

Dunottar News

www.dunottarschool.com

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Term began with our Year 7 entry assessment day. We were delighted to welcome so many pupils from local state and independent schools who impressed us with their enthusiasm and abilities. We look forward to many of them joining us in September.

Our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils have taken their GCSE and A Level mock examinations which was a good opportunity for them to practise for the real thing in the summer. Lower down the school, following the Year 9 options evening, pupils have now made their final choices for their GCSE courses.

On a musical note, our Year 7 pupils sang their hearts out at the O2 arena in London as part of the Young Voices choir and our musicians put on an uplifting informal concert for parents in the school hall.

Tickets are now on sale for our whole school musical "The Producers", which will take place at Dorking Halls on 14th March. Cast members and staff have been working extremely hard in rehearsals on what promises to be a superb production, so please do come along to support them.

In other co-curricular news, our Lego Robotics teams put in a fantastic performance at the First LEGO League Regional tournament in London, with one team winning the Robot Performance Award and the other team placing a creditable fourth.

On the sports field, our football and netball teams have played some competitive matches, with players demonstrating their skill, tenacity and sportsmanship.

We were delighted to see so many parents at our Digital Dunottar evening which formed part of our virtually safe week. In an increasingly digital environment, it is vital that teachers and parents work together to support and educate our children on the wonders and dangers of the online world.

I wish you all a relaxing half term break.

Mark Tottman
Headmaster



Award Win at First Lego League Regional Tournament

On Saturday 26th January two teams of pupils, "Dunottar Deimos" and "Dunottar Dark Matter", participated in the First LEGO League Regional tournament at Queen Mary University in London. First LEGO League is a global science and technology challenge for teams of students where teams are required to work together to build a robot to tackle a series of missions and create an innovative solution to a real world problem.

On arrival at the venue, we were delighted to be met by a number of parents and siblings who had travelled to London to support us; their positive encouragement throughout the event was much appreciated by students and teachers alike.

Continued overleaf...



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To keep up to date with news from Dunottar in between monthly newsletters, visit www.dunottarschool.com, find us on Facebook, Instagram or follow us on twitter.

Open Mornings

Wednesday 27th February

Tuesday 30th April

(10.15 for 10.30 start)

Our Open Mornings are designed to give you a real insight into a typical school day. You will hear from Mark Tottman, Headmaster, tour the school to see lessons taking place and chat with staff and pupils.

To book call us on 01737 761 945.
We look forward to seeing you at Dunottar!

Diary Reminders

Fri 15 Feb	School breaks up for half term
Sat 16 Feb	Music trip to London
Tue 26 Feb	Year 12 A Level Drama trip
Wed 27 Feb	Year 12 Geography field trip Open Morning
Thu 28 Feb	Digital Careers evening
Mon 4 Mar	Book week PTA Meeting
Wed 6 Mar	House pancake race
Thu 7 Mar	Year 8 Physics trip to Greenwich Royal Observatory Careers Networking Lunch Beyond A Levels evening
Fri 8 Mar	Year 12 English students lecture day
Thu 14 Mar	Whole school musical -The Producers
Sat 16 Mar	12-hour netball festival GCSE Music coursework day
Tue 19 Mar	Year 10 and A level Biology trip to Nower Wood Composition workshop for Year 11 Music students
Wed 20 Mar	GCSE Music performance recitals
Thu 21 Mar	Year 9 WW1 cross curricular day
Fri 22 Mar	Mufti Day—Comic Relief Science Symposium Year 9 and 10
Sat 23 Mar	GCSE Music coursework day
Sun 24 Mar	Bronze DofE training day
Thu 28 Mar	ABRSM Exams
Sat 30 Mar	Staff v Parents charity football match
Mon 1 Apr	Year 11 and 13 study skills session Year 11 and 13 study skills session for parents
Wed 3 Apr	Whole school photograph School breaks up at 4pm

See full calendar at www.dunottarschool.com

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During the day teams are given three separate attempts to complete as many robot missions as they can in rounds lasting two and a half minutes. The nerves set in before the first round as spectators began to gather round, looking down from balconies above to gain a birds eye view of the action. Feeling quietly hopeful, we watched with eager anticipation as the organiser with her microphone boomed “Dunottar Deimos! Are - you - READY?.....5-4-3-2-1. LEGO!” and the bright red buzzer was pressed to start the match. Our team was off. We held our breath as the robot launchedand spectacularly crashed! This was swiftly followed by further crashes where the robot was not stopping where it should have. The team looked on in absolute disbelief. We had tested it thoroughly. Why was this happening?

