

23rd January 2026

Welcome,

Another week of opportunities and experiences here at Chellaston Academy. Our coaching sessions this week have focused on care and integrity - encouraging our young people to take responsibility and accountability for all actions. This will be explored further next week during our values assemblies where our students will be asked how they show Integrity and Care in order to be Excellent.

### Year 13 Parents' Evening

On Thursday evening, Year 13 students and their families attended their final Parents' Evening at Chellaston Academy. The event was very well attended and provided a valuable opportunity for students to receive advice and guidance as they prepare for the final stretch of their school journey ahead of summer examinations. Year 13 reports were published on Go4Schools on Wednesday, offering further insight into students' progress. Well done to all our Year 13 students — keep focused and working hard in these final weeks.



### Brew Monday

On Monday this week staff were invited at breaktime to tea and toast in the staff room to acknowledge and highlight the initiative Brew Monday. Some may know it also as Blue Monday. The third Monday of the month for some can be 'the most difficult day of the year.' To acknowledge this, Brew Monday is an annual initiative in the UK, launched by the Samaritans, that tries to encourage people to connect with others over a cup of tea or coffee in the hope of combatting loneliness, to encourage connection and emotional wellbeing. This was a great opportunity for staff to connect and come together. For anyone wanting any further support or information please refer to; <https://www.samaritans.org/support-us/campaign/brew-monday/>



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### **Swarkestone Roadworks**

We are aware of the plans to replace the gas mains along the A514 between the A50 roundabout and Swarkestone Bridge which are scheduled to start on 8<sup>th</sup> February for 12 weeks. These works will affect all our bus routes serving Melbourne and Barrow and the 247 service through Weston.

We have met with the main contractors, Cadent, the Project Manager and the traffic management contractors this week and have discussed the impacts with Derbyshire CC Transport and the bus contractors.

We are working with all the stakeholders to produce a plan which will enable us to operate as efficiently as possible during these works. We have been assured that they will be completed before the start of the main exam period. We would like to also reassure you that we have contingency plans for any delays which will affect our internal mock exams after half term and any of the external exams which are scheduled before May.

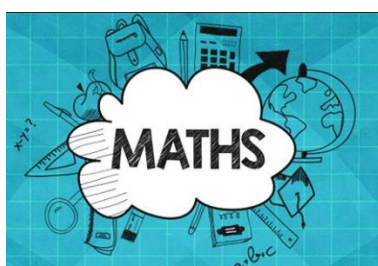
We are hoping to have all the plans confirmed later next week and we will send a separate communication covering this.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.



### **Maths Drop**

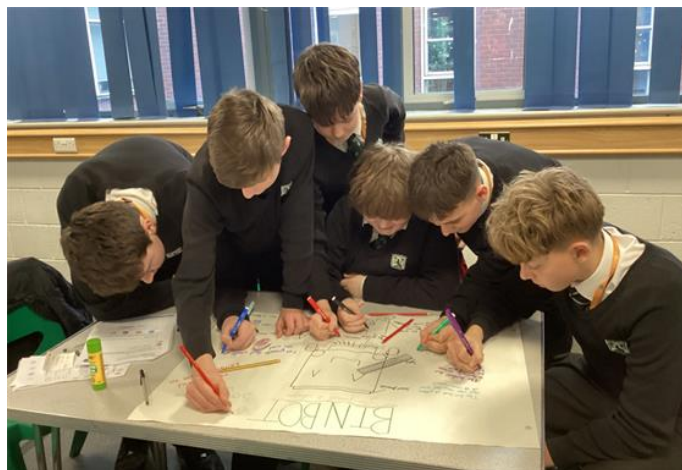
We did a Maths Drop for the whole cohort of Year 11s on Monday who spent the day focussing entirely on Maths! Our brilliant Maths team identified common areas of weakness across the year group and created a bespoke timetable for students to follow including a Walking Talking Mock where students were walked through a maths paper to help boost their confidence and ensure they understand how to dissect each question type. A big thank you to our fantastic maths team for all of their hard work in organising this!



## Big Ideas Project

Following on from a successful process last year, today we have welcomed back The Big Ideas Programme to lead with 70x Year 8 students. The programme focusses on sustainability, working on key STEM skills to cooperatively create their own 'Big Idea'. Examples we've seen today are 'seed distributing drones,' 'robot litter pickers' and 'Foodall - food waste app'

The students have had the opportunity to present their ideas to each other and our mentors from Cadent Gas and we are so grateful for this opportunity.





## Science revision schedule

A couple of weeks ago the Science suggested revision schedule was emailed to parents:

<b>Year 11 Science (Triple and Combined) homework and suggested revision schedule Spring 2026</b>			
Two week window	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Mon 12th Jan - Sun 25th Jan	<a href="#">Paper 2: Homeostasis and response</a>	<a href="#">Paper 2: Rates of reaction and equilibrium</a>	<a href="#">Paper 2: Waves</a>
Mon 26th Jan - Sun 8th Feb	<a href="#">Paper 2: Inheritance, variation and evolution</a>	<a href="#">Paper 2: Organic Chemistry and Chemistry of the atmosphere</a>	<a href="#">Paper 2: Space - Triple only</a>
Mon 9th Feb - Fri 22nd Feb (half term 13th - 22nd)	<a href="#">Paper 2: Ecology</a>	<a href="#">Paper 2: Chemical analysis and Earth's resources</a>	<a href="#">Paper 2: Magnetism and Electromagnetism</a> <a href="#">Paper 2: Forces - Resultant Forces and Springs</a> <a href="#">Paper 2: Forces - Motion, Newton's laws and Stopping distances, Momentum (Higher only), Pressure and Moments (Triple only)</a>
Sat 23rd Feb onwards	<a href="#">Practice papers - Paper 2</a>	<a href="#">Practice papers - Paper 2</a>	<a href="#">Practice Papers - Paper 2</a>
	<a href="#">Mocks start</a>		

The first two weeks of the schedule are coming to the end so students are advised to move onto the next three topics from Monday 26th January which are Inheritance, variation and evolution for Biology; Organic chemistry and Chemistry of the atmosphere (atmosphere is not included for Triple Science) for Chemistry and Magnets and electromagnets for Physics. These topics run for two weeks until the 8th February. Resources are available on Firefly together with the independent learning on Sparx Science and videos on GSCEPod. If students have any questions they can see their Science teachers who will be able to help.

