

CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith



16th May 2025

Dear members of the Chellaston Academy Community,

It has been lovely to feel a warmer climate this week and we are delighted to say that the increase in temperature has not detracted us from our core business of developing our young people, providing memorable experiences and supporting our academy values of Integrity, Care and Excellence.

This week, we have witnessed the start of our full cohort exams in Year 11 and the continuation of Year 13 exams. Both groups of young people have been a credit to themselves and we cannot fault their commitment. We hope that the results they achieve in the summer mirror their commitment. Well done everyone.

Lanyards and ID Cards

Both lanyards and ID cards are an integral part of our uniform at Chellaston Academy. Students will need their ID to pay for food, open doors and collect printing. With our new catering till system, food cannot be administered without a student ID card. Replacement cards can be purchased through ParentPay and collected at the finance office.

Equipment

As a reminder students need to bring basic equipment to support their learning. Can we please ask parents to support our young people in coming to school prepared for learning.

School dog

Introducing Sully: Our New School Dog

Starting in September 2025, we're excited to welcome Sully, a 4-year-old Labrador, as our new school dog. Sully isn't new to this role; he has experience working in school environments, making him a perfect fit to support our students.

What Sully Brings to Our School Community

Research has shown that the presence of a school dog can have numerous benefits for students, including:

- Interacting with dogs can lower cortisol levels, helping students feel more relaxed during stressful times.
- Sully's presence can encourage positive interactions among students, fostering a sense of community and belonging.
- Spending time with Sully can boost mood and self-esteem, providing comfort and support to students.
- Caring for Sully can teach students important life skills such as empathy, responsibility, and respect for others.

What to Expect

Assemblies introducing Sully (through pictures) have already taken place. In the coming weeks, we'll be sending letters to parents/carers to gather important information, such as any allergies or fears students might have regarding dogs. Once all information is collated, we'll work with parents and carers to produce risk assessments tailored to specific individuals and the wider school.

Stay Informed

We understand that introducing a new school dog is a significant step, and we're committed to ensuring a safe and positive experience for all students. If you have any concerns or would like more information about Sully's role, please don't hesitate to reach out to the school.

Stay tuned for more updates as we prepare for Sully's arrival in September!



ICE Festival 2025

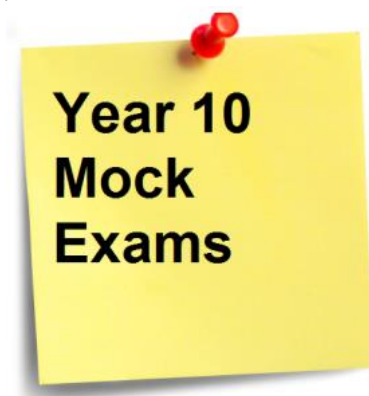
The ICE team are very excited for the ICE Festival on Tuesday 22nd July this year. Plans are well underway for those students with a 95% positive ratio.



Year 10 Exams

Our Year 10 students will have their first experience of formal exams with invigilators in our exam venues from 17th to 27th June. This is an important, supported process for all students. Students have already received their exam timetable. We advise that they (and you) take a photo of it and keep it safe. After the half term break, we will be running an assembly for students which goes through all of the exam protocols and will be introducing our Exams Officer, Mrs Scattergood to them.

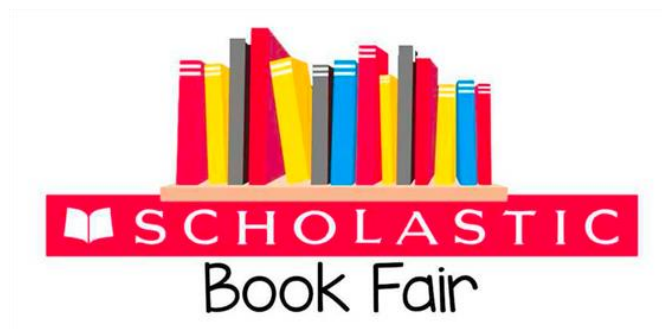
In preparation for the exams, now is the time for students to check that they have the correct stationery, a clear pencil case, a calculator and their ID card.



School Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in school from Monday 9th June. Please encourage your young people to come along to peruse and purchase a book. There will be plenty on offer from the latest graphic novels to non-fiction so there is something for everyone! Please help us motivate our young people to take an interest and get involved in reading!

Mrs Lloyla is opening the library during the **Year 8 Parents' Evening** on **Wednesday 21st May** so please do pop in to see our excellent facilities and to meet our library ambassadors. They will be able to give some information on what to expect from the Book Fair so please do nip in to say hi!



