



DENBIGH SCHOOL

## Headteacher Bulletin



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Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this email finds you well. There have been some glimmers of spring this week, amongst the awful rain!

### Word of the week

The word of the week next week is heed, meaning to pay attention to something, especially advice or a warning. For example, the airline has been criticised for failing to heed advice/warnings.

Book recommendations

Next week's book recommendations are:

KS3 - Spilled Water by Sally Grindley

KS4 - An Arrow to the Moon by Emily X.R. Pan

KS5 - The Wasp Factory By Ian Banks

Non Fiction - Why should I care about the Ancient Chinese? By Claire Throp

### Road safety

Although this is a topic I have mentioned several times in the bulletin I unfortunately need to raise it again. We have had another complaint from a parent regarding the safety on the roads within the school vicinity. It has been reported that cars are parking on the roundabout near Sainsburys or students are getting into/out of the car on the roundabout. It has also been reported that some cars are overtaking a line of slow traffic to turn into the adjacent roads or overtaking at the various crossings, which has very closely almost missed students attempting to cross. I am also sorry to tell you that a Denbigh student was hit and knocked over by a car on the roundabout by Glastonbury Thorn. Fortunately she was not too badly hurt, but it does show that with the number of students walking around the area at school start and end times, drivers need to be very vigilant and only park where it is safe to do so, preferably well away from either school.

### Bingo

As you may have seen on the calendar The Denbigh Association had their second Bingo night of the year on Friday the 1st March from 7pm. All the family is welcome and you are welcome to bring your own drinks (including alcohol) and snacks. Soft drinks and crisps will be on sale, and there will be a raffle too.

### Awards

**Attendance** - This week we have been celebrating students who have achieved 100% attendance during the Autumn term. 292 students across years 7 and 11 have received 5 achievement points and a choice of a jump to the front of the queue pass or a cookie. Having high attendance makes a real difference to a student's overall education so this is a fantastic achievement and all students and parents concerned should be very proud. There will be additional rewards throughout the year for students that reach different attendance criteria.

**Values awards** - Last week students were nominated by their Heads of Year for displaying the Denbigh Values, we are Engaged, we are Kind and Respectful and we Do No Harm. Students enjoyed a slice of pizza and a cookie with Mr Stewart for their conduct around school. Well done to all students.

**Shares** - Students are awarded achievement points throughout their time here at Denbigh. These points can be awarded for anything the member of staff feels appropriate, e.g. homework completed, club attendance, showing kindness, working hard, winning a competition etc. The points all add up and students are able to trade them in for a prize, these range from chocolate bundles, jump to the front of the queue cards, fidget spinners or Milton Keynes shopping vouchers. Those students who decided to cash in the shares they have earned so far this academic year received their prizes last week. I hope all students enjoyed their prizes and continue to work hard throughout the year. The next cash-in point will be held at Easter.

### Student Success

**Kindness shown** - On Wednesday 7th February, six Denbigh students displayed our values excellently helping an injured man after school. They called the emergency services and remained calm throughout. I am sure the gentleman concerned would have appreciated their kindness immensely. Well done to all involved.

**Debating Competition** - Today Mr Lee took 6 students from Years 7 and 8 to the Glebe Farm School debating competition. For some students this was the first time they have ever taken part in a debate and I am pleased to say they came in 2nd place. We are very proud of their achievement.

### Sports updates

**Badminton** - I am pleased to announce that both the U14 Girls and Boys Badminton teams have been crowned Bucks County Champions. The boys team won their final 3-2 and the girls team 5-0. We are now through to the next round which is the South of England final. Congratulations to all involved and best of luck for the next round on the 14th March!

**Cross Country** - On Wednesday 7th February, the PE department took 21 students to the County Cross Country Competition. This was a great day for all involved. Well done to all students who competed and congratulations to the Year 7 boys team who came in 1st place! Excellent work.

**Other wins** - This week we have had a successful sporting week! Our Year 9 and 8 Boys Basketball team won their matches 29-26 and 48-8. Our Football Academy also won their game against a team in Birmingham 4-1 this week. A triumph all round.

### Sixth Form Cultural Diversity Day

Today our sixth form committee hosted cultural diversity day for Year 12 and 13 students. As it has been in previous years, this was a real success and every year the committee are thinking of ways to make it bigger and better. Delicious food was served in the sixth form centre including jollof and samosas. The annual catwalk was held in the meeting hall and all sixth form students were invited to spectate. This was as wonderful and joyous as ever and I am sure all students enjoyed celebrating the diverse mix of cultures we have here at Denbigh.

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### Opportunities

**MK Royals** - One of our fantastic members of staff, Miss McLennan, is currently coaching young ladies football in Newport Pagnell. They are currently recruiting for more students to join their team. If your daughter is in Year 7 and would like a new challenge please see the attached.

**Milton Keynes Ruby Union Football Club** - Mrs James is involved in the Milton Keynes Ruby Union Football Club who are also recruiting for new players. If your child is looking for a new sporting venture please see the attached poster.

A reminder that we break up for the February half term next Friday 16th February at 3.00pm

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Dr A Frame  
Headteacher