

CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith



Dear Members of the Chellaston Community,

A long half term and a very wet end to the week has not dampened what has been another great week at our Academy.

Please enjoy our penultimate weekly newsletter of the half term.

Refurbishment Update

We are delighted to say that the first phase of the refurbishments are nearly complete. The new technology rooms and the new food rooms are taking shape and look amazing. Our reception looks fabulous and we are not far off starting phase 2 which will see a new toilet block in B Block and new Art rooms. When all of the work is complete we look forward to inviting parents in to have a look. We would like to praise and thank our student and staff body who have been amazing in accommodating the operational changes and working collaboratively with all of the workers from BSN.

Attendance

As we near the end of our first (and long!) half term, we want to remind all our community of the pivotal role attendance plays in the development and achievement of all students. Missing days at school means missing out on social interactions, positive praise and valuable learning content. Last year, Year 11 students who attended 95% or more achieved 7 GCSE grades higher than their expected targets.

We strive to work with families to reduce any barriers in their child attending school, and we have so much support available that many of our children benefit from. A reminder that our target is 95%, and below 90% is considered to be 'persistent absence'. As always, if you are experiencing difficulties in your child attending school, then please don't hesitate to contact your child's Deputy/Head of Year and form tutor.

Next week we will be processing letters to students with attendance below this target; if your child has had any absences this year for which we have not had a reason supplied (and therefore are logged as 'unauthorised'), we would be grateful if you could update the Deputy Head of Year so these can be cleared on our system.

Online Safety Workshop for Parents/Carers - Weds 25th - 4:30-5:30pm

On Wednesday 25th October we have arranged a parent workshop from industry professional Traci Good (i-vengers founder) exploring Online Safety issues and the most up-to-date trends, climate and advice. We know this is an area that so many parents and carers feel 'out of depth' in, and therefore we hope that this informative session will be hugely beneficial in helping you to support your young people in staying safe in an ever-evolving space!

The session will be **online** to allow as many people to benefit from this as possible.

To book a free place, please use the link below:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/chellastonacademy/t-lnzkozv>

You will then be emailed ahead of the workshop with a link to the Teams meeting.

Year 11 Parents' Evening Advanced Warning (Affects all students)

On December 7th, between 4-7pm we are having our first face-to-face parents' evening since 2019! In previous years, we have had everyone in the main hall and we feel that this has a lack of privacy as well as occasionally feeling like a bit of a rugby scrum as the appointments start to overrun. In order to try and alleviate these issues, teachers will be conducting the meetings in their own classrooms around the entire school. Bookings for this event will be sorted after half-term, but we wanted to give Year 11 Parents advance notice of this event.

In order to ensure that every room will be clean for the next day and the evening itself, we have decided to close the school at 1.20pm. Students will only lose one hour of teaching. Students entitled to pick up a free lunch will still be able to get something from the dining hall before leaving. We also provide staffing for any students who need to be supervised in school until 3pm. There are two other face-to-face meetings throughout the year where this may also be happening. We will review the first one and give you advance warning of the other two nearer the time.

Brassed off

On Monday evening our year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students went to see Derby Theatre's production of 'Brassed Off'. Adapted from the famous film and involving a live brass band, it was a great watch and our students really enjoyed it. They were brilliant ambassadors for the school too as they were impeccably behaved and engaged. We are so proud of them.



Wear it Red

Today our staff and pupils have been wearing elements of red clothing to show that we want to 'show racism the red card'. Pupils have been talking in form time about the charity, why it was set up and how we might see and stand up to racism in our everyday lives.

School Council

This week our representatives from all year groups met together in the first whole school student council meeting of the year. Our wonderful student leaders will be taking their views to SLT next week so watch this space for the changes and improvements our young people have made to the Academy. Coming soon: Term 1 Student survey!

Parents Survey

Our short parents survey is available at the link below until 25th October. If you are yet to complete it, please do as we really appreciate feedback. Our fuller survey will be coming to you next term.

[Parent Survey](#)

Year 9 TIE Production - Switch Up

On Wednesday we welcomed in Saltmine Theatre Company with their moving and exciting production of Switch Up - a play about the devastating consequences of choosing to carry a weapon. The whole year 9 cohort were given the fantastic opportunity of watching the play and then taking part in a follow up workshop with the cast. Our students asked some really insightful and relevant questions!