## Sparx Science

Students have continued to complete Sparx Science as their Home Learning provision this term and the Science team again want to congratulate students who have bought in to this new system. We are seeing really good completion rates but are striving to increase this so all students are accessing this platform.

So far since we started using Sparx Science students have completed 5938 hours of Home Learning and have answered 644,377 questions correctly.

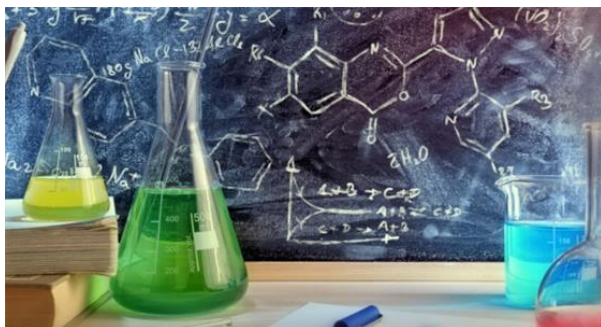
The following leaderboards showing the top students across the whole school - Student Leaderboard Sunday 18th January until present:

Weekly Leaderboard

1. Nikhil the Conqueror — 18,920 XP
2. Jude the Legend — 5,170 XP
3. Denisa the Rockstar — 4,690 XP
4. Ajit the Genius — 3,800 XP
5. Ryan the mastermind — 3,700 XP
6. Hugo the Specter — 2,628 XP



Amazing work, well done. 500 ICE points will be awarded to the top 3 students and 250 ICE points awarded to the next 3. Keep it up all, amazing completion.



### Readathon update

As we approach the halfway mark of the sponsored read we are pleased to say our students **have exceeded the number of minutes** read and we have now raised the bar to 27,000 minutes of reading!



## Chellaston Academy Readathon January 2026

Pupils	Minutes	End date
96	16,390	5 Feb 26

Just a reminder that 80% of the money raised through our students reading goes to providing books to children in hospitals and **20% comes back into school to spend on new books!**

### Current Readathon total

Online, your pupils have raised

**£212.00** so far.

**For any students who have registered or would like to register it is not too late!** Come and collect your password from the library.

KS3 leaderboard - updated Friday AM

**£10 Amazon voucher this week goes to Evelyn Hill for most minutes read so far.**

### Year 7

1. Evelyn H
2. Amelia W
3. Maisie O
4. Jonah M

5. Charlie H

#### **Year 8**

1. Rajinder G
2. Amaaya N
3. Poppy H
4. Evie A
5. Amaani N

#### **Year 9**

1. Rukky O
2. Sophie T
3. Sophie G
4. Monika C
5. Harley D

Use the QR code or link below to track your read.



<https://trackmyread.org/school/chellaston-academy-490954>

#### **Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance - Christmas**

Chellaston Academy would like to thank "Derby Food 4 Thought Alliance" for their continued support each year. They support many families with food, furniture, uniform, debt advice and much more. This last academic year we have had several families who have reached out for this support and Mrs Bola, our Family support Officer works closely with DF4TA and is a registered referrer.

Over Christmas 2025 we had -

Over 50 families benefit from the Household and Energy Grant

Over 20 families who applied for and received a Christmas Hamper and

Over 20 children who received Christmas presents

We are very fortunate that this support is available to Derby City postcode residents throughout the year.

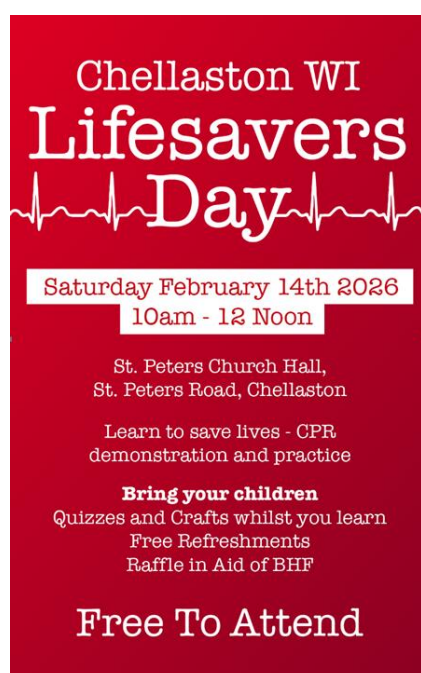
Mrs Bola volunteered on at the Osmaston Road Baptist Church on 22nd December where over 350 meals were prepped, cooked, packed and then delivered to the most vulnerable residents of Derby City.

Mrs Bola, Miss Byrne, Ms Feldmanis, Ms Lloyla, Mrs Johnson, Mr Mukthar, Miss Bottomley, Mr Hough, Miss Reeve and Mr May who all helped with the Christmas Hampers and gifts. We are so proud to work with this fantastic charity.



### **Chellaston WI Lifesavers Day**

Chellaston WI have asked us to promote the following event.



### **Sports