

#newtodenny #classof2025



Above, Alice Richards shares some of her DRHS challenge photography work, thank you!

Happy Holidays!

Hopefully you've been enjoying the first few days of your summer holidays and have some nice plans for the weeks ahead. This is your final #newtodenny newsletter as we will meet again in September which is very exciting!

I am sharing the final House welcomes today, from Bridie in Kyneburga and Barwell's new House Captain Yusraa.

Dear new Year 7 student,

I was nervous to start Secondary school. I didn't know anyone and I wasn't sure how quickly I would make friends. I actually made friends very soon after my first day. A lot of people were in the same position as me so we were able to talk to each other. We were just as nervous as each other. The teachers were very welcoming and they helped us settle in comfortably. By the time a week had passed, it felt like I had been there forever! I had memorised my way around school and I could recognise quite a few teachers and girls in my form. The teachers made our lessons fun and a lot of them still are very enjoyable. My favourite subject is History because we get to work on group projects with our friends and we learn about what happened in the past. I also love English and Drama because we get to do performances. Don't worry about not making friends or sitting alone at lunch! Everyone is really friendly and accommodating. The food is really nice and there are always so many options available. There are lots of places to sit inside and outside so you can enjoy the weather wherever you want! There are all kinds of fun extra-curricular clubs to attend, like sport (netball, football etc...), reading and debating. You will definitely find a club that you love if you're into things like that. I love being at school, even when I don't have my favourite lessons, because the environment is so lovely to be in!

Good luck, you'll love it!

From Bridie in 7K

Hello Barwell!

My name is Yusraa and I am so excited to announce that I am your new house captain!

This is undoubtedly such a huge honour for me. I can't wait to see you all soon! I promise to do my very best to be the best house captain I can be.

I can't wait for the house events and competitions to begin! I want to ensure that no matter the outcome of house events, the most important thing is that we have learnt something and have enjoyed ourselves! I will definitely be ensuring that we have fun!

I have created a video introducing myself which you will get to see in September and I hope it helps to tell you a bit about myself as well as to let you know that I am very approachable and to please feel free to email me if you have any questions!

Next year, we will be recruiting a house team and more details of that will be coming in due course! I have to admit, I'm so excited for this!

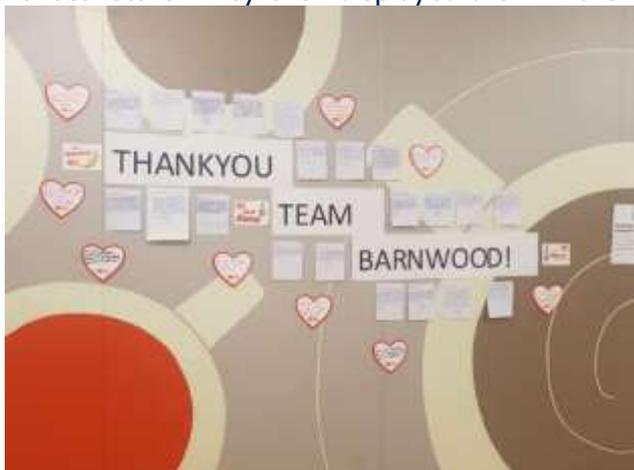
I hope you have all had a wonderful week! I hope you all have a wonderful summer holiday and I look forward to hopefully seeing you all soon!

I am sharing just some of the book reviews and DRHS challenge work that I've received. Please remember that if your submissions have not be shared in the newsletters, they will be shared in September. You can also continue to send your photos and reviews into the newtodenny@denmarkroad.org over the summer holidays.

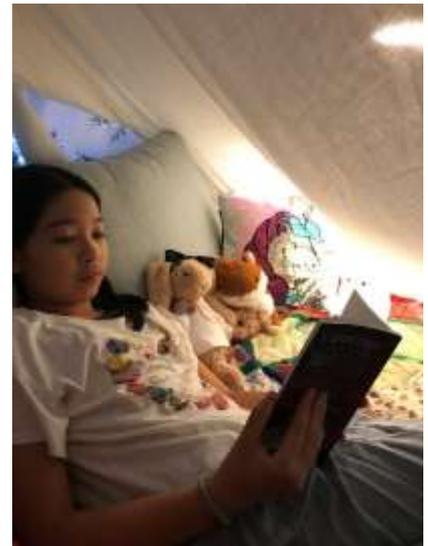
Greta and Olivia have been preparing for starting at DRHS, celebrating their house and practising getting ready in the mornings!



Izzy asked people in her class to write letters to key workers (she chose Sainsburys workers) and took them to the local store. They even displayed them in there canteen.