We realised that the bright lights of the competition table were affecting the light sensors on the robot, therefore it was not stopping on a black line as was intended. The practice tables available were in a darker area of the hall and the robot had worked when tested there.

They felt crushed. A first round score of just 9 points was significantly short of the 60 or 70 points the team had hoped for, but the team rallied round and a decision was made to completely rewrite their code before the next round. The team had been working on this for months and it was no small task, but they set to work adapting all the code and retesting every mission. One of the highlights of the day was watching the tenacity and strength of character they showed in the face of pressure.

Meanwhile, back at the competition tables, our second team was full of excitement as the red buzzer was pressed to signal the start of their first round robot game. Their robot had an absolutely wonderful round, scoring 104 points with all but one of their planned missions working successfully. Incredibly, this score put Dunottar Dark Matter in the lead out of the 20 other teams competing!

As the day progressed the teams were whisked off to various judging sessions to be quizzed about their robot design, team working values and to present their project. The competition this year had a space theme and was entitled “Into Orbit”; for the project the teams had to focus on problems astronauts faced during long term space travel and come up with their own innovative solution. Both teams presented confidently, spoke clearly and with much enthusiasm during the judging and should be proud of the way they conducted themselves.



Finally, the time came for the last robot game for Dunottar Deimos. Would their rewritten code be a success? Much to everyone's joy they scored a super 70 points in their last round which put them in 4th place overall.

As the day drew to a close, Dunottar Dark Matter remained the highest scoring team in the robot game; we all applauded them proudly when they went on stage as winners of the "Robot Performance Award", taking home a large yellow trophy made of lego of course!

Dunottar Dark Matter Team: Alphi, Ben, Bertie, Billy, Ethan, Joe and Thomas.

Dunottar Deimos Team: Anna, Ed, Jack, Izzy, Mark, Milly, Sophia and Will.



Macbeth Theatre Trip

Returning home from battle, the victorious Macbeth meets three witches on the heath. Driven by their disturbing prophecies, he sets out on the path to murder.

On Tuesday 8th January, forty-five pupils in years 10, 11 and 12 visited the Barbican Theatre to experience the Royal Shakespeare Company's contemporary production of Shakespeare's darkest psychological thriller. This show marked both Christopher Eccleston's RSC debut and the return of Niamh Cusack to the company.

In an interview with The Guardian's Gareth Mclean, Eccleston stated that he has finally achieved his ambition of playing Macbeth. Pupils sat captivated by his ultra-macho interpretation of Shakespeare's villain. Eccleston rolled and swaggered around the stage, presenting a character who was evidently confident in the world he had created. When he assumed the crown, he sprawled in a black leather chair (which served as a throne), presuming to know how to retain control and rule.

Pupils observed the play's fixation with time. This was emphasised by director Polly Findlay's centre stage placing of a red-faced digital clock, counting down from the butchery of King Duncan to Macbeth's own delightfully cathartic demise, resuming the monarchic natural order. Upon Malcolm's rightful reinstatement as heir to the throne the countdown begins again,

highlighting a sinister, cyclical thirst for power.

After the show, pupils noted that the three young girls playing the witches were 'pretty creepy': an oxymoron epitomising the unnerving juxtaposition of sweetness and the supernatural.

Pupils study Shakespeare's Macbeth for Paper 1 of their English Literature GCSE in Year 11.

*By the pricking of my thumbs,
Something wicked this way comes.*
(Second Witch, Act 4 Scene 1)



Year 7 Pupils Take Part in Young Voices Concert

On Tuesday 29th January, 70 year 7 pupils hit the O2 Arena to sing in front of thousands at one of the largest children's choir concerts in the world.

Our pupils joined school choirs from across the country to perform at one of 24 concerts taking place across England. In total, over 150,000 children will have taken part in Young Voices' largest concert tour to date.

Young Voices, which stages the school concerts, aims to inspire a love of music and create memories for the children that will last a lifetime.


Enthusiastic pupils from schools from across the South-East sang as a single choir to an audience of friends and family at the 20,000-capacity O2 Arena.

The pupils were accompanied by Tony Hadley, the lead singer of the 1980s New Romantic band Spandau Ballet.




