

# Derby Cathedral School

## Newsletter

End of term July 2021



Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

The end of this school year seems to have come round very quickly and what a year it has been! I don't think it's a time in our lives that we're going to forget very quickly.

As I reflect over these past 12 months, I am really struck by how brightly our school values have shone through, particularly when times got a bit tougher. Our students have been working so hard on understanding what our FAITH values stand for and how they can demonstrate these values in their daily lives. These have encouraged them to stay focused on the good, positive aspects of our lives that we have and enable us all to 'live life in all its fullness (John 10:10), no matter what our circumstances are.

Teaching staff have worked incredibly hard to improve the quality of remote learning during lockdown periods. This took a great deal of effort, having to learn a new skill very quickly and change their planning frequently at the drop of a hat. However, they all really enjoyed being able to be in touch with students and have a much better idea of their academic progress. This has really made a difference to their return to school. They have also prioritised students in continuing to provide as many practical and extra-curricular activities as the restrictions have allowed. Giving as much of a sense of normality to our students at all times has been a key goal of ours.

Our TAs and pastoral staff have also provided much needed consistency and support throughout the year and kept in touch with students who needed that additional support. Expanding our support through in-school counselling has also meant that more students can quickly access this type of help.

Support staff have also made sure that all of the functions of school run smoothly, despite the context of constant change. They have managed to set up our school Covid test centre, organised food parcels, vouchers, home test kits, additional cleaning and delivered support in to the community and all sorts of added extras that we've had to deal with.

As parents, we have really appreciated your encouraging comments and communication throughout the year. This makes such a difference to staff. Most of all, the constant support you provide for your child/children has helped them to cope with the big changes we've experienced. We really appreciate how you've worked in partnership with us throughout.

I started by talking about our students and I'd like to return to them again. They are, of course, our key priority and the reason why we all do our jobs. Throughout this year, we have had so many moments of encouragement where we have been so impressed with the tenacity, fellowship and humility shown by them on a daily basis. It is often through tough times that we develop our character the most. This is really apparent in our students; I am extremely proud and privileged to have worked with them this year and look forward to seeing more of this next year.

The move to our new building is obviously a great focus of positivity and celebration – especially for our year 9 students, it has been a long wait! Please do read the information sent out about this and take time to plan the new route to school. All students have also received this information at the end of term. Our building ambassadors have visited the site and will be feeding back to their tutor group.

Please do take some time to read through the rest of the newsletter. It contains some key messages and a section on news from the classroom. There is also information on keeping safe over the summer

**A message  
from the  
Headteacher**

with some key contacts for support groups if any students or families experience any difficulties over this time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your support this year. I wish you and your family a very happy summer and look forward to seeing all of our students again in our new building!

Take care  
Yours faithfully

Mrs J. Brown

## Notices

### New Site

We are moving into the new site over the course of the summer holidays. Because of this, school staff will have limited access to emails etc. due to the move of our server. Please be aware that we will not be able to reply to emails quickly.

Full details for parents and students about the new site have been given in the recent information booklets. These can also be found on our school website: <https://www.derbycathedralschool.org.uk/information/new-school-build-updates>

Our new address is:

Derby Cathedral School

Great Northern Road

DE1 1LR

Telephone: 01332 325710

### Covid Testing In School - September

All students are being offered two lateral flow tests in school before the start of term. We have sent out a separate email about this with a consent form that needs to be completed.

The timings are as follows. All students need to arrive at the new site at the times given below. The year groups refers to their new year group in September.

