

# CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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12th December 2025

Welcome,

With only five school days to go, we are very close to the end of our Autumn term and quickly heading into our Winter break. Dark nights, miserable weather and the start of winter illnesses creeping in has had the potential of making this week tough, and whilst this most certainly has posed some difficulties for us at times, both our staff and students positivity, resilience and determination to end the term on a 'high' has shone through. This week we have seen our wonderful Year 13 students start their mock exams, they are constant representation of hard work and dedication. Year 13, we are incredibly proud of all that you do - you are wonderful role models and we continue to be grateful that you have chosen Chellaston as your Post 16 destination.

This week we also celebrated our Early Careers Teachers who are at the very start of their teaching journey, we recognise all that they do and how hard they are working. To all of our staff - thank you for working so tirelessly to support our students.

## Christmas Concert

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December we had approximately 74 students involved in our annual Christmas Concert, ranging from Year 7 to Year 13. All students whether performing, organising sound and lighting or helping with refreshments worked brilliantly to make the whole even run smoothly. We had a performances from a variety of soloists and ensembles, covering all genres (not just Christmas!) and demonstrated the huge talent our students have! We had a special well done and good luck to two of our Year 13 students who have performed in the Christmas Concert since they were in Year 7 as this was their final one at Chellaston! Well done to all involved from Mrs Sutton, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Marshall-Sims, Ms Haywood and Miss Averis, five very proud (and very tired) music teachers! Have a fabulous Christmas!



### **Christmas meal**

It was so lovely to see students and staff enjoying a lovely Christmas dinner and candy canes yesterday. There was a really festive atmosphere in the Main Hall and our kitchen staff said it was the best dinner they'd ever served! We'd like to thank our catering team for all of their hard work and they wish you a very Merry Christmas!





### **Year 11 Mock Interviews**

The Year 11 Mock Interviews held yesterday provided students with a valuable opportunity to practice their interview skills in a realistic setting. Organised with the support of volunteers from the business community, the event aimed to prepare students for future college, job or apprenticeship interviews.

Each student participated in a one-on-one interview, receiving personalised feedback on their interview. The volunteers, representing a range of industries and professions, shared their expertise and insights, enhancing the relevance of the experience. The event was highly beneficial in building students' confidence, sharpening their interpersonal skills, and offering a glimpse into real-world expectations, contributing to their readiness for their next steps.





### **Derby City Youth Mayor**

We are so proud of Navneet in Year 10 for putting herself out there and running for Derby Youth Mayor. She was selected to go through to the next round after an amazing application and delivered a speech putting forwards the ideas and values that are important to her. Out of the shortlisted candidates only four could be selected for the final part of the process and unfortunately she hasn't been selected this time. We wish those other young people at other schools the best of luck and will be voting for them at the end of January.



### **Sparx Science**

The Science department want to again congratulate KS3 and KS4 students on their work on Sparx Science. We have had some fantastic completion with the following leaderboards showing the top students across the whole school.

**Student Leaderboard Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October (launch day) until Sunday 7th December:**

#### **Academy Leaderboard**

1. Ryan the Mastermind – 112,520 XP
2. Lucas the CEO – 111,866 XP
3. Nikhil the Icon – 45,240 XP
4. May the Writer - 32,967 XP
5. Jude the Legend – 31,370 XP
6. Hanaa the Pianist – 27,017 XP

**Student Leaderboard Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Dec until 12<sup>th</sup> Dec until present:**

#### **Weekly Leaderboard**

1. **Lucas the CEO** — 11,054 XP
2. Ryan the Mastermind — 8,420 XP
3. Jude the Legend — 2,780 XP
4. Tia the Guide — 2,747 XP
5. Violet the Traveler — 2,540 XP
6. Owen the Adventure — 2,266 XP

Amazing work, well done. 500 ICE points will be awarded to the top 3 students and 100 ICE points awarded to the next 3. Keep it up guys, amazing completion.

All KS3 and KS4 students are being issued Sparx Science Home Learning. For KS3 Home Learning will be around 30-40 minutes for Year 7; 40-50 minutes in Year 8 and 50-55 minutes in Year 9. For KS4 Home Learning will be around 60/70 minutes per Science Subject. Teachers will be issuing 10 ICE Points for completion and -3 ICE Points for non-completion. To be marked as completed, students should either spend the time allocated above on the tasks set on Sparx, fully complete or almost fully, complete it.

Again, I want to congratulate all students who have been working with this new system.

# Sparx Science

## **Library Ambassador Visit**

On Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December we took all 10 of our wonderful library ambassadors from Years 8 and 9 to Leicestershire County Hall. The students were given an opportunity to select loan books from the Creative Learning Services warehouse. Our students were an absolute credit to our school and enjoyed taking ownership of selecting book stock for our library. They selected over 80 books so they can come and have a look in the library at which books they have chosen for you to borrow.



## **Sport Netball**

Chellaston Netball team hosted West Park for a Year 8 Netball fixture. Chellaston played a mixed Year 7 & Year 8 team, it was a well contested game with the final score being –

Chellaston 9  
West Park 4



### **Dodgeball**

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December, two teams, the Invinciballs and the Dodgekillers attended the Regional Dodgeball tournament which was held at Chellaston Academy. Marley M did a fantastic job as captain for the Dodgekillers, placing 4<sup>th</sup> overall.

The Invinciballs, led by Charlie H, won their first 5 games, meaning the last game of the day decided their final position. Winning the final game 9-3 meant they won the overall tournament and have secured a place at Nationals.

Both teams played incredibly well and we are super proud of them!

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### **Remi Clifford**

We'd like to celebrate Remi in Year 12 who took part in the Junior tumbling WORLD championships in Pamplona, Spain and he placed 9th in the WORLD!!  
We are so incredibly proud of him as are his family - Well done Remi!



**Dates for your Diary**

16th December - Class of 2025 Presentation evening at Pride Park (last academic years Year 11 & 13)

18th December - Rewards Day 1 - Cinema trip

19th December - Break up at 11.30am (buses have been arranged).

**2026**

*5th January - Inset day*

*6th January - Return to school*

*14th January - Year 9 Parents evening - 4-7pm*

*22nd January - Year 13 Parents evening - 4-7pm*

*5th February - Year 12 Parents evening - 4-7pm*

*9th-27th February - Year 11 mocks*

*13th February - Break up for half term*