

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

Proverbs 16:3

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

Well this week has definitely felt like we reverted back to winter! A huge thank you for your patience with our changing plans relating to the snow this week. It is always such a difficult decision and one which has to be taken with very short notice.

Working in partnership with other organisations in Derby is an important part of our work. We are linked to a 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' which is a local branch of the police. They are always on hand for schools to offer advice and support but also do lots of preventative work. At key times in the year, they deliver presentations to raise awareness on key topics. Our students have previously received sessions of knife crime and hate incidents/crime. This week, as part of 'County Lines Intensification' week, they came in to speak to our year 8 and 9 students. We are really pleased to have these opportunities to build positive relationships with our community officers and provide supportive information for our students. Please see the article below for more information.

I hope that you all have a great week.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Brown
Headteacher

Police presentation for Years 8 & 9 on County Lines

As part of their preventative work, the police officers from our 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' came into school on Friday to deliver a presentation to years 8 & 9 on the topic of 'county lines'.

This topic is covered within our PSHE programme and is important that all young people are aware of this issue in order to keep themselves safe.

The definition of county lines from the National Crime Agency is:

County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries (although not exclusively), usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs. Importing areas (areas where the drugs are taken to) are reporting increased levels of violence and weapons-related crimes as a result of this trend.

The Safer Neighbourhood Team have been delivering this presentation to many other Derby schools in the last few weeks and we're very grateful for their time with our year 8 & 9 students.

If you want to know more about this issue then please take a look at the following information online using the links below. These give the signs to look out for and how to report any concerns you may spot or hear about.

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/what-we-do/crime-threats/drug-trafficking/county-lines>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/county-lines>

World Maths Day

On Wednesday 8 March, DCS joined millions of other students and schools across the world to celebrate the 15th year of 'World Maths Day'. This is a global celebration of mathematics where millions of students aged 5 to 18 across the world compete in Live Mathletics challenges.

Many students participated in online games and challenges which tested both speed and accuracy. Well done to all of our students who took part and we look forward to the 16th year of this celebration!



Can you answer any of these questions?

Q. How many 9's are there between 1 and 100?

- 10 99
 13 20

Q. When I was 6 years old, my sister was half my age. Now I am 50 years old. How old is my sister now?

- 25 3
 47

Q. There is a three digit number. The second digit is four times as big as the third digit, while the first digit is three less than the second digit. What is the number?

- 234 141
 575 267

Meet The Team

Meet our science technicians:
Mrs Smith and Miss Bythway
(James the skeleton is in the middle!)

Our technicians are a key support for the science department as they make sure that all resources for practical experiments are organised and ready to be used by students. Their work is very varied and they have to have a high level of scientific knowledge to ensure that all equipment, materials and resources are prepared correctly and support the curriculum in the correct way. Their science prep room is always very calm and extremely well organised. Health and safety is also a key part of their role as experiments often involve materials that can be hazardous if not used or prepared correctly.



Mrs Smith and Miss Bythway are also collecting 2litre plastic bottles to make our very own greenhouse made from these recycled materials. We hope to use this to support the vegetable beds that we have on site. They would be very grateful for any further donations of plastic bottles.

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 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 26 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

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.