

Devizes Dispatch



Mr. Cooper's weekly message:

There is a tangible buzz of excitement around school today amongst staff and students as we begin our house events for the new academic year.

We are always very keen to hear your thoughts and opinions about the school. Please could I ask that you take a couple of minutes to complete our **Parent View** survey? If you completed it last academic year, I would appreciate it if you could do so again as your new responses will contribute to the results for 2024/25. It can be found here: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Mr Cave's weekly message

This week Mr Richardson and I have been speaking with our students in assemblies about the importance of values and aspirations, reflecting on the summer events we witnessed across the country and also the life of Thomas Lawrence, a world famous portrait painter from 200 years ago, whose works hang in galleries and palaces around the world, and started his life living at the Bear Hotel right here in Devizes. It has been great to share with students on why having strong, common values based on respect and kindness matter for everyone's future and well-being.

The highlight of the week however has to be the launch of the first House competition today, as students from Avebury, Roundway & Silbury took on the 'last man standing' challenge. The fun factor was high and the rivalry intense as students hopped and ducked in order to survive the longest. The House battles have well and truly commenced!

Please note that in the diary we have a 'Meet the Tutor' Evening for all parents on Thursday 10th October. This event is a great opportunity to learn how your child is settling into the academic year, be introduced to their tutor and ask questions about the year ahead. Details on how to make appointments (via Edulink One) will follow in a future dispatch.

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Finally, I wanted to highlight a wonderful part of life here at Devizes that is now a strong part of our culture. Every morning and afternoon, as your children arrive and depart from school, so many of them are warm, welcoming and friendly (what we nickname 'WWF') as they walk past. They say 'Good morning'. They wish us a good evening or weekend. They engage in conversation. Some of you may well witness this on the Green at these times of day, and at those points I'm really proud of our students and the attitude they demonstrate as they start and end their day. It's a joy to be in their presence, greet them and wish them well each day. And with that- I wish you all a lovely weekend!

Key notices

PCL Liddington – please contact the school reception if interested.

The netball trip to Liddington will be taking place on Friday 14th -16th March 2025. We will be taking 2 teams, one for Year 7 & 8 players, and the other for year 9 & 10. There will be about 10 places available for each team. The overall cost which includes, meals Friday evening through to Sunday lunch time, entertainment, outdoor adventurous activities and a netball tournament is £ 209.46 per person. This includes travel on the school mini bus to and from the event.

We leave after school on the Friday and return to school mid afternoon on the Sunday. If your daughter is interested, she will be required to attend the netball club on a Tuesday after school until the event takes place, and represent the school in netball fixtures through out the term.

Please contact reception who will pass names on to Mrs Strickland. First deposit will be required asap.

Lost property

Week 2 and lost property is arriving at the school reception, please can we ask that all uniform and equipment is clearly labelled so we can return it to the student.

Nut free school

We would like to remind all students and families that we are a nut free school- We have students with severe nut allergies so please do not send in any products containing nuts.

Early School Closure

Our Open Evening is on **Wednesday 18th September** and we will be **closing at 2.10pm**. Students will need to make alternative arrangements for going home if they travel by bus.