

DENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARENT BULLETIN



EASTER 2019

Welcome to our newsletter, helping you keep in touch with all the exciting news, clubs and events going on here at Denton Community College. In addition to this newsletter, we have launched our school app aimed at helping you keep in touch with the College on the go. A 'how to...' guide to the app can be found at the end of this bulletin.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Twitter

The College is now operating two official twitter feeds to help keep students, parents and carers up to date with the latest news at DCC. These can be found at:

- CollegeNews @ DCC_News
- Headteacher @ DCC

Debate Mate Club

Debate Mate Club is up and running for Years 7-10. Students can learn how to argue professionally with tutors from the University of Manchester. In 2018, students from Denton Community College reached the national finals held in London. Debate Mate Club runs every Wednesday in I5 at 3pm.

Learn more on their website: <https://debatebate.org/>

Watch their promo video: <https://vimeo.com/298383601?ref=em-share>

Homework Club

Homework Club takes place every night from 2.50pm - 5.00pm and is open to students from all year groups. Homework Club is run by Mr Cook, our Design & Technology technician, in room MM1. All students are welcome to come and work on projects from **any** area of the curriculum.

Uniform consultation & piercings

To ensure our students look smart and respectable at all times, we have consulted with the Governing Board with regards to changing the College skirt from September 2019. The two options are pictured below. If you have any comments or feedback, please email: r.rongong@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk by Friday 12th April 2019. Girls will continue to have the option to wear charcoal grey trousers, which can be purchased from a variety of retailers.



Option A



Option B

We would also like to take this opportunity to clarify our policy on piercings. No facial or body piercings of any kind (including tongue piercings) are permitted in College. Students may only wear one stud earring in each ear lobe - this means they are not allowed half way up the ear or at the top of the ear. Please ensure all students are in line with this when we come back from Easter. The fully updated policy can be found on our website.

Operation Encompass

As we mentioned in the last bulletin, Greater Manchester Police have started a new initiative across Tameside called Operation Encompass. This means that school will be informed by the police if any of our students witness domestic abuse; we will then be able to offer effective support at the time it is needed most. We think this is a very positive step, and know it has had a real impact in other parts of the country where it has already been introduced. Further details can be found in the letter at the end of the bulletin. Information about support for victims of domestic abuse in Tameside can be found by following the link below, including a 24 hour helpline: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/domesticabuse>

PSHE Day

On Friday 8th January we held our first PSHE 'Drop Down Day'. The purpose of this day was to support the PSHE curriculum and access the skills and resources of a number of outside agencies. Students had a bespoke curriculum planned specifically for their year group and targeting key issues covering: careers, health, finance, personal safety and wellbeing. Over 150 free hours of education was provided by over 30 different organisations including Tameside Council, The Dogs Trust, The Fire Brigade, Cap Money, YouThink and NCS. The atmosphere in school was fantastic and guests commented on the excellent behaviour of our students. We're looking forward to the next PSHE day already!

Breakfast Club

Denton Community College offers a FREE breakfast (funded by MAGIC BREAKFAST) for all students from 7.30am-8.15am each morning. Breakfast Club can be found opposite the Year 8 Homebase and is run by Mrs Jenks, Mrs Whaite and Mrs Duffy. Our Breakfast Club means every young person has the chance to start the day in a safe, warm environment so they are in a position to begin lessons on time and in the right frame of mind for learning.

Careers Fair

The annual Denton Community College Careers Fair took place on Friday 22nd March 2019. Over 40 Post 16 providers, local and national employers were in attendance to inspire and raise the aspirations of our students. Students in every year group had the opportunity to take part in the event, organised once again by Mr Knott.



Social Media letter

We recently sent out a letter about the use of social media by students – particularly outside of school. The letter had some useful tips and links to excellent websites that we are sure will be helpful for families when managing this complex topic. We have also put the letter on the website: click on online safety in the parents and carers area. [This link](#) will also take you directly to the letter.

#BeMoreMartyn

Figen Murray (mother and peace promoter) came into College on Tuesday 26th March to talk about the death of her son, Martyn Hett, in the Manchester Arena attack. Over 300 students were in attendance to listen to her inspirational story of forgiveness.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

After several years of our students achieving the Bronze & Silver Awards, the College has now become a Directly Licensed Centre for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Mrs Everson and several Year 11 students received the official certificate and plaque on behalf of the College.



Any students that have completed their Bronze Award in Year 9 will need to collect an initial interest letter from the PE office if they are interested in continuing their award to the Silver level. Any students that would like to get involved with the award that missed the opportunity to do so last year need to speak to Mrs Everson.

