

Trip to Port Lympne Animal Park

Although the academic year had come to an end, opportunities for our young people continued throughout the summer break, with the first of our summer enrichment trips taking the group to Port Lympne Animal Park in Kent.

Travelling by safari truck, the group explored the vast reserve and had the opportunity to see a variety of rare and endangered species at close range. Port Lympne provides large, open habitats where many of the animals have plenty of space to roam and explore their surroundings, creating a very different experience from a traditional zoo visit.

As the safari made its way through the park, the group were able to observe the animals in spacious environments while learning more about the importance of conservation and protecting endangered species. The beautiful setting, with impressive views across the Kent countryside and towards the English Channel, made the experience even more memorable.

It was a fantastic start to our summer enrichment activities, combining an enjoyable day out with wildlife, conservation and learning beyond the classroom.



Visit to Dunstable Downs and the River Chess

The summer enrichment continued with a second outing to Dunstable Downs, offering a day filled with walking, history and exploration of the natural environment.

Following the Chalk Way, everyone enjoyed impressive views stretching across five counties before visiting Ashridge House, a historic country estate associated with King Henry VIII and Princess Elizabeth, who later became Queen Elizabeth I. The visit provided an opportunity to discover some of the history connected to the area while enjoying its beautiful surroundings.

The day concluded with river dipping in the River Chess, one of England's rare chalk streams. Exploring what could be found beneath the water proved particularly popular, with one participant even managing to net two fish!

It was a memorable second summer outing, bringing together history, nature and plenty of opportunities for discovery.



Emergency Contact Details

In the best interest of your child's overall wellbeing, safety, and welfare whilst they are attending College, it is vitally important that, in the event of any emergency situation, we are able to make immediate contact with you or an alternative emergency contact without any delay. This ensures that any necessary actions can be taken promptly to support your child and to address any urgent matters that may arise during the College day or in College-related activities. Therefore, we would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents, guardians, and carers of the critical importance of keeping the College fully informed of any changes made to the contact numbers previously provided. It is equally important to ensure that any additional emergency contacts that you have listed are kept up to date, so that in case of an unforeseen event, we are able to reach someone quickly and efficiently to provide timely support and guidance for your child.

Absence Reporting

In the event of your child being unable to attend college, please contact the main reception on number before time. In order for the College to ensure that all students are properly safeguarded, it is important for you to follow this procedure for every day your child is absent. The only exception to this is for extended periods of illness where the period of absence is explained in a note from your child's doctor or hospital. The College is required to account for all absences so please ensure your child brings a letter that verifies the reasons for their absence on their return to college.

School Lunch and IPAY

Parents, Guardians and Carers are reminded to kindly ensure that their child's iPay account is topped up regularly to allow them to purchase food during lunch and break times.

De Salis offers a wide range of meals and snacks each day, and students use their iPay accounts to pay for these items. Keeping accounts topped up helps ensure that students can access food without undue delay disruption during the College day.

We appreciate your continued support in checking and maintaining your child's iPay balance so that they are able to enjoy their meals and refreshments at College.

If your child receives Free School Meals, please note that this covers a meal at lunchtime only. Any snacks or food purchased during break time will need to be paid for using their iPay account.

Academic Planners

This academic year, we are placing a renewed focus on the consistent use of student planners as an important tool for organisation, communication and supporting learning.

All homework must be recorded in planners, alongside key reminders and information. Planners will also provide an important means of communication between teachers and parents, guardians and carers.

We ask parents, guardians and carers to check and sign their child's planner every week, with tutors also monitoring planners regularly to ensure they are being used effectively. By working together, we can help our young people become increasingly organised, responsible and independent in their learning..

LPPA

Useful links for English, Mathematics and Science revision:
English:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx>

Mathematics:

<https://www.piximaths.co.uk/>

<https://corbettmaths.com/>

<https://www.mathsgenie.co.uk/>

<https://www.mathsisfun.com/>

Science:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrkw2hv>

<https://physicsandmathstutor.co.uk/>

<https://www.savemyexams.com/gcse/>

<https://cognitoedu.org/>

<https://www.freesciencelessons.co.uk/>

<https://quizlet.com/gb/content/gcse-science>

<https://phet.colorado.edu/>

Start of Term - Autumn 2026

We were delighted to welcome everyone back to De Salis for the start of the new academic year. It has been wonderful to see familiar faces returning, alongside those joining our community for the first time.

The first weeks of term have focused on settling into routines, establishing positive expectations and ensuring everyone feels supported and ready to learn. There has already been a strong sense of enthusiasm and purpose across De Salis as we begin another busy year of learning, enrichment and new opportunities.

We look forward to working closely with our students, staff, parents, guardians and carers throughout the year. With many exciting opportunities and experiences ahead, we look forward to celebrating the progress and achievements of our whole community.

Quote of The Week

"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." - Arthur Ashe

Dates for the Diary



September 2026

SEPTEMBER

Friday 4th	Start of Term
Monday 7th	Photograph Day
Wednesday 9th	Royal Air Force Visit