

# Devizes Dispatch



## Mr. Cave's weekly message:

It's been a really positive first week back to school as we begin term 4 and the second half of the academic year. Our Year 11 and 13 students have continued to work hard during their mock examinations, and are now earnestly awaiting feedback from teachers before that final push towards the summer finals. The level of maturity shown by so many towards this process has been really encouraging.

Year 9 have had a very busy week, as their GCSE Options process began on Thursday evening. It is always great to welcome families into school and talk to you about your son or daughter's progress and next steps. For the first time in their academic lives, these students get some input into what they study and begin to think about their careers and future aspirations. We look forward to guiding them through this in the coming weeks. Year 9 also engaged in a visit from Wiltshire Police who delivered their "blunt truth" workshops, raising awareness around knife crime. Whilst we wish for a world where such an initiative wasn't necessary, we see in the news that across the country this issue isn't going anywhere. We hope that the session provides information they would never need to use in real life, but is so important that our students understand the dangers of carrying a weapon, as well as how to manage an incident involving a knife.

Next week we look forward to visits from the Samaritans exploring emotional and mental health, and trips to both Stratford-upon-Avon and the European battlefields of World War One.

## Transport by car

Please can we ask parents dropping off or collecting their children from school to be mindful of their surroundings. We have had some parents drive irresponsibly both around by Southbroom Infants and around our Nursted Gate and the Moonrakers pub in recent weeks. There are young children attending primary schools in both areas, as well as our own students commuting at this time. Please do not pull up directly outside our Nursted Road Gate to drop off, where there are double yellow lines, as students enter this way and could lead to a situation where they are put at risk. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



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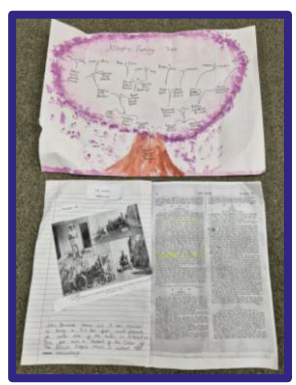
## PSHE and Citizenship Term 4

This term focus for Years 7-10 will be citizenship based. Citizenship is taught over all the years in the school and enables our students to understand the world around them, understanding the law to how democracy works in the UK. Each year group have a particular focus to work through.

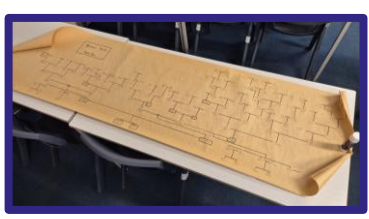
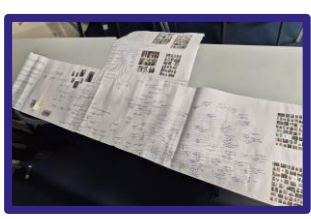
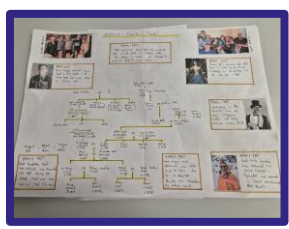
- Year 7 - Parliament and how it runs England
- Year 8- improving their community
- Year 9 - Laws and age of responsibility
- Year 10 - United Nations

Year 11 however are completing their PSHE work, working through a unit about body modifications and the law and Mental health and the media. Then they will be following a court case in their remaining lessons.

## Year 7 Family Tree Project



Well done to the year 7's who presented their family tree projects to Mrs Townsend and Mrs Battle before half term. It was so fascinating to hear of pupils related to England footballers, war heroes, a previous mayor of Devizes, and even a Polish Prime Minister. This year lots of students managed to go back 5 generations or more. Well done to Flynn who worked with his family and was able to track family members back to the Anglo Saxon period in the year 870!






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## World book day

At Devizes School we love reading every day, and we are really looking forward to celebrating the power of reading on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025, for World Book Day! There are a range of book related activities going on at school throughout Thursday and Friday that you can get involved with.

### DESIGN YOUR OWN BOOK JACKET HOUSE COMPETITION

Please submit book titles, author/illustrator names, and deadlines to the LRC by Friday 7th March.




### BLACK OUT POETRY

Do you love the idea of writing poetry, but don't know where to start? Visit the LRC on World Book Day to create your own black out poem.

### BOOK DOCTOR CLINIC

On Thursday 6th March, visit the LRC for treatment by Ms Feeney, the Book Doctor, who can cure any woes or ailments with a prescription for the perfect book or advice on reading.



### WORLD BOOK DAY WALL




The LRC is offering a chance for students to win a lucky dip book by writing their favourite quote on the wall during lunch on Thursday March 6th.

### GUESS THE BOOK CHARACTER COMPETITION

Some of our lovely Sixth Formers will be dressing up as their favourite book characters on Friday 7th March. Come to the main hall during KS3 lunch to see if you can guess the most characters correctly

### EXTREME READING

Ready for a challenge? Snap a photo of yourself reading in the strangest, most unique location you can find! Whether it's on top of a mountain, in a tree, or somewhere totally unexpected—show us where your love for books takes you. The top 3 photos will chosen by the 6th form student leaders and announced the following Friday during tutor time. Entries must be submitted to Amelia in 6th form via email ([IAmor-ReveningA@student.devizes.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:IAmor-ReveningA@student.devizes.wilts.sch.uk)) by 3pm on Friday 7th March



## Dates for the Diary

- Thursday 6th & Friday 7th March – World Book day
- Monday 10th March – Year 9 Vaccinations
- Thursday 20th March – Year 8 Online parents evening – Details to follow next week
- Tuesday 8th July – Inset Day – School closed to pupils