

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),

Welcome back to the final half of the Spring term. I hope that you all had a relaxing half term break and are enjoying the early signs of Spring. It's a very short half term before Easter with a lot to pack in.

This week our year 11 students have finished their final mocks with the last Spanish speaking assessments and continue to be committed to their revision. The GCSE exams start in May which is not very far away! Many of them have started to attend the additional revision support sessions on a Tuesday and Thursday run by Mr Emberley and Miss Noble. They are also excited to have sent out the letter about their prom, planned for 28 June.

Our year 10 students are finalising their work experience planning and have their first face-to-face parents' evening on Tuesday 7 March. Just a reminder that school will have an early finish of 2.15pm for all students in order to support this event.

This week we have also started our planning for the Easter service at the Cathedral. This will involve years 7 & 9 and we're really looking forward to be able to continue with our visits to this important link for the school and fantastic resource for the city.

I hope that you all have a great week.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Brown
Headteacher

Just-Ice in Business

Local ice cream producers Just-Ice visited the Year 11 business studies groups as part of Fairtrade fortnight. They discussed their business model and how they employ people who become victims of human trafficking and help them become part of our society. One of the guest speakers was himself a victim and talked about his experiences and how Just-Ice helped him. They shared many details about running a business including how they recently changed their route to market and how they are in the process of applying to become a registered charity. The year group were brilliant and asked some really thoughtful questions. They were also lucky enough to sample the delicious ice cream.



If you want to read more about this ethical business then have a look at their website: www.just-ice.org or shop online to enjoy their product for yourselves!



A big thank you to Sally at Just-Ice and Mr Williamson for organising the visit.

Lego Therapy

You may have memories of playing with Lego when you were younger or may still enjoy it now, but this activity is used for more than just a toy. Our SEND team have been trained in delivering Lego therapy to small groups of our students.

This activity is used to help develop communication skills for students. They are encouraged to work with others in creating objects out of Lego by working as a team to follow a set of instructions.



This has proved to be very effective and is also great fun! The pictures show some of the themed pieces made just before half term. The groups have also made vehicles out of Lego that can be held on a Lego bridge!



Careers Update

Next week (6th-11th March) is National Careers Week!

We've done lots of great careers activities in school recently: the Year 10 Mock Interviews just before half term, Year 9's visit from the University of Derby last month and Year 8 getting started on the Unifrog platform in PSHE, to name but a few! Excitingly, we also have Year 10 Work Experience Week coming up at the end of the March.

To keep the careers conversations going at home, we're pleased to share with you a list of free events and resources you can access outside of school.

The National Careers Week Parents' Guide:

<https://nationalcareersweek.com/parents-guide-2023/>

Inspiring Women in STEM Talk – run by the University of Nottingham

Wednesday 8th March, 18:00-19:30

<https://bit.ly/inspiringwomenregister>

'Helping my child navigate the world of work' – for parents of students with SEND

Monday 6th March, 18:00-18:45

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/helping-my-child-navigate-the-world-of-work-for-parentscarers-send-tickets-546644547557?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Thursday 9th March, 18:00-18:45

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/helping-my-child-navigate-the-world-of-work-for-parentscarers-send-tickets-547350739797?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>

Important Careers dates coming up...

27th-31st March – Year 10 Work Experience



Meet The Team

Meet our HR and finance team

Mrs Boyer and Mrs Chauhan are our HR and finance assistants. They provide a valuable service that enables the school to run smoothly. Between them they support all staff with any matters related to human resources and have a big part to play in all of the recruitment we do for new staff.

They also process all of the orders we place in school, of which there are a great number! As part of this they help to keep all of the departments spending within budget. These two areas of work are crucial in keeping a school running smoothly.



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 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 – early finish for all students at 2.15pm

Tuesday 26 June: Year 8 Parents' Evening – early finish for all students at 2.15pm

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



Board of Education

The Diocesan Board of Education offers an independent service to church schools to organise and clerk admissions appeals. To do this, we are reliant on panel members who must act in a voluntary capacity and be independent.

We urgently need more appeal panel members

Appeal panel members work in a team of 3 and are supported by a trained and experienced clerk.

Free, online training is provided.

Appeal hearings are held online, using Zoom.

Hearings are held for a couple of hours (usually mornings)
1 day per month, in term time only.

We offer an expenses payment of up to £50

If you would like more information, please contact us at
officeDBE@derby.anglican.org