The concert raised funds for Teenage Cancer Trust, a charity that provides specialist nursing care and support to young people with cancer.






Dunottar School House Music Festival Wednesday 27th February

**'House Shout'
Theme:**





Order of the Day:

Period 1-2: Competition for Instrumentalists
 Period 3: Competition for Singers
 Period 4: Competition for groups
 (Periods 1-4 in M3)

To take part, sign up to perform any piece on the music room noticeboard. All participants will get feedback from a visiting musician and earn house points towards the total! You will need to briefly leave your lesson to take part.

Period 5-6: Final House rehearsals
 Period 7-8: House Shout and Adjudication

Any questions, speak to Heads of Houses
or the Music Department

May the best house win!

Budding Musicians Perform in Concert

We had a very successful concert on Wednesday 6th February which featured performances from many of our talented musicians and singers. A huge 'well done' to all our performers and thank you to all the parents, pupils and staff who came to watch.



Photography: Images of the Week

Each week, Mr Huxley chooses a selection of images that his photography pupils have created to be his "images of the week". Here are a selection from February:



Olly, Year 12,
Trapped in Ice



Ned, Year 11, Looking Down



Toby, Year 12, Issues of Concern

Inspiring Art at the Tate Modern



Our photography and art students from years 11 and 12 visited the Tate Modern on Friday 25th January. It was an educational visit designed to inspire the students and

support the development of their ideas for their current projects. The building itself is very impressive with new galleries having recently opened and the exhibits ranged from large scale abstract sculptures, to delicate line drawings based on the female form. Many of the pieces on display were interactive and our students were able to experience sound and light through the work of Olafur Eliasson, as well as consider the lack of female artists who have the opportunity to exhibit in major galleries around the world through the work of the 'Guerilla Girls'.

One pupil commented on how the experience had "opened his eyes to what forms art could take and how there were narrative and commentaries in many of the exhibits."

Twelfth Night Celebrations with Les Galettes des Rois

Our year 7 pupils celebrated Twelfth Night French-style by making a *galette des rois*. They surpassed themselves in their creativity and adapted the recipe according to their taste. A number of them decided to 'tirer les rois' (to draw the kings) in a traditional fashion after having heard about it in class.

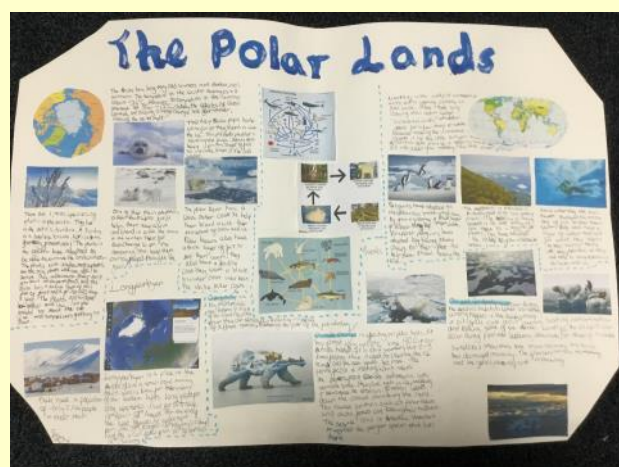
They loved the anticipation of wondering whether they were going to be the lucky one to discover '*la fève*' (the tiny charm) buried in one of the slices. *Galettes* has been served in France since the 14th century and can now be bought in pâtisseries throughout the month of January.



Be Outstanding...

Well done to all our pupils who have shown curiosity, creativity and commitment across the curriculum this half term. We are delighted to be able to recognise some of the most inspiring examples here.

Pupil	Year	Award	Subject
Emmanuel J	7	Academic Distinction	RS
Sofia R	7	Academic Distinction	RS
Alphi B-W	7	Academic Distinction	English
Emily K	7	Academic Distinction	Maths
Georgia R-J	8	Academic Distinction	RS
Dhara M	8	Academic Distinction	MFL
Georgia R-J	8	Academic Distinction	Geography
Georgia R-J	8	Academic Distinction	History
Sebastian W	8	Academic Distinction	Co-curricular
Rosie K	9	Academic Distinction	English
Lila B	9	Academic Distinction	English
Lilly W	10	Academic Distinction	MFL
Harry W	12	Academic Distinction	Science



Book Your Tickets for “The Producers”

This year’s whole school production is the much loved, laugh out loud, Mel Brooks musical—***The Producers***!