#### **2nd and 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 21**

- 13.00 to 13.20 10Mi
- 13.20 to 13.40 10B
- 13.40 to 14.00 10Me
- 14.00 to 14.20 7N
- 14.20 to 14.40 7P
- 14.40 to 15.00 7D

- 15.00 to 15.20 7Mi
- 15.20 to 15.40 7B
- 15.40 to 16.00 7Me

**3rd and 7th Sept 21**

- 10.00 to 10.20 8N
- 10.20 to 10.40 8P
- 10.40 to 11.00 8D
- 11.00 to 11.20 8Mi
- 11.20 to 11.40 8B
- 11.40 to 12.00 8Me
- 12.10 to 12.30 9N
- 12.30 to 12.50 9P
- 12.50 to 13.10 9D
- 13.40 to 14.00 9Mi
- 14.20 to 14.40 9B
- 14.40 to 15.00 9Me
- 15.00 to 15.20 10N
- 15.20 to 15.40 10P
- 15.40 to 16.00 10D

## INSET day Tasks

As students have two extra INSET days at the start of term, we are setting some work for them to help give them a head start to the new term.

A big focus for our school next year is reading and ensuring that all students have a reading age that is the same as their actual age. So our year 7 and 8 students will be given a choice of tasks based on reading books of their choice. If they don't have books at home, or have read them all, we advise you to go and register at your local library.

Year 9 students will be given a work pack that helps to prepare them for their GCSE year 10 studies.

Year 6 students will be sent a transition pack of various activities to complete focused on English, maths and science.

These tasks can be completed at any time over the holidays to suit your family holiday arrangements.

We do expect all students to bring these back to school on their first day back.

These activities will be emailed to parents, given to students and will be uploaded on our school website under the Study support – Summer Learning tab.

## Term Dates

### Reminder of key term dates

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

The first day back for students will be **Wednesday 8 September**

**New Year 7 – please arrive by: 8.40am**

**All other years please arrive at: 9.40am**

Please see the box below for the dates and times of the Covid lateral flow testing that will take place in school before the start of term.

## Coronavirus Updates

### Lateral Flow tests

The requirement to continue with these stops over the summer break.

We will be offering two lateral flow tests in school for all student before the start of term and will be providing lateral flow home test kits after this for the rest of September.

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 the summer holiday

If your child develops symptoms (as described above) at any point, they 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. All members of the household must also self-isolate during this time.

The guidelines relating to self-isolation may change during the summer break. Please see: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for the most up-to-date guidance.

## Uniform and Equipment needed for September

In order to be ready for the start back to school, please make sure that your child/children are well-prepared with the following items. We expect all students to have all necessary equipment with them everyday.

They must have:

- A pencil case
- Pens: blue, black and purple
- pencils
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Pencil sharpener
- Whiteboard pen
- Reading book

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 and negative behaviour points will be issued for missing equipment.

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
- Trainers cannot be worn
- No jewellery is permitted other than one pair of small stud earrings.
- No fake nails or nail polish is allowed
- No false eyelashes are 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.

We will be performing daily uniform checks in September and students will be expected to be in correct uniform in order to be in lessons.

## Safeguarding Over the Summer

### Safeguarding concerns

If you have any concerns related to safeguarding outside of school hours then please do 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](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

Do keep the safeguarding team informed of any concerns or issues. However, over the summer break, staff will not be checking emails regularly and will have a large amount of time without any email access due to the move

Mr R Hoy (Designated Safeguarding Lead) [r.hoy@derbycathedralschool.org.uk](mailto:r.hoy@derbycathedralschool.org.uk)

Mrs J Nethercott (Deputy DSL) [j.nethercott@derbycathedralschool.org.uk](mailto:j.nethercott@derbycathedralschool.org.uk)

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

**Childline:** 0800 1111 [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

**NSPCC** – 0800 028 3550 [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

**Samaritans** – 116 123

**Shout** – [www.giveusashout.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:info@relatederby.org.uk)

[www.relatederby.org.uk](http://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/](http://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 your situation has changed recently and you think that your child may be eligible for Free School Meals please see our website with a link to the council application form:

<https://www.derbycathedralschool.org.uk/information/pupil-premium>

### Derby's Summer Promise

Derby City Council is delighted to announce the launch of the £1.5m 'Derby Summer Promise', a city-wide programme providing an exciting summer of enriching and learning activities for children and financial support for families and households in an all-inclusive programme.

