

CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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Proud Headteacher: Mr P Smith



3rd October 2025

Dear members of the Chellaston Academy community,

It has been another great week in our academy, and our young people continue to be amazing individuals who get it right and represent us brilliantly. There have been many memorable and positive events this week which are shared below, but we want to share a quote from a primary Headteacher who had a visit from some of our young people. She said 'We have had Miss Miller and your AMAZING Health and Social Care students in today!! They were so positive and eager to learn – a real credit to your school!!! They would be most welcome back, any time – we have told them the door is open for work experience, too!' We hope that you enjoy our newsletter.

Term dates - 2026-2027

Please note that the term dates for 2026-2027 have changed slightly with an inset day on 27th November 2026.

Please see here - [Term dates - 2026-2027](#)

Year 11 Raising Standards Evening - Tuesday 30th September

On Tuesday we were bowled over by 200+ parents turning up for an information evening about the next nine months for Year 11. Details were given about the 2026 Summer Exams as well as information about the Mock Exams in November. Mr Clarke (Deputy Head), Mr Moran (Head of Year 11) and Ms Leahy (Outcomes Champion) talked through the resources available for parents available on Firefly and nationally offering support for parents both academically and to help with wellbeing. The presentation was sent to Year 11 parents the next day for anyone who was unable to attend. Parental engagement is such an important part of a student's success and we were really pleased to so many in attendance.



Year 12 Mentoring

We are pleased to announce that training of Year 12s took place, this week, to help prepare them for English and Maths mentoring of Year 11. We appreciate that sometimes, our GCSE students need an additional helping hand and who better to support them than our young people who have just gone through the process themselves. Our mentors will be working in their pair, once a fortnight, to assist with revision material and key exam skills in order to maximise success for our exam groups. In addition to this, we also trained our Year 12s on how to become the next Reader Leaders: this has been one of our most successful interventions as we witness members of our sixth form coach and guide our Year 7s to become more confident in their reading whilst in a relaxed setting.

Student Leaders

Our student leaders have been part of our assemblies over the last two weeks about developing your character and how to be a part of our student leadership body. The year 10 and 12 prefect application process has started and we can't wait to share with you those who have been selected!



Shoeboxes

Our wonderful year 7s are showing care for others by collecting items to send to Eastern Europe as part of Teams4u and their '**Love in a shoebox**' appeal. These shoeboxes of gifts and helpful items will be sent through the Derby Rotary club to make a real difference before Christmas to those who need it the most.



Tempest

Have you ordered your child's portrait school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for free delivery back to school is Sunday 12th October 2025. You can order through the Tempest website using their unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

Houses of Parliament

On Wednesday, 48 pupils were lucky enough to visit the Houses of Parliament, receiving a tour and a workshop with members of their education team. Predominantly made up of the school council and our A Level Politics students, the group split into two halves and enjoyed an amazing day in London. Half of the group enjoyed a tour and then went to see some of the key buildings and areas of London such as Downing Street, Whitehall and the Supreme court whilst the others went for a stroll along the South Bank, picnicked in the park next to the London eye and got a chance to see the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben from another perspective.

Pupils enjoyed workshops on getting their voice heard and were able to be in both the House of Lords and the House of commons, the robing room, lobby and even Westminster Hall.

It was a truly inspirational day and despite the lengthy coach journey and many, many steps, our pupils showed our values and were a real credit to the school. Their questions, engagement and behaviours were exemplary, and we are so proud of them!



Geography Trip

Year 13 Geography students took part in their fourth A level field trip earlier this week when they visited areas of regeneration around Derby. Students started their day collecting data and investigating the transformation in the Castleward area that is currently being turned from a former

industrial area into an area of housing. From Castleward students walked through the city to Duckworth Square to investigate the need for further regeneration while also looking at the new Buckwell venue and the derelict former Derby Hippodrome. Students paused briefly to look at plans for the redevelopment of the Assembly Rooms before returning to school to write up their findings and work on the next stages of their A level coursework. Students worked hard and planned answers to many exam style questions applying their local area findings and represented the academy displaying our values of Excellence, Integrity and Care.



Alvaston Infant School

Miss Miller took fourteen of our Year 13 Health & Social Care students to Alvaston Infant School today as part of their course where they have to learn about the development of young children through creative activities and play. They visited children from the ages of 2-7 years and have now been tasked with planning, designing and creating a practical activity. The students will then return to the infant school at Christmas time with their activities for the children to carry out.

