

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Just a short message from me this week to say a big well done to our whole school community for this half term. It's certainly been an eventful one with lots to celebrate.

As always, I am so proud of our students and the community that we are forming. This has been highlighted in how year 11 have been tackling their final PPEs (mock exams) and how year 10 performed so incredibly well in their mock interviews today with a large number of external employers. Both of these events show what potential our students have and what an exciting future they have in front of them.

Please do read the articles below to get more detail on some of the events from the week.

I wish all of our students and families a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Brown
Headteacher

Youth Mayor Elections

All students across Derby City have been voting for their Youth Mayor.

A few weeks ago all pupils at DCS took part in the Derby Youth Mayor election process. As part of a PSHE lesson, pupils discussed Democracy and the ability to cast a vote. This is one of the elements of 'Fundamental British Values' that are covered throughout our curriculum. Pupils watched the speeches from the four candidates, had discussions about each and ultimately cast their vote in the ballot box. All pupils were engaged and interested in this process and are keenly awaiting the results of the vote.

On Monday night at the Voices in Action meeting in the Council Chamber, the results of the 2023/4 Youth Mayor Elections were announced by the Councillor Evonne Williams, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People and Skills. The Youth Mayor for 2023/4 will be Muhammad Muntasir from Noel Baker Academy and the Deputy Youth Mayor will be Harman Kaur from City of Derby Academy.

There were 10,845 votes cast by 18 secondary schools and colleges in the city., a great achievement!

DCS offers our congratulations to the winners; we are also really proud of Freddie in year 11 for his application and presentation at the hustings.
Well done all!

Wednesday 1 March

For the next planned national strike day by the NEU, we are planning for year 11 to be in school all day and for school to be closed to all other years. However, we will be setting work online and lessons are likely to be 'live lessons' on Teams for year 10.

If you are a critical worker and need a place in school for your child, please complete the survey sent out by email or use the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/HMPPaJOLZS>

We will email a reminder and further details after half term.

Year 9 Options

After the successful year 9 options evening last week, our year 9 students have been making decisions this week about what GCSE subjects they would prefer to continue with into year 10.

Our options process in school is a guided one in which we ensure that as many students as possible have a wide range of subjects that give them the best chance for being able to make positive choices at the end of year 11.

The 'English Baccalaureate' suite of subjects (English, maths, science, a language and history or geography) is known to be really highly regarded by colleges, universities and employers. It shows a good set of skills that transfer well into any career pathway. We are really proud at DCS to have a large proportion of each year group following this route.

Option forms have been emailed home today and the deadline for handing these in is 10 March. Mr Coucill leads on this and if you have any queries, please email him on y9options@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

Careers Update

On Friday 17th February we hosted 27 employers from across Derby City for a Mock Interviews Day. Students in Year 10 had the opportunity to be 'interviewed' by one of these people, which gave them valuable advice and experience for the future.

This was the biggest standalone Careers event we have hosted as a school, and we could not be more proud of how our students rose to the challenge. They conducted themselves with such confidence and professionalism, and despite some understandable nerves, demonstrated their tenacity.

The feedback from both students and employers has been extremely positive.

Next stop: Work Experience Week!



Important Careers dates coming up...

6th – 17th March – National Careers Week

27th-31st March – Year 10 Work Experience

Meet The Team

Meet Mrs Allen our reprographics technician

Mrs Allen is an essential part of the school who works to support every member of staff with any printing, photocopying or resource support. She is a technical whizz on the machines around school and her work really helps to reduce the workload of her colleagues.

Mrs Allen also runs the rewards store for our Classcharts rewards and so she is often seen parcelling up the chosen prizes for students in each tutor group.

Mrs Allen also provides some work experience opportunities for some of our students who really enjoy helping her out with a whole variety of jobs.



Dates Ahead

For all key dates please see the calendar on the school website under the information tab:

<https://www.derbycathedralschool.org.uk/calendar>

Weds 1 March: Planned strike action. Details to follow nearer to the date.

Weds 15 & Thursday 16 March: Further planned strike action days

Holiday & term dates

School closes for half term: Friday 17 February

School opens for spring half term 2: Monday 27 February

School closes for Easter: Friday 31 March

School opens for summer term: Monday 17 April

School closes for half term: Friday 26 May

School opens for summer half term 2: Monday 5 June

School closes for summer holiday: Friday 21 July

Parents' Evenings and INSET days:

Tuesday 7 March: Year 10 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 26 June: Year 8 Parents' Evening

Friday 30 June: INSET day – school closed for all students