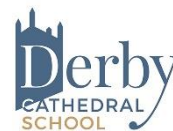


Derby Cathedral School Newsletter

23rd – 27th January



*For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of man.
2 Corinthians 8:21*

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

This week hasn't been quite so hectic as the previous week with our Ofsted visit! However, we were still kept busy with our year 7 parents evening and the year 7 boys athletics competition, amongst other things. It was great to have so many parents attend the online event and staff gave such positive feedback about how supportive an event it was. We really appreciate the support that we receive from parents/carers so that we can work together to support all of our students. The year 7 boys athletics team also did a great job – please read the article about their success!

I would also like to thank all parents/carers for their understanding and support towards the forthcoming strike action days. We are all working hard to ensure that we can provide education and support for as many of our students as possible during this period of national action. Details have been sent out in an email and are repeated in a further article in this newsletter. Our verse from the previous week has helped us to focus on making sure we keep our eyes on getting the balance right during this difficult time.

Now that our Ofsted inspection has happened, we will soon be turning more of our attention onto our SIAMS inspection. This stands for the 'Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools'.

A SIAMS inspection explores the question, "How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?"

On Friday, I attended the national conference of the Church of England's Foundation for Educational Leadership. The theme this year was 'Flourishing Together'. It was a great time to have so many people from across England come together to celebrate the work of education and gave a lot of food for thought about how we best continue our journey at DCS to enable all to flourish.

The event started with some interesting keynote speeches by some very knowledgeable and influential speakers including the Secretary of State for Education, The Children's Commissioner, The Archbishop of York and Lord Boateng; Chair of the Church of England's Racial Justice Commission. You can listen/read their speeches by clicking the links in the article below.

We also have a planned INSET day on Monday 6th February. During this day, teaching staff will be receiving training on aspects of classroom delivery as well as our planning, in departments and as a whole school, for our year 11 students.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Brown
Headteacher

Church of England's National Education Conference 2023: Flourishing Together

You can listen to/read the keynote speeches from the national conference by following the links below.

The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP: Secretary of State for Education

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/education-secretary-addresses-church-of-england-national-education-conference>

Dame Rachel de Souza: The Children's Commissioner

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/2023/01/27/childrens-commissioner-speech-at-the-church-of-england-education-office-and-foundation-for-educational-leadership-national-conference-2023/>

The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell: Archbishop of York

<https://www.archbishopofyork.org/speaking-and-writing/sermons/foundation-educational-leadership-national-conference>

Lord Boateng: Chair of the Church of England's Racial Justice Commission

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media-and-news/stories-blogs-and-features/lord-boateng-chair-archbishops-commission-racial-justice>

Meet the Team



**Mr McIntyre (Head of Sixth Form) and
Mrs Muldoon (Sixth Form Administrator)**

The Sixth Form team are in place a year ahead of our opening so that they can plan ahead for all of the things that need to be ready for September 2023.

So far, they have designed the curriculum to give a wide variety of courses and have held open events, both for our students at the open evenings and in other schools across the city.

Together with the Year 11 student committee, they are designing the Sixth Form workroom space and identifying extra-curricular activities that are desired by our future sixth form students.

We are delighted with the number of applications we have received so far and they are still being updated on a daily basis! Mr McIntyre will be organising interviews with all applicants in the coming weeks and will be putting the finishing touches to the many policies and practices that will be needed. The team are very excited to be starting this new venture and know what a positive impact it will have for our community. Please do see the school website for more details including the sixth form prospectus: <https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/sixth-form/prospectus>

City Sporting Success!

On Thursday 19th January the Year 7 boys DCS Sports team competed in the Derby City Indoor athletics event at Woodlands School.

The boys competed in both track and field events and finished in the top three in most of the events.

They competed against 9 other teams from around the city and finished in first place with a whopping 260 points, 12 points ahead of the school in second place. They will now progress to the County finals later in the year.

Congratulations and well done to the following boys! We are very proud of your achievements!

- Conrad Dube
- Daniel Szczepaniak
- Chibuike Nnadiwuagha
- Joshua Udonyah
- Ryan Fatah
- Nicholas Tkacenko



Staff Recruitment

As a growing school, we always seem to be recruiting staff and students for each next academic year. This always happens much earlier in the year than you'd anticipate. Our planning for future staffing begins in October for the additional teaching staff that will be needed for the following September! We are sometimes asked which teachers are leaving as each year, we have adverts placed for teachers. However, it is usually the case that it's simply extra teachers that are needed due to our continued growth.

We currently have some adverts out for a Head of Social Sciences and Heads of Year that are combined with certain subjects. This is because we are offering some additional subjects as part of our Sixth Form (for example, Psychology and Sociology – see our prospectus for the full list) and need the additional teaching staff for these courses. We also will be expanding our Head of Year team so that each year group has a teaching head of year as well as a non-teaching pastoral year lead.

You may have read that teacher recruitment is becoming increasingly difficult and so we aim to get our adverts placed as quickly as possible in order to fill the posts we need for next year.

Strike Action – 1 February

A letter has been sent to all parents/carers about the planned strike action from one of the teaching unions. Please see the email with attached letter for full details of our partial closure.

