# St Dunstan's School

### WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The merry month of May has arrived! I must admit to being a little disappointed in the weather which I had hoped would have shown a sunnier face than it has to date!

School has been busy again this week - we are thrilled that the library is being given new life through the hard work of Mrs Morris and it is great to see how many library events feature in this newsletter. Students are buzzing with talk of all things reading which lifts my heart.

I was also thrilled to hear that some of our Year 11 boys had organised a charity football match to raise money for Cancer Research UK - a good example of our core values of Community and Kindness - well done boys and thank you to everyone who took part!

We have had a busy morning today with a wide range of employers coming in to run sessions about careers in their industry. It has been a huge logistical challenge to collate the employers, students and staff - what a wonderful opportunity for our students! Thank you to Mr Ward and Ms Richards for organising this event.

On Friday 10th May all of Year 11 will sit a Biology exam - the first GCSE exam that students will sit in the exam hall. You are in the final leg Year 11 - be resilient and ambitious!

Mrs Bevan



03.05.24

**NEXT WEEK** 

ASSEMBLY
FOCUS:
Key Stages
Assemblies:
Expectations
SLT: David
Attenborough
Birthday

Coming soon: BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 06/05/2024

10/05/2024 Biology exam

Year 10 Parents' Evening 09/05/24

Click here for Extra-Curricular Activities

Click here for term dates











#### Milkshake with the Head - Year 7

Mrs Bevan and Mrs Easterbrook were pleased to reward the following students with a Milkshake and treat at breaktime today. They have been embodying our TRACK values and were nominated by teachers for this reward. Each week a different Year Group will get nominated.

Names: Fern B, Cole C, Boe C, Lilith-Anna F, Elena H, Aaron IG, Sofia I, Pearl IS, Finley S, Acacia W

Well done to all!



#### Carnegie Club

The Carnegie Club met this week to discuss the shortlisted books they have read so far. To date, our favourite has been 'Crossing the Line' by Tia Fisher. It's unusual in that it's written in verse! It touches on lots of issues such as bereavement and county lines. The group have praised the way the text signposts the need for safety and how to go about getting help.

Anyone is welcome at Carnegie; we meet every Monday week B in the library at 3.15pm - 4.15pm

#### Call for books for the library!

With the arrival of our new librarian, St Dunstan's School Library is getting an overhaul and with that, we are asking for donations of books! If you decide to have a clear out and have any children's or young books you'd be happy to donate, please leave them at reception for Mrs Morris and she'll get them on our system for our students to enjoy. We have a fabulous reading culture here, and with more books and a revamped library, this will only get stronger!











#### **Careers Morning**

This morning Year 7-10 took part in a series of career talks from a wide variety of industry professionals. We hosted talks on business, estate management, human resources, marketing, farming, catering, finance, leisure, operations, water management, IT and even Thatcher's Cider. The students were able to learn from 15 inspiring individuals about different career paths.

We thank all of our brilliant presenters for coming, and we hope the students enjoyed the morning!

















#### Year 11 vs Staff Football Charity Match

Well done to the Year 11 boys who organised the charity match between Year 11 and staff today, raising money for Cancer Research.

After a tough and tiring game without any subs, the staff stole the victory, winning 8-5!

It seems the staff are on a winning streak, winning netball a couple of weeks ago and now this. Will the students ever beat them? Watch this space...

There was a great atmosphere from participants and spectators alike, so a huge well done to everyone involved, and well done to the winners!

















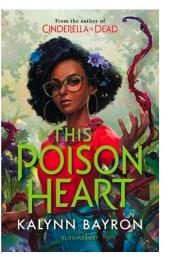
#### **Library Update from the students**

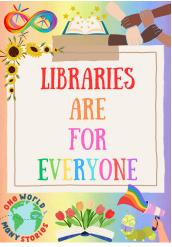
After a lovely national storytelling day, the library will also be celebrating deaf awareness week and mental health awareness week. Deaf Awareness week is from Monday 6th May to Friday 10th May, every day Mrs Morris will teach you a new word in British sign language. Pop into the library at break/lunch/after school to learn the word of the day. Hopefully this will inspire people to learn more about deaf awareness week and sign language. As well as this, from Monday 13th May to Friday 17th May we will be celebrating Mental health awareness week. In the library there will be mindfulness colouring in, gratitude journaling and lots more activities designed to improve and boost mental health.

Each week the library is going to have Mrs Morris' book of the week, this week it was The Poison Heart by Kaylynn Bayron. The plot goes: up against a centuries old curse and the deadliest plant on Earth, Bri must harness her gift to protect herself and her family. The Poison Heart is a young adult, paranormal, fantasy.

The library is rapidly growing and is becoming a lovely space to be!

By Violet Healey



















## DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

Monday 6th May-Friday 10th May 2024



### EVERY DAY MRS MORRIS WILL TEACH YOU NEW A WORD IN BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE

Pop into the library at break/lunch/after school to learn the signed word of the day!



The week ahead is Deaf Awareness Week! Mrs Morris will be hosting a sign language 'sign of the day' each day (excluding bank holiday Monday, don't come to school on that day!) to encourage us all to learn some of the basics of British Sign Language. A few signed words can make all the difference to someone's day, and it's up to all of us to make an effort! Why not try and learn a few signs at home during the week ahead?











#### **Poetry Winner**

After last week's successful 'National Tell a Story Day', Hymala Christie in Year 7 was crowned the winner of the day, with this amazing poem called *New Feeling*. Have a read, feel inspired, and enjoy!













**Honeybees** are located just outside of the St Dunstan's School boundary but sometimes you might see them on the field. This week they held a fantastic wellie walk.





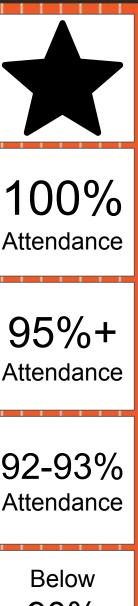


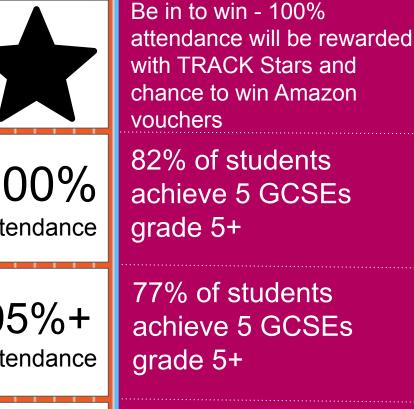






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53% of students

43% of students

achieve 5 GCSEs

This is the target

days off per year

equalling at most 8

Missing 2 days per

miss 10% of school

month means you

grade 5+

grade 5+

achieve 5 GCSEs



**Absences** 

add up