The show will be held at **Dorking Halls** on **Thursday 14th March 2019 at 7.30pm**.

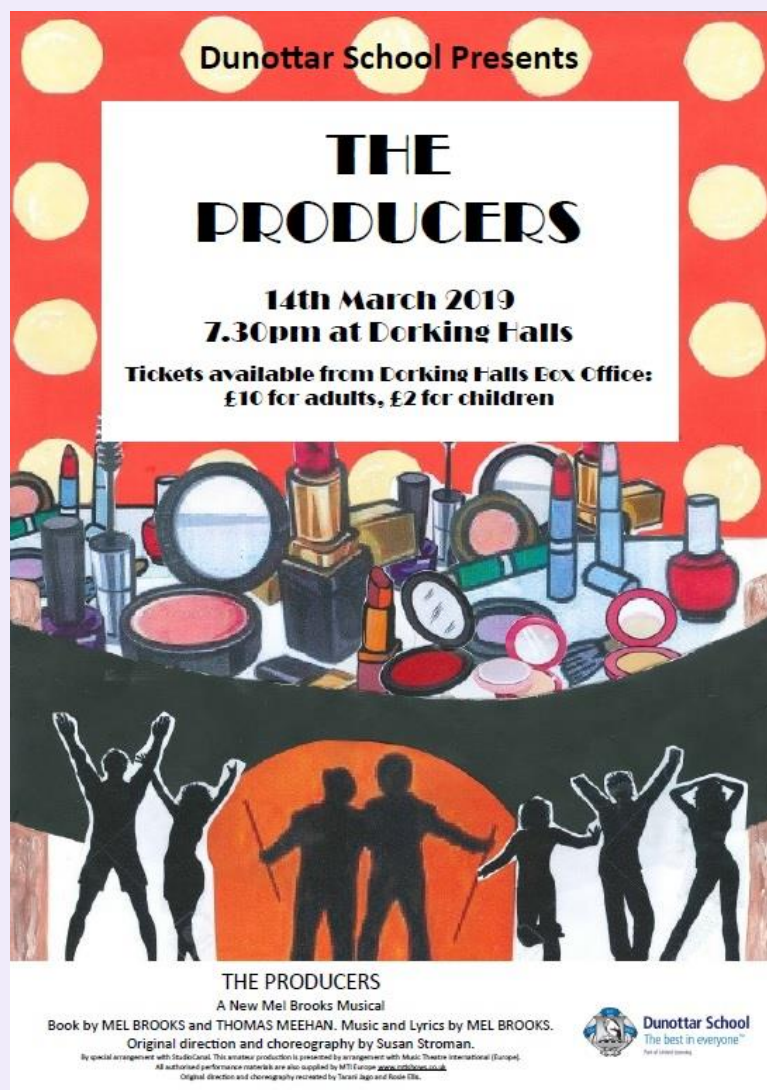
Our production this year marks a turning point in the growth of the music and drama departments and we are delighted that we are able to give the students the opportunity to perform on a professional stage.

Tickets are available from Dorking Halls Box office, priced at £10 for adults and £2 for children.

Call Dorking Halls on **01306 881717** or go to www.dorkinghalls.co.uk to book your tickets.

For a sneak preview of what the show has in store, view our trailer on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJwvgl21yQ&feature=youtu.be>



Sixth Form Centre—Building Update

The building work on the new Sixth Form Centre continues to make excellent progress. Visitors to the site this week can catch a glimpse of the new facility as several of the hoarding boards have been removed, uncovering the previously hidden building.

The roof surfacing is now finished and all of the glazed curtain walling frames (which hold the glass panels) are in place. The exterior walls of the new building will be mostly glass but where there is brickwork, this has now been completed.

The new building will benefit from energy efficient underfloor heating instead of more traditional radiators, which has now been fully installed.

Over in the Pelican Block, which adjoins the new centre, refurbishment works have included new windows being fitted, the heating system has been upgraded with new radiators throughout and the internal walls have been made good and plastered.



