

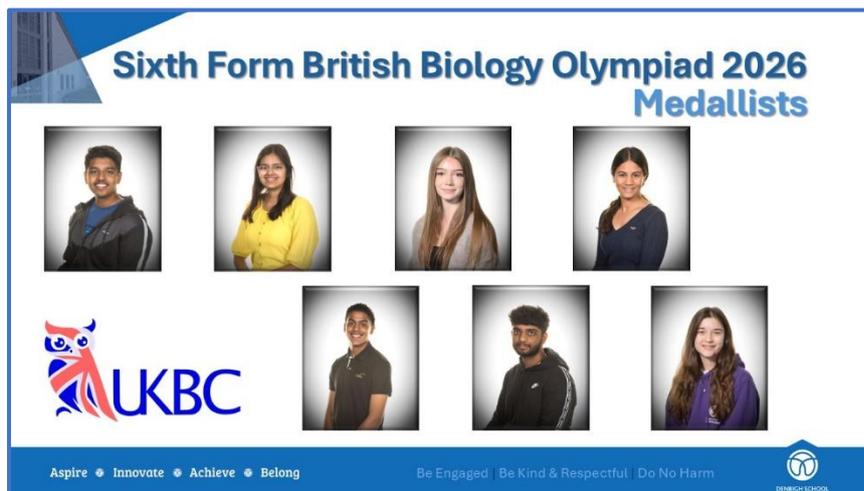
Headteacher's Bulletin – 27 February 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this email finds you well.

Sixth Form British Biology Olympiad

We have had another fantastic set of results from 24 of our Sixth Form Biologists who tested their knowledge in the British Biology Olympiad. The students were a triumph and won two Gold, two Silver and six Bronze medals. The success continued with two students, Raj Patel and Sienna Gleadall whose Gold medals put them in the top 5% of the 19,000 students who competed across the country. It also means they have the opportunity to participate in the team selection for the 2026 International Biology Olympiad in Lithuania in July. Well done to all who took part!



Student Success

Hitarth in Year 9 recently performed in the Milton Keynes festival of the Arts. He entered the Humorous Verse category and came in 2nd place. Great job Hitarth, well done!



Holocaust Ambassadors visit to Poland

On Wednesday 25th February, our Holocaust Ambassadors and Miss Nikopolous, travelled to Oświęcim in Poland to visit Auschwitz I and Auschwitz II-Birkenau. The students began their day at Auschwitz I, which is now a memorial and museum. Here they walked through the preserved



barracks and exhibitions and read powerful testimonies from victims. They then travelled to Auschwitz II-Birkenau, the largest part of the camp complex. Standing on the railway tracks and walking through the vast grounds helped students to understand the enormity of what took place there. Together, they discussed the stories of victims and survivors and held a candlelit vigil to remember the men, women and children who lost their lives. At the end of the day, the day the students made a shared commitment: to remember, to educate others, and to stand against prejudice and discrimination in all its forms. The visit was a deeply moving and important experience that will stay with them for years to come. Please see the poem below from Elliot Wilson who wrote a poem on their experience.

Music Soiree

As part of our ongoing support for our peripatetic musicians and Year 10–12 Music students, we are delighted to invite you to our Spring Term Music Soirée. This special evening offers students the opportunity to perform in a warm and supportive environment, helping them build confidence, refine their performance skills, and gain valuable experience in preparation for their final assessments.

Event Details:

- **Venue:** Denbigh School, Meeting Hall
- **Date & Time:** 11 March, 6:00 pm
- **Cost:** £2 (donated to support our July 2026 production, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*)
- **Tickets:** Book via ParentMail > Accounts and Products > Products > Spring Music Soirée

We look forward to welcoming you and thank you for your continued support in celebrating our students' musical achievements.

Auschwitz-Birkenau

An empty silence hangs in the air
Dull, throbbing with echoes
Of the silent sobs
That rang out here so long ago

I follow the path that lies ahead
My feet falling
In the same sunken earth
They walked before me

The birds don't sing
Here at Auschwitz-Birkenau
They perch atop the trees
And survey the barren land below

A convergence of tracks
Tied together in a knot
Of doomed stories
A tale of forgotten souls

I feel their whispers
The begging wind
That wraps itself around my throat
And steals my breath away

A wasteland of destroyed evidence
Corpses of buildings
Which once bustled with
Exhausted determination

A community torn at the seams
Yet sewn together
With the threads of resistance
Joined by love.

