



DENBIGH SCHOOL



## Headteacher's Bulletin – 6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this bulletin finds you well. It has been fantastic to welcome back students this week, and I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to new parents of students in years 7 & 12.

### Examination Results

I would like to begin by congratulating students in years 11, 12 & 13 who received examination results over the summer. It was wonderful to celebrate those successes with our students, parents and staff on our two Results Days on the 15th and 22nd August.

The GCSE results were the strongest results in school's history and the excellent A Level results saw our students take up places at University and on apprenticeships.

I would also like to pay testament to the staff who worked tirelessly with our students to support them in achieving such fantastic grades, and to parents for your continued support.

### Word of the Week

The first word of the week for the 2024-2025 academic year is fundamental, meaning forming the base, from which everything else develops. For example, education is a fundamental to a children's development.

### Library

Book club: Our new Scholastic Book Club is up and running! Please head to the school's website to browse the latest books and order online. For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 20p in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your order online by 31st October 2024.

Book recommendations for the 9th September:

KS3: Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl

KS4: Again Again by E Lockhart

KS5: Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

Non-Fiction: An Inspector Calls by J B Priestley

### **Student success**

I love hearing about the wonderful achievements of our students outside of school. Over the summer we have had some very successful athletic successes.

**Swimming:** Over the summer Ben Guthrie in Year 13 participated in the British and English Summer Swimming Championships. Ben swam excellently and made the finals of one event at the British Championships and won a Gold Medal in the 400 Individual Medley at the English Championships. Fantastic work Ben!

**Wakeboard Championships:** Jessie Saunders in Year 9 spent her summer in Italy competing at the European Cable Wakeboard Championships. Jessie had a brilliant run and made it to finals! She just missed out on a podium, securing 4th in Europe. This is a massive achievement Jessie, well done!

**British Judo NHC Open:** Our resident judo star, Jamie Leroux in Year 11, has won gold again! Jamie competed at the British Judo NHC Open. It was a very successful day for Jamie where he won a gold medal in both the Cadet (U18) & Junior (U21) competitions. Well done Jamie!

### **Rail safety**

We are very lucky to have an extensive rail network in Milton Keynes, however it is important to remind students of how to remain safe on the railways and level crossings.

### **Road safety**

Sadly this is a topic that has been mentioned several times previous bulletins, however I do feel the need to reiterate it again. It has been reported that cars are parking on the roundabout near Sainsburys or that students are getting into/out of cars on the roundabout while traffic is still moving. We have also seen that some cars are overtaking a line of slow traffic to turn into the adjacent roads or overtaking at the various crossings. This is very dangerous and we have had some narrow misses where students have attempted to cross the road. Please can I ask drivers to be vigilant when in the school vicinity and only park where it is safe to do so, preferably well away from the school. The safety of our students travelling to and from school is paramount.

### **New staff welcome**

Although it was sad to see colleagues leave at the end of the Summer term, I am thrilled to welcome our newest members of staff to Denbigh School:

Mr Michael Stroud - Head of Music

Mr Seiraj Dean - Head of Faculty - Mathematics

Miss Rasheena Thomas - Business & Economics Teacher

Miss Treshanna Williams - Business & Economics Teacher

We also have some trainee teachers completing their placements with us:

Mr Peter Halton - Humanities Teacher

Miss Olivia Forster - Psychology Teacher

Mr Jeremy Hodgson - English Teacher

Mr Shiu Cheung Szeto - Mathematics Teacher

Miss Anujin Jones - Science Teacher

Please join me in offering a warm welcome to the list above. You will be able to contact our newest colleagues following our normal email pattern: lastnamefirstname@denbigh.net eg. stroudm@denbigh.net.

### **Local events**

We are very lucky to have such a thriving arts and culture community here in Milton Keynes. Please see some up and coming events taking place below:

Milton Keynes Arts Centre: From Adult drawing classes, heritage days and art for wellbeing, the Milton Keynes Arts Centre has a lot to offer.

MK Gallery: MK Gallery's Art Show is still taking place. There is something for all the family and admission is a maximum price of £3.

Stantonbury Theatre: Take a look at what is coming up this autumn at Stantonbury Theatre. There are plenty of professional and local amateur dramatic productions to choose from.

### **Denbigh Association**

Calling all parents - we are holding the Annual General Meeting of the Denbigh Association (our PTA) on Monday 23rd September. We really need an attendance in excess of 40 people to allow this to go ahead. Please could you consider giving an hour of your time on Monday 23rd September at 7.30pm. Arrive at the front of school from 7.15pm. The meeting will last no longer than an hour - other than your presence and a desire to have a cup of tea and a piece of cake, you will not be committing to anything else. You will be able to find out more about the work of the Association and the plans for the year ahead. If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please contact Mr Burgess on burgessj@denbigh.net

### **Coming up**

Monday 9th September - Denbigh Association Welcome Evening

Monday 9th September - Year 7 Making the Most Of Evening

Wednesday 11th September - Celebration of Success Evening (By invitation only)

Thursday 12th September - School photos

Finally, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to parents, staff and students for making me feel so welcome as your new Headteacher. I am looking forward to everything this term has to offer.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr A Steed