Data Collection Forms

You may have received a data collection form showing the information we hold for your child. Please check the information is correct and provide any missing details. Once complete, please sign and return the form to your child's homebase.

Brilliant Club

Well done to all students who took part in the Brilliant Club activities. The standard of work produced was fantastic, and the graduation ceremony was a wonderful event.

Year 10 Drama – Oldham Coliseum

On 19th March 2019 our Year 10 GCSE Drama students participated in an inter-school collaborative performance at the Oldham Coliseum Theatre.



Parent Governor

We still have a vacancy for a parent governor on our Governing Board. Further details can be found on the DCC College website.

English

Reading Champions are nominated by their English teachers for their attitude towards reading for pleasure both in class and at home.

The Year 7 Reading Champions for the Winter Term were as follows:

Brooke Doyle, Suzanne Armah Amihere, Marcus Cuba, Gracie Burns, Sky Pressdee, Freya Foldesi, Sophia Kharas, Chloe Burgoine, Ellie Jones and Lacy Antwi-Boasiako.

The Year 8 Reading Champions for the Winter Term were as follows:

Ellie Madzayo, Erin O'Leary-Jackson, Kalisha Horsfall, Dalia Raynova, Brooke Holland, Amy Blease, Tyler Stuart, Stuart Smith, Leah Craddock, Jessica Wood, Rebecca Lawson and Georgia Hancock.

The Year 9 Reading Champions for the Winter Term were as follows:

Courtney Bessant, Brooke Thompson, Allisha Montgomery-Brooks, Max Turner, Remi Thompson, Daniel Clarke-Lloyd, Justin Man, Mason Willis, Tegan Edge, Tiana Marwood, Danny Sendron and Jayden Scaife

A warm congratulations to all nominated students!

English

For the English Literature GCSE, Year 10 have studied 'An Inspector Calls' and 'Romeo and Juliet' in the Winter Term. This term, they have moved on to the 'Power and Conflict' poetry anthology. Revision guides to support each of these texts are available from the Year 7 Office at the discounted price of £5 each.

Science

Wacky Science Club takes place between 3.00 & 4.00 pm on Wednesdays. The session takes place in SC3 and is open to all students in Year 7 or 8. So far, students have been able to make bath bombs, slime and design parachutes - it's a great opportunity for them to have a go at some scientific experiments which are not on the school curriculum and to earn positive points!

Music Clubs

Calling all student singers and musicians:

Glee Club – Wednesdays 3.00 - 4.00pm in MU1

Keyboard Club – Thursdays 3.00 - 4.00pm in MU2

DCC Band – Thursdays 3.00 - 4.00pm in MU1

School Show – HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

As you may have heard, the school show this year is going to be High School Musical. So far over 200 students have signed up to take part. Key Dates are as follows:

Auditions: Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th April 2019 (3.00 – 5.30pm)

Performance: Wednesday 10th & Thursday 11th July 2019 (Times TBC)

Be Safe & Be Seen

Even though the days are slowly starting to get longer, it is still dark when students are coming to and from school at the moment. Here are some top tips to talk through in order to keep students safe and visible to traffic on the way home. We would really like to emphasise the importance of students wearing bicycle helmets – they might not be high fashion, but they really do keep cyclists safe!

- Walk home in **pairs** and **groups** where possible.
- Make sure you're **visible** to other road users and pedestrians.
- Keep away from the kerb - stay safely **on the pavement**.
- Wear **bright** or **fluorescent** clothing in daylight or poor light.
- Wear **reflective** clothing at night; it shows up in car headlights. Fluorescent clothing is not so visible after dark.
- Always **use your lights** when cycling after dark, in the rain or if the weather is overcast. Make sure your lights are working. It is illegal to ride a bike on the road with no lights after dark. White lights at the front and red at the rear. And of course **always** wear a cycling helmet!
- **Concentrate** on your journey - please don't text, listen to loud music or play games near roads.
- Try to **use well lit**, busier streets and avoid quiet or badly lit alleys, snickets and ginnels.
- If you are not going on your usual route, **make sure** someone at home knows where you are going.
- If you are approached by any strangers do not speak to them - and **report it** to your parents immediately.

Goodbye to Mrs Ellison

This term we have said goodbye to Mrs Ellison (Head of Year 8) who has decided to move on to pastures new. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her on behalf of the students, parents and staff at College for her work with the young people of Denton.

To maintain consistency with the student in Year 8, Mrs Lynch has stepped up into the role of Head of Year.

