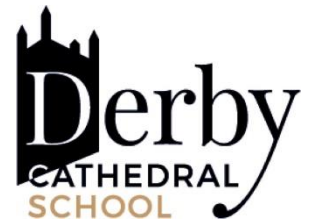


Derby Cathedral School

Newsletter

Friday 28 May 2021



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

As we are now half way through the summer term, I wanted to give you a few updates and important messages ready for the final half term of the year.

Despite an unsettled year for us all, we have enjoyed having some consistent time back in school after Easter and getting back into learning routines.

Our students have been reminded of our 'student 7 essentials', the key ingredients to being a successful learner in every lesson. The first of these essentials is called 'Start Now'. This involves:

- Entering the lesson quietly and calmly
- Wearing their uniform with pride
- Placing all equipment on their desk
- Doing the 'Start Now' task immediately

All teachers provide a short 'Start Now' task that requires students to recall key knowledge that they should have learnt. This will be from current and previous topics and is designed to help stick this knowledge in their long term memories. This is needed for GCSEs and beyond as all exams now require students to remember and recall key knowledge and facts.

Other elements do require students to be ready with correct uniform and equipment. Please see a reminder below about what our expectations are for both of these. We really appreciate your support in ensuring all of the correct uniform and equipment is in place every day. A half term break is a good opportunity to have a quick check that your child has everything they need.

School staff have had the opportunity to visit the new building over the past couple of weeks. It has been so exciting to get to see inside and we really can't wait to be there in September! An information booklet for parents about important aspects of the new build and how we are planning our move in July will be sent out on our return after half term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and staff for their commitment and support in ensuring we provide continued high expectations and as much as a sense of normality as possible for our students. I wish you all a very relaxing half term break.

Take care
Yours faithfully

Mrs J. Brown

**A message
from the
Headteacher**

Notices

Extra INSET days – building move

Moving to our new building is a huge undertaking and we have already started the planning for this. As part of our move, we need to have time for staff to pack and then get everything in the new building ready for September. In order to support this, we have been granted some additional INSET days. We have kept these to a minimum and have attached them to either side of the summer break in order to minimise the impact on families. The additional dates are: **Thursday 22 July, Thursday 2 September and Friday 3 September 2021.**

The last day for students in the summer term will be: Wednesday 21 July 2021

The first day of the new academic year 21/22 for students will be Wednesday 8 September 2021

More details and reminders will be sent out after half term.

Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening

Year 8 parents are invited to attend a Virtual Parents' Evening on **Tuesday 15th June from 3:00pm until 6:00pm.** This is a great opportunity to speak with teachers on a one to one basis and is a chance to discuss how your child has settled back in to school life following January's period of remote learning. Meetings will be held via video call through our new parents' evening system, allowing you to have a 'face-to-face' conversation with some of your child's class teachers whilst remaining 'Covid Secure'.

In order to accommodate the early start and allow staff time to prepare, **ALL STUDENTS** will leave school at the end of Period 5 – at 2:15pm on that day.

Careers

All year groups have experienced various aspects of careers work over this past term. Most recently, some of our year 9 students have had individual careers guidance sessions. It is great to see so many of them engaged in thinking about their next steps and what they need to do in order to get there. Our joint focus on academic achievements and character development through FAITH values are both needed for future training and employment.

All students have been introduced to 'Unifrog'. This fantastic piece of software enables students to look at lots of different information related to a wide variety of careers, training courses as well as college and university courses. Please do ask your child to show this to you as they can access it from any device.

Reading

Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)

Our 'DEAR' sessions have been going extremely well over the past half term and students have been making good use of the library in school. We would love all students to continue to read over the half term as reading brings so many benefits to students, not just academically but also for their well-being. It always makes a real difference when students have encouragement from home. This doesn't have to be simply listening to them read. It's just as helpful for young people to talk about the book they are reading. If you're not sure how to get them talking about their book, here are a few questions that may help as a prompt:

- Who are the main characters?
- What are they like?
- What is happening in the story?
- What do you think will happen next?
- If you could change something about the story what would it be?

Libraries are now open so do make use of your local library too.

Derby Rams

We are delighted to announce Derby Cathedral School has created one of the four winning ram designs in a city wide competition held by Derby Museums and Rolls-Royce. Congratulations to Jennifer in year 9! Three of our entries will also be on display across the city throughout the summer.