Sienna, Kate and Julia have been enjoying their reading dens:



Book Review by Nuzhat

Book: No Ballet Shoes in Syria

Author: Catherine Bruton

Genre: Fiction

My Rating: 

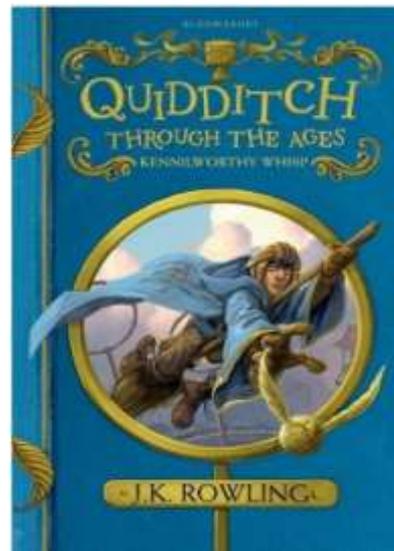
No Ballet Shoes in Syria is a fantastic book covering the current issue in Syria and how it has sadly affected many lives. This book has emotion, elegance, war and kindness all in one story which is one of the many reasons I absolutely adore this book.

No Ballet Shoes in Syria is mainly focused on an eleven-year old asylum seeker who has fled the terrible war in Syria with her baby brother and mother.

They are currently staying in a community centre in Manchester. Aya has a deep love for ballet, so it comes as a pleasant surprise when she encounters a local ballet school run by the elegant Miss Helena and her daughter, Miss Sylvie. One day, Miss Helena sees Aya dancing; quickly she sees the talent in Aya's graceful but powerful in her *demi-pointe* and her flawless *pirouettes* and offers her a place in the ballet class. Miss Helena is certain that Aya's dancing could give her a scholarship at the reputable Royal Northern Ballet School. As the story unfolds, Aya and her families' refuge is challenged; we slowly begin to learn of Aya's time in Syria and the horrific journey to England but also of her father separated from the rest of the family...

Overall, No Ballet Shoes in Syria is a phenomenal and moving book which teaches people of the difficulties refugees have to face. The book reminds us of how lucky we are and how grateful we should be even to the simplest things in life because it could be ripped away from us in seconds. This eye-opening book will be a great read for dancers (of course!) but also to anyone wanting a new book to read as this one is wonderful! Personally, I enjoyed No Ballet Shoes in Syria because it was really interesting, and I never

seemed to want to put it down which I think is one way to know if it's a good book. Overall, No Ballet Shoes in Syria is a good book and I hope many others will enjoy it too!



Quidditch through the ages

By Ojal Khare

Quidditch through the ages is a book where J.K. ROWLING described how the game Quidditch evolved from the beginning when the wizards and witches didn't even have broomsticks. She talks about how the game began and how it is now. The book also talks about the teams which were the strongest in the league. Quidditch Through The Ages is mentioned in the first Harry Potter book (The Philosopher's Stone). This means that it was a library book at Hogwarts school. It mentions that on the first page.

★ ★ ★ ★ I'd give this book a 4 star rating.

Title: Percy Jackson and the lightning bolt.

Author: Rick Riordan

There are many characters in this book but the main people/gods are Percy, Annabeth, Grover, Chiron, Luke, Ares, Poision, Zeus and Hades. My favourite character is Annabeth because she has so much courage and tries to make people feel better when they have done something that didn't go to plan.

The adventure starts when Percy finds out that he is half god and half human. He finds out about who his dad really was. He goes on a journey to return a lightning bolt back to its rightful owner- Zeus. He has many obstacles in his way and one person, who calls him a friend...betrays Percy.

The part that I found the most exciting was when Percy, Annabeth and Grover go to the underworld and pretended to be dead.

The part that I didn't enjoy was when Crusty stretches Annabeth and Grover on beds.

By Darcey Bancroft

Name: Sarah Mitchell

Book: Wonder

Author: R.J. Palacio

Wonder is the story of a 10 year old boy named August Pullman (or Auggie) who was born with a life-changing facial deformity. He loves his Xbox, his dog Daisy and is the biggest fan of star wars. The book goes into detail about his struggles in school, after being home-schooled all his life, and him being bullied by someone he thought was his friend. It also goes into detail about his sister's life, Via, and how it's been one summer and *her* friend has left her. 'You can't blend in when you were born to stand out' is what Via tells Auggie to comfort him in hard times. This book has helped me understand what people in his condition actually go through and how he gets judged by doing simple things like eating. I rate this book 5/5 it was great. I would recommend Wonder to anybody because you can really learn about how cruel children can be and how hard life is for some people.

Thank you for all of your support and engagement with our #newtodenny transition programme. I hope you've enjoyed the challenges and all of the resources on our [New to Year 7 website](#). Don't forget your two summer challenges- the House Challenge and All About Me hands challenge, [instructions are here](#). These will need to be shared with your form and tutor during the first week back.

I hope you have a wonderful summer and I am very much looking forward to meeting you in September.

Take Care,

Miss Hodnett

Year 7 and 8 Progress and Well Being Coordinator