



DEER PARK

newsletter

FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY 2023

ISSUE 8

HEADTEACHER'S HELLO!

The frosty mornings have certainly provided some inspiration for our students to take some stunning photographs for the Famed and Framed competitions that have been running. There are some very talented photographers in both year groups and we will create a gallery of all the images for you to see. As always, it has been a productive and busy couple of weeks - Year 7 were amazing in their football tournament and played with exceptional skill, character and enthusiasm. We are very proud of how they represented the school. Year 8 have had an intriguing time in the careers fair talking to over 40 different sectors about possible career paths so do talk to them about it over the weekend. And we have had the opportunity to introduce the ski trip to the dry slopes... they all thoroughly enjoyed it and can't wait to hit the slopes again at Easter.

Please do feel free to contact us if you have any questions, offers of ways to support or any concerns. I always feel heartened to receive so many messages from you all - we are a community school and your voice is important to us.

Mr Jones



MEET MRS CLARKE

Hello, my name is Mrs Clarke and I am the Receptionist here at Deer Park. My role is to be the initial point of contact for parents, visitors and students in the office. I also provide support in the medical room and monitor attendance.

A lot of my spare time is spent outdoors, come rain or shine! Either walking my dog, camping in our VW campervan or being the stablehand/groom/taxi for my daughter's pony.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Please find our updated extra curriculum timetable for this half term **here**.

YEAR 7

DEVELOPING SKILLS & ASPIRATIONS

1. Careers and Your Future
2. Transition Points in Your Life
3. Personal Qualities and Skills

YEAR 8

SETTING GOALS/PATHWAYS

1. Exploring Careers
2. Making Decisions about KS4
3. Pathways

LITERACY – READING LEGENDS!



During the first week of school this term, all year 7 and 8 students were given a Reading and Spelling test, as they do each term, to register their progress in these areas. We have seen some great results, with many of our students reaching the top limits of the test – a reading age of 17+ years!

We would like to highlight some of the students who showed the most progress from their previous scores – either from Autumn term for year 7 or from the Summer term for year 8s.

YEAR 7 READING LEGENDS! PROGRESS FROM SEPTEMBER

Evie DP
Lola N
Ava P
Jack B
Eyden B
Liam H
Taliya T
Alfie T
Isla H
George J
Bella B
Azaria D
Jacob W
Emily C
Brogan M
Bernie R-W
Luca S

YEAR 8 READING LEGENDS! PROGRESS FROM END OF YEAR 7

Bella A-F
Kiara B
Lauren C
Seb C
Kayden EK
Lilia H
Emily J
Leona K
Ollie M
Lillie P
Owen R
Hollie S
Scarlett T

All parents will be receiving a letter with their child's reading ages in due course.

TRICKBOX THURSDAY

Over the last two weeks our Year 7 and Year 8 students have been looking at the following communication habits that they can also practise at home.

I NEGOTIATE CONFIDENTLY

About this habit:

Finding a win-win can help us move forwards.



We don't always agree with each other and that's Ok. To create a win-win, first think about what you want, then imagine being in the other person's shoes. Make a choice that's good for both of you.

About this habit:

I SET BOUNDARIES

About this habit:

We all need to value ourselves. Sometimes we need to say 'no' to others or to situations that we're not happy with. Our feelings help tell us what we need to say 'no' to. Get help if needed. (Others may sometimes need to say 'no' to us.)



FRIDAY NIGHT PROJECT

Parents may be interested in attending the Friday night project hosted by our new school counsellor, David Howse. The project is for young people with mild/moderate physical/learning difficulties, Autistic Spectrum conditions or confidence issues. The aim of the group is to support young people to engage in a range of activities, enabling them to reach their full potential. Activities include cookery, arts and crafts, games, trips, computer use and much more. For more information please contact youthteam@hedgeend-tc.gov.uk.

PILOT CAREER NEWS

Below is a useful link if your child is interested in a career including how to become an airline pilot and 5 top tips to become a pilot.

<https://www.pilotcareernews.com/tag/be-a-pilot/>



EXTERNAL PEDESTRIAN GATES DURING SCHOOL TIME

All external school gates are locked during the school day (between 8.30am and 3pm). The pedestrian gates will not be reopened between 8.30am and 3pm. Along with any visitors, students arriving between these times will need to walk to the main doors at the front of school and sign in at reception. If walking, there is a pedestrian access gate at the Sika Avenue entrance that will be unlocked to gain entry to reception. Please can we ask that you remind your child not to call the school to ask for the gates to be unlocked during these times.



PARENTPAY

If you wish for your child to purchase meals and snacks in school please remember to top up your child's ParentPay account regularly. Please also ensure payments for trips are made on time.

YEAR 7

TEAM OF THE WEEK: YEAR 7 FOOTBALL

Congratulations to those who took part in the Southampton Schools Football Indoor Cup Final.

