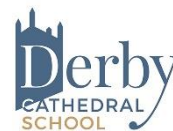


This Week at Derby Cathedral School

wc 12 February 2024



In John 13:34-35, Jesus tells his disciples:

'A new command I give you: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'

For Christians, this not only shows how inspirational Jesus is, but also demonstrates how they can be inspired by the disciples. For us at DCS, let's be inspired to show love, care and respect to others. Let this be what we are known for. Let's work hard to inspire others to do the same.

Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has certainly gone very quickly and we can't quite believe that we're already in mid-February at our half term break!

Our year 11 students have completed most of their PPE (mock exams) and only have one week left after half term. This is good practice for their summer exams which are only 8 weeks away! Just as a reminder, if you are a parent of a year 11 student, the final date from the exam board is Friday 28 June. This is called a contingency day and they ask that all students are available up to that day. It is really important that you do not book any time away before that date.

Our year 7 students have been practising their routines this week with a focus on how they enter and leave a classroom and start and end their work. So many of them have really impressed us with their focus on this. A big help to them and us is if they all have the right equipment with them every day to show that they are ready to learn. Having a school bag, pencil case, reading book and planner is essential for every single day. It is also really helpful for them to practice the routine of getting their belongings ready the night before so they don't forget in the morning scramble to get ready!

We've also been delighted by the media response we've had this week to our cycle recycle scheme in school. We featured this extra-curricular activity in the newsletter a few weeks ago and it certainly has turned Mr Turner into a media star! This week he was filmed for the BBC and will be on Radio Derby during the half term break. We're so grateful to Mr Turner for all of his commitment to this activity; it really shows our FAITH values in action and we're delighted with how many students are gaining skills and bikes!

Finally, please do look at the family hub activities that are on offer currently in Derby. Some are pasted into this newsletter but the link provided in that article will take you to everything on offer for children and young people of all ages.

Please do take this half term week to have some rest, revision (year 11!) and a refresh of any uniform or equipment that needs replacing. All information about uniform and equipment can be found here: <https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/information/uniform-equipment> We know that our students will be out and about more over the half term. In this newsletter, we have included some road safety information that is relevant to teenagers. Please do have a read of this with your child. This is relevant for half term but also on their walk to and from school.

I wish all of our students and families a relaxing half term

Yours faithfully

Mrs Brown

DCS on the News!

We have had a really exciting week this week with BBC East Midlands Today coming in to school to film the students at The Cycle Recycle club!

We have shared information about The Cycle Recycle club in a previous newsletter, and the story has also been shared with Derby Telegraph, School Matters Magazine, and UK News Group!

Please see links below to see the brilliant coverage of this wonderful initiative!

https://www.uknewsgroup.co.uk/on-your-bike-pupils-learn-new-skills-as-they-restore-old-bikes-at-a-derby-school/?fbclid=IwAR02bFGJgGFhaxQXkKaZ_4uiTePoxJVwiTYSsDR7wZGcu3jXlyR-7_qDc

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/?pid=ODc8785235>

We have not yet been given an air date for the East Midlands Today coverage, but are hoping it should hopefully be sometime next week! Keep an eye out on the news and we will update parents as soon as we find out a definite time and date!

Well done to everyone involved!



Word of the Week

Our new, whole school, 'word of the week' initiative starts with the word: **commence**

Please do speak to your child/children about this word. Challenge them to use it in a sentence or explain its meaning to you. The information below will hopefully help!

We can split this into easy-to-say sounds: **com - mence**

Commence means: to begin

Other similar words are:

Begin
Start
Launch
Get going

Examples of how to use commence in a sentence are:

- The academic year **commences** at the beginning of September.
- They **commenced** an organised search.
- He picked up his pen, and **commenced** writing his exam.

Road Safety

We have had a few calls from members of the public recently highlighting concerns about students running across the road in front of cars on their way to and from school.

Most teenagers don't realise that they are more likely to be killed or injured in a road collision than any other age group.

