This Week at Derby Cathedral School

wc 18th September 2023



In the Old Testament book of Proverbs (28:26) it says: " ... those who walk in wisdom are kept safe." For us at DCS, this shows that keeping ourselves and others safe requires wisdom.

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

It's certainly been a very blustery week 3 at DCS with the stormy weather recently. This week it was great to see so many parents/carers and students at our Year 11 information evening. This is such a critical year and knowing what to expect is really important. We know that it might feel daunting but there are a huge number of staff at DCS to help support students, from class teachers, to the pastoral team and our mentors. It's been fantastic to see so many students at the after school intervention/revision sessions. At the English and Maths ones this week we've had approximately half of the year group. I know that Mr Thompson is determined to see this increase further. These sessions make such a difference, we know that having expert advice from a teacher is invaluable. The Bible verse of the week above is a helpful one for this year group. Making wise decisions and choices will keep them on the right and safe path.

A group of our Year 10 students have a fantastic opportunity this week as they are going to Kedleston Hall, a local National Trust property. This is a beautiful and interesting place to visit, set in some lovely grounds. There are free family passes on offer if you want to have a visit yourselves – please see the article below for more details. We'll be able to share some photos of their experience next week.

We're also having a strong focus at the moment on uniform and making sure that all students are following the expectations. Thank you to all parents/carers who are so supportive of this; a huge majority of our students look really smart and ready to learn every day. If you ever need to check what is/isn't acceptable, this information is on our website. There is also a poster to download with pictures giving examples to help guide you. If any families are struggling with the financial cost of uniform, please do let us know. We offer a 30% support for families who are in receipt of certain benefits (please ask us for more details) and have some uniform items to swap. If your child ever grows out of any uniform items and you are able to donate them to us, please do so as we keep a stock to loan/swap.

The main key dates of the term are always featured at the end of this newsletter so please check what events are on that are relevant to your child/children. In the weeks ahead we have the Year 6 open evening, the Sixth Form open evening and our Year 7 'meet the tutor' evening. School photographs are also planned for 9 October.

I wish you all a lovely week, with hopefully, some calmer weather.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Brown

REACH Next Generation Summit for Girls 11 – 15

All the details are shown on the invitation at the following link: <u>https://tinyurl.com/reachng</u> and all girls between the ages of 11 – 15 are welcome to attend this wonderful event.

The Summit is FREE to attend and lunch and afternoon snacks will be provided and it will be a day of discussions to help girls think about their futures in the ever changing world we all now live in.

They will be discussing ambition, self confidence, social media, money management, mental health and many more topics from a range of successful women from all backgrounds and sectors. It will be an empowering and energising day and one that changes lives for the better.

More information and videos from previous summits are at <u>www.reachnextgeneration.com</u> where the girls can register.



National Trust Visit and Family Visits

As part of our partnership with the National Trust, Mr Adler (History) and Miss Rowley (Careers) are taking a group of Year 10 students to visit Kedleston Hall next week. Kedleston Hall is the ancestral home of the Curzon family and was built in the 18th Century at huge expense to entertain wealthy guests. The hall is set in extensive parkland and is a great place to visit with the family to enjoy time in the house and gardens.

The National Trust are currently running a promotion which offers a free family (2 adults and up to 3 children) visit to a National Trust property up to the 20th October. If you are interested in visiting Kedleston Hall or any other National Trust property, then please follow this link for more details about how to sign up for the free visit. Places are limited so you will have to act quickly.

https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/escape-into-autumn

No sprays/aerosols in school

Just a reminder that aerosols and sprays are not allowed in school. We have had to respond to someone suffering an allergic reaction due to a spray being used in the building. We also have a number of students with asthma who are put at risk.

Please can you ensure that your child/children do not bring these into school. If they wish to have deodorants with them then a roll-on version is fine.

Gardening Equipment Still Needed

We are starting a gardening club for our students in Nurture. We are planning to grow fruit and vegetables together. If you have any unwanted/spare gardening equipment you don't need, we would really appreciate it. For example, spades, trowels, gardening gloves, compost...



If you have any items that can be donated please bring them to main reception. We especially need hand tools and gardening gloves. The first job to tackle is digging the Buddleia out of the beds!

We know that working outdoors and with nature is so beneficial and we can't wait to provide this opportunity for our students.

Open Evenings

We have two open evenings planned for this half term: year 6 and Sixth Form. The year 6 open evening is for any parents who are thinking of sending their child to DCS for year 7 in September 2024. Our Sixth Form open evening is designed for any year 11 students looking at their options for September 2024. If you have children in these year groups we would love to see you there!

Please also pass on these details to anyone you know who may be interested.











Sixth Form Open Evening Thu 12th October 5:30 – 7:30pm





Dates Ahead

Key Dates in the Autumn Term

3 October: Year 12 Senior Maths Challenge
4 October: Year 6 Open Evening
9 October: School photographs for all students
11 October: Year 12 Open Evening
Wc 23 October: Year 9 Holocaust survivor visit
24 October: Year 7 Meet The Tutor Evening

9 November: Year 11 Parents' Evening (early finish of 2.10pm for all students)28 November: Year 12 Parents' Evening (early finish of 2.10pm for all students)

1 December: INSET day. School closed for all students

Term Dates

Friday 27 October: break up for Autumn half term Monday 6 November: return to school Friday 22 December: break up for Christmas holiday

Monday 8 January: return to school Friday 16 February: break up for Spring half term 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

INSET Days – school closed to all students Friday 1st December Monday 5th February Friday 28th June

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