Advanced notice - School bus services during Download Festival

We are working closely with our transport contractors to resolve any potential problems caused by increased traffic in the area during the Download Festival whilst our exams are ongoing. Further information on this is to follow.



UK Maths Trust - Junior Maths Challenge

We have received the Junior Maths challenge results this week. The Year 7 and 8 students who took part achieved 40 Bronze awards, 20 Silver Awards and 3 Gold awards. Congratulations to Kaito F in Year 8 for the best score in the school and Mia W in Year 7 who got the highest score in Year 7.



Big Ideas Competition 2025

On Thursday, two teams proudly represented Chellaston Academy at the Regional Finals of the Big Ideas Competition 2025, held at Leicester University.

- **Eco Pot** – Karis, Ellie, Sara, Gabriela, and Amaaya
- **Lumin8 NRG** – Dorian, Toby, and Theo

We are **delighted to announce** that **Lumin8 NRG** were crowned **Regional Champions** and will now progress to the **National Finals** in London, taking place at the **Houses of Parliament on 2nd July**.

Congratulations to both teams for their incredible effort and creativity – and best of luck to Lumin8 NRG as they prepare for the national stage!



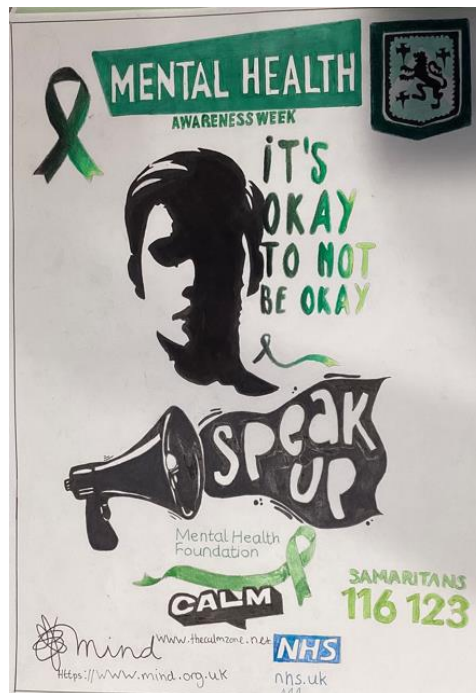
Mental Health Awareness Week

This week we have celebrated Mental Health Awareness week in school with a range of different activities. Assemblies and form times have been based on explaining and realising the importance of community in supporting and helping our Mental Health and well-being. At lunchtimes students were also invited to play board games as a year group to help build their community. We also celebrated "Wear it Green" Day on Thursday.





In addition to this, Year 7 were tasked with designing a poster for World Mental Health Awareness week and Mrs Dow would like to celebrate Alex W for this fabulous poster! Well done Alex and to all who joined in with this fantastic initiative!



Leicester Tigers Visit

Last Friday, 25 Year 7 & 8 pupils had an amazing experience at Oval Park and Welford Road watching Leicester Tigers beat Sale Sharks 44v34 in the game of the season! The pupils had a TRAINING SESSION and TOUR of Oval Park (Tigers training ground) followed by a Q&A with Leicester tigers and Endland legend George Martin. After this, they went to Welford Road to watch the game and had a photo on the pitch at half time. Mr Howard's highlight was 25 pupils screaming TIIIIIGERS through the streets of Leicester on the way back to the minibus!



Sports Fixtures

Touch Rugby

Mrs Parker took 24 Year 7, 8 & 9 girls to play a friendly game of Rugby Touch at Melbourne Sports Pavilion against Bemrose School on Monday evening and all played really well.

Athletics

Eight schools took over 100 students to West Park School to take part in an Athletics event and Chellaston Academy took 24 students with them. We came back with some fantastic results!

Isla M - 2nd overall 200m and 3rd in long jump

James B - 1st overall 800m, javelin and long jump and 2nd in 1500m

Connie H - 1st in 800m and 1500m

Zoe T - 3rd overall 100m

Dexter S - 3rd overall 300m

Ben H - 2nd in 1500m and javelin

Year 8 girls - 3rd in relay

Ciara I - 3rd in long jump

Rueben L - 3rd in javelin

Emily K - 3rd in javelin

Dates for your diary

21st May - Year 8 Parents Evening - School will be closed from 2pm

23rd May - Break up for May Half Term

2nd June - Return to school

9th June - Scholastic Book Fair week

11th June - Year 7 Parents Evening - School will be closed from 2pm

17th-27th June - Year 10 Mock Exams

1st-3rd July - Year 6 Transition days

3rd July - Induction evening for Year 6 families

22nd July - Rewards Day for Summer term

Kind regards

Phil Smith
Proud Headteacher
Chellaston Academy

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