



NEWSLETTER

8th March 2022

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to all those Year 8 parents and carers who attended the online Progress Evening on Thursday. I hope you found your discussions with teachers helpful.

As we progress through this half term, we are having a real focus on general standards around school. The spotlight is shining on uniform and appearance, punctuality to school and lessons and presentation of written work. Gates open at 8.30am close at 8.38am so please continue to ensure your child arrives on time.

To support pupils with taking personal responsibility for these things, they are greeted by their Heads of Year on the gates at 8.30 am, and checks are undertaken by Pupil Support Managers before they enter the building. I am pleased to announce that the ties have finally come, and therefore every pupil should now be wearing one! We are checking from head to toe to ensure that everyone adheres to the Trust's high standards, including checking for the right equipment in their Dean Trust Ardwick pencil cases; our school shops at the various entrances to school support pupils to meet the requirements.

I have seen so many beautiful looking exercise books from Years 7 and 8. It is delightful to see so many pupils take such pride in their written work, and it those pupils who are really smart, fully equipped for school and try their hardest who seem to have the best-looking books. They enjoy the gold star and a written comment from me!

Enjoy this week's articles.

With best wishes,

Ms S. Finlay



Ms S. Finlay
Headteacher

Safeguarding Tip: We have had reports from pupils about being approached by members of the public other to / from school. Please discuss keeping safe in the community with your child and who to contact in an emergency. Your child can always return to school to get help if needed.

Diary Dates

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| KS3 Careers Week | 7 th – 11 th March |
| Debate Mate Competition | 8 th March |
| Year 8 MUF Football Trip | 9 th March |
| Year 7 Progress Evening | 17 th March |
| Year 10 Oxford Residential Trip | 21 st – 23 rd March |



Head of Year Messages



Year 7 – Mrs Rashford *Year 7 are continuing their hard work!*

Year 7 are continuing to work hard since they have been back from half term. They are competing in a bottle cap competition run by the Eco Committee. The deadline to collect as many caps as possible is the end of this week. The winners of the bottle cap collection will be awarded a vegetarian pizza party! Keep collecting, Year 7, &D1 are currently in the lead!



Year 8 – Mr Smith *Well done for all your achievements!*

Year 8 pupils took part in an assembly on motivation and considered the difference between 'intrinsic' and 'extrinsic' motivation. Pupils were set a 'blind' challenge and a relatively small number volunteered. We explained this was 'intrinsic motivation' as they were completing this for pride and the satisfaction of accomplishment. It was fascinating to then see the number of volunteers when they were offered £10 to complete the same challenge! This demonstrated the much higher number that were motivated 'extrinsically' and how this can lead to an overall reduction in motivation over time especially when their drive is related to tangible gain. At Dean Trust Ardwick we are always trying to teach the pupils 'life skills' and lessons to develop their personal attributes alongside the academic curriculum to help them become more rounded individuals when they eventually leave in Year 11.



Year 9 – Mr Diaz *Year 9 are collecting bottle caps for a mural!*

Year 9 are taking part in a bottle cap challenge run by the Eco Committee. Pupils have one week left to collect as many bottle caps as possible in their form groups. The form group with the most bottle caps will win a vegetarian pizza party! All of the collected bottle caps will go towards a mural that will be displayed in school. We are also encouraging all Year 9 pupils to celebrate International Women's Day tomorrow. The Art Department will be running a creative session on Tuesday 8th March from 3-4.30pm to celebrate all the inspiration women in the world!



Year 10 – Mr Chetwyn *Year 10 continue to work hard!*

We are straight back into the swing of things this week as we work towards re-establishing routines for conduct, equipment and punctuality. These routines are vital in maximising the chances of our success and fit in perfectly with our learning about the Pygmalion Theory in assembly this week. Having higher standards of each other instinctively encourages us to achieve higher levels of success! We'll also be starting our work on effective revision strategies this week, with some of us sitting our first formal GCSE examinations in as little as 12 weeks! Starting early is essential, but just like anything, we need the key knowledge and tools to be as effective as possible! Have a great week everyone!



