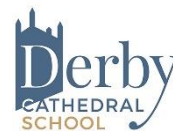


This Week at Derby Cathedral School

wc 13th June 2022



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

As we all coped with a mini heatwave this week, it's been great to continue to see so much enrichment happening for our students each week. Please read about a couple of them below.

As the heat hit, our year 10 students also started their pre-public exams (PPEs). Since Covid, these exams have even more importance as the grades can be used if there is any disruption to exams. The year group were absolutely fantastic for all of their exams on Friday. They showed great maturity and exemplary conduct during the whole process. We wish them luck and tenacity for the next two weeks.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Brown
Headteacher

Reading Buddies

Being a fluent reader is such an important skill. We can all see how much it is needed in our everyday lives but there are other important aspects that may not be as widely known. Reading is also good for you because it improves your focus, memory, empathy, and communication skills. It can reduce stress, improve your mental health, and help you live longer.

Reading also helps us to learn new things that help us succeed at work and in our relationships with others. We want all of these things for our students and so have a number of strategies in place to promote reading for pleasure and help to improve students reading skills.

As part of this, we have a reading buddy scheme. This is where some of our older students support the younger years with their reading. Once a week, a large groups of year 9 and 10 students pair up with their reading buddy in year 7 or 8. Year 9's are paired with year 7 and year 10 with year 8. This is because research shows that peer mentoring of this sort works best with a two year gap.

It is brilliant to see them all work together in the mornings in our LRC. Not only will this help to improve their reading but it also aids our strong sense of community and builds relationships between the year groups. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Lynch and Mrs McCrory for their organisation with this and of course, to our students for their willingness, support and participation.

It's also makes a huge difference if students read at home too. This doesn't have to always be a book: recipes, instructions, news etc. are all good sources of reading material. The department for Education has produced a helpful guide for parents on this topic. You can find it by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read/10-top-tips-to-encourage-children-to-read>

Careers

Engineering Workshop for Year 9

On Friday 10th June 41 year 9 students participated in an Engineering day. This day involved a series of careers based workshops run by representatives from the HS2 project. It was designed to enthuse students who have shown an interest in this field. It also was designed to encourage students who are under-represented in this field e.g. females.

This was a really interesting and enjoyable experience for everyone and we hope that it has inspired our students to think about engineering as a possible career path.

Year 10 Work experience

Our year 10 students participate in a week of work experience on w/c 4 July. We are very grateful for the hard work of Miss Rowley and all parents/carers and staff who have helped to support students secure their placements. This has been especially difficult post-Covid where it has been more of a challenge to find employers who are willing to have a student.

In order to support our students, we are also putting together a free 'work clothes' loan shop where they can borrow clothes suitable for the workplace.

If you have any items that you could donate, we are looking for the following in a range of teenage to adult sizes. Please do drop any off at reception.

The will need smart clothes/office wear for example:

- Shirts/blouses
- Smart trousers/dresses/skirts
- Blazers (not school ones)
- Ties