Read the full article here:

https://derbyramtrail.org/news/winners-announced-in-derby-schools-competition-to-design-mini-rams-as-part-of-world-class-sculpture-trail/?fbclid=IwAR3Jjc78UkOVTGfP6V7sAcZ-hed9oPAM5geUo8RLHxzKJ2FHu3qiaBuUW_4



Coronavirus Updates

Lateral Flow tests

Over the half term break we ask that all students who take part in the Covid-19 lateral flow testing continue to do so.

It is really important to note that these tests are designed to pick up any asymptomatic cases. If your child has any of the Covid-related symptoms (high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste/smell) then they must have a PCR test as well. These can be booked at: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Symptoms over half term

If your child develops symptoms (as described above) over half term, please inform school via email at: info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk. Depending on the timing of these symptoms, we may have to be in touch to track and trace.

As stated above, all students or family members with symptoms must get a PCR test and self-isolate until either the result returned is negative or ten days have passed from the start of any symptoms.

Uniform and Equipment Reminder

Now that shops are fully open, we expect all students to have all necessary equipment with them every day. They must have:

- A pencil case
- Pens: blue, black and purple
- Pencils
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Pencil sharpener
- Whiteboard pen
- Reading book
- Their school planner

Please can you ensure that your child has all of these items ready for the start of the next half term. Tutors will be performing regular equipment checks.

Our uniform requirements are written in detail on our website. Please read through the following reminders so that you and your child are clear on our expectations:

- Trousers are grey, **not black** and they are not of a skinny fit/legging style
- Skirts must be at least knee length and pleated or A-line in cut (bandage skirts are not permitted)
- Trainers cannot be worn
- No jewellery is permitted other than one pair of small stud earrings
- No fake nails or nail polish is allowed
- School PE kit with their school blazer or jumper only on PE days – no hoodies are allowed.

Please note that any other items of jewellery will be confiscated and kept in reception for students to collect at the end of the day. If this becomes a persistent problem then parents will be asked to collect. If your child has a recent piercing that is not allowed (i.e. a second set of ear piercings or a nose piercing), we will not allow them to wear it whilst it heals.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding concerns

Do keep the safeguarding team informed of any concerns or issues.

Mr R Hoy (Designated Safeguarding Lead) r.hoy@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

Mrs J Nethercott (Deputy DSL) j.nethercott@derbycathedralschool.org.uk

If you have any concerns related to safeguarding outside of school hours then please contact either social services or the police. If you feel that a child is in immediate danger then call 999.

Derby City Children's Social Care First Contact Team: 9am to 5pm 01332 641172 or out of hours 01332 786968

You can also report non-urgent concerns online

https://myaccount.derby.gov.uk/en/service/report_concerns_about_a_child

If you believe that a child is at immediate risk and in need of protection then you should **call the police on 999 or 101 immediately.**

Alternatively if you want advice from the police and the child is not in immediate need of protection, you can call them on 0845 123 33 33

The following helplines give support and advice on a number of issues including personal safety, mental health and well-being.

Childline: 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

NSPCC – 0800 028 3550 www.nspcc.org.uk

Samaritans – 116 123

Shout – www.giveusashout.org Text Shout to 85258 This is a text helpline for anyone feeling anxious, worried or stressed and needing to talk to someone about it.

Kooth – www.kooth.com This is an online counselling service for young people

Relate counselling – 0808 178 9363 (free helpline for couples, children and those affected by Autistic Spectrum Condition. Available: Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.00am – 1.00pm. The helpline gives people the opportunity to speak directly to an experienced Relate trained counsellor, without having to make an appointment. For further information contact 01332 349177 or 07741193484 or email info@relatederby.org.uk www.relatederby.org.uk

LGBT+ Support – <https://www.derbyshirelgbt.org.uk/>

Online Safety Parent Support www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/11-13s/

Useful Resources

Universal Credit

If you are having problems claiming universal credit then you may be eligible for an advanced payment. A Universal Credit Advance (new claim) is an advance payment of a customer's first estimated Universal Credit monthly payment. This may be paid if the customer is in urgent need of money, has made their universal credit claim and can't wait the 5 week period for their first payment.

Please use the following link for more information <https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/new-to-universal-credit/help-with-managing-your-money/>

Free School Meals

If you think that you are eligible for Free School Meals, please visit the Derby City Council website and complete an application form as soon as possible. Details can be found at:

<https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

All parents/carers currently in receipt of free school meals will receive another voucher for the May half term break via the 'Wonde' system. Be sure to look out for this in your spam or junk folder. Vouchers have been processed for delivery to parents from Friday 28 May 2021 and have a face value of £15 per child. Please allow 2-3 working days for delivery. Thank you for your ongoing patience regarding receipt of free school meal vouchers as this is a large scale national operation.