We do regularly have road safety awareness talks during Collective Worship in school, but we are asking parents to have discussions with their children as well about the importance of being careful when crossing the road. Please see link below with some information and tips on how to talk to children about pedestrian road safety:

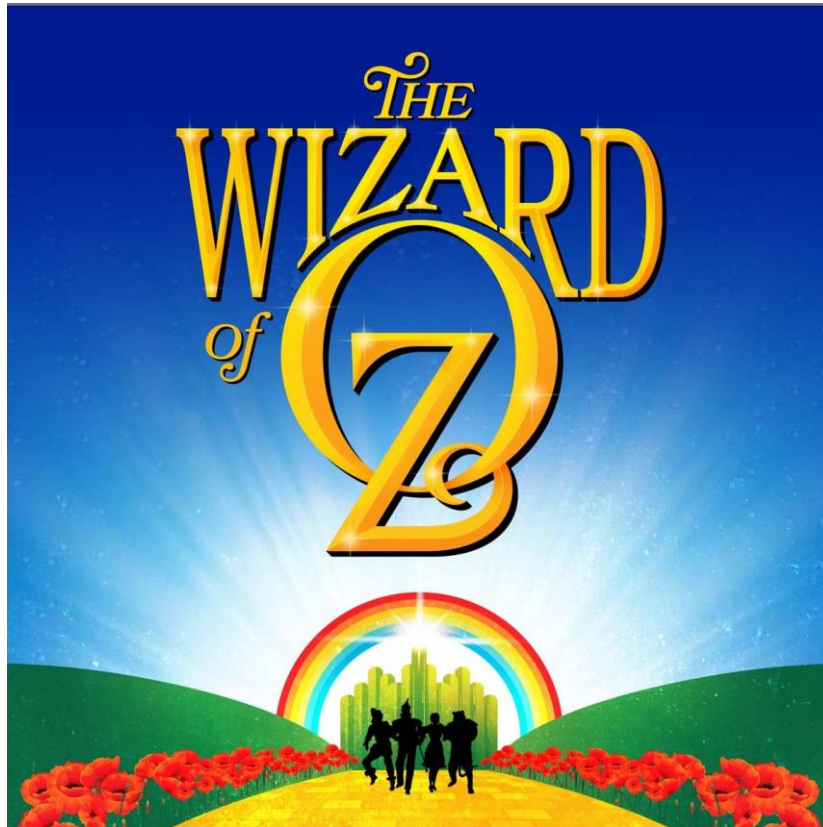
<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/teenage-road-safety#:~:text=It%20is%20a%20good%20idea,music%20while%20they%20are%20cycling>

Wizard of Oz

Our first large school production of The Wizard of Oz is coming up on 20th and 21st March at 7pm, with matinee performances for local primary schools during the day on the 19th and 20th March!

Our brilliant cast have been working extremely hard on learning their lines, practicing their songs and perfecting their choreography, alongside a dedicated group of Year 12 musicians practicing the score to perfection!

Keep an eye on your e-mails and the newsletter after half term as we will be sharing sneak peek pictures of rehearsals, including some previews of some of the incredible costumes and props lovingly hand-made by the brilliant Ms Boyle!



Derby Book Festival – Writing Competition

Derby Book Festival launches its annual 50-word Flash Fiction Writing competition on Monday 29 January. Check the website for details of this year's theme or sign up to their newsletter to be one of the first to know. There are three age categories: 11 and under, 12 - 17, 18 and over

The winning stories will be printed on Festival bookmarks to be published in the spring and the winner of each category receives a book token for £50.

The closing date is 17 February.

Derby's annual book festival takes place this year from 29 February to 4 March with lots of different events being hosted across the city.

Their website is being constantly updated: <https://www.derbybookfestival.co.uk/> and you can sign up to receive their newsletter <https://www.derbybookfestival.co.uk/newsletter-subscription>

Family Hub Programme: Jan – Mar 2024

Just a reminder that all information about the family hubs in Derby can be found here:

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/community-and-living/family-hub-childcare/family-hub/about-family-hub/family-hub-parents/#page-4>

The 'What's On' Guide can be found here:

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/media/derbycitycouncil/contentassets/documents/communityandliving/familyhubparents/family-hub-whats-on-jan-to-mar-2024.pdf>

The activities and support for 5 – 19 year olds starts on page 14.

Have a look through as there are some wonderful activities and places to go for all kinds of support all year round!