David's star etched in brick
A symbol of hope
Of devotion and care
In a world which sought to mute it

Foxes roam the snow-sodden grass
Paws padding atop the earth
Which conceals a hidden eulogy
A testimony of rebellion.

Candles flicker in the breeze
A cluster of forgotten souls gather round
Nurtured by the warmth
Of remembrance.

Year 12 English Literature students

During the February half term, five of our Year 12 English Literature students along with Mrs Brawn and Mrs Booth attended a talk given by Dr Joan Passey at the Chrysalis Theatre. Joan is a professor of English Literature from Bristol University and specialises in gothic, horror, and folklore in literature and culture. The talk was entitled “Gothic Literature and Women: The female history of horror” and was linked to our study of Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. It was an excellent, informative talk and which students and staff enjoyed.



Life after school workshop

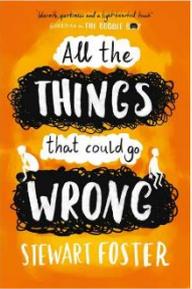
If you are looking for advice about the options available to your child after their school career and how you can help your child start preparing now, you may be interested in the Careers unlocked workshop for parents. The workshop will cover the realities of today’s graduate job market trends and in-demand careers, options after school including university applications, apprenticeships and beyond, how students can gain meaningful work experience outside of school and practical skills students can start building now. Please see the link [here](#) for the 17th March at 6pm.

Library

Please see the book recommendations for next week.

KS3 Book of the Week

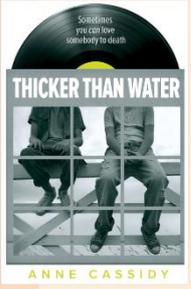
There are two sides to every story. Dan is angry. Nothing has been the same since his big brother left, and he's taking it out on the nearest and weakest target: Alex. Alex is struggling; his severe OCD makes it hard for him to leave the house, especially when Dan and his gang are waiting for him at school. When the two boys' mums arrange for them to meet out of school and finish building the boat that Dan started with his brother, it seems like the end of the world. But could it be the start of an unlikely friendship?



KS4 Book of the Week

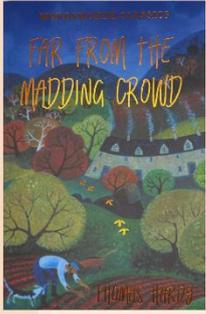
George dreams of an easy life, a little second business, enough money to get by. But it's hard when he has Lennie to look after too. Lennie's not quite right, he's got a way of getting into scrapes, and he doesn't know his own strength. For now, their best option is to hole up with Billy and his dodgy business and hope they can stay long enough, this time, to get some money put by. But wherever Lennie is, trouble is never very far away.

Content advisory: Violence, death.



KS5 Book of the Week

An independent woman farmer is an unsettling influence on Victorian Wessex - to restore the proper order, agree the village gossip, Bathsheba Everdene must either appoint a bailiff or marry suitably. Yet Bathsheba is dazzled by pleasure-seeking Sergeant Troy - a folly which threatens the whole community. In his first truly great novel Hardy reveals a tenderness, awareness of the need to understand nature and a profound love of humankind in an intriguing story which is both comic and tragic.



Non-Fiction Book of the Week

Exam stress? Friendship issues? Panic attacks? It's not just your body that should be fit and healthy - your mind needs to be, too! This is the go-to guide for achieving a balanced mind and strong emotional well-being. With immediate, heart-of-the-matter advice and a chatty yet honest tone, Anna Williamson addresses all of the key issues affecting children today. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, relationships, phobias, bullying, peer pressure, self-esteem, and much more.



Word of the week

The word of the week for the first week of March is to cherish, meaning to hold dear, feel or show affection. For example, she cherished her friends.

St Marks Meals

We have had a new delivery from St Marks Meals so if you are in need of some extra support throughout this half term, please come into the reception for a food box which can feed up to a family of four.

Coming up next week

Monday 2nd March - Denbigh Association Meeting

Wednesday 4th March - Year 8 Subject Consultation Evening

Thursday 5th March - World Book

Kind regards,
Mr Steed
Headteacher