



DENBIGH SCHOOL



Headteacher's Bulletin – 24th January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this bulletin finds you well and you have had a good week. This week we have enjoyed the Year 11 mock results day, careers festival, consultation evening and various sports fixtures. There never seems to be a quiet week at Denbigh!

Careers Festival

This week students have been taking part in various activities as part of Careers Week. Students have been visited by many of our alumni, received talks in tutorial and the Milton Keynes Yellow Bus spent a day with potential apprenticeship students. The week concluded with the annual Careers Festival on Thursday. This was our 4th Careers Festival and it was a great success with visitors from over 30 companies and Universities coming along to talk to students from Yrs 10-13. Companies that attended included Santander, Network Rail, Red Bull, VW, Portakabin, EKFB, Thames Valley Police, Kirkby Diamond, MKUH and Nifty Lift. Universities included Oxford Brookes, Hertfordshire, Bedford, Buckingham, Northampton and Loughborough. I know that students thoroughly enjoyed their time in the Meeting Hall. I would like to say a big thank you to Miss Hamdan, Mrs Agbame and Mrs Brown for organising such an amazing week.

Saba Swim

National Theatre Connections and Denbigh School present, Saba's Swim, by Danusia Samal. Performances will take place on the 26th and 27th February, staged at Denbigh School.

Seven months ago, Saba walked out of her GCSE mocks and didn't come back. Her friends don't understand why. Now, on prom night, Saba's finally made contact. But when the friends are finally reunited, Saba is different. And what she's asking of her friends... is it more than they can give?

Danusia Samal is a London-born actress, writer and singer of Kurdish and Polish origin. She spent part of her childhood living in Turkey and Yemen, before returning to the UK aged 10. She trained as an actor at the BRIT School for Performing Arts and the Central School of Speech and Drama. Danusia has worked at numerous prestigious UK theatres, including the Royal Shakespeare Company, The Royal Court, Shakespeare's Globe, Soho Theatre, and Manchester Exchange. Danusia's writing credits include 'Out of Sorts' (Theatre 503); 'Decolonising History' (Tamasha); 'Busking It' (Shoreditch Town Hall/HighTide) and 'Conditionally' (Soho Theatre/Oxford School of Drama) She also performs regularly as a singer and songwriter. In 2018 she won the Theatre503 International Playwriting Award for 'Out of Sorts', which was later shortlisted for the George Devine Award.

We would like to ask for the support of students, parents, and the wider Denbigh community by purchasing tickets. A full house will make this an incredible experience for performers and the audience and will help ensure our ability to participate in future events. We have two different

casts performing each night. Tickets are £3 and available through ParentMail Payments>Shop>Tickets.

Appeal for Spare Food Containers

We are reaching out to parents for any spare food containers, takeaway boxes, or ice cream boxes that you may have at home. This is to support our Design and Technology (DT) students during their practical lessons. If you can contribute, please bring these items to the reception. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Book Recommendations

Ms Zammit has again pulled together an interesting list of book recommendations for the week beginning the 27th January.

- KS3: The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne
- KS4: Monkey Wars by Richard Kurti
- KS5: The Binding by Bridget Collins
- Non fiction: The Story of the Holocaust by Clive Lawton

Word of the Week

Our word of the week is **poignant**, meaning causing or having a very sharp feeling of sadness. For example, a poignant reminder of the passing of time.

Community Safety Survey

Safe MK are conducting their annual community safety survey.

The digital dilemma: Keeping Children Safe Online

The 11th February marks Safer Internet Day, and this year's focuses on protecting yourself from online scams. The South East Police Cyber Protect teams are running free webinars for parents/carers on this issue. The webinar covers social media, mobile phones, gaming and emails, and aims to help parents and carers understanding some of the risks our young people face online, including how to spot phishing emails, texts and more. The webinar will provide advice and resources to help them better protect themselves and their family from falling victim to cybercriminal behaviours.

Coming up next week

Monday 27th January - MACE Debating competition - second round

Tuesday 28th January - Year 9 Army Engagement Event

Tuesday 28th January - Denbigh Governors meeting

Wednesday 29th January - Year 9 and 10 UKMT Intermediate Mathematical Challenge

Wednesday 29th January - Year 11 Leadership Interviews

Thursday 30th January - Year 8 football match

Have a fantastic weekend. I look forward to seeing students on Monday.

Kind regards,

Mr Steed