

# This Week at Derby Cathedral School

w/c 2 May 2023



*"They blessed the king and then went home, joyful and glad in heart for all the good things the Lord had done."*  
1 Kings 8:66:

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

We're in the middle of the bank holiday season and it certainly feels strange to have a couple of shorter weeks in a row! Despite the reduced time this week, we have been well underway with Year 11 exams.

This week our GCSE Art students completed their two full days of exam. It's an incredible feat just to be able to focus for that length of time but it was also very impressive to see the quality of the work they produced. They are given a very broad theme and get to choose what type of work they want to produce in order to show a particular aspect of the theme. It is great to see them choose some really interesting perspectives including the plight of refugees and inter-racial relationships. A huge well done to all of them. Mrs Gibson was extremely impressed with their positive and focused attitude throughout.

The year 11 GCSE PE students also conducted themselves really well in their moderation exercise and were very welcoming and supportive to the students from the other schools. Both of these exams highlight how much aspiration (the A in FAITH) our students have for their own character and future.

Our year 10 students are now just weeks away from their summer mock exams and it's great that they are able to see how hard the year 11 students are working and how much that is needed throughout the year.

A couple of our articles this week reflect some activities in school that we have been able to provide thanks to the generous support from some of our parents. We are always really grateful for support and it's brilliant to see that it makes such an impact on our students. It is also a shining example of the power of working together as a community. Thank you.

Our Bible verse of the week is very appropriate for this Coronation weekend and I hope that you all enjoy this additional bank holiday.

Mrs Brown

## Careers

Free online Careers event during May half term!

**Careers in NHS Finance** have a special May half-term livestream event week, with a half-hour session every day from 30<sup>th</sup> May – 2<sup>nd</sup> June. These events are aimed at students who would like to find out more about careers in Finance within the NHS.

Sessions include:

- Apprentice route into the NHS – 30.05 – 14:00 – 14:30
- NHS Finance – the Basics – 30.05 – 11:00 – 11:30
- Graduate schemes – 31.05 – 10:00 – 10:30
- Undergraduate placements – 31.05 – 14:00 – 14:30
- Project SEARCH: access for learning disabilities – 01.06 – 14:00 – 14:30
- Access Accountancy – 02.06 – 12:00 – 12:30

**Free to tune in live at - [Careers in NHS Finance \(financecareers.nhs.uk\)](https://www.financecareers.nhs.uk)**

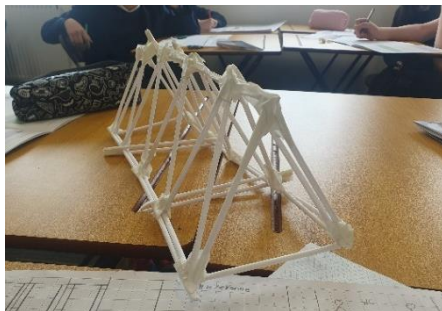
## HS2 EPIC Engineers Workshop

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May, a group of Year 9 students took part in EPIC Engineers, an interactive careers workshop brought to us by HS2.

The activities were delivered by two Education Communicators from Learn by Design, one of whom had previously worked as an engineer for Rolls-Royce and Bombardier. They were accompanied by Steve Lee, an Engagement Manager for HS2, whose job it is to communicate with the general public about the project and how it affects our community.

The students learnt all about different careers linked to HS2 and the rail industry in general, and got to experience what it's like to be an engineer through hands-on activities. Working in teams, they were first tasked with designing a 'train station of the future' and presenting their blueprints to the class. They then constructed a tunnel using paper straws and masking tape which had to fulfil various requirements.

At the end of the day, the visitors congratulated our students on their hard work. They all demonstrated their FAITH values throughout; particularly Fellowship in how they worked as a team



## Meet The Team

### Meet The History Team

From left to right:

Mr Adler, Miss Oakes, Mr Hammerton, Miss Smith

History is one of the most popular option subjects at DCS and the team are constantly striving to ensure that they engage our students with interesting and relevant lessons on aspects of local, national and global history. The history curriculum at DCS aims to inspire students to develop an interest in the world around them and foster critical thinking skills to help them make sense of complex historical events and concepts.