#### Summer activities

The Derby Summer Promise for activities is built around national funding from the Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF) and the Local Support Summer Grant which has been used in connection with partners to develop a fantastic programme of providers and support.

Parents and carers throughout Derby may be eligible to benefit from a free holiday clubs programme for children and young people over the school summer break

The Summer Promise, aims to provide activities, ranging from sports, to cooking and performing, to thousands of children in Derby who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and has approved dozens of local and national organisations to run free holiday activity clubs to enable children and young people to enjoy fun activities with friends and learn and develop new skills.

More details on the activities and how to sign up to will be available on the Council website in the coming days, search for Derby Summer Promise.

### **Financial Support for families and households**

The Derby Summer Promise for financial support will provide a £60 voucher for each child eligible for a benefit related free school meal, and a second £25 voucher to help towards the cost of school uniforms for children moving from year 6 to year 7.

All families eligible for the £60 voucher will be sent this through the post.

### **Summer Family Activities**

Have a look at the government website for ideas of things to do over the summer.

Follow the link below:

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rediscover-summer?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=630d8429-4dfa-44fb-942d-146ed288010d&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rediscover-summer?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=630d8429-4dfa-44fb-942d-146ed288010d&utm_content=immediately)



### **Bus Travel with Arriva**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we approach the end of Summer term Arriva would like to take this opportunity to inform of the options, we have available to support you getting your child to school safely during the next academic year. We provide frequent and reliable bus services across the region; all our buses are Covid-19 secure and undergo enhanced touchpoint cleaning every day

Arriva's Student & Child Saver do not only cut your bus travel costs to and from school, but the same ticket can also be used to travel at evenings, weekends and throughout all school term holidays. You can spread the cost of our saver tickets over affordable monthly payments using our easy-to-use direct debit system. It's simple to apply, there's no setup fee or minimum contract required, which means you can cancel your direct debit and stop your ticket anytime should your circumstances change.

To arrange your Direct Debit and for further information please follow the link below:

[www.arribus.co.uk/monthlytickets](http://www.arribus.co.uk/monthlytickets)

*To ensure delivery of ticket in time for the start of the new Academic Year we recommend registering as soon as possible.*

Once you have your bus pass, you won't need to worry about paying bus fares again, safe in the knowledge that you have saved money through our Direct Debit scheme

You can choose to receive your monthly pass by post, or you can download the Arriva UK Bus app onto your child phone, and we can send it there.

For travel Information including local maps and timetables please visit: [www.arribus.co.uk/find-a-service](http://www.arribus.co.uk/find-a-service)

*Student Saver tickets are valid for College, University, and 6th form students*

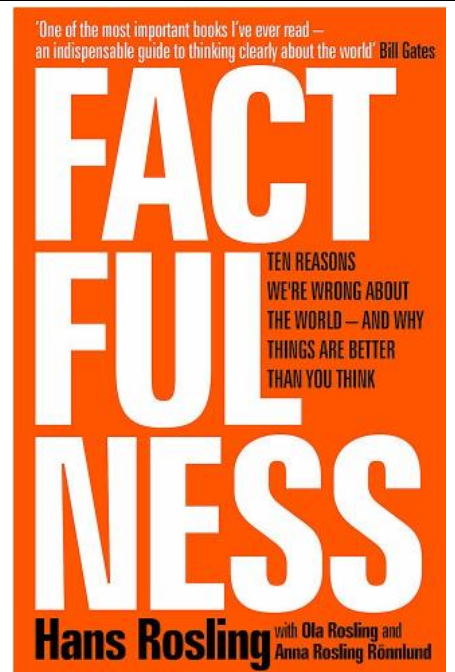
*Child Saver tickets are valid for pupils up to and including year 11*

For any queries regarding the scheme, please email: [studenttickets.ams@arriva.co.uk](mailto:studenttickets.ams@arriva.co.uk)

## News from the Classroom

### Geography

Year 9 have ended their key stage 3 journey by completing a short series of lessons based on Hans Rosling's book *Factfulness*. They have been looking at the importance of having a fact-based world view to avoid misconceptions and the 'dramatic instinct' that things are getting worse, and have considered lifestyles at different income levels across the world.



