

## Headteacher's Bulletin – 30 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this bulletin finds you well and you have had a good week.

### **Praise from the Secretary of State for Education**

On Tuesday I received a letter from Bridget Phillipson MP, congratulating Denbigh School on the excellent outcomes that we achieved in 2024/25 for our disadvantaged pupils. As a school we are continually striving to ensure all of our students have the same opportunities and are able to reach the same outcomes, regardless of circumstance, and it's great to receive recognition of this from the Secretary of State. Please see an extract of the letter below:

*'Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at your school achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement. This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.'*

### **Student Success**

Gabriel Rowcroft-James in Year 11 recently attended a selection centre for the World Scout Jamboree. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and happens only once every four years. Over 70 Scouts and Explorer Scouts from Milton Keynes applied, of whom 30 were put through to attend the weekend selection camp. During the camp, attendees were observed for two days to assess their skills and values, including leadership, teamwork, problem solving, communication, respect for others, kindness and engagement. Despite the tough competition, Gabriel was selected as one of only four young people to go to Poland in the summer of 2027 to represent Milton Keynes alongside 40,000 people from around the world. Fantastic work Gabriel, well done!

### **Road Safety**

I would like to give another reminder on the importance of making sure your child is following basic road safety rules. Unfortunately the traffic outside Denbigh is heavy and often the rules of the road are not always being followed. Please speak to your children about the importance of being vigilant and paying attention when crossing the road. If you drop or pick your child up from school I would also ask that you consider parking further away from the school building to try and alleviate some of the issues we are experiencing. I receive communications from parents most weeks raising concerns on the traffic use outside of school and we do not want there to be an accident. I am speaking with the council to see if there is any further support they can give us, but in the meantime if you can support us this would be most appreciated.

## Women's Day Event

International Women's day is coming up on the 8th March and MP, Emily Darlington is hosting an event from, 2-5pm. Please see this poster. If your child is interested in attending, please email [ellis.archer@parliament.uk](mailto:ellis.archer@parliament.uk) .

**Emily Darlington MP's**  
**International Women's Day Event**  
Open to all young women: Year 10 - Year 13  
Sunday 8th March | 14:00 - 17:00

- Talk to **inspiring women leaders** in their fields
- Learn about the **White Ribbon Campaign**
- Get to know **Emily Darlington** and her team
- Find out about **Emily's work to end violence** against women and girls!

**This is your chance!**

**Speak to your MP**  
and ask her the questions  
that you want to know  
the answers to!

**Join us for an inspiring afternoon!**  
RSVP: [ellis.archer@parliament.uk](mailto:ellis.archer@parliament.uk)

## Loughton Manor

Our Friends at Loughton Manor are will be opening their doors during the application window for tours of the school. Please see their poster if you have a child at Nursery age.

**Loughton Manor First School**  
**Nursery Applications and Tours for places in September 2026**

Are you looking for a nurturing, stimulating, welcoming school environment where your child can thrive?

At Loughton Manor First School, every child is valued, encouraged and inspired to achieve their very best. Our Early Years provision (rated Outstanding by Ofsted) offers the perfect balance of care, creativity and challenge, helping your little one develop confidence, curiosity and a lifelong love of learning in their very first years of education.

We are taking bookings for tours on the following dates:  
February: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am  
March: Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am

Contact the School Office to book your visit:  
[office@loughtonmanor.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:office@loughtonmanor.milton-keynes.sch.uk)  
01908 241 472  
[www.loughtonmanorschool.co.uk](http://www.loughtonmanorschool.co.uk)

## MK Breakers

We have a number of students at Denbigh school who play for The Milton Keynes Breakers Basketball Club, U16 Girls and Boys teams. Both teams have been invited to compete in a high-level international basketball tournament in Madrid, Spain, in March 2026. The MK Breakers are one of the country's leading youth basketball programmes, and these U16 squads represent a particularly talented and committed group of young athletes. Competing internationally would provide invaluable experience, however they are in need of sponsorship to ensure both teams can attend in full. Please see the crowdfunding link [here](#) if you would like to support our students.

## Grandslam Wrestling

On Friday 13th March our meeting hall will be transformed into a family friendly wrestling night. Please see their poster with more information. Anyone from the school wanting to go will receive a

15% discount with the following code GSWDEN15.

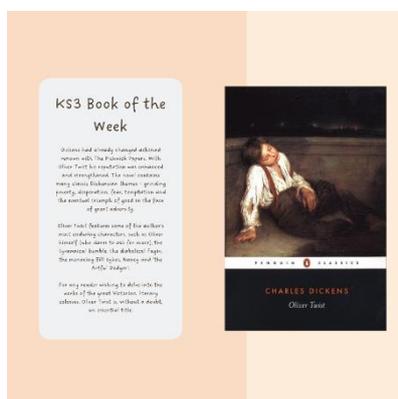


## Word of the week

The word of the week this week is Iterate, meaning to say or do again. For example, we needed to iterate the process multiple times to pass the test.

## Library

Please see the book recommendations from the Library for the first week of February.



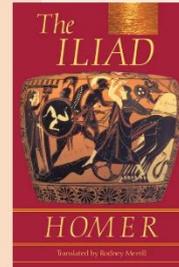
### KS5 Book of the Week

Brought up in a working-class Pentecostal family, up North, Jeanette follows the path her Mum has set for her. This means Bible quizes, a visit to a hairdresser playingfully during 4000 and a future as a missionary in Africa, or some other "well-behaved" when Jeanette starts going to school and confides in her mother about her feelings for another girl, she's swept up in a French frenzy for her terminal and Confused, angry and alone. Jeanette strikes out on her own path, that makes a brutal partner and on her own way, head to with the so-called reality of Jeanette's existence growing up are unconventional fairy tales that transposed the everyday world, subverting the traditional preconceptions of the novel in distress.



### Non-Fiction Book of the Week

It is the tenth year of the siege of Troy, and no one knows who will win. The gods watch from Mount Olympus and fight, too, some for the Greeks and some for the Trojans. There are battles, and quarrels, and Achilles - the greatest warrior among the Greeks - refuses to fight any longer. But then the Trojan champion Hector kills Achilles's great friend, and Achilles goes out to avenge him. . . . Homer's great epic poem is brought to life in this critically acclaimed retelling. Barbara Leonie Picard's classic version explores the excitement of this tale of pride, daring, love, and vengeance.



### Coming up next week

- Monday 2nd February - Year 10 We compose project
- Monday 2nd February - Denbigh Association Meeting
- Tuesday 3rd February - Year 9 Basketball Match
- Wednesday 4th February - Year 9 and 11 Girls Football Match
- Thursday 5th February - Year 7 and 8 Basketball Match
- Friday 6th February - Sixth Form Cultures Day

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Steed  
Headteacher