After three incredible performances with some outstanding goalkeeping by Harry W, Deer Park were level on points with Bitterne Park finishing joint first place on goal difference, with a winner takes all game being the decider for the overall 1st place. We took the runners up position with a narrow 1-0 defeat.



The boys showed excellent skills, teamwork and respect to all opposition and staff involved. Goal scorers; Jacob M, Oliver D, James H.

YEAR 8

CAREERS EVENT

On Friday 20th January Deer Park hosted its first ever Careers event; welcoming many different guests from a variety of different industries and employers dovetailing nicely with the current Education for Life theme and pathways process.

PATHWAYS

Students have completed their initial surveys to enable them to become familiar with the system. Our Parent Support Programme for Pathways is on the 2nd February. If you haven't signed up yet please do so using this form. Our parents evening dates will be shared with you next week. These meetings will give you further opportunity to discuss pathways with your child's teacher. Pathways booklets will also come home with students on the last day of term.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and educators with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. Please visit nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

part of our Social Media & Live Streaming Series



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www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What you need to know about...

VIDEO STREAMING APPS & SITES

What are they? 'Video Streaming Apps & Sites'

Video streaming apps and sites can allow people to share activities and hobbies with others in real time or watch their favourite films and TV shows online. There are different types of video streaming services. Twitch is used for watching others play video games in real time; you can watch YouTube live and watch Netflix, Amazon Prime or Apple TV with friends and family. Video streaming has gained popularity in the last few years because there is a sense of community when watching with others and people can comment on videos and ask questions in real-time.

Know the Risks

Inappropriate videos

When watching on video streaming apps, it is difficult to filter the content that is out there. For instance, when a child is watching a YouTube video, they will get recommendations for other similar videos. The risk is even higher with videos which are live, as children could be watching inappropriate content in real time.

Chatting with strangers

Video streaming apps or sites increase the risk of children communicating with strangers online. For example, most YouTube videos allow users to comment on the video. Whilst children could be watching something innocent, the comments section can be used by groomers to try and direct them towards private messaging.

Binge-watching

Children can easily fall into 'binge-watching' on video streaming apps which can impact on sleep, mood and their ability to concentrate on other things. The autoplay function can make it difficult to find time for a break and often the recommended content is similar to what children are already watching based on the algorithms used.

Screen addiction

In addition to binge-watching, most video streaming apps are available across all devices with an internet connection which can mean increased screen time. Popular apps, such as Netflix and Amazon Prime, have huge libraries of content which can mean hours of viewing time and potentially less time spent on learning, playing outside or interaction with friends and family.

Safety Tips

Check age-ratings

13+

Ensure that children are at the right age to use the app. Most video streaming apps require users to be at least 13 years old. Be clear on what apps and sites children can use. Encourage them to never participate in online discussions that are offensive and never interact with strangers or people they don't trust.

Change privacy settings

Check the privacy setting of children's app. Ensure that for whichever app they are using, the settings are set to private and disable comments if applicable. Furthermore, set screen time restrictions via the app or the device to limit children's use.

Implement parental controls

Activate parental controls your child's devices and apps. This will prevent them from accessing content they shouldn't. For instance, on Netflix, create a kids profile. This way they will only be able to view videos appropriate for their age group. Likewise, use YouTube Kids over YouTube or apply restrictions and turn off features such as autoplay.

Spend time on the app

Before allowing children to access a video streaming app, spend some time browsing through its content. Familiarise yourself with how it works, what content is available and what your child wants to watch. Check-in regularly and ask what they enjoy watching and how it makes them feel.

Action & Support

Report inappropriate content

If a child comes across inappropriate content or something that makes them feel uncomfortable on an app such as YouTube, you can report the content and the person who has uploaded the content to the platform. If a stranger is looking to engage with your child, block them and report them.

Have an open and honest conversation

Adults can review the TV shows and films that have been watched many video streaming apps. If a child seems upset or shocked by something they have seen or if you are concerned about anything they've viewed, try to talk to them about it and have an open and honest conversation to help understand any concerns.

Encourage other activities

If you think a child is spending too much time on a video streaming app, try to foster their interest in other activities or hobbies away from their device. Encourage them to get outdoors, play with friends, play board games or just simply spend more time together with you.

Our Expert Parven Kaur



Parven Kaur is social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks; a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



RAIL SAFETY

Network Rail in partnership with Learn Live are working to help raise awareness about the dangers of the train tracks through interactive digital delivery.

The video in the link below is less than 15 minutes and explains why it is important to stay safe near the tracks. Over 14 million students, parents and teachers from across the UK have already watched these videos

which has led to a significant decrease in the number of incidents in their area through watching the safety videos.

Please click on the link below to view the free safety video by just entering the email railsafety@learnliveuk.com into the "I am registered field" when you first watch the video.

<https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-secondary-school-safety-talk/>

UPCOMING DATES



Date	Activity	Year Group
Monday 23 January	Week B	All Years
Monday 30 January	Week A	All Years
Thursday 2 February	Pathways Evening	Year 8