

# Devizes Dispatch



## Mr. Cave's weekly message:

It's always a pleasure to walk around the school and see the brilliant work that goes on day in, day out. This week I've observed trainee and newly qualified teachers as a part of their final assessments, and even taught a Year 9 English cover lesson myself, and in all these areas, and around the school, I consistently see attentive and mature young people keen to make the most of their education. Looking over school data, I calculated that in just 0.2% of

teacher-student interactions does a student have to be removed from class for a visit to our refocus room, and only 3% of students who visit the refocus room on any given day end up returning later that day. Given there are 1,000 students on site, engaging in 6 lessons a day and countless further social interactions besides, you don't just have to take my word for it that this is a purposeful environment for learning- our student's efforts & attitudes speak for themselves.

A special (and no doubt ongoing) mention to our Year 11 and 13 students- they have committed themselves wholeheartedly to the first full week of exams and their humble confidence suggests they are now reaping the rewards of their hard work- let's keep cheering them on and supporting them through the next few weeks.

## Uniform

Our uniform expectations list is attached to this week's Dispatch. Please ensure your child meets these standards each day, including having their blazer & tie, shoes (not trainers), at most a simple pair of stud earrings and no false or coloured nails. In warmer weather, if your child normally wears tights with a skirt but chooses not to, please ensure they wear a pair of cycling shorts or something similar underneath, and that their skirt is worn at the expected professional length.



## Music Questionnaire for parents of students on year 7 to 10

Please take a moment to fill out this survey concerning Music at Devizes School. You can scan the QR code or click the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/he6PVCuL3t>

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## Athletics Kennet area Trials – Wednesday 14th May

On Wednesday 14th May, pupils from Years 7 to 10 participated in a well-contested athletics fixture held at Dauntsey School. The event brought together a broad range of athletic talent, with students competing across a full programme of track and field events in a display of determination, resilience, and school spirit.

Throughout the afternoon, pupils competed in events including the Hurdles, 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, as well as the long jump, high jump, shot put, Javelin and discus. Conditions were favourable, with dry weather contributing to good performances.

Each year group demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment, with numerous personal bests recorded and close contests in both track and field events. Many athletes were participating in events for the first time. Particularly notable were:

John D in Year 9 finishing a strong 2nd in the 800m event, he ran past a number of runners in the last 100m.

Wizzie in Year 7 finishing 2nd in the 100m. Autumn F in Year 10 throwing Discus and Javelin well finishing 1st in both events. Oscar D Year 8 finishing 3rd in a very competitive race which was a new event for him.

## Quadathlon at Dauntsey School

Pupils from across the year groups took part in a thrilling Quadathlon at Dauntsey School this week. This demanding multi-discipline event tested students' athleticism and resilience across four classic track and field events: the 800m run, shot putt, hurdles, and long jump.

Among the many standout performances were several pupils who placed highly in their respective age groups. Wizzie earned an impressive 3rd place in the year 8 girls competition despite being a year 7 student, showing consistency across all four events. Ethan delivered a strong all-round performance to finish in a tie for 2nd place, while John also achieved a well-deserved 3rd place in his age category.

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## Ten Tors Challenge



Congratulations to Jack, Gus and Freddie from Year 9 who as part of the Wilts ACF Alpha 35Team successfully completed the Ten Tors Challenge last weekend. The Ten Tors Challenge is attempted by 2,400 teenagers in 400 teams of six. The teams navigate routes of 35, 45 or 55 miles (depending on age) over the Northern half of Dartmoor, visiting ten nominated tors / check points in under two days.

As part of their team of 6, they walked 35miles in just under 19 hours across Dartmoor - 12 hours on the Saturday and a further 7 hours on the Sunday morning crossing the finish line at 12:45pm. Teams must be self-sufficient, carrying all that they need to complete their route and stay out overnight safely.

## Year 7 - Police visit



On Monday, Year 7 had a visit from the local police who delivered an important presentation on social media use and antisocial behaviour. They spoke to students about how to stay safe online, the potential risks of sharing personal information, and the importance of using social media responsibly. The officers also discussed the impact of antisocial behaviour, both online and in the community, and explained the consequences it can have on individuals and those around them.

The session was informative and engaging, helping students to better understand how their actions—both on and offline—can affect others and their own futures.





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## Art Bytes

The results from the Art Bytes competition in Y9. I want to congratulate all who took part and the shortlisted. We have talented students in this school! There is a celebration afternoon of creative workshops and prize giving in June for all their efforts!

Miss Williams



2<sup>nd</sup> Sophie S



1<sup>st</sup> Ralph S



3<sup>rd</sup> Hannah M

Please see the Art Bytes attachment for a all our shortlisted entries.



## Year 10 Work Experience

We are in need of some more placements for our current Year 10s who have the opportunity to have 2 days work experience on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025. Work experience offers numerous benefits, including practical skill development, career exploration, and enhanced employability. It helps students to try out different career paths, gain confidence, and understand what it's like to work in a particular field. Additionally, it can improve key

skills, such as communication and teamwork, and begin to build networks. If you could offer a placement to one of our current Year 10 students please complete the form below so we can help to match those students still looking for work placements.

<https://forms.office.com/e/XT6YmbEYee>

## Dates for the Diary

22<sup>nd</sup> May – Year 10 Online parents evening

23<sup>rd</sup> May – Last day term 5

2<sup>nd</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> day term 6