### Spanish

#### Year 7 and 8 Spanish Club

Year 7 and 8 Spanish Club enjoyed trying traditional tapas this half term at our final 'Spanish Club Fiesta'. The students were very brave and loved trying the chorizo, empanadas, queso (cheese) Manchego and the very delicious jamón Serrano (ham) – ¡Qué rico!



#### DCS Languages Challenge 2020-21

Congratulations to our wonderful Year 8 and 9 Spanish students who have submitted and now passed the Routes into Languages 'Languages Challenge' for this year. Against all odds, they worked incredibly hard to produce and present amazing portfolios displaying their love of languages and the importance of learning languages in our everyday lives and for our futures. All of these students have been made 'Language Ambassadors' for the new school in September – ¡Enhorabuena!





### **Spanish Spelling Bee – Year 7 Finalists!**

We are delighted to announce that 3 of our Year 7 students will be competing in a few days in the Routes into Languages National Spanish Spelling Bee Final 2021! We are so proud at DCS to have not 1, but 3 finalists this year and wish them all the luck in the world – ¡Buena suerte!



## **History**

It has been a very busy term for the history department at DCS.

**Year 7** have been enjoying learning about the reign of Elizabeth I. They were particularly interested in finding out how the English were able to defeat the Spanish Armada and what this famous victory meant for Elizabeth and the nation as a whole. They have also discovered that life as a school child in Tudor times was a lot harder than they thought even if schoolchildren could drink beer!

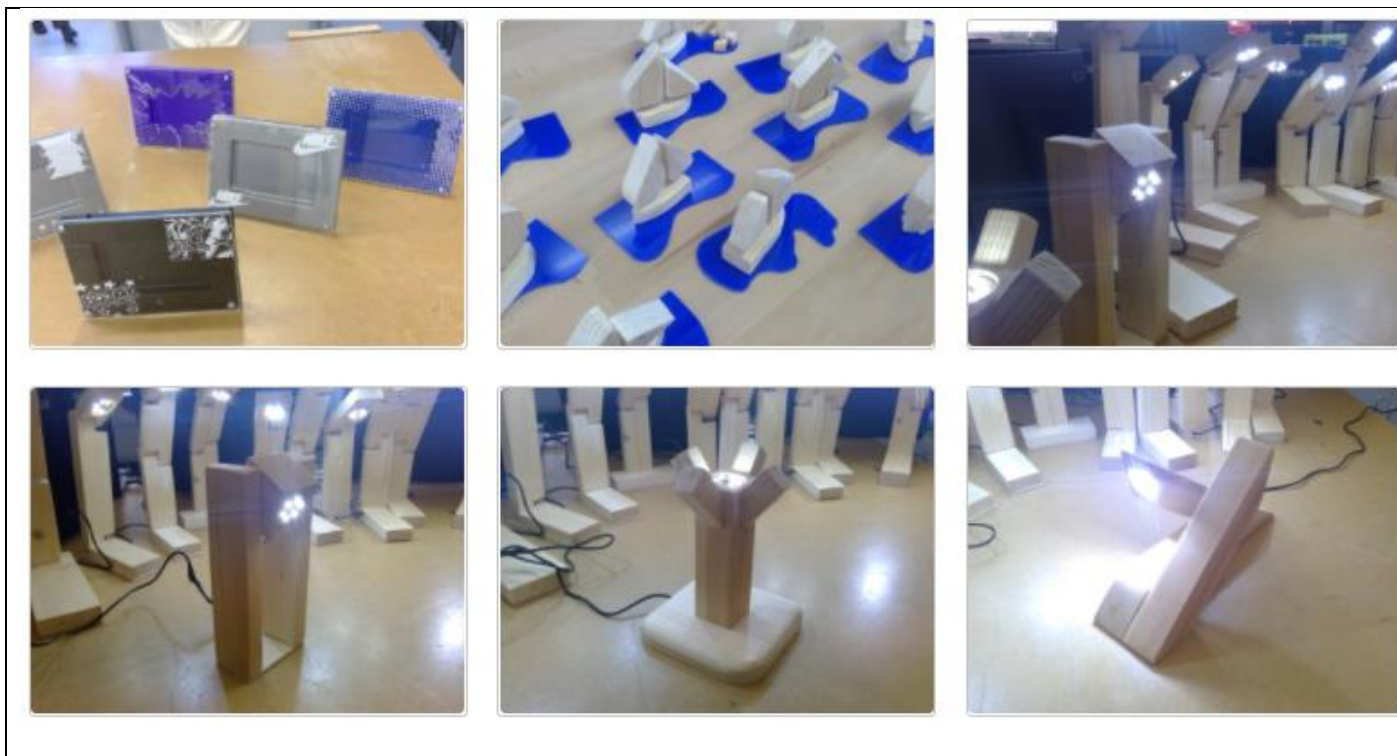
**Year 8** have been learning about the development of industry in Victorian England and the gruesome crimes of 'Jack the Ripper'. They have been studying the evidence of these terrible murders and developing their own theories as to who the mysterious ripper might have been. Some of them claim to have solved this historical mystery and have done a much better job than the Victorian police detectives!

