

# This Week at Derby Cathedral School

wc 6<sup>th</sup> October 2023



In John's gospel (Chapter 15: 12-13) Jesus says this to his disciples:

"My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Dear Parents/Carers,

Remembrance has been a key theme of this week at DCS in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day. Each year group have had a special Collective Worship that enabled everyone to reflect on those people who have made sacrifices for the benefit of others as well as those who are affected by war and conflict. Our Bible verse of the week makes us think of what sacrifice means. All our students have shown great respect during this time, especially as they listened to the Last Post performed magnificently by Robert in Year 12.

Our Year 12 artists also finished their Remembrance Day art pieces; please do see the article in this newsletter to see their pop-up gallery this week. They will all be displayed in the Cathedral over the weekend.

On Monday we are celebrating 'Odd Socks Day' to highlight and support Anti Bullying Week. We're looking forward to seeing some interesting combinations and raising awareness for such an important topic.

Our Year 11 students are now one week into their mock exams and they have a couple more weeks to go. This gives them an important understanding of how to prepare for their final exams which are only about 20 school weeks away! They are coping really well with these exams and realising the importance of having a constant focus on keeping up with homework, revision and after school sessions.

I hope that you enjoy the articles in this week's newsletter. We're always so proud of our students who constantly show great FAITH values in all that they do.

I wish you all a great week.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Brown

## A Football Legend

We're really proud of Katerina in Year 8 for her fantastic footballing achievement. We work with an organisation called EDF who support us for a day every week. One of their staff, Jake, is a mentor for many of our students who really appreciate his support. EDF also provide sporting opportunities for young people. We all know that sport and exercise is really important to keep us all physically and mentally healthy and it's great to see so many of our students involved in these types of activities. Katerina has set a great example to all of us!



## FOOTBALL CELEBRATION DAY

An afternoon filled with coaching drills, games and football matches with our partner schools from Derby & Nottingham back in September.

A huge well done to each and every student who got stuck in, worked hard and showed great team spirit.

Congratulations to Katerina from Derby Cathedral School who won 'Player of the Day' for her fantastic attitude, performance and for showing great sportsmanship,

We're looking forward to hosting another celebration day in the Spring/Summer with schools in South Yorkshire & the Midlands when the weather is on our side.

Keep your eyes peeled for the Save the Dates.



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@ELITEFOOTBALLD1



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## Careers

### **Free careers event for students in years 11 & 12:**

Pathology Open Day - Nottingham University Hospitals Trust

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November

Aimed at students in Years 11-13 interested in finding out careers in Biological Science.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pathology-open-day-tickets-744919132177?aff=oddtcreator>

### **Toyota Apprenticeships Open Evenings:**

If your child is in Year 11 and interested in the Toyota apprenticeship opportunities, don't forget to book onto one of their upcoming Open Evenings.

<https://recruitment.toyotauk.com/apprenticeships/>

## Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme - Important Information

### What is the Holiday Activities and Food Programme?

The Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF), funded by the Department for Education, provides free holiday club sessions. The free holiday clubs offer a wide range of activities, including sport, dance, drama, song writing and trips during the Easter, summer and winter school holidays. Children will also receive a nutritious meal whilst at the club.

### Who is the Holiday Activities and Food Programme for?

The Holiday Activities and Food Programme is for school aged children from Reception to Year 11 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

### How do I book a place for my child?

From winter 2023, to book a place on the Holiday Activities and Food Programme you will require a unique code to prove that your child is eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

We advise parents or carers of children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals to apply for their Derby HAF code before 22 November 2023. This will ensure you can book your child's place on the winter HAF programme with ease.

### How do I get my unique Derby HAF code?

To apply for a Derby HAF code, scan the QR code below or complete the online form available at <https://forms.office.com/e/vEzBxnZ7Ck>



### What information do I need to apply for a code?

The online form is easy to complete, and parents or carers will require:

- Parent's address and contact information
- Parent's National Insurance Number
- Each Child's name, address and date of birth

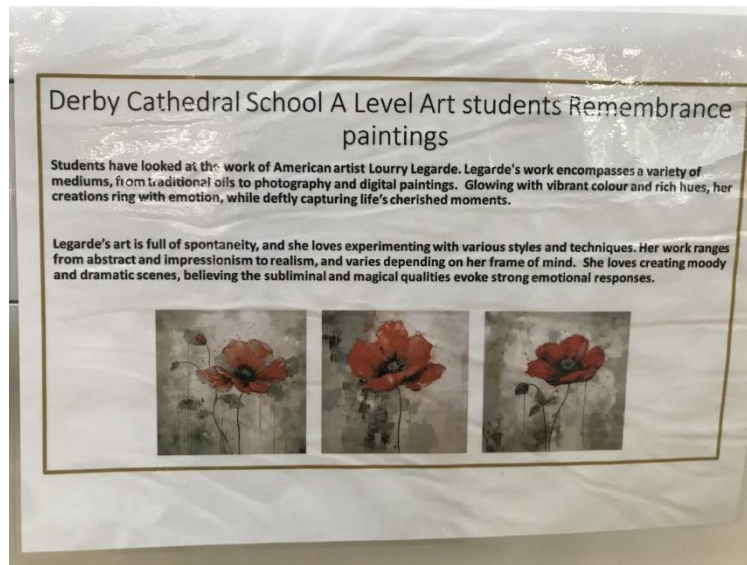
On completion of the online form, eligible parents and carers will receive an email with their Derby HAF code for each child within 5 working days.