End of Term Arrangements

College will close for the Easter holidays at 2.50pm on Friday 5th April 2019 and will re-open for students at 8.40am on Tuesday 23rd April 2019. School buses will be operating as normal on Friday 5th April.

TRIPS & RESIDENTIALS

The following trips took place this term:

Years 9 & 10 Geography Barcelona Trip (VAMOS!) - 14th to 18th February 2019



Year 10 History - National Justice Museum Trip (Nottingham) – 8th February 2019

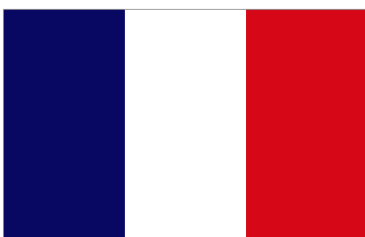


Year 9 Religious Studies – National Holocaust Centre trip - 20th March 2019

As part of our Religious Studies course in Year 9, we are investigating the ethical issues connected with the Holocaust. To further enrich the experience of students in this topic, 40 of our Year 9 students visited the Holocaust Centre in Newark on Wednesday, 20th March 2019. This was a fantastic day as students learnt about the history of antisemitism. Students were also lucky enough to meet a Holocaust survivor, who spoke to our students about the importance of equality, diversity and acceptance, especially at this time.

The following trips are yet to come:

Year 7 Boulogne Trip (ALONS-Y!) - 4th to 5th April 2019



The Boulogne trip will be taking place as planned on Thursday 4th & Friday 5th April 2019.

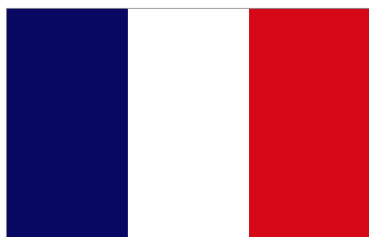
Bon Voyage.

Year 7 Anglesey Residential (AWN NI!) - 29th April to 1st May 2019



The letters for the Year 7 residential trip to the Conway Centre were distributed before the Christmas break. Students will be taking part in activities such as: canoeing, mountain biking, abseiling, raft building, kayaking and high ropes. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mrs Everson r.everson@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk

Years 9 & 10 Normandy Trip (ALONS-Y!) - 9th to 13th June 2019



The French department is offering a 4-night trip to Normandy in June 2019 at a cost of £410. Letters have been given to students and places are going fast. If you are interested, please return the slip and deposit to Ms Power in the Y8 Homebase! The trip is open to students in Year 9 who are considering choosing French at GCSE, as well as existing GCSE students in Year 10.

YEAR 11

Attendance

Remember every lesson counts, especially in the run up to the GCSE exams. I know as parents you will support us over the next half term by ensuring students attend College and are punctual. At Denton Community College students, who attend over 90% of the time, achieve on average over one and a half grades higher than their peers. To achieve their full potential, students need to be in attendance.

GCSE Exam Timetable

The full exam timetable can be found at the end of this parent bulletin. You can also find the information under the 'exams' menu on the school website.

Easter Holiday Revision Programme

The following subjects will be running revision sessions in the College over the Easter Break:

Tuesday (9th April 2019): Computing (9.30am - 1.30pm), RE (10.30am - 1.30pm)

Monday (15th April 2019): Maths (9.30am - 2.30pm)

Tuesday (16th April 2019): Business & Enterprise (9.30am - 12.30pm), Travel & Tourism (12.30am - 3.00pm)

Wednesday (17th April 2019): Geography (9.30am - 11.30am), BTEC Sport (9.30am - 2.30pm), Art (10.00am - 2.00pm), Photography (9.30am - 2.30pm), Product Design (10.00am - 2.00pm)

Thursday (18th April 2019): Drama (9.30am - 2.00pm), Media Studies (9.30am - 2.30pm), Science (12.00am - 3.00pm), Photography (9.30am - 2.30pm)

Revision Tips

Research shows that good sleeping routines and eating healthily also have a positive impact on concentration and performance! Please encourage students to think about what they are eating, to hydrate themselves effectively and also to put those mobile devices away and get really good sleep. There are some useful tips about teenagers and sleep routines available here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/sleep-and-tiredness/sleep-tips-for-teenagers/>

GCSEpod

Last half term, more than 2,000 revision videos were viewed by DCC students on GCSEpod. This half term, we'd like to see that number rise as we think it is a very effective way of revising - and something that will particularly help with remembering key knowledge. All Year 11 students have been shown how to log in and have access to the full range of subjects via the GCSEpod website; many have also downloaded the app. Why not start a conversation at home by asking to see the video pods on the poems students need to know for their English exam - these are the Power and Conflict poems, and each one has six short videos that really make it clear what students need to know.

