

CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith



19th September 2025

Dear members of the Chellaston Academy,

We are delighted to share that this week has been just as amazing as last week. Our values of Integrity, Care and Excellence are evident in abundance and students are already picking up a plethora of additional ICE points. We are also delighted with how our coaching circles are continuing to grow and develop both small and wider communities. There are a small number of staff who are not coaches and their commentary about what a wonderful and connected atmosphere there is during circle time demonstrates some of our successes.

This week our young people also had their school photographs taken. These will be used on student lanyard cards and parents will have the opportunity to purchase photos from Tempest. The proof photos will be distributed to students shortly and further instructions on how to purchase will be included. We were also delighted with the feedback that they gave us, commenting on how polite and amazing our students were. Well done everyone.

Timetables

Over the weekend, there have been some changes to the timetables. These will come through on Go4schools on Saturday morning. Please check the timetables on either Firefly or Go4schools over the weekend.

Please note that RECEPTION will be closed during Coaching time (Check In, Check Up, Check Out) due to staff taking part.

	08-30 - 0900	0900 - 0930	0930 - 1000	1000 - 1030	1030 - 1100	1100 - 1120	1120 - 1150	1150 - 1220	1220 - 1250	1250 - 1320	1320 - 1400	1400 - 1430	1430 - 1500
Monday	Check In	P1	P1	P2	P2	Break	P3	P3	P4	P4	Lunch	P5	P5
Tuesday	P1	P1	P2	P2	PD	Break	P3	P3	P4	P4	Lunch	P5	P5
Wednesday	P1	P1	P2	P2	Check Up	Break	P3	P3	P4	P4	Lunch	P5	P5
Thursday	P1	P1	P2	P2	PD	Break	P3	P3	P4	P4	Lunch	P5	P5
Friday	P1	P1	P2	P2	Check Out	Break	P3	P3	P4	P4	Lunch	P5	P5

Calling All Parents – We Need Your Expertise!

Could you spare an hour to speak with our students about your current role, your career journey, and the qualifications that helped you get there? We're aiming to give students real-world insights into different professions, and who better to inspire them than our very own parent community? If you can help, please email careers@chellaston.derby.sch.uk



Raising Standards Evening (Year 11 Parents) - Tuesday 30th September 6-7pm in the Main Hall

Year 11 parents/ guardians are invited to our **Raising Standards Evening**, next Tuesday evening. This is a presentation by Mr Clarke, Mr Smith, Mr Moran and Ms Leahy. We will talk through all the important dates for this crucial year and what parents can do to help their students through the next few months. We will talk through the final exams and the upcoming mock examinations and point to resources that are available from the school and at a national level. There is no need to book in advance and students do not need to attend. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Buses - Student Reminders

On site - It is important to remind students that when they arrive on site by school bus that they must not leave the grounds to go to the local shops/ meet friends etc.

Bus passes - Bus passes are not valid without a photo attached. The deadline for this will be 1st October - It is important that you keep your bus pass safe and in good condition.

Lost bus pass - If a bus pass is lost, we are no longer able to issue temporary bus passes without a pre-payment of £10 being paid through Parentpay for a replacement. This payment is levied by Derbyshire School Transport and not by the Academy. If you lose your pass, please go to student services before 3pm.

Temporary Road Closures - We have been made aware of the following road closure. DCC School Transport will contact parents directly with the temporary changes to the bus routes, so please look out for this.

WHEN: 29th September 2025 to 5th October 2025

WHERE: Market Place, Melbourne between its junction with Potter Street and its junction with Church Street.

REASON: To facilitate gas mains replacement scheme.



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze

Last weekend 116 students took part in the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Qualifying expeditions split in to two groups walking the paths of Cannock Chase.

The **Friday to Saturday** teams had mixed weather, mostly bright with a few quick showers. On day one they had a good day of walking through Cannock. Pupils pitched their tents and cooked dinner mostly consisting of pasta and rice dishes under the trees to avoid the light rain. It was an extremely dark evening so they quickly settled in tents for a slightly chilly night of camping. On day two they got up early, cooked breakfast, collapsed camp and were off site by 8.30am to return to the collection point at Milford Common.

The **Sunday to Monday** team's weather wasn't quite as kind. They started in bright weather which by the afternoon turned to heavy rain. We greeted the students into camp with a hot drink and helped pitch tents in between the downpours. Luckily they were able to have dinner and dry clothes in a marquee that was on camp, students were fabulous and so resilient!