Gold & Silver Duke of Edinburgh Training

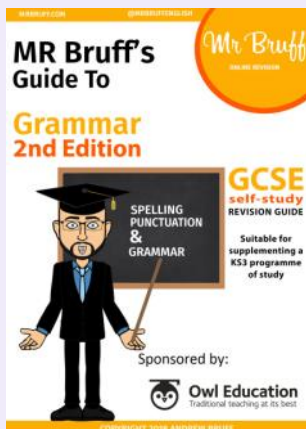
Our pupils have been working hard to train for their expeditions this summer. They have been developing their navigation skills and improving their camp craft and route planning.



GCSE Revision Guide from Dunottar's Mrs Lewis

Mrs Lewis, Head of English, has published a self-study GCSE grammar book which is available to buy on Amazon!

Mrs Lewis, a member of Mr. Bruff's writing team, has also written guides to A-Level English Literature, Jane Eyre, Animal Farm, and has co-written guides with Mr. Bruff about The Tempest and Julius Caesar.

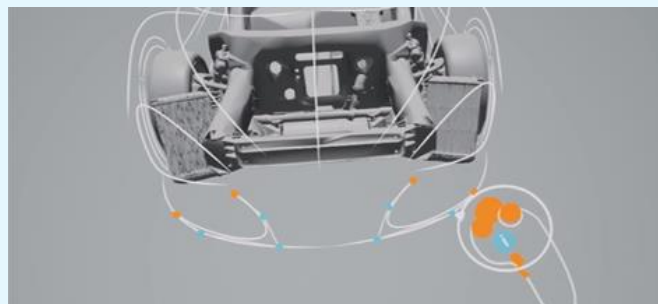


Use of Augmented Reality and Immersive Technologies in Design Industries

After attending a lecture organised by the IET at the university of Surrey, one of our Dunottar scholars was inspired to write the piece below on augmented reality.

The latest wave of technology which includes leaps forward in virtual reality and augmented reality is upon us and with it, huge industries like car companies have been able to harness this technology to their advantage. You most likely know of augmented reality as it has become a feature which many phones include. You probably even know of virtual reality -accessed through headsets which put us in virtual environments. Most people have seen the Oculus rift headsets, whether you see it through social media or online.

Virtual reality puts us in immersive and entirely computer generated simulations while augmented reality superimposes a computer generated image over the real world. One area where these technologies are being harnessed aside from entertainment and gaming industries is design industries. One example is McLaren, the car company. This company is famous for its Super Cars that are both luxurious and intricate. Before technologies like this were available the company had to design cars by drawing them which meant they were only 2d and unrealistic so often time and money could be wasted transferring a 2d design into a 3D clay model (which are frequently used in this industry) and the result would be very different from the original design.



However with these new technologies McLaren is able to design cars in virtual environments with specialised Software so can reduce the time it takes to create the car. Using augmented realities the company can transfer the car into the real world so they can even create advertisements for the car before any of them have even been produced!

These technologies put companies like McLaren ahead of all other competitors because it saves huge sums of money and valuable time. This technology is likely to revolutionise design in many other industries and could have huge practical applications across other sectors such as education and healthcare.

All these innovations in virtual technology have come from gaming platforms and the bulk of which are located in Guildford as one of the biggest game design hubs in England, so all of these technological advancements are happening on our doorstep.

Upcoming Careers Events

Thursday 28th Feb - Digital Careers Workshop

Google, Amazon, Jellyfish, Psyon

6pm-8pm in the main Hall (open to all year groups)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/digital-careers-evening-tickets-51963107052>

Thursday 7th March - Career Networking Lunch

Raeesa Chowdhury, corporate/commercial lawyer (open to Y9+)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/careers-networking-lunch-raeesa-chowdhury-law-tickets-55560151910>

Thursday 7th March - Beyond A levels

Raleigh International, UCAS and ALPS

6pm - 8pm in the main hall (open to Y10+)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/beyond-a-levels-a-careers-information-evening-tickets-55695839756>

Thursday 14th March - Upper School Assembly, Y9-13

Daniel Wilkinson, Global Head of Paid Search at Jellyfish

Thursday 28th March - Year 11 and Sixth Form Assembly

Andrea Freathy (dog handler).





Netball

The netball season has started with great energy. We have played RGS, Epsom College, Portsmouth Grammar, City of London Freemans and Ewell Castle; all providing good competition and exciting games. Some of our most noted results are as follows:

U.12 v RGS lost 21-22

U.12 v PGS won 14-9

U.13 v RGS won 16-4

U.14 A B and C v CLFS Won 25-20, 19-9 and 14-12 respectively.

