

Headteacher's Bulletin – 24 April 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this bulletin finds you well and you have enjoyed the sunshine this week.

Cultures Day

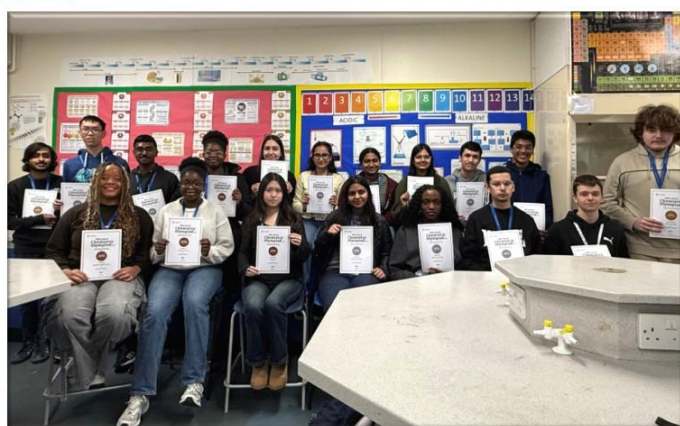
Today we had our annual Cultures Day for Years 7-11. As always we were blown away by student's cultural dress. It is brilliant to see students representing their culture with pride and celebrating diversity amongst their peers. Each year group attended a cultures day assembly where they were treated to a range of different performances from students representing their countries. We saw traditional folk songs from India, a poem based on Gahanna, a Kandyan inspired dance from Sri Lanka, a beautiful Hong Kongese vocal and piano number and a medley of classic British rock songs, plus many more great numbers. All the students who performed were fantastic and represented the true meaning of cultures day. Students were also given the opportunity to attend the photo booth at break time to take photos with their friends which is always very well attended. Thank you to Mrs Conway and the School Council for making this day happen.

Chemistry Olympiad

Science continues to go from strength to strength at Denbigh. This was once again exemplified by our Post-16 Chemistry students, who have received their results from the Royal Society of Chemistry's National Olympiad. Eighteen students from Year 13 tested their knowledge against students from across the country. All of our students won an award and in total, we gained three Gold, eleven Silver and four Bronze medals. A special mention goes to our three Gold medal winners – Harry Long, Kush Taylor and Harley West – whose results put them in the top 8.5% of all competitors nationally! Great work Year 13!



National Chemistry Olympiad Award Winners



LAMDA Results

The results are finally in! Every candidate in the March 2026 LAMDA Exam cohort achieved a distinction in their LAMDA acting exam. This is the first year we have held LAMDA Level 3 qualification training. Level 3 qualifications are used by universities as part of their admissions process and are awarded UCAS points, which contribute towards entry requirements for higher education. All Grade 6 students will be awarded 12 UCAS points due to the distinction grade received. We are so proud to see our students achieve such high results whilst balancing regular studies, extracurricular commitments, and day-to-day school life. This kind of success doesn't come easily, it's the result of preparation, resilience, and a genuine love of performing. Thank you to Mrs Brunings for guiding students through these exams.



Games Night

Friday 15th May the Denbigh Association and the House Councils are hosting a Games Night in aid of our House Charity, Solving Kids Cancer. Please see the attached poster. This is a chance for students to spend an evening getting competitive with their friends, trying different challenges, raising money or charity as well as earning House Points. Tickets are £2 and must be purchased via Parental. Please see poster.



Student success

Last week I mentioned MK Lit Fest, which is still continuing this weekend. Sawan Nair in Year 12 entered the Poetry section of the Creative Writing Competition. The poem was entitled The Roots of My History and has been published in the anthology titled MinK #6: The Trees. Copies of the ebook version of the anthology can be purchased directly via this link. Fantastic work Sawan! If you are interested in the remaining events this weekend please take a look here.

Word of the week

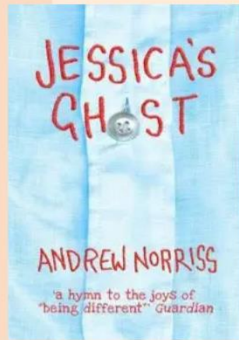
The word of the week next week is nuance, meaning, a very slight difference in appearance, meaning, sound, etc. For example, linguists explore the nuances of language.

Library

Please see the attached book recommendations for next week.

KS3 Book of the Week

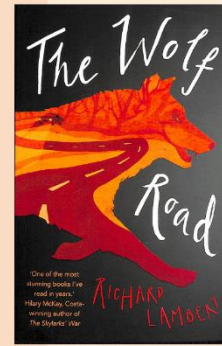
When Jessica sits down next to Francis on a bench one break time, he's surprised to learn that she isn't actually alive -- she's a ghost! And she's surprised too, because Francis is the first person who has ever been able to see her. Before long, Francis and Jessica are best friends, enjoying life more than they have in a long time. When they meet two more friends who also can see Jessica, the question arises: what is it that the children have in common? And is it connected with the existence of Jessica's ghost? The answer, when it emerges, is both surprising and moving -- and leads on to a dramatic conclusion that none of them could have foreseen.



