wc 13 May 2024



In Colossians 3:12 it says:

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

For us at DCS this is a reminder that our identity is knowing that we are loved by God and showing this through our acts of compassion, kindness, gentleness, humility and patience.

Dear Parents/Carers,

During the penultimate week of the half term, our year 11 students have completed some of their big core exams and many of our year 12 students sat papers that contribute towards their final grades. Last week we gave some weblinks to online sites that support the mental health and wellbeing of young people. Please do have a look at these as the exam period does require tenacity to keep going over a number of weeks. It's great to see how focused our students are and how much they care about their achievements.

Our year 11 parents/carers are receiving a weekly email that gives key updates and reminders for the week ahead. Please do chat to your child about the content of these emails so that both home and school are working together effectively during this important time. Please also let us know if there are any other useful bits of information that you would appreciate being included in these emails.

There are now many exam papers that need a scientific calculator. Maths is the obvious subject but you may not be aware that other subjects need one too, for example: science, geography, business, DT and psychology. All students, in every year group, need to get used to their calculator and practice from year 7. A specific type of calculator is needed (Casio fx83 or 85) and this calculator will last them through all 5 years. These calculators are available on ParentPay or in the Classcharts Rewards shop. You can buy these from many shops, however, it is often cheaper to buy through school as we can buy them at a discounted cost. Please remember that anyone eligible for free school meals can also buy them with a reduction of 30%.

After half term we will be having an increased focus on all students having the necessary equipment with them every day in order to be ready for lessons. Please do see the article below which details all of the essential items that every student must have with them each day. We really appreciate your help and support in ensuring that every student is ready and equipped to start their learning each day.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Brown

Equipment Reminder

In order to ensure that each student can start the day ready to learn well it is really important that they have the correct equipment with them.

It's a great support for your child/children to check that they have the following with them every day:

- A school bag
- Their reading book
- Their planner
 - A pencil case complete with the following equipment:
 - o Pencil
 - $\circ \quad \text{Black pens}$
 - o Purple pen
 - o Whiteboard pen
 - o Ruler
 - \circ Rubber
 - Protractor
- Calculator this must be a scientific calculator that is available to buy on ParentPay/ClassCharts Reward Shop
- A paper copy of their timetable

Word of the Week

Our 'word of the week' this week is: Generate

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!

Generate means: To produce or create.

Etymology: The study of the origin (beginning) of words:

Mid 16th century (in the sense 'beget, procreate'): from Latin *generat*- 'created', from the verb *generare*, from *genus*, *gener*- 'stock, race'.

'Generate' in Spanish – Generar/producir

Other similar words are: Cause Produce Bring Promote

Examples of how to use Devote in a sentence are:

- It will certainly generate enthusiasm for maths, and the web site is fun to use.
- We need new businesses to generate more jobs.
- It will also create jobs and generate income for the local economy.

Staying Mentally Healthy During Exam Time

As we continue through the main exam time for year 11 and many other year groups are soon to take their end of term assessments, it's worth revising how we can support young people at what can be a very stressful time.

Young Minds have a series of support pages aimed to help with exam stress and anxiety. Their advice is available to help parents and carers and, of course, young people themselves. You can find this helpful advice at the links below:

Parents

Young people

These links have also been added to our school website under Information – Exams and Performance.

Free Wellbeing Event with Derby Adult Learning Service

Derby Adult Learning Service

Learning Opportunities for Adults

FREE WELLBEING

Thursday 6th June 2024 10am - 12pm Better Together Café

Derby City Council House, Corporation Street, DEI 2FS

Everyone is welcome to join and receive practical support and advice from organisations based in Derby.

- Receive home energy advice from Derby City Council
- Gain employability and CV support with the Derby Employment Hub
- Meet Social Prescribers and find out how they can help you
- Give back to your community, make new friends and help our NHS with the Good Neighbours team
- Seek support from the NeuroHub for your child or young person
- Chat with PCSOs about matters regarding your local neighbourhood
- Find classes to support your health, wellbeing or upskill with the Derby Adult Learning Service
- And more!

A BSL interpreter will be available

Register your interest here: <u>https://bit.ly/4bvL8S9</u>



National Saturday Club

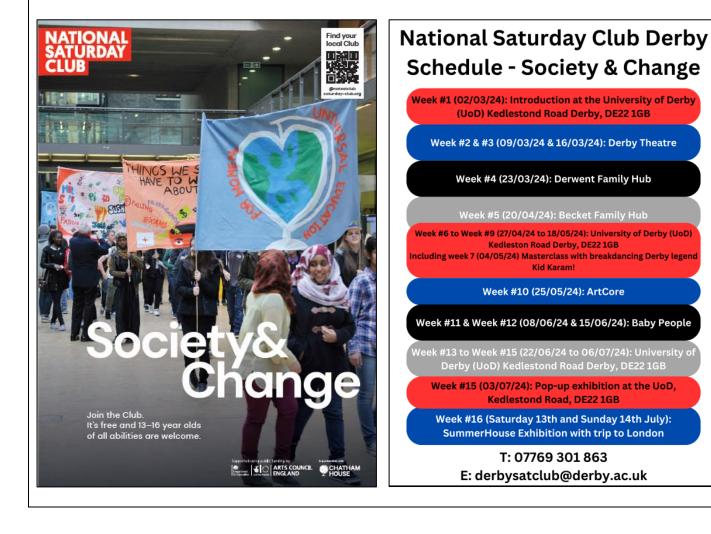
NSC (National Saturday Club) is a free group that runs every Saturday for students ages 13 – 16.

https://saturday-club.org/subject/society-change/

Their theme this year is 'Society & Change.' The group is a powerful and positive experience for students and offers some wonderful activities, including a trip to London and workshops with notable artists.

"From climate change and conflict to new technologies and taking action, at the Society & Change Saturday Club you will explore the forces that are shaping the world today and discover how young people have a voice to influence the future. Club members will find out about different cultures and life in other countries, including what it is like to be a young person in other parts of the world, and will also be introduced to a range of jobs and careers from foreign policy and diplomacy to journalistic reporting and international charity work."

Have a look at the poster and Derby group schedule below, and use the link above to sign up if you are interested!



Dates Ahead

Term Dates

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 Tuesday 25 June: Year 8 Parents' evening (school ends at 2.15pm for all students)

Other Key Dates

Wednesday 8 May: GCSE written exams start

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