****

**This Week at Derby Cathedral School**

**wc 9th October 2023**

|  |
| --- |
| In Micah 6:8 (a prophet from the Old Testament of The Bible), it says:  **What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.**  For us at DCS this helps us to understand our place in the world … to show kindness and fairness to others and to demonstrate humility, even when we achieve great things.  Dear Parents/Carers,  It’s been another eventful week at DCS with our second ever Sixth Form Open Evening. A big thank you to all those of you who attended either of our open events; it was great to see so many of you. I know that, for our year 11 students, there are some big decisions ahead of them about what pathway they want to take at the end of this academic year. It is absolutely right to have a good look at all of the available options in order to make the best decision for each of them. We are very fortunate to have our own full time careers advisor at DCS who is able to provide additional support for our students. All students in year 11 will be having an individual appointment but Miss Rowley is also available to pop and see if they have any burning questions.  Thank you so much for all of your positive feedback about our open evenings. It has truly been a great time of reflection to see how much the school is growing and developing in such a positive direction.  The Bible verse of the week is an important one for us all to remember; how we treat each other is so important. The feedback we have received at these events shows that our students and staff really do demonstrate this level of kindness. We had many comments about the warm welcome and approachable manner people felt.  Last year I talked about how well our students conduct themselves when on trips and visits and this year has continued in the same manner. A group of girls celebrated a “Women in STEM” event last week for Ada Lovelace Day, hosted in Nottingham. We received such positive feedback from the organisers who were really impressed with our students. Please do take a moment to read about their visit in an article below. We also have a link on our Facebook site to a video about the event where some of our students were interviewed. They did such a great job and it’s lovely to see how inspired they were by this event.  The last event for parents that we have this half term is the Year 7 ‘Meet the Tutor’ event on 24 October. If you have a child in year 7, more details will follow about the timings and how to book an appointment. This session gives you the opportunity to meet your child’s tutor and discuss how well they have been settling in.  Finally, please do let us know if you need a reminder about your Classcharts login. This app gives you the ability to see your child’s behaviour points profile and what homework they are being set. It is also the way that we communicate any detentions that may have been set. We are also logging any missing equipment via Classcharts so you will be able to see if your child is missing any essential pieces of equipment too. Therefore, it’s really helpful if you have an oversight of both of these. Please just let us know if you need any help with getting set up on this, either with your login details or how to use it.  Many thanks, as ever, for your ongoing support which is really appreciated. I hope you all have a good week.  Yours faithfully  Mrs Brown |

|  |
| --- |
| **DCS Debating Society** |
| On 10th October 2023, the DCS debating society held its first official debate on the proposition: “The voting age should be lowered to 16”. After an hour of fierce debate and discussion, the proposition emerged victorious as decided by our mediator. Debating is a vital skill for the modern world, and extremely helpful to young people in an academic setting, not to mention being engaging, useful and, most importantly, great fun. As a society, we hope to cover a variety of topics important to its members, and eventually take on other schools in our area. Any Y12/Y11 students interested in joining the society should contact Mr Keene. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Ada Lovelace Day** |
| A group of Year 9 girls have been out for Ada Lovelace Day, celebrating women in science and looking at the variety of careers in science. We spoke to scientists from across fields, did experiments with high tech equipment and learned lots about cutting edge health sciences. The girls were an absolute credit to the school and asked lots of insightful questions!  The organisers of the event posted an article and a video on their website in which some of our students were interviewed and they have provided wonderful and insightful answers. Please have a look at the link below:  [The Pioneer Group - Ada Lovelace Day](https://thepioneergroup.com/pioneer-group-ada-lovelace-day-2023/?fbclid=IwAR3AZVCrOfTfvi0JlF29ousLWN6TYdUNf8-qMTvD_B8lsEGJoBz70npfYtE) |

|  |
| --- |
| **National County Lines Intensification Week** |
| The National County Lines Intensification Week started on Monday 9th October and runs to Sunday 15th October.  ‘County lines’ is the name given to drug dealing where organized crime groups (OCGs) use phone lines to move and supply drugs, usually from cities into smaller towns and rural areas. They exploit vulnerable people, including children and those with mental health or addiction issues, by recruiting them to distribute the drugs. This is often referred to as ‘drug running.’ Criminals may also use a vulnerable person’s home as their base of operations. This is known as ‘cuckooing.’    We have attached an additional safeguarding leaflet along with the newsletter this week that provides more information on how to spot young people that may be being exploited and what to do if you have a concern about a young person potentially involved in county lines. |

|  |
| --- |
| **Morley’s Uniform Shop** |
| Just a reminder that Morley’s uniform shop has moved to its winter opening hours (see below).  You can still buy uniform online via this link which is also available on our website page: <https://www.schoolwearsolutions.com/>  You can see full uniform guidance on our website: <https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/information/uniform-equipment> |

|  |
| --- |
| **Equipment Reminder** |
| Just a reminder that the following items are essential to have every day in school. Please let us know if you need support with any of these.   * School bag * Pencil case   + Black pens   + Purple pen   + Pencils   + Rubber   + Ruler   + Pencil sharpener   + Whiteboard pen * Reading book (this can be borrowed from the library) * Calculator |

|  |
| --- |
| **Dates Ahead** |
| **Key Dates in the Autumn Term**  Wc 23 October: Year 9 Holocaust survivor visit  24 October: Year 7 Meet The Tutor Evening  9 November: Year 11 Parents’ Evening (early finish of 2.10pm for all students)  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 27 October: break up for Autumn half term  Monday 6 November: return to school  Friday 22 December: break up for Christmas holiday (early finish for all students, exact time tbc)  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 studentsFriday 1st DecemberMonday 5th FebruaryFriday 28th June Term and key dates can also be found on our calendar and terms dates sections on the school website. |