The head teacher at Alvaston Infant School was so impressed with our students that she has invited them back for work experience and to their Christmas Pantomime on top of their activity - our students found this visit absolutely invaluable and thoroughly enjoyed their visit!

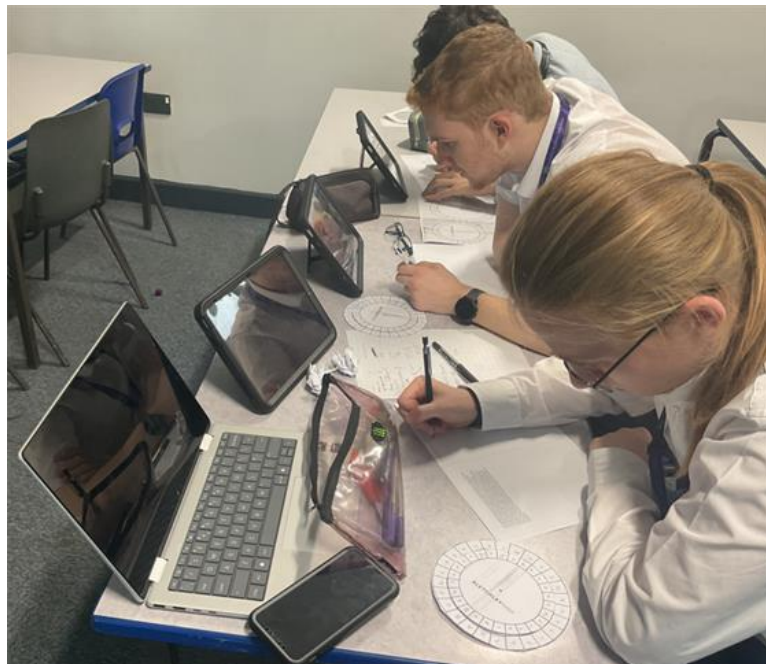
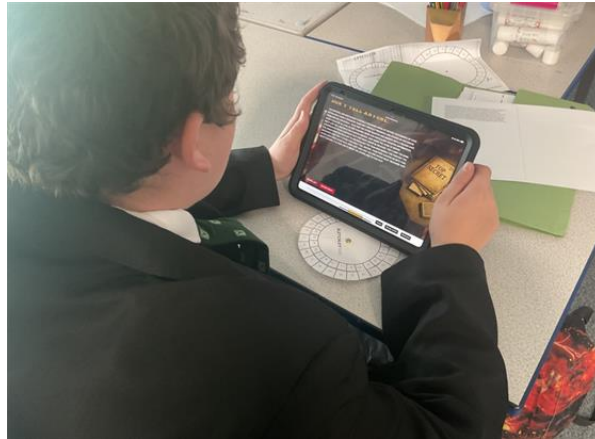




Maths Club - Cypher Challenge

This week saw students from Year 7 all the way through to Year 13 begin the National Cypher Challenge! Students unite every week to solve all kinds of codes and cyphers, and submit their answers to compete in the national event. If you wish to come and join us and take part, we are in D15, 3-4pm every Monday. Thank you, Miss Roberts, Ms Hill and Mrs Siddons.





Reading achievement - Year 7

A huge well done to Vinny B in Year 7 for being the first student to read ALL of the **7 books to read in Year 7** reading challenge in his school planner (page 21). Not only this but he is well on his way to completing the reading log also in the school planner and earning himself a free vending machine book - Well done Vinny!

RECOMMENDED to read 7 BOOKS FOR YEAR 7



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 5:00pm and 6:00pm, 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.

Harvest

Reminder: We are collecting items to donate to others as part of a Harvest collection. Please see the list below and if you are able to contribute - please send items in with your child to their coaching group before **October 15th**.

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fresh veg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical products
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bags of Dry Pasta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tinned lentils and pulses
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bags of Dry Rice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Used toiletries
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Household cleaning products	

World Mental Health Day - Hello Yellow

Chellaston Academy is joining thousands of schools, companies and communities to raise awareness of World Mental Health Day on **Friday 10th October** by taking part in #HelloYellow, organised by YoungMinds. We are asking students to wear something yellow (alongside their uniform) and make a small voluntary donation via the Young minds website.

Students can dig out their **neon socks, ties, ribbons, scarves or hair accessories**- let us show young people they're not alone with their mental health.



Dates for your Diary

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

10th October - Hello Yellow Day

15th October - Last day for Harvest donations

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, appearing to read "P. Smith".

Phil Smith

Proud Headteacher

Chellaston Academy

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