

## Headteacher's Bulletin – 9 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the first bulletin of 2026! I hope this finds you well and you each had a lovely break with family and friends. The spring term has begun at a rapid pace, with Year 13 students starting their PPE exams. I have been very impressed by the students organisation and determination thus far.

### Sixth Form Open Evening

On Wednesday 14th December, we look forward to opening our doors to prospective Sixth Form students and their parents for our annual Sixth Form Open Evening. The evening will give students and parents the opportunity to speak to A Level teachers, find out about the different course options and learn about the other opportunities available in Year 12 and Year 13 students. Thank you to current Year 12 and 13 students who have volunteered to help us on the evening.



## Denbigh Year 12 Open Evening for September 2026 Entry

Wednesday 14 January 2026 from 5:30pm to 8:00pm

'Come and discover our exceptional Sixth Form which draws students from across Milton Keynes and beyond, attracted by our academic success, curriculum offer, exceptional facilities and enrichment opportunities. We are very proud of our Sixth Form, and we are sure if you visit us, you will see why'.

Mr Daniel Bennett,  
Director of Post 16 Education



### School Closure Procedures

To the great disappointment of many of our students, Storm Goretta passed without any significant snow for Milton Keynes. However, as we move into a period of more severe winter weather, I felt that it was worthwhile clarifying our school closure procedures. Any decision to close the school will always be taken with student and staff safety in mind. In the event of a decision to close the school, we will aim to contact parents via email by 7.30am. Teachers will place work for students to complete on their class Teams pages. Updates regarding subsequent days will be sent out via email later that day and information will be placed on our school website.

## **MK Lit Fest**

MK Lit Fest is back! Ahead of the festival opening in April, the MinK competition is open and accepting entries until the 18th January. This year participants are challenged to write a poem, a piece of flash fiction or a short true story based on the theme 'The Trees'. For all of our creative thinkers this is certainly something to get involved in. You can see more information via the attached poster.



**MinK 2026**  
**Creative Writing Competition**  
Entries close: 18 January 2026  
Info: [www.mklitfest.org/mink2026](http://www.mklitfest.org/mink2026)



Trees are interwoven in our lives. We climb them as children, carve our initials in them as teenagers (don't do that), grow them in gardens or community orchards as adults. We plant them in memory of the lost – and mourn trees we've lost, too.

They give us blossom, fruits, nuts, autumn colour, shade and oxygen. Their roots bind soils to guard against flooding. They provide wood for boat building, musical instruments, construction – and wooden spoons. Without them, we'd have to forego mistletoe and Stradivarius violins ... And they can take their revenge for the ravages of climate change and deforestation: forest fires increasingly take neighbourhoods down with them as they burn.

### **Submit your writing**

Be bold, be original, and interpret the idea of **The Trees** in ways that entertain, enthral, amuse, confound or surprise. Anyone aged over 14 who lives, works or studies in Bucks (including Milton Keynes), Beds or Northants is eligible to enter. **Submissions close: 18 January 2026.**



Info: [www.mklitfest.org/mink2026](http://www.mklitfest.org/mink2026)



## **E-scooters**

You may be aware of the newly introduced rules in Milton Keynes aimed at tackling the unsafe use and careless parking of Lime e-scooters and e-bikes. From January 2026, riders must end their journeys only in clearly marked parking zones/areas shown on the Lime app. E-scooters and e-bikes must not be left blocking footpaths, entrances, crossings, redways, or areas used by wheelchair users and pushchairs, and a minimum of two metres of clear space must be left for pedestrians. Riders who fail to comply can face fines or bans from using the service. While Lime scooters can be used on redways and service roads, privately owned e-scooters remain illegal in public spaces, and e-scooters must not be ridden on pavements. We are increasingly seeing students using these bikes when they are not legally permitted to do so, and scooters are increasingly being left within the school vicinity blocking pathways. If your child uses an e-scooter please ensure they are aware of these rules so we can keep our community safe and accessible for everyone.

## **Roadworks**

There are currently several roadworks taking place in Milton Keynes, including H6 Childs Way. This may have an impact on your commute to school in the morning so please allow extra time.

## **Student Success**

Dreams 'n' Wishes: Having successfully auditioned in June, Sienna Morton-Nicholson, Year 9 performed in MK Theatre Group Dreams' N' Wishes Production of 'Snow White' this Christmas.

Sienna completed 16 performances, that's performing to over 4000 audience members! Sienna demonstrated amazing creativity, passion and resilience. Well done Sienna - a star in the making!



### Library

Typing competition: The library is running a typing competition on the 15th January. This will be a fun challenge to find out the overall Denbigh School Speed typist!



**Word of the Week**

Next week's word of the week is invigorate meaning to give life or energy to. For example, he was invigorated by the positive feedback.

**Coming up next week**

All week - Year 13 PPE Exams

Wednesday 14th January - Sixth Form Open Evening

Friday 16th January - Year 12 Biology trip

Friday 16th January - Year 9 immunisations

Have a great weekend, hopefully Storm Goretti will have well and truly passed by the time Monday arrives!

Kind regards,

**Mr Steed**  
**Headteacher**