

CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith



26th September 2025

Dear members of the Chellaston Academy community,

It has been a great week in our academy and we hope that you enjoy reading our newsletter.

Year 6 Open Evening

On Thursday we welcomed our community into our academy so everyone could experience what a great place Chellaston is before making their secondary school choices. The whole evening was a fantastic evening and the feedback we have received has been amazing. Comments included 'Just wanted to say what a great showcase this evening was for Chellaston Academy. Clearly a lot of hard work had gone into the planning of tonight, and it really paid off. The atmosphere around the departments was absolutely buzzing, and the place was packed. Staff all had smiles on their faces and were representing the academy superbly, as did the tour guides and helpers!' and 'As ever, your staff were welcoming and enthusiastic about their subject areas, But your students went above and beyond. Every student we interacted with was polite and knowledgeable.' We want to thank all of our young people and staff who supported the evening, without them it would not be possible.



Meet the Coach day

Earlier this week we sent out some further details about our meet the coach day on 16th October - [Meet the Coach Information](#). We want to thank members of our community for your comments and thoughts, they are important for us to improve further. We appreciate that this day is very different and requires elements of remote learning. However, we believe that, particularly in the first year of our coaching circle approach, strengthening the bond between our coaches and home is vitally important to the pastoral care for your child. We will take on board all comments and review the process/ provision for next year. Further information will be available in the next two weeks with regards to how bookings can be accessed and what the remote curriculum looks like.

Raising Standards Evening (Year 11 Parents) Tuesday 30th September 6-7pm 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 son/ daughter 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.

Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 8th October

We are excited to welcome prospective students and families to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 8th October. The evening will feature a presentation from the Sixth Form Team, repeated at 5pm and 6pm, so please book your preferred time through the link [HERE](#). You'll also have the chance to chat with subject staff, discover more about the courses on offer, and gather the insights you need to make confident, informed choices about your future. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing what makes our Sixth Form such a supportive and inspiring place to learn.



Macmillan Coffee Morning - Staff

Our staff generously baked, donated and shared time together to raise money for our Macmillan Coffee morning in our new staff room. We are so proud of the care shown for others and impressed by the talents of our bakers!





Macmillan Coffee Morning - Students

A huge thanks to the Year 8 bake sale team who have outdone themselves with the sheer volume of cakes that they contributed and sold for this great cause, Mrs Dow is so proud of you! The support that the whole school have shown by buying the cakes was phenomenal - you are all amazing!





Stem Cell Register

This week, 99 of our fantastic Year 12 students signed up to the stem cell register and provided a DNA swab to see if they could one day be a potential lifesaver.

We were also delighted to welcome Keith Sudbury, who presented the school with a special recognition award on behalf of ASSET in appreciation of Chellaston Academy Sixth Form and its wonderful students.

We are proud to announce that Chellaston Academy is now the second-highest secondary school in the country for volunteers through ASSET — a remarkable achievement that highlights the exceptional compassion, commitment, and community spirit of our students. Well done, Year 12 — you continue to inspire us all!





Army Cadet visit

On Wednesday we had a lovely visit from Captain P Thomas the Ticknall Detachment Commander from the Army Cadets. He, along with many local Cadets came to offer up information to pupils about how brilliant Cadets is to develop young people and their skills.

The Army Cadets of Ticknall Detachment are welcoming new members aged 12yrs+. Cadets experience an exciting, challenging syllabus learning military-themed skills from First Aid to Foot Drill; build confidence, resilience and self-discipline; develop communication skills and great friendships. The Army Cadet Force is one of the UK's oldest youth organisations and sets young people up for life-long success.

Why not give us a try? Thursdays, 7-9pm, Ticknall Village Hall - [Apply for a place here](#) or telephone - 07748 332058 or email - DerbyCMO@armymail.mod.uk

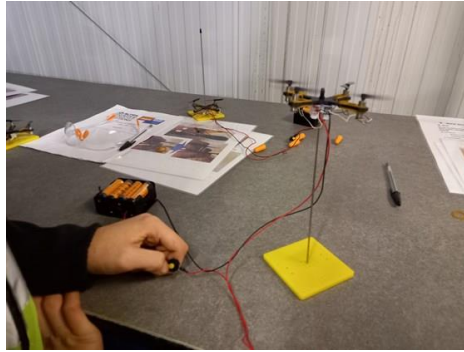


Acres Engineering Visit

On Thursday 25th September, 28 of our Year 10 Engineering students visited a local firm, Acres Engineering, as part of National Manufacturing Day. The students were given a safety briefing and then a tour of the factory, including watching a rotary laser cutter, looking at welding equipment and the powder coating process. The students had the opportunity to assemble mini drones and also fly a drone inside the factory. They also visited the design department and watched two 3D printers in action. The Army set the students a task of building a tower or assembling a working radio. Acres Engineering provided the equipment to allow the students to attempt some VR welding, to show them the basics of the process.

All students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and some are keen to pursue a career in manufacturing, after seeing the shopfloor in action.

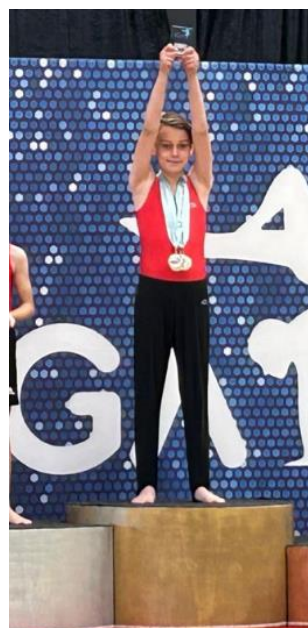




Sport News

Robin Stevenson - IGA Gymnastics Competition

We are incredibly proud of Robin in Year 8 who took part at the IGA gymnastics competition in Chorley near Preston last weekend and won **GOLD** in all of the events (floor, vault, parallel bars and bars) and won **OVERALL GOLD**. He did really well and is on to the national ones next - Well done Robin!!



Cross Country Competition

On Friday 19th September, Chellaston students took part in the first cross country competition of the year. The first race was held at West Park school which can be very muddy and has multiple hills between the different fields. We had some fantastic results and the students represented Chellaston amazingly.

Special Mentions:

Isla M (9)- 1st

Leo S (10)- 1st

Hannah J (8)- 3rd

Adam W (11)- 3rd

James B (8)- 3rd

India-Rose D (11)- 4th

Harry J (11)- 6th

Evelyn H (7)- 6th

Greta H (8)- 7th

Hugo L (7)- 8th



Dates for your Diary

30th September - Year 11 Raising Attainment Evening - 6-7pm - Main Hall (Parents only)

8th October - Sixth Form Open Evening - 5-7pm - [Sixth Form Open Evening](#)

16th October - Meet the Coach Day

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "P. Smith".

Phil Smith

Proud Headteacher

Chellaston Academy

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