**In year 9** after learning about the Cold War and the causes, consequences and impact of the war in Vietnam, students have started to learn about medicine in the ancient world. This fascinating topic is being taught in preparation for our GCSE. Those students who have opted for history will be set a task to complete over the summer. Thanks once again for all your support with this.

At all times we have been impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of the students. We look forward to more of the same in September.

## **DT - Resistant Materials**

Congratulations to all students on their engagement and enthusiasm in DT - Resistant Materials. Students have really appreciated the practical work after spending so long at home during this challenging time. Here are some pictures to show the impressive results of their work. The boats are by year 7, picture frames are by year 8 and the desktop lamps are by year 9



## Mathematics

The Maths department, this year, held the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge for 20 year 9 students and the Junior Maths Challenge for 30 students each from Year 7 and 8. This was a national level Maths Challenge that allowed students to experience problem solving and compete against students from all over the country. All pupils showed great integrity and tenacity in the challenge and the school is extremely proud of them all.

Out of the year 9 pupils, Sonia won a bronze certificate in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. Out of the year 7 pupils, Ashton scored the highest and received a silver certificate. Amongst the year 8 pupils, Laura won a gold certificate and was best in her year.

Furthermore, three year 8 students: Jake, Hannah and Laura went on to qualify for the next level: Junior Maths Kangaroo and out of these, Jake scored a certificate of merit.

As a school, we are extremely proud of all our mathematicians who participated, regardless of the outcomes. These students and their hard work despite the pandemic, is an inspiration for their peers and we hope that they only continue to excel and set an example for all others at Derby Cathedral School.

Here is an example of a question on the Junior Maths Challenge – have a go and see what you think!

Each cell in the crossnumber below contains a single non-zero digit. The answer to each clue is a two-digit number.

Clues

ACROSS

1. A square
3. An odd square

DOWN

1. A square
2. A square

1	2
3	$x$

What is the value of  $x$ ?

A 1

B 3

C 5

D 7

E 9

## Music

Our year 7 students have been working on a band skills project in which chords, melody and rhythm are played on a number of students (ukulele, keyboard, voice and percussion) as an ensemble performance (group performance). Students have particularly enjoyed working on these instruments and learning current songs. They were also surprised at the number of popular songs that only use four chords!

Our current year 8 and 9 students have been working on DAW (digital audio workstations) to sequence and compose music. Using music technology, us a great way to scaffold learning and really supports creative compositions, as students have a range of instrument sounds to select from.

Mrs Eaton has just completed her training to become an Arts award assessor and we are really excited to offer our students this opportunity from September. We will be running both the bronze and silver award, and students can choose to complete the award in either music, dance, drama or art. More information will be sent to parents in September.