Year 11 – Mr Hull *Year 11 continue honing their revision skills.*

The pupils have been focusing on making sure their preparation and readiness for exams is in optimum condition. We have discussed why revision is so vital for success – it is not about relearning content, but about sharpening our understanding and ability to recall and use information. We have looked at creating an environment and conditions for successful revision, such as a quiet and comfortable space away from distraction and mobile phones, with regular working in short bursts. Finally we have looked at productive and useful means of revision: summarising, purposeful practice, retrieval practice and quizzing. It is vital we embed these strategies and support our young people to thrive over the forthcoming weeks and I'm really grateful for all your support and efforts.

Mathematics

Pupils competed against each other to use the skills they have been learning!

On Friday, pupils were pitted against each other to see who could strategically use their wits and speed! They have been learning how to apply Pythagoras' Theorem on a coordinate grid and in 3-D. Today's challenge was to aim for 100% accuracy as this gives them a hidden advantage over their classmates. All pupils enthusiastically participated in the challenge. Why not try it at home: www.blooket.com/host.



The Growth Company Workshop

Pupils experienced an automotive industry workshop!

Our partnership with Manchester United Foundation reaches more than just those interested in sport. Our MU HUB officer, Mr Griffiths, took a number of key stage 4 pupils to experience a hands-on automotive industry workshop during the half term. This was run by the further education provider, The Growth Company. The pupils experienced different elements of the automotive industry such as paint and body work detailing, as well as mechanical engine workshop. Thanks to Mr Griffiths and the MU Foundation for providing our pupils with such great opportunities!



SCITT Training

SCITT trainees had their second EAL training day!

On Friday, we hosted the second EAL training session for our SCITT trainees. The trainees were paired with EAL pupils in order to gain experience in assessing their needs. This is a really valuable opportunity and a vital skill to take forward in their careers. Thank you to Ms. Qasim for leading this session and sharing her knowledge with the trainees.

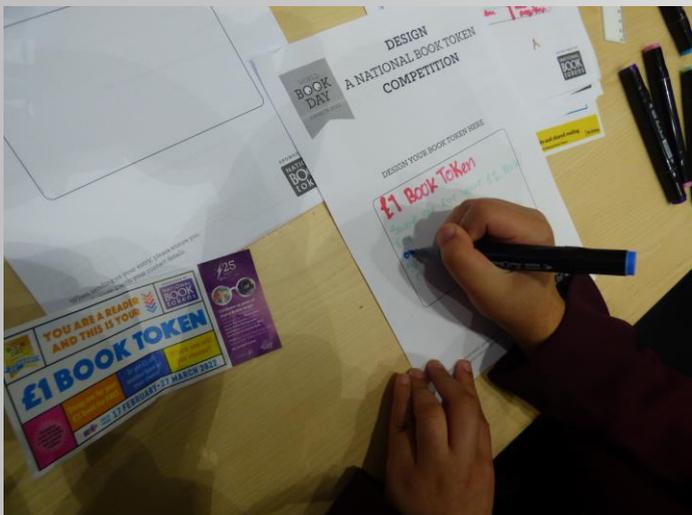


World Book Day

Pupils took part in lots of activities in the Library!

On Thursday 3rd March it was World Book Day. Pupils came to the Library at break and lunch to do lots of different activities, including book bingo, a book recommendation tree, design your own book bunting and a book lucky dip. Pupils really enjoyed trying the different activities and lots of books were borrowed from the Library. Every pupil received a £1 book token which can be used in a bookshop to exchange for a specially selected World Book Day book. Thank you to Riyana and Abu Bakar who helped set up the Library and instructed pupils on how the different stalls worked. Thank you as well to Jayden and Riyana who both photographed the event!







Debate Mate

Congratulations to our pupils for winning their debate!

This week, our Debate Mate pupils competed in another competition with other participating schools. The motion was: *'This house believes that we should not use celebrities as role models.'* Pupils put together really well-thought out arguments and were announced as the overall winners of the competition! Well done to all pupils involved and thanks to Miss Henderson for her continued support! We look forward to hosting the next debate at DTA on Tuesday 8th March.