The department is staffed by experienced teachers who are specialists in various areas of history. Miss Smith has a keen interest on American History including slavery and the battle for civil rights. Mr Hammerton enjoys some of the more controversial topics and is looking forward to teaching the Year 9 topic on war crimes. Miss Oakes and Mr Adler are specialists in 20<sup>th</sup> Century history, with a particular interest in the Cold War in Europe and Asia as well as the rise of dictators in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Currently the team are working hard on preparing to teach both History and Politics A levels.

## Craft Club

Our weekly craft club has been delighted to receive some fabulous resources thanks to a very kind donation from one of our parents. Mrs Smith, one of our safeguarding leads, runs the groups and loves encouraging our students to express their creative sides. Here are some pictures of some great Easter cards and designs on canvas. A huge thank you for the generous donation – it is making a real difference to our students.



## Year 11 Wellbeing Event

We were really pleased to open our doors to a Wellbeing Information Fayre on Tuesday of this week. Michelle Butler who is a DCS Parent and works for Community Action Derby as a Youth Alliance Coordinator has been working closely with school to arrange an opportunity for a selection of organisations to come in to school and run a pre-exam well being session for our Y11 students.

Students had the afternoon to walk around and talk to the stall holders on topics ranging from how fitness can support your well-being to creative opportunities to make music in the local area. All of our students went away with plenty of information – some students even staying after the end of the school day to find out more! A huge thank you to Michelle, and the following organisations for taking the time to visit our school and share their wisdom with our Year 11 students:

- Baby People
- Safe and Sound
- Derby County Community Trust
- School Nursing team
- Bridge the Gap
- Kooth
- Action for Children/Build Sound Minds
- Enthusiasm
- Breakout
- Sexual Health Matters
- Sporting Communities
- Remedi
- Got Your Back
- YMCA

We are looking forward to working with Michelle and her team to look at how we can work together to support students and their families in the future.

## Food Banks and 0-16yr old Clothes Banks

0-16 Clothes Bank – TOGS – Tel Anthea on 07989 117929.

TOGS is situated at 11-12 Friargate (opposite the Smith Partnership Offices) DE1 1BU.

Food Banks – Derby City Mission, 10 Normanton Road, Derby DE1 2GW.

Community Shop (no money needed) and Café on - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10am to midday.

Food Bank and Debt advice (no appointment needed):

Tuesday 10 to midday	St Peters Church, DE1 1NN
Wednesday 10am – midday	St. Augustine's Church, Normanton, DE23 8BP
Wednesday 10am – midday	West End Community Centre, Mackworth Road (next to Britannia Mill). DE22 3BL
Thursday 11am - 1pm	St Phillips Church, Taddington Road, Chaddesden, DE21 4JU
Thursday 11:30am – 1:30pm (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month only)	Osmaston/ Allenton Children's Centre, 60 Cockayne St N, Allenton, DE24 8XB
Thursday 10am – midday	Bramblebrook Community Centre, Stockbrook St, Derby, DE22 3WH

Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance – Tel 01332 346266 – Emergency Food Assistance

Derby City Life Links - Tel 0800 0322202

Springwater Charity Chellaston – Tel 07832 653255 / 07311 465841

## Dates Ahead

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

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

### Holiday & term dates

**Monday 15 May:** Year 11 written exams start

**School closes for half term:** Friday 26 May

**School opens for summer half term 2:** Monday 5 June

**Year 11 Prom:** 28 June

**Year 6 transition days:** 4 – 6 July

**School closes for summer holiday:** Friday 21 July (early lunchtime finish)

### Parents' Evenings and INSET days:

Tuesday 27 June: Year 8 Parents' Evening – early finish for all students at 2.15pm

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

**Year 11 exams** start on 15 May (the art exam is earlier than this) and continue into the end of June. 28 June is the 'contingency day' which may be used if exams have to be postponed for extreme reasons such as the Covid pandemic. Individual timetables will be provided to students soon.

The term dates for next academic year are now available on the school website on the 'Term Dates' page.