GCSEpod top tips: <https://www.gcsepod.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Parents-Guide-How-to-support-your-child-through-GCSEs.pdf>

English Revision Resources: App & Website

Mr Watson has produced two resources to help Year 11 prepare for their GCSE English examinations. These resources will be further developed and updated to aid the revision process.

Website: www.mrjwatson.com

This website provides:

- Key quotations and character guides for each text studied by DCC students.
- A breakdown of each English exam, the questions and how the marks are awarded.

- Descriptions of approaches and strategies that should be adopted by students (e.g. Reading Ladder, Four-Part Method, TTAPS, etc.)
- Functional skills information (e.g., word types, punctuation, etc.)

App: 'QuoteMaster' (available from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store for FREE)

The app has been designed with the intention of helping students revise key quotations from English Literature texts.

Each text has its own unique quiz, and each quiz is made up of 15 questions that are based on key quotations. Each quiz randomly chooses 15 questions from a bank of over 25, so a different sequence of questions will be presented with each play through, giving students a wider range of content to revise.

Repetition is essential for effective revision, so the more students play and the more they see the quotations, this will help them become more familiar with these quotations ready for the exams.

To download the app, just go to the relevant app store on your mobile device and search 'QuoteMaster'.

Featured artist!

Each bulletin we would like to showcase some of the outstanding work produced by our students. This term we feature Pierson Smith's Mock GCSE Art exam. Pierson in Year 11 has worked on the theme of Zentangle and has combined sgraffito and fine liner to create the fantastically detailed final piece.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Food4Life Gold Award!

Denton Community College has once again been awarded the Food4Life Gold award for our work showing students' good practice around healthy eating and lifestyles. The award has been given in recognition of the many ways our school encourages a healthy lifestyle.

To boost their knowledge, our staff attended training sessions from the Tameside and Glossop Integrated NHS Foundation Trust Children's Nutrition Team, looking at important nutritional messages, tips for giving advice to families of children above a healthy weight, and the facts about what really constitutes a healthy balanced diet. The Children's Nutrition Team congratulated our College for the consistent work around healthy eating and healthy lifestyles. We will be delivering a healthy lifestyle course for families next term - watch this space for further information!

Hate Crime

Hate crime is any crime that is targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person's alternative subculture, disability, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, gender ID/ gender reassignment. If you're a victim of hate crime, you can seek help or make a report by visiting [www.report-it.org.uk/your police force](http://www.report-it.org.uk/your_police_force) or for anti-Muslim hate crime, <https://tellmamauk.org>. Alternatively, in an emergency call 999 or for a non-emergency 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Tameside 4 Good - funding for community groups

The Tameside 4 Good grant scheme is open until 30th April and can award up to £3,000 to local community groups that meet one or more of the following priorities:

- Developing skills, education and employment
- Improving the lives of people with long term illness / disability
- Activities for disadvantaged children and young people

Find out more and download the applications at <https://www.actiontogether.org.uk/node/2507>

**LOAN SHARKS
ARE ILLEGAL**

**DON'T GET
BITTEN BY A
LOAN SHARK**

We can help you
(in the strictest confidence)
Tel: 0300 555 2222
Text us on: 07860022116
Email us:
reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk
#StopLoanSharks
Website: stoploansharks.co.uk

STOPLOANSHARKS
Intervention . Support . Education

Headteacher: Mr G Rule



Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to inform you that our school is to be part of an initiative called Operation Encompass, a scheme that will ensure that we can better support any child where a domestic incident has been reported to Police from their home.

Following a domestic incident, the Police will inform a nominated member of staff at the school to notify us that an incident has taken place. This will ensure that we are made aware early enough to support children and young people in a way that means they feel safe, supported and listened to.

Each school has a member of staff called the designated Safeguarding lead who is trained to recognise when a child needs support.

The initiative is being rolled out across all Tameside schools. It is a multi-agency project that includes the Police, local schools and the Council. It has been successfully implemented in other parts of the country and has helped schools and parents to help children deal with the impact that domestic abuse in the home can have on them.

You can find out more about Operation Encompass here:

<http://www.operationencompass.org/>

We will launch the initiative on 21st January 2019. In the meantime, if you would like to speak to someone further about the initiative, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are committed to working in partnership with local relevant organisations to safeguard and protect children in Tameside and to provide the best possible care and support for our pupils.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G Rule".

