

Devizes Dispatch



Mr. Cave's weekly message:

We've held our House assemblies this week, as the competition hots up between Avebury, Roundway and Silbury. Each week the houses score points for the Championship based on the student's house point scores, school and club attendance, and performance in various challenges. From spelling bees to 1v1 football tournaments, litter picks to Science fairs, there have been plenty of

opportunities to earn points for their houses lately! We often share the names of each house's highest scorers during our morning line up and celebrate their commitment to success both as an individual and a house member. We also held our latest HERO raffles last week, where one student from each year group was rewarded with an Amazon voucher for being 'Here, Every day, Ready and On time'. We are always looking for ways to recognise those who make the most of their secondary school experience.

Next week our Year 7-10 students will complete their latest 'National Guided Reading Tests' in lessons. These assessments offer us vital information regarding our students reading and comprehension ability, and whether they are in line with students of their age bracket. We use this information to focus our interventions on those who may find understanding written information- including texts, sources or assessment questions- more challenging than their peers and prevent good progress as a result. It's important our students put their full effort into these assessments for an accurate picture, so do talk to them about it and look out for the results when we share this information with you.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child attends school in the correct uniform each day. We have recently seen a slight rise in students attending with issues around uniform that cause unnecessary negative conversations to be the first contact point in their day, and waste learning time whilst they are resolved. Students should come with a note from home if they are missing an item of uniform that is expected (e.g. tie or shoes), with a clear timeframe for its resolution. In relation to some of the situations we have recently had to spend time resolving:

- Students should only wear simple studs in their ears, not sleepers or hoops or overly elaborate studs. There should be no other piercings of any kinds- do not allow your child to get a piercing that they will only be expected to remove immediately, as it is a waste of money and learning time
- Only nude nail polish is permitted- no gel or acrylic nails
- Trainers are not permitted- black, polishable shoes are expected
- Hoodies are not coats and not to be worn on school premises

For further information regarding our uniform expectations, please refer to the document included in this week's Dispatch email, or visit our school website. We expect (and thank all parents for) their support in ensuring students are correctly dressed for school each day

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Penathlon multi-sport event



A group of students from years 7 and 8 competed in the county championships in a Penathlon multi-sport event in Marlborough College on Wednesday. Seven schools from around the county attended, and our year 7's came away with a well-deserved second place with the year 8's just missing out on the medals. Both teams played with great effort and enthusiasm.

The students were once again commended for their overall behaviour and helpfulness, making us very proud.



The Gr8 Book Debate 2025



On Tuesday we were joined by Librarians and students from Ridgeway and Melksham Oak for the launch of the Gr8 Book Debate 2025.

The LRC was buzzing with excitement as we revealed the 5 books shortlisted for the competition. This year, all the titles are written by incredible female authors, and with a murder mystery, a love story, and even a Man Booker Prize winner on the list, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Devizes students will now start reading through the chosen novels, and will meet with Mrs Feeney weekly in the Library for cake and book chats, before we come together again in July to debate and vote for our winner.

Dates for the diary

20th March – Year 8 Online parents evening

4th April – End of Term- 12.40 finish

22nd April – 1st day of term

8th May – Year 7 Online parents evening

22nd May – Year 10 Online parents evening