Here are some examples of the free activities on offer:

What's on for: 5 – 19 year olds

Premier Education | Age 11+



Activities such as fencing, handball, lacrosse, tchoukball as well as character building skills. Booking required, please contact James jjennison@premier-education.com or 07980276488.

Engineered Learning | 11 – 16s



Active Hands: Supporting Nature – Engineered Learning empowers you to achieve through engineering. Make friends whilst creating items in wood that support wildlife in our authentic workshop. Booking required please contact Carol Phillips carol@engineeredlearning.co.uk.

School holiday delivery:

Monday 1 April 2024

Tuesday 2 April 2024

Wednesday 3 April 2024

Wednesday 10 April 2024

Thursday 11 April 2024

Friday 12 April 2024

Derwent Workshop, Unit 8, Racecourse Industrial Estate, Mansfield Road, Derby DE21 4SX.

Tackle it! | For boys age 12-14



Tackle It is Derby County Community Trust's wellbeing programme (early-intervention) for young males aged 12-14 who are struggling with their mental wellbeing. The sessions aim to give participants a 'safe space' to chat, socialise and take part in fun activities. The aim is to keep a relaxed atmosphere where people can meet others who may be experiencing similar challenges. Tackle It is part of our wider Winning Minds project, supporting youth mental health and social action. Contact Morgan Stanley for more information - Morgan.stanley@dcct.co.uk or 07494 517324 or Matt Deacon matt.deacon@dcct.co.uk. No booking required, just turn up!

Mondays 6-7:30pm Osmaston Allenton

Tuesdays 6-7:30pm Derwent

Community One | 12-16s



GROWTH Programme – Sport, music, arts, social affairs, health, and wellbeing activities every week. No need to book – just turn up! Contact info@communityone.org.uk or 01332 891444.

Mondays 5-7pm Rosehill

Tuesdays 5-7pm Arboretum Park

GREAT Girls Hub | For girls age 12-17



The GREAT Hubs aims to support young females with their wellbeing. Sessions are based on the GREAT values of Gratitude, Resilience, Empathy, Authenticity, Teamwork. A GREAT session is one hour each week focusing on wellbeing for mind and body through lots of fun activities. Most importantly these sessions offer a place to come along and talk openly to other females in a community that is supportive, positive and compassionate to each other. **Contact Claire Clark for more information - Claire.clark@dctt.co.uk or 07783 283981.**

Mondays	4:45-6pm	Osmaston Allenton
Tuesdays	4:45-5:45pm	Derwent

Sporting Communities | 13 – 16's



Get involved in activities such as art, virtual reality (VR), sports, health, fitness, cooking and more. Sessions will be tailored around individual needs to support emotional health and well-being either one-to-one or in groups. For more information on how to get involved in the programme, **contact info@supportingcommunitiescio.co.uk or call 07841026335.**

Baby People | Music sessions | For 13-19 year olds

Music studio sessions covering MCing, singing and music production. No experience needed, come and learn some studio skills and improve your craft. Open for free to all young people aged between 13 and 19 years. **No booking needed, just turn up.**

Tuesdays	5-7pm	Sinfin
Wednesdays	5-7pm	Rosehill
Thursdays	5-7pm	Derwent
Fridays	4:30-6:30pm	Osmaston Allenton

Youth Matters | 14+



Get focused and fit with Youth Matters Boxing programme including pad work and circuit training. Supported and encouraged throughout the session by a Mentor as well as the Coach. **Booking required please contact Danny danny.youthmattersnewmills@gmail.com.**

Thursdays	4pm	Derwent
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Dates Ahead

Term Dates

Monday 26 February: Return to school
Thursday 28 March: Break up for Easter holiday

Monday 15 April: Return to school
Friday 24 May: Break up for Summer half term
Monday 3 June : Return to school
Tuesday 23 July: Break up for Summer holiday (early finish for all students, exact time tbc)

INSET Days – School closed to all students

Friday 28th June

Parents Evenings

Thursday 7 March: Year 9 Parents' evening (school ends at 2.15pm for all students)
Tuesday 30 April: Year 7 Parents' evening (school ends at 2.15pm for all students)
Tuesday 25 June: Year 8 Parents' evening (school ends at 2.15pm for all students)

Term and key dates can also be found on our calendar and terms dates sections on the school website.