During the night in to day two we had very strong winds but were protected by the maintained trees on site. In the morning we woke up to dry tents, enjoyed cooking breakfast outside before collapsing tents and again off site by 8.30am. The weather was much kinder as the students made their way to Milford Common.

Pupils were a real credit to Chellaston Academy throughout both expeditions and should be commended for their teamwork and perseverance through bad weather, especially when the blisters and aches and pains from carrying their backpacks began to unfold.

Thank you to the staff that volunteered over the weekend, we couldn't do it without them.





Visit from Graduate Medicine students

On Monday, we were delighted to welcome a group of Graduate Medicine students from the University of Nottingham, who shared their insights into the journey of applying to Medical School. The session was lively and engaging, with plenty of questions asked and thoughtful advice offered. Several of our students even had their personal statements reviewed, receiving tailored feedback to strengthen their applications.

This was an invaluable experience for our aspiring medics, and we are deeply grateful to the Nottingham students for generously giving their time to inspire and support the next generation.



Exciting Volunteering Opportunity with the NHS

On Thursday, representatives from the NHS University Hospitals of Derby and Burton visited our school to speak with Year 13 Health and Social Care students, along with those interested in applying for medicine. They introduced *The Meal Time Project*—a fantastic 26-week volunteering programme where students support patients on the wards by encouraging hydration, promoting good nutrition, and contributing to overall wellbeing.

With only five places available, our students are busy preparing written pitches to explain why they should be selected. This is a brilliant opportunity to gain first-hand experience in healthcare, while making a real difference to patients' lives.



Harvest and Shoeboxes

Over the next two week pupils will receive a Chellaston Charter assembly on the importance on developing your unique personality, volunteering and caring for others. We are asking that if able to, pupils donate items for our Harvest festival collection which will be shared amongst local foodbanks. This is one way we can show our value of care. Items needed are below.

Our Harvest Wishlist:

<input type="checkbox"/> Instant noodles/noodle pots	<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned potatoes
<input type="checkbox"/> Rice pots	<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned tomatoes
<input type="checkbox"/> Microwave rice	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown sauce
<input type="checkbox"/> Tuna snack pots	<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned meat meals
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned tuna	<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned soup
<input type="checkbox"/> Cereal (up to 700g boxes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooking sauces (jars)
<input type="checkbox"/> Coffee	<input type="checkbox"/> Snack pot porridge
<input type="checkbox"/> UHT milk	<input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen roll
<input type="checkbox"/> Sugar	<input type="checkbox"/> Toilet roll
<input type="checkbox"/> Custard	<input type="checkbox"/> Washing powder / gel
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned fruit	<input type="checkbox"/> Eggs
<input type="checkbox"/> Baked beans	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-raising flour
<input type="checkbox"/> Tinned vegetables (carrots, peas, sweetcorn)	<input type="checkbox"/> Golden syrup

There are some items we don't need / cannot accept

✗ Fresh veg	✗ Medical products
✗ Bags of Dry Pasta	✗ Tinned lentils and pulses
✗ Bags of Dry Rice	✗ Used toiletries
✗ Household cleaning products	

Items or time can be given to support this cause and further info is available here: <https://ymcaderbyshire.org.uk/ymca-harvest-festival/>

Year 7's however, will be invited in PD groups to make up shoebox gift boxes for children in areas of poverty or conflict. These will be donated as part of the Rotary Club's 'Love in a Box' appeal.

Information can be found here: <https://teams4u.com/shoebox-appeal/>

Online Safety

Welcome back to a new academic year. It's a wonderful opportunity to go through some top tips with your child as a reminder on how to keep themselves safe online. Have a look at the National College's guide below which is aimed at Key Stage 3 students.

<https://nationalcollege.com/guides/back-to-school/download/pdf>



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Next Friday is our coffee morning for Macmillan. If students would like to support this cause there will be cakes on sale at break and lunch - look out for details on our student bulletin!



Dates for your Diary

25th September - Year 6 Open Evening

26th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning

30th September - Year 11 Raising Attainment Evening

8th October - Sixth Form Open Evening

16th October - Meet the Coach Day - (Our academy will follow a different provision on this day and further information will be published next week).

23rd October - Break up for half term

24th October - INSET day

27th - 31st October - Half Term

3rd November - Return to school

3rd November - 14th November - Year 11 Mocks

Kind regards

Phil Smith

Proud Headteacher

Chellaston Academy

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