We were also joined by Alexander McBean from Derbyshire Police; lead for knife and serious crime prevention within the city, who wanted to see how proactive safeguarding education like this could be rolled out across the city. (Alex is also Chellaston alumni!)



Carfulan Group Visit

Fifteen Year 11 Engineering students visited their Advanced Innovations Centre and experienced the use of industrial equipment used for 3D printing, tool presetting and very precise measuring. The Carfulan Group staff were very welcoming to our young people and spent all day educating them on the equipment and even challenged them to a few competitions, where they had to use the equipment at speed. Very generous prizes were awarded and all of the students left with a small 3D printed product they had created in CAD, as well as a Chellaston keyring. The Carfulan Group offer apprenticeships in Engineering as well as other areas and some of our students are hoping to apply for positions, later in the year.

<https://carfulan.com/>



SEND Workshop

Many thanks to the parents and carers who attended the SEND Drop in session on Wednesday after school - it was really well attended, and it was pleasing to hear such positive feedback and some ideas for further improvement.

It was great to meet some of our Year 7 parents for the first time, and we have had some useful suggestions for topics to present on later this year.

There will be a SEND Parents' session once every half term.

We will email all parents of students with additional needs regularly, and we will send out details of the next session very soon.

6th Form Open Evening

Last night was our incredibly busy and exciting Sixth Form Open Evening. We were blown away with the response from parents and students. We hope students and parents enjoyed the opportunity to listen to what Chellaston Sixth Form has to offer, as well as getting to speak to subject specialists about the huge range of courses on offer.

Applications are now open. All Year 11 students have been sent their login information, with the link to start your applications being [HERE](#). The deadline for applications is Monday 18th December.

Any questions regarding applications can be sent to sixthformadmin@chellaston.derby.sch.uk

Sixth Form Stem Cell Donation

On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, we continued our hugely successful partnership with ASSET (Adrian Sudbury School's Education Trust'). Keith Sudbury, Adrian's father, came into school to talk about the importance of Stem Cell donation. Students then had an opportunity to join the stem cell donor list. Keith has been coming into school every year to speak to Sixth Form students and over the last 10 years, there have been 9 successful matches of stem cells from students in Chellaston Academy. Because of this, 9 lives have been saved because of Chellaston Academy 6th form students. We are incredibly proud of the 121 Year 12 students that joined the stem cell register this week; every single one of them could now be a life saver.



Project D Alumni

This week, ex- Chellaston Academy Sixth Form student, Max Poynton, Marketing Director of Project D, came in to talk to our Year 12 and 13 students about his journey after leaving Chellaston Academy. The purpose being to show the opportunities that are available to students once they leave, and that not everyone needs to go to University or get an apprenticeship to be successful. It was wonderful to see Max again, and the Sixth Form students left the workshop having thoroughly enjoyed the session, inspired by his story. We're hoping that next time he comes in, he might bring some free samples!



JCB & Toyota Apprenticeships are now open

We want to make you aware of apprenticeship opportunities that have just opened for both JCB and Toyota. Please follow the individual links for more information and Toyota are holding open evenings that you will need to book onto

JCB Apprenticeships are now Open:

<https://earlycareers.jcb.com/apprenticeships>

[Level 2 Welding Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 2 Lean Manufacturing Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 3 Engineering Technician Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 3 Purchasing Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 3 Mechatronics Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 4 Project Management Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 4 Manufacturing Engineering Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 6 Business Degree Apprenticeship](#)

[Level 6 Engineering Degree Apprenticeship](#)

Toyota Apprenticeships Are now Open:

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

BP - Further Opportunities:

[Further Opportunities from BP and many more...](#)

PE Fixtures

| Fixture | Against | Score |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| Year 11 Boys Football | Littleover School | 4-3 win |
| Year 8 Boys Football | Littleover School | 8-2 win |
| Year 7 Boys Football | Last round of City Tournament at John Port | Didn't concede a goal! Won 1 & Drew 3 |

Dates for your Diary

25th October - Online Safety workshop for parents that we have arranged with Traci Goode from i-vengers - details to follow

6th December - Year 11 reports sent out

7th December - Year 11 parents evening (see above)

Kind regards

Phil Smith



Proud Headteacher
Chellaston Academy

'Inspiring each other to realise our potential through Integrity, Care and Excellence'