The U.15 A squad have had a frustrating start to the season with some results that do not reflect their true ability. There have been many injuries within this year group that have set additional hurdles but the girls have pulled together and played with no subs on some occasions. A special thank you must go to Aylin and Rebecca for enabling the B team to carry on whilst injuries were healing!

Our seniors have fielded 3 teams this season and have demonstrated some excellent moments of netball during games. Passing has been strong and accurate and movement has been purposeful however, fitness has hindered our ability to sustain these throughout the games.

It is great to see so many of our players now representing various clubs and academies in the area.

Club	Pupils
Ashted All Stars	Rosie K and Ellie T
Hillcrest	Georgia R-J, Rowie B, Jemima W-W and Georgie N
Dorking	Romilly H, Olivia H
Cobham	Amelie Y
CD Phoenix	Kiera P
Surrey Academy	Romilly H
Surrey Development Satellite	Georgia R-J

Most valuable players of the term so far are:

Name	POM votes	Name	POM votes
Ali G	2	Beanie B	1
Holly N	2	Maya M	1
Scarlet W-W	2	Charlotte B	1
Ellie T	2	Tabby M	1
Rosie K	2	Daisy W	1
Jemima W-W	2	Lila B	1
Olivia C	1	Tallulah W	1
Olivia H	1	Kiera P	1
Louisa J	1	Cerys G	1
		Georgie H	1



Football

The football season started on Saturday 5th January with a good turnout from all year groups at pre-season training. Our first Saturday fixture of the term was on 12th January against Epsom College, which saw two emphatic wins for the U12As and U13As and two draws. City of London Freeman's were our next opponents on 19th January, a well balanced fixture which saw two convincing wins for the U12As and U15s and two losses.

Saturday 26th January followed, which saw six Dunottar teams in action against Cedars, with 76 boys representing the school in their respective age group teams. This was another close fixture with two wins and two narrow losses. Unfortunately, the weather got the better of our planned block fixture against Sutton Grammar School for Boys on 2nd February, which was a real shame considering we were due to field seven Dunottar teams against them.

A special mention should go to the following teams who at the time of writing remain unbeaten this football season: U12A, U12B, U13B and U15A. Also, at the time of writing, we are yet to face Ewell Castle and Claremont, which we hope will be well contested fixtures.

RGS VSA

REIGATE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

FEBRUARY NETBALL CAMPS



Led by Specialist Coaches
and Elite Players!

21st February 2019

10am-4pm

Registration will open at 9:30am

£40 per child

RGS, RSM and Chinthurst 15% discount
Enter code 'REIGATE15' at checkout



Venue: Reigate Grammar School, Reigate Road, Reigate, Surrey RH2 0QS

Contact: netball@visionarysportsacademy.co.uk

Booking Form: Please click [HERE](#) for a booking form or visit our website www.visionarysportsacademy.co.uk.

Staff v Parents Football Match



Please come along to support the Dunottar Staff vs Dunottar Parents 11 a-side charity football match to raise money for Comic Relief, on Saturday 30th March. This match will take place at Old Reigatian's RFC, straight after the house football event, kicking off at approximately 11am. Come along to cheer on the players and raise money for a great cause.

Desert Springs Raffle

On Saturday 30th March, at the staff vs parents Charity Football match, we will be running a raffle to raise money for the Desert Springs 2019 Cricket Trip. We have some fantastic prizes to give away including tickets to the Royal London One Day Cup or Natwest t20 Blast, sports equipment and clothing and much more. Raffle tickets are £1.00 each and are available to buy from the P.E. Office or on the day.

Desert Springs - Raffle Prizes

- Chase Cricket Bat
- Chase Cricket Gloves (Youth Right Hand)
- Chase Cricket Pads (Youth Right Hand)
 - Chase Cricket Ball
 - Adidas Size 8.5 golf shoes
 - Adidas Size 9 hockey shoes
 - Taylor-Made golf bag
 - Puma King size 6 Football boots
- Tickets to a Surrey Cricket fixture / hospitality box
 - 25% off JT Cricket Academies
- A signed Nick Compton cricket bat
 - Bottle of White Wine
 - Bottle of Red Wine
 - Big box of sweets
- Opening up, supporting mental health through cricket Tee-shirt
 - TaylorMade golf hats x 3

These are anticipated prizes, some are subject to change.



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