



# DCCA Parent Bulletin

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Changes to COVID rules and regulations

Unfortunately this bulletin will need to reiterate some changes to the covid rules and regulations that have been directed towards all schools from the department of education. As of Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November all students and staff must wear a face covering in communal areas and whilst moving around school buildings, but not in classrooms.

We are aware that some students are exempt for medical reasons, in this circumstance please ensure they are wearing acknowledgement of their exemption, this can be addressed by the pastoral team via a letter/email from home for an exemption lanyard.

Currently the school has 49 students isolating across years 7-11 and 2 members of staff. This unfortunately means we have taken the decision to cancel the majority of school trips until the Christmas break and whilst staff absence remains high some lessons will be collapsed to create larger teaching groups. This is to ensure that the majority of learning continues.

Please ensure that you son or daughter are regularly completing LFD tests and registering the results with both the school and government website, please also ensure that as per public health guidance if you know your son or daughter has been in close contact with someone that has tested positive with Covid-19 they take a PCR test. Please note they do not need to isolate whilst they are waiting for these results unless they have symptoms.

*Mr J MacLean  
Principal*





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## Update Teaching and Learning

With the continued external pressures that we have endured as an Academy and further Covid pressures, it is with a real sense of pride that I can write this knowing that our students are appreciative of the hard work that our staff continually provide. Over the past few weeks, we have undergone a further teaching and learning review that has placed the students' learning experiences at the heart, a wide range of books have been reviewed, lessons observed, and various student groups have had the opportunity to feedback to me and our trustees about their experiences. Our students have told us that teaching and learning continues to improve, despite the challenges of remote learning and blended learning for several terms last year. They speak highly of their teaching and learning experience here at DCCA. Additionally, they are working hard themselves, raising their own aspirations to become more proficient, independent learners and improve their own outcomes.

We are raising the academic aspirations of all within the Academy, and this is showing in the quality of outcomes that students are producing. I am sure that you can appreciate even with the publication of this bulletin some of the amazing work our students are producing. There should be an equilibrium between students and teachers in the classroom – students taking ownership, contributing to their independent thinking and development, presenting the very best behaviour for learning, and, most importantly, being fully equipped and prepared for their learning. Present this alongside vibrant high-quality teaching and learning, the combined efforts for all are outstanding.

This is a heartfelt thank you and well done to all those students who are doing exactly what they should be doing every day! Keep it up – you make all the staff at DCCA very proud!

*Mrs J Tomkins  
Assist. Vice-Principal  
Teaching and Learning*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

15<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Jumper day  
and Free Christmas Dinner day.

17<sup>th</sup> December Academy closes early at  
12.30pm

Aspen 2 closed to students for Staff  
training





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## Catering fobs

Our students are continuing to experience long queues in our canteen at break and lunch times. The delays are caused by a large number of students who do not use their catering fobs to pay for meals.

The fobs were issued to all students to ensure a quick and covid-safe method of payment for all meals and drinks. (As pictured)

Please can you remind students that the fob is an essential item of school equipment and should be brought in to school everyday. Students need to ask at the Canteen for a new one if they have misplaced theirs. They can also ask at the Canteen for a Squid Letter for their log in details for you.



*Mr I Smith*  
*Director of Finance*



## MYA's Cup Update

Congratulations to our girls for winning the Mya Cup Football Tournament on Tuesday, beating Simon Langton Girls in the final penalty shoot out to win!

The total raised so far for Mya's family is a fabulous £611.43. Thank you to all of you that popped along and supported our event. Thanks also to Dover Grammar School for Girls, St Edmund's School, Goodwin Academy and Sandwich Technology School for all bringing their teams along. Well done girls - you did your schools proud!

Thanks also to Mr Carswell and our Post 16 catering students for all the fab food and drinks. Thanks also to Mr Harrison (Active Community Sports) and our Post 16 Football Academy for refereeing all the games.

And special thanks to Mr Prescott and Miss McGeehan for organising the whole afternoon - you have been a true support to the students, staff and families that have all been affected throughout the last few weeks.



*Mrs B Tillotson*  
*Head of Year 9*





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## Reverse Advent Calendar Appeal for Foodbank

The Post 16 IBCP students are arranging for every tutor group to have a box so they can collect items for the local Dover Foodbank. All students are encouraged to bring in one or more items to help fill their tutor's box throughout December. These will then be collected on the last day of term by the Foodbank. Please support the school by sending in items.

*Mrs V Wallis*  
IBCP Co-Ordinator



### Most wanted foods:

- Squash
- Sponge puddings
- Milk – UHT
- Biscuits
- Instant mash potatoes
- Tinned vegetarian items
- Porridge
- Fruit juice
- Noodles
- Cup soups



## Police Visit Aspen 2

Last week Aspen 2 had a visit from Alex who used to be one of our TAs and is now a Police Officer. Alex and her colleague talked to the students about their role as Police Officers. They showed our students some of the equipment they use and the uniform they wear. The students were very engaged. Thank you Alex!

*Mrs S Barker*  
Joint Leader of Aspen 2





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## **Kent Cup news for Year 7 Boys**

Well done to the year 7 football team who beat Herne Bay High 2-1; to go through to the 4th round of the Kent cup.

