# Devizes Dispatch





# Mr. Cave's weekly message:

Term 6 may have brought some unsettled weather, but our students have settled nicely back into the routines in this first week of term 6. It's always nice to welcome guests to see what we do at Devizes School, and one visitor this week commented that she was 'blown away' by our student's warm, welcoming & friendly approach. This is what we call NFD-"Normal for Devizes" and what makes us very proud of our students.

Our Year 11 and 13 students continue to work hard as the end draws near, and it was great to celebrate with year 13 on Monday morning in their farewell breakfast after seven wonderful years with us. The world was a very different place when they joined us in 2018, and across their time with us they have seen many changes here at Devizes School. One thing that didn't change was the fantastic way they approached their learning, through lockdowns which derailed their early experience and changes to how the school worked day to day. They deserve every success in the summer and beyond, and hope they stay in touch as they begin new adventures!

## Sports Leaders Shine in Final Tennis Session with Paralympian Louise Hunt-Skelley



This week marked a proud milestone for our 16 Sports Leaders as they delivered their final practical session under the expert guidance of Paralympian Louise Hunt-Skelley. The session, focused on tennis, saw the leaders take full charge as they worked with a group of enthusiastic Year 7 students.

Having developed their leadership skills throughout the programme, the leaders rose to the occasion—demonstrating confidence, adaptability, and creativity in delivering engaging, inclusive activities. They worked independently and effectively,

making thoughtful adaptations to ensure every student was supported and involved.

The presence and mentorship of Louise Hunt-Skelley added a special sense of occasion, offering inspiration and insight drawn from her remarkable sporting journey.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Mrs Strickland, Miss Beck, Mrs Cahill-Wilson, and Mr Richardson for their support and encouragement throughout the session. Their involvement helped make the event a rewarding and memorable experience for all involved.



Well done to all our Sports Leaders—you've set a fantastic example of leadership in action!



# **Year 9 Sports Leaders Shine at Year 8 Dodgeball Finals**











On Thursday, 5th June, 17 of our dedicated Year 9 Sports Leaders had the exciting opportunity to officiate the finals of the Year 8 Dodgeball Tournament, hosted by the Youth Sport Trust. They were selected after their exceptional performance in an earlier round of the competition. The finals took place at the Chippenham Sports Dome and brought together schools from across the region for a thrilling afternoon of competition.

Our Sports Leaders took on key officiating roles throughout the day, demonstrating exceptional confidence, leadership, and sportsmanship. From refereeing intense matches to managing the scoreboards and ensuring fair play, their professionalism and enthusiasm did not go unnoticed. Megan, Georgia and Lilly were recognised specifically for their contribution to the event and were nominated by staff from the other schools for an additional reward.

This opportunity not only showcased their developing leadership skills but also highlighted the importance of student involvement in promoting sport and teamwork within the wider community. The Year 9 leaders represented our school with pride and were praised by organisers and staff for their maturity and commitment.

Well done to all 17 students who took part - you were outstanding ambassadors for our school!

#### **PSHE term 6**

**PSHE Year 7** Will be learning about Police and Authority this term.

**PSHE Year 8** Will be learning about Fraud and healthy eating

**PSHE Year 9** This term we are looking at staying safe through a number of topics.

**"Prevent"** This is a UK government program designed to stop people from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. It works with local authorities, police, charities, and community organizations to identify and support individuals at risk of radicalization, and to protect communities from extremist influences.

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**Equality and the Equality Act**; the classes will be discussing the law and how it protects individuals.

**Bereavement**; what this is and how it can affect people.

**Pornography;** there are 2 sessions, focused on the Law in the UK and what makes a healthy relationship.

**First aid**; developing content from Year 8 about giving CPR in an emergency and learning about choking.

#### **PSHE Year 10**

**State Religion and Diversity**, this is a statutory topic that all students are required to be taught and focuses on explaining differences and what unites different groups of people in the UK.

#### What do students learn at Devizes School?



The curriculum's aims at Devizes School are "Raising aspirations and building futures". This is achieved through a core curriculum that provides challenge for all students across a rich and broad range of subject areas and ensures student interests are developed and nurtured. Curriculum pathways provide opportunities for students to deepen their experiences in subjects where there is real passion and interest, whilst maintaining a broad and balanced offer for all.

The curriculum is carefully sequenced to ensure that key skills, knowledge and understanding are developed. Prior knowledge is used to build new learning and key aspects are revisited to enable students to retain knowledge and successfully apply this to new contexts. At each key stage the curriculum develops the key skills needed to be a successful learner, ensuring an effective transition to the next phase of learning.

The curriculum develops mature and rounded individuals and, alongside academic achievement, develops holistic skills and attitudes through an extensive range of extra curriculum activities and links with the community.





The curriculum is divided into a number of subject areas, for each of theses areas please use the links below, to find out more detail about what students study:

Creative & performing Arts

English

Mathematics

Science

Technology, Enterprise & Design

**Global Studies** 

**Modern Languages** 

PE & Health

**Specialist Learning** 

# **Gaming Club**

Does anyone have any old flatscreen TV's or games consoles they would like to donate to the new gaming club.

We will take anything from a Wii to an Atari! Don't worry if you are unsure if it works, we can test and recycle if needed.

# **ParentPay Lunch money**

Please can we request that ParentPay lunch balances are topped up prior to the school day, as this will then allow time for balances to update with the canteen.

### **Dates for the diary**

 $7^{th}$  &  $8^{th}$  July – TD days – School closed to students  $23^{rd}$  July – Last day of Term – School closed at 12.40pm