KS4 Book of the Week

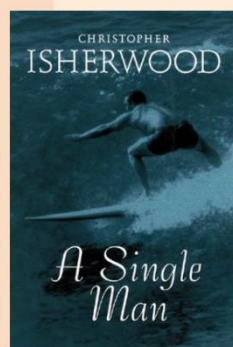
A novel about loss, grief, violence and courage. When fifteen-year-old Lucas survives the car accident that kills his parents, one memory stays with him -- of the wolf that caused the crash. Forced to leave his home and live with his Nan in the Lake District, Lucas struggles to adjust to his strange, new world. And when he learns that a wild creature is killing livestock on the mountains, he knows it's the wolf that it's come for him, and that he must face it. But that means confrontation -- with Nan, school bullies, the authorities -- and it also means going onto the high fells in a hunt that becomes a matter of life and death.

Content advisory: Mild swearing and violence.



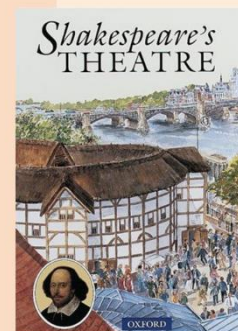
KS5 Book of the Week

When *A Single Man* was originally published, it shocked many by its frank, sympathetic, and moving portrayal of a gay man in midlife. George, the protagonist, is adjusting to life on his own after the sudden death of his partner, determined to persist in the routine of his daily life. An Englishman and a professor living in suburban Southern California, he is an outsider in every way, and his internal reflections and interactions with others reveal a man who loves being alive despite everyday injustices and loneliness. Wry, suddenly manic, constantly funny, surprisingly sad, this novel catches the texture of life itself.



Non-Fiction Book of the Week

Shakespeare's Theatre is a tale of two theatres: the original Globe in the bank of the Thames in London, opened in 1599, and its modern reconstructed twin, built in almost exactly the same spot and opened nearly 400 years later. William Shakespeare wrote his finest plays with the Globe in mind, and acted on its stage as a member of the troupe that performed there.



Brick festival

Brick festival will be coming back next weekend! This LEGO event has something for all the family. Please see the attached posters with more information.



The Milton Keynes Brick Festival is building up once again on 3rd May, and this could be the most exciting LEGO fan event ever created!

Every Brick Festival event is filled with LEGO themed fun as families, collectors, adult builders, and every kind of LEGO fan come together for a day of brick-filled bliss!

Wondering what goes on inside a Brick Festival event? Well, we throw away the instruction books as Milton Keynes Brick Festival brings ALL NEW LEGO activities such as our adrenaline inducing speed building competitions, Master Builder test build challenges, scavenger hunts, a dedicated building area, gaming zones, LEGO RC car zone, and so much more. This event is a LEGO lover's dream come true!

Browse through a totally updated selection of trader tables selling a huge range of loose bricks, brand new or rare & retired LEGO sets, minifigures, accessories and all other LEGO themed items you could imagine – it's the ultimate treasure trove for LEGO enthusiasts and collectors alike! There really will be something available for everyone, with every budget in mind too.

But that's not all – Milton Keynes Brick Festival showcases a brand new, unique selection of LEGO displays crafted by master LEGO builders from across the country! Get up close and personal, chat with these LEGO artists about their latest projects, snag some insider tips, and leave brimming with inspiration!

Book your tickets now to secure your preferred entry time at this brick-filled day, as timeslots regularly sell out! Early Bird tickets fly off the shelves, so make sure to snap these up before they all go! These give you an extra hour of LEGO fun inside the show (from 10am) and a FREE LEGO gift upon entry too!

Whether you're a die-hard collector or a casual LEGO fan, the Milton Keynes Brick Festival at centre:mk is the place to be. Secure your entry tickets online now – adults from £8, children from £4, and there's even an extra value family ticket available for just £20 too!

Don't miss the chance to be a part of this awesome LEGO celebration! Grab your tickets and get ready for a day filled with LEGO building, creativity, and brick-stacking fun!

Book now at www.MiltonKeynesBrickFestival.com

Save the date: 3rd May
Where: centre:mk
Find out more – www.BrickFestivalEvents.com



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

BRICK FESTIVAL

LEGO

3RD MAY
CENTRE:MK

MILTON KEYNES
BRICK
FESTIVAL

MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

MK Film Club

Please see the attached poster from MK Film Club. They are offering free spaces to children with EHCPs along with other paying spaces. Based in Bletchley, this would be a great extra-curricular club for our budding film makers.



TO BOOK



**DEVELOP SKILLS,
MAKE FRIENDS,
HAVE FUN!**

**MK FILM CLUB
(EHCP +)**

**FOR AGES 6-14, FREE WITH A
FINALISED EHCP AND PAYING
SPACES AVAILABLE
(DISCOUNT FOR SIBLINGS)**

Enjoy 8 fully funded creative workshops, including:

- Script writing & story ideas
- Character development & storyboarding
- Acting & confidence skills
- Make-up, costume & props
- Filmmaking (camera & lighting)

Bletchley Youth Centre, Derwent Drive, MK3 7BE
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm | 29 Apr - 24 Jun 2026 (8 sessions)

Coming up next week

All week - Year 12 PPEs and Year 11 MFL speaking exams
27th and 28th April - GCSE Art and Textiles exams
27th and 28th April - Final two days of Year 10 PPEs
29th, 30th April, 1st May - A Level Art exams
29th April - Junior Maths Challenge and MK Dons Trip

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Steed
Headteacher