The plan for each year group is as follows:

Year 7: Year 7 are expected to attend school for periods 4, 5 and 6. They will also have lunch as normal in school. We ask that students arrive at 11.45am and will be dismissed at 2.55pm

Year 8: School will be closed for year 8. Work for English, Maths and Science will be provided on Teams and needs to be completed at home during the day.

Year 9: School will be closed for year 9. Work for English, Maths and Science will be provided on Teams and needs to be completed at home during the day.

Year 10: School will be closed for year 10. Live lessons will be provided for periods 1 and 2 for the majority of classes via Teams. Students will receive an invitation to join the lesson via their school timetable which is on their Teams calendar. After Periods 1 and 2, work for English, Maths and Science will be provided on Teams and needs to be completed at home during the remainder of the day.

Year 11: All year 11 students are expected to be in school for all lessons. The day will be slightly reduced and we ask that students arrive at 8.55am and will leave at 2.55pm.

Parents of vulnerable students and children of critical workers will have received direct communication to confirm a place in our supervised provision from 8.55am to 2.55pm.

There are four proposed dates of strike action, depending on whether an agreement is reached between the NEU and the government. We will plan individually for each date separately and will communicate the plans with parents before each date. Please do plan any necessary childcare that you might need in advance just in case. The dates are:

- Wednesday 1st February
- Wednesday 1st March
- Wednesday 15th March
- Thursday 16th March

As per government guidance, we will be continuing to prioritise key groups of students:

- Vulnerable students
- Children of critical workers
- Students with forthcoming exams (year 11)

Careers Update

National Apprenticeship Week – Coming Soon!



Apprenticeships

National Apprenticeship Week
6th to 12th February 2023

Next week (6th-12th February) we are celebrating National Apprenticeship Week. As well as activities in school, there are a number of free online events happening over the course of the week for parents, carers and students alike to get involved in. Please see a full list below and follow the links to sign up!

Monday 6th February:

16:30 “Welcome to the World of Apprenticeships”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/welcome-to-the-world-of-apprenticeships-1630pm-tickets-482331956867>

18:00 “Welcome to the World of Apprenticeships”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/welcome-to-the-world-of-apprenticeships-6pm-tickets-482974157707>

19:00 “Welcome to the World of Apprenticeships”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/welcome-to-the-world-of-apprenticeships-1900-tickets-483798423107>

Tuesday 7th February:

18:00 “Welcome to the world of T Levels”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/welcome-to-the-world-of-t-levels-6pm-tickets-484399340467>

Wednesday 8th February:

19:00 “HSBC’s National Apprenticeship Week - A world of opportunities with apprenticeships”

<https://hsbc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUudemrqzItGt0FGWl1m55gXLagaot9kBMC>

Thursday 9th February:

17:00 “Insight to Babcock Engineering – A World Leader”

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Babcock-NAW>

Saturday 11th February:

9:30 “A Parents & Carers Guide to understanding Apprenticeships”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/helping-parents-carers-understand-the-apprenticeship-pathway-tickets-483253061917>

10:30 “A Parents & Carers Guide to understanding Apprenticeships”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-parent-carers-guide-to-understanding-apprenticeships-tickets-482516739557>

11:30 “A Parents & Carers Guide to understanding Apprenticeships”

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-parent-carers-guide-to-understanding-apprenticeships-tickets-483291707507>

Latest Apprenticeship Vacancies

Parents of Year 11 students:

Please see below a summary of the latest apprenticeship vacancies in Derby:

- HAYS TRAVEL (Travel Retail Apprenticeship)
<https://careers.haystravel.co.uk/apprenticeships/apply>
- ROLLS-ROYCE (Advanced Engineering Apprenticeship)
<https://careers.rolls-royce.com/united-kingdom/students-and-graduates/apprenticeships-and-school-leavers/>
- BALFOUR BEATTY (Apprentice CAD Technician)
<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies/vacancy/?vref=1000105608>
- BALFOUR BEATTY (Apprentice HGV Technician)
<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies/vacancy/?vref=1000119865>
- ALSTOM (Mechanical Assembly Apprentice)
<https://www.derby-college.ac.uk/apprenticeship-vacancies/vacancy/?vref=1000119865>

Keep an eye on future updates for more apprenticeship vacancies.

Year 10 Work Experience

Parents of Year 10 students:

With 2 months to go until Work Experience Week, please be reminded that the deadline for securing a placement is Friday 4th March.

Students are encouraged to see Miss Rowley if they are particularly struggling to find a placement.

We will be opening our clothes loan shop very soon where students can borrow smart clothing as required for Work Experience.

Year 9 Visit from University of Derby

Parents of Year 9 students:

On Tuesday (31st January) students in Year 9 have a visit from the University of Derby. In preparation for the upcoming GCSE options process, the visitors will talk to the students about where their choices could lead in the future with the aim of raising aspirations.

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 February: Partial school closure due to strike action.

- Year 11 in school all day
- Year 7 in school from 11.45 – 2.55pm
- Years 8, 9 & 10 – work set on Teams for completion at home

School closes for half term: Friday 17 February

School opens for Spring half term 2: Monday 27 February

Parents' Evenings and INSET days:

Monday 6 February: INSET day – school closed for all students

Tuesday 7 February: Year 9 Options Evening

Tuesday 7 March: Year 10 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 26 June: Year 8 Parents' Evening

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