for Hamza to neatly slot past their keeper, making it 1 –1. It was in the final 15 minutes that DTA took the lead as Sean drove with the ball from the halfway line, entering the opposition's box and finishing calmly into the far post.

Netball, Year 7 and Year 8

DTA 4 – 2 St. Peters

This week, we went to St. Peters where both our Year 7 and Year 8 netballers looked to gain another victory from home. A hard-fought game from both sides led to an equal game but it was, again, DTA who came out on top! All players involved played brilliant, however, the stand out performance came from Maryam, Year 7. Well done to all pupils involved!

Netball, Year 8 and Year 11

DTA 6 – 4 Eden Girls
DTA 14 – 3 Eden Girls

This week, we hosted Eden Girls as they made the short journey to play both our Year 8 and Year 11 teams. Both fixtures started evenly, however, it was DTA who maintained their winning form, with both teams taking the victory! Both teams played exceptionally, however, stand out performances came from Amirah, Year 8 and Rayara, Year 11. Well done to all pupils involved!



Family activities

Here you'll find fun and engaging activities that parents and carers can do with children of all ages to support this year's Safer Internet Day theme: **'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'**

Work through these activities with your child to help start conversations about life online and make sense of the digital world together. Find more activities, video content, tips and quizzes at: saferinternet.org.uk.

All ages

Spend time online together



This year's theme is a great opportunity to have some fun and games together! Why not get everyone to write their favourite app or game on a slip of paper then take it in turns to pull from a bowl? Spend some time exploring each one as a family. Whether it's creating something together, competing or watching content, look out for the safety features and make a note of what these do, so you know where they are if you ever need them in the future.

Explore the Childnet website

Explore the Childnet website where you will find activities, quizzes and videos tailor made for children of all ages. There is also information on key topics for parents and carers, advice about specific apps and games, and activities and conversation starters you can use with your whole family.

Make a family agreement

A family agreement is a great way to start a conversation about how your family uses the internet. As well as the online safety agreement in the Parents and Carers Pack, you can find a more detailed version here: childnet.com/family-agreement.

'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online' Films

These films produced by the UK Safer Internet Centre are a great way to start a discussion with your child about how the internet makes them feel and what respect looks like online. There are different videos aimed at younger and older children available here: saferinternet.org.uk/sid-films.



Family Activities

PARENTS AND CARERS

#SaferInternetDay

www.saferinternetday.org.uk

Ages 7-11

Childnet SMART Video Lessons

Watch this series of 6 mini video lessons hosted by the Childnet Education Team together with your child. You'll be guided through activities and discussions about different online safety topics. The sessions are aimed at children aged 6-9 and can be found here: childnet.com/resources/video-lessons.



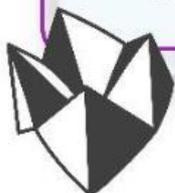
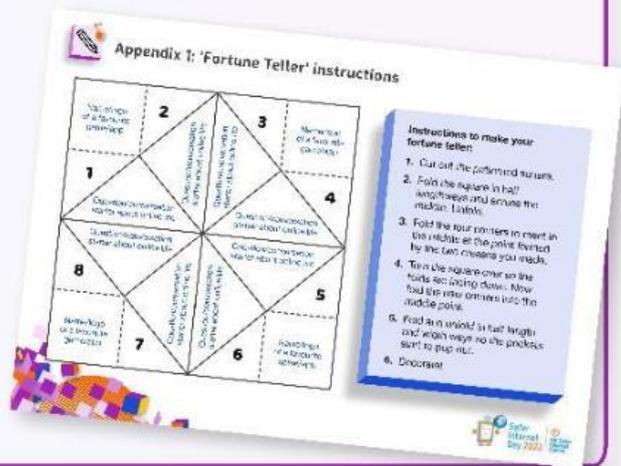
Family Fortunes

Create an origami fortune teller with your child using the template and instructions in Appendix 1. Have them decorate the outside with characters or logos from their favourite apps and games, label the inside with numbers, then write some questions about life online to put under the flaps.

Use the fortune teller by getting a family member to pick one of the characters or apps. Spell out the name and move the teller once for each letter. Then have them pick a number and move the teller again. Then ask them to choose a second number and read the question under the corresponding flap. Use to start a conversation about life online.

Questions could include:

- What's your favourite app/game and why?
- What tips do you have for staying safe online?
- Explain one family rule we have when using our devices.
- What's one thing you would change about how we use devices at home?
- Who can you tell if you have a worry about life online?



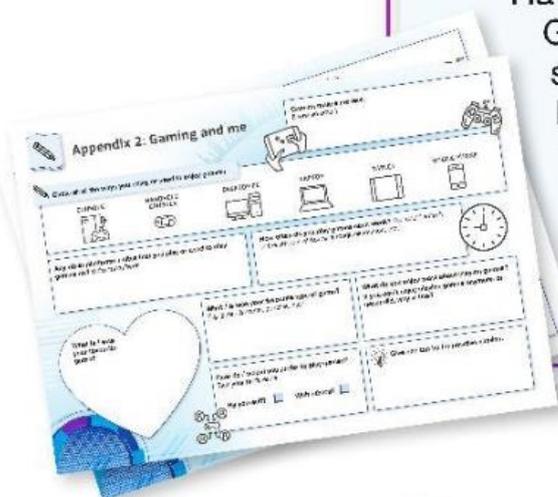
Family Activities

PARENTS AND CARERS

Ages 11-14

Gaming and Me

Have each of your family members complete the Gaming and Me template (Appendix 2). Then share and discuss the similarities and differences between responses. Use as an opportunity to start conversations about the positives and negatives of gaming in your household and follow with a family gaming session where everyone tries out each other's favourite games. Can you find the safety features for each one?



Safer Internet Day Quiz

Watch out for the online, interactive version of our special Safer Internet Day 2022 quiz for ages 11-14. This will be published in the run up to the day and is a great opportunity for you and your child to test your knowledge of respect and relationships together! saferinternet.org.uk/sid-quiz/11-14



Family Activities

PARENTS AND CARERS

#SaferInternetDay

www.saferinternetday.org.uk

Ages 14-18

Social Media vs. Gaming

Share Appendix 3 with your child and discuss whether each of the statements applies more to social media or gaming, in their opinion. Use as a conversation starter to find out more about your child's online experiences and the strategies they use to keep themselves and others safe.

Show that you are open and willing to learn more by asking:

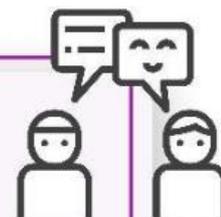
“What one thing would you like me to recognise about using the internet and technology?”



Be a role model

Why not ask your teen to help you, or their younger siblings, enjoy safe and positive online experiences? They no doubt have some online wisdom to share.

Ask them about their favourite apps and games, and what safety advice they would offer for each. Do they have any guidance on how to manage online friendships and ensure communication is respectful and safe, as well as fun?



Family Activities

PARENTS AND CARERS