Headteacher
Mr G Rule



DCC – THE APP



The 'MyEd' app shows you up to date information about all aspects of your child's school life.

Simply download the 'My Ed' app and create yourself an account using your current mobile number and email address (please make sure we have your up to date contact details).

A sync will then take place overnight to authenticate your account and providing the details you provide match our school records your children will appear the next day under the 'My Students' section.



GET THE APP

Step 1:

Go to your app store

Step 2:

Search for 'My Ed'

Step 3:

Download the app

MY ED IS AVAILABLE ON..



YEAR 11 – GCSE Examination Timetable (Summer Series 2019)

The number in brackets denotes how many students are taking each exam. The most up to date exam timetable can be found on the school website – please check in case of any changes.

Date	AM Session	PM Session
24/04/19	Photography exam (5 hours) (19)	
25/04/19	Photography exam (5 hours) (19)	
29/04/19	Arabic speaking 10 am (1)	Italian speaking 9 am (2)
30/04/19	Portuguese speaking 11 am (1)	Spanish speaking 9am (3)
01/05/19	Russian speaking 10 am (1)	German speaking 9 am (2)
02/05/19	French speaking exams (All day) - Art exam (5 hours) (23)	
03/05/19	French speaking exams (All day) - Art exam (5 hours) (23)	
07/05/19	French speaking exams (All day)	
08/05/19	French speaking exams (All day)	
09/05/19	French speaking exams (All day)	
10/05/19	French speaking exams (All day)	

Date	AM Session	PM Session
13/05/2019	Computing: Paper 1 Computer systems (90 min) (29) BTEC Music Unit 1 (60 min) (37) BTEC Tech award Sport - (90 min) (50) CIDA (2.5 hours) (13)	RS: Paper 1 (105 min) (172)
14/05/2019	French: Listening and reading(80 min F, 105 min H) (66) CIDA (2.5 hours) (12)	Science: Biology Paper 1 (75 min) (209)
15/05/2019	Portuguese – Writing (60 min) (1)	English Literature – paper 1 (105 min) (218)

	CIDA (2.5 hours) (12)	
16/05/2019	Science: Chemistry Paper 1 (75 min) (209)	Computing: Paper 2 Computational thinking (90 min) (29)
17/05/2019	French: Writing (60 min F, 75 min H) (66) CIDA - mop up session (2.5 hours) (TBC)	Drama (105 min) (36)
20/05/2019	RS: paper 2 (105 min) (172)	Portuguese – Listening (50 min) (1) BTEC Travel and tourism (60 min) (4)
21/05/2019	Mathematics – paper 1 non calculator (90 min) (218)	Geography: Paper 1 Living in the world today (60 min) (62))
22/05/2019	Spanish (105 min) (2)	Science: Physics Paper 1 (75 min) (209)
23/05/2019	English Literature Paper 2 (135 min) (218)	
24/05/2019	Business Studies- paper 1 (90 min) (102) Italian – listening/reading (105 min) (2)	Design and technology (105 min) (35)
HALF TERM	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
03/06/2019	History Paper 1 (75 min) (67)	Creative I-media (75 min) (23) Italian – writing (75 min) (2)
04/06/2019	English Language Paper 1 (105 min) (218)	Business Studies – paper 2 (90 min) (102) Portuguese – Reading (60 min) (1)
05/06/2019	Spanish (75 min) (2)	Geography – paper 2 (60 min) (62)
06/06/2019	Mathematics: Paper 2 Calculator (90 min) (218)	History – paper 2 (105 min) (67)

07/06/2019	English Language Paper 2 (105 min) (218)	Science – Biology paper 2 (75 min) (209)
10/06/2019	Russian – listening and understanding (110 min) (1) Arabic- listening and understanding (110 min) (1) Child development (75 min) (47)	
11/06/2019	Mathematics: Paper 3 Calculator (90 min) (218)	History paper 3 (80 min) (67)
12/06/2019	Science: Chemistry Paper 2 (75 min) (209)	German – listening/reading (105 min) (2)
13/06/2019	Geography – paper 3 (90 min) (62)	Dance (90 min) (24) Arabic – Writing (85 min) (1)
14/06/2019	Science: Physics Paper 2 (75 min) (209)	Russian – Writing (85 min) (1)
17/06/2019		German – writing (75 min) (2)
18/06/2019	Hospitality and catering (90 min) (13)	
26/06/2019	In the event of a national emergency or incident leading to the disruption of exams June 26th has been designated as exam contingency day.	