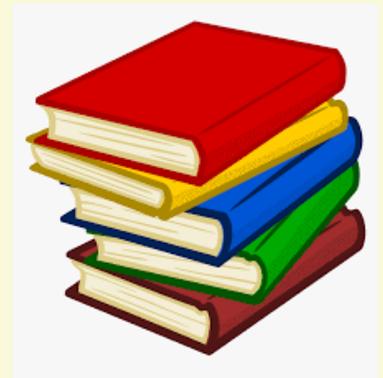
*Mr T Durrant  
Head of PE*



## **Let's Get Reading**

### **Reading Ambassadors and Wave 1 Readers**

Since the start of the term, our Reading Ambassadors have undertaken their duties with professionalism and rigour. They have certainly earned their badges! Each morning during registration, a selection of student Reading Ambassadors read with key stage 3 student readers. Our aim is to support less confident readers, provide reading role-models for students to learn from, give encouragement, and above all; to encourage the independent, enjoyment reading! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful Reading Ambassadors, and the readers for their enthusiasm. You really should be proud of yourself. I know the school is proud of you! If you would like to discuss ways to support your son/daughter with reading, please feel free to contact me [coltonk@dccacademy.org.uk](mailto:coltonk@dccacademy.org.uk)



## **Remembrance Day**

In English, Y9 students studied the 1914 Christmas Day Truce and football match between British and German soldiers. This was our inspiration for extended writing pieces connected to the theme of 'remembrance and hope'.

I am very proud to say student work showed a deep degree of empathy towards the subject focus. Many students demonstrated an impressive use of emotive language and used writers' techniques to convey the emotions of the soldier in their first- person narratives. The best work will be displayed (in pride of place) by the main staircase. Many congratulations to the following writing finalists: Layton Tull, Roxy Hunt, Ollie Peters, Alfie Fisher, Tommy Taylor, April Heneghan, Callum Brown, Haydn Shackson, Jayden Norton, Roberts Voice and Rachel Harrison.

*Mrs K Colton  
English Teacher*





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## Free Breakfast Club!!

Mr MacLean has managed to source funding towards a free breakfast club.

It started on Monday this week. **ALL STUDENTS** can help themselves to toasted bagels with individual packs of butter and jam. There is also a small selection of cereal that students can help themselves too.

This can be found on the freezer in the main canteen hub. The canteen staff will still be cooking breakfast items as normal that can be purchased at any time.



Free Christmas Lunch

15<sup>th</sup> December 2021



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# Christmas Lunch



Roast British Turkey with Savoury Stuffing,  
Chipolata Sausage wrapped in Bacon with Cranberry Sauce.

or

Brie, Cranberry and Roasted Squash Filo Parcels with  
Thyme Gravy, Roasted Cherry Tomato Baubles

All served with Crispy Roast Potatoes, Honey Roast Parsnips,  
Brussels Sprouts, Fresh Glazed Carrots and Garden Peas  
Homemade Festive Gateaux or Festive Mince Slice with Cream

Other festive treats will be available!

**COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH PROVIDED BY  
DOVER CHRIST CHURCH ACADEMY**

PLEASE SEE MENU BOARD FOR FURTHER DETAILS

WE ONLY USE



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## Student Bus Travel Arrangements for Friday, 17 December 2021

The Academy will close at 12.30 pm on Friday, 17 December 2021 for the Christmas holiday. As bus companies are unable to collect students earlier than the usual time we have listed below alternative public services that students may wish to catch:

**Alkham Valley** – bus 61, leaving outside DCCA at 12.47, change at Cherry Tree Avenue to catch bus 91, leaving at 13.10, arriving at Alkham at 13.32.

**Aycliffe** – bus 61, leaving outside DCCA at 12.47, arriving at Aycliffe, St Patrick's Road at 13.14.

**Aylesham** – bus 12 towards Canterbury, leaving Honeywood Close at 12.55, change at Barham Downs, Rectory Lane West to Barham Downs, Rectory Lane East to catch bus 89, leaving at 13.16, arriving at Aylesham, Baptist Church at 13.22.

**Elvington** – bus 61, leaving outside DCCA at 12.07, change at Cherry Tree Avenue to catch bus 92, leaving at 12.30, arriving at Chaucer Road, Elvington at 13.16.

**Students living in Elvington will be dismissed at 12.00 noon** as the next bus is not due until 1.59 pm.

**Burgoyne Heights** – bus 61, leaving outside DCCA at 12.47, change at Dover, Pencester Road (Stop A), catch bus 81, leaving at 13.15, arriving at Burgoyne Heights at 13.22.

**Lydden** – bus 61, leaving outside DCCA at 12.47, change at Buckland Bridge, catch bus 15, leaving at 13.06, arriving at Lydden Bell at 13.15.

**Deal** – bus 12 towards Deal, leaving Honeywood Close at 12.48, arrive at South Street, Deal at 13.10

Other destinations can be found using the Stagecoach website:

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/plan-a-journey>





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Our team is still here to provide mental wellbeing support over the holiday period.

### Chat Availability Dates and Times

**Thursday 23/12/21**  
12pm - 10:00pm

**Monday 27/12/21**  
4pm - 8:00pm

**Friday 31/12/21**  
12pm - 6:00pm

**Friday 24/12/21**  
12pm - 8:00pm

**Tuesday 28/12/21**  
4pm - 8:00pm

**Saturday 1/01/22**  
4pm - 8:00pm

**Saturday 25/12/21**  
4pm - 8:00pm

**Wednesday 29/12/21**  
12pm - 10:00pm

**Sunday 2/01/22**  
6pm - 10:00pm

**Sunday 26/12/21**  
6pm - 10:00pm

**Thursday 30/12/21**  
12pm - 10:00pm

**Monday 3/01/22**  
4pm - 8:00pm

Find support today by visiting [kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)



*Merry Christmas*