### When can I book a place?

Bookings for winter 2023 will open in mid-November, more information and the booking page can be found at [www.derby.gov.uk/derbyHAF](http://www.derby.gov.uk/derbyHAF). Places for the Derby HAF programme are limited, and bookings will only be accepted with a Derby HAF code.

## Year 12 and Remembrance Art

In the last newsletter we showed our year12 artists and their Remembrance work in progress. Their finished pieces have been on display in our pop-up exhibition in the LRC during this week in the lead up to Remembrance day. On Friday they were taken to Derby Cathedral to be put on display there. I'm sure you'll agree they are beautiful pieces.





## Year 7 Cathedral Welcome Service

On Tuesday, it was Year 7's turn to go to Derby Cathedral for a special service of welcome. The year group did themselves proud and it was very special to hear them singing altogether. All year 7 students have singing lessons as part of their music curriculum and they were able to perform the songs they've been learning in the beautiful setting of the Cathedral. We were very grateful for the support of their singing teacher who led the singing.

Ten students also participated in the service by talking about and displaying our FAITH values that are at the core of our school vision. It was lovely to see how confidently they spoke as it can be very nerve wracking to speak in front of the whole year group in a new space.

Canon Carla spoke to the students and explained the special relationship we have with the Cathedral. She also reminded them that the Cathedral is a building that is always open and provides a safe, quiet space for them whenever they need it.

Similarly with the Year 12 service, our Year 7 students were also treated to seeing the moon that is in its final week at the Cathedral. They also enjoyed hearing the organ being played by Mr Binns, the Cathedral's Director of Music. It was very loud and we all tried to work out where the sound was coming from as it filled the whole space!



## Student Poetry Competition

Derby Cathedral School students continue to pursue their enjoyment of creative writing and this term several students have entered the Young Writers 11 – 18 'This is Me' poetry competition. After having a successful entry in the crime writing competition, this time ten students from Years 7, 9, 10 and 12 have entered poems in the hope of becoming published in the Young Writers collection.

Here we share a poem written by Hadassah in Year 9 who also impressed prospective parents on the Year 6 Open Evening with her unique spoken word style:

## This is me

By Hadassah (13 years old)

There's been times that I've been crying my eyes out  
And someone comes in I wipe my eyes  
And say its fine  
I think to myself "Why you lying"  
This is tiring

Feeling alone in a roomful of people  
Sometimes I feel like I'm in a sequel  
After the good now it's the evil  
Eating me slowly I need a stitch like Lilo

This was supposed to be a poem about me  
But really, maintaining privacy is all that I need  
So you see, I really can't get too deep  
On the subject that defines me  
The subject of me

I'm an odd mix of sometimes craving intimacy  
But at the same time I push away viscerally  
I stay silent, then act out belligerently  
And then people think I'm doing this deliberately  
Additionally, to be fair the only thing I like is literacy  
My passion for this shines bright unequivocally  
I feel like its getting dimmed  
There's people in my space  
That'll leave me in disgrace  
These lying two faced insecure snakes

I'm full to the brim  
People leave at a whim  
Situations looking grim  
So many losses no wins  
Problems of life I drown cuz I can't even swim

And its pretty ironic that I'm popular  
So many problems that I'm faced with on the regular  
Try'na be better watching motivationals and seminars  
Your words are a noose holding me by the jugular

And I feel like I'm back to the place that I don't want to be  
I'm tired of all these fakes and all them wannabes  
Aren't you tired of playing pretend? If not you then defo me  
I know I need help don't need sympathy

This is me  
Beneath the surface, storms overtaking me  
Feel like I let down my fam  
Put a fake picture on the gram  
And then you envy "Oh how she's glam"

This is me  
There's different sides to me  
Tired of people lying to me  
All of this is tiring

People say I'm inspiring  
But I'm down like you too  
Think I'm perfect, you're a fool  
I hope I introduced  
And gave you a prelude

This is me.

## Christmas Card Competition



### Board of Education Christmas Card Competition 2023



The winning entry will be used for Derby DBE's official Christmas card for 2023 and be sent out far and wide throughout the country!  
The winning pupil will also receive a £10 book token.

**Entries can be hand drawn, painted or electronically produced & should be either A4 or A5 in size**

*Please remember to include the pupil's name  
and the school's name!*

**CLOSING DATE 16:00 on Friday 24 November**

Entries can be scanned & emailed to [officeDBE@derby.anglican.org](mailto:officeDBE@derby.anglican.org)  
or posted to Derby DBE, Derby Church House, Full Street, Derby DE1 3DR

## Dates Ahead

### Key Dates in the Autumn Term

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

29 November: Year 7 – 11 Flu Immunisations

1 December: INSET day. School closed for all students

20 December: Christmas Dinner day!

### Term Dates

Friday 22 December: break up for Christmas holiday (12pm early finish for all students)

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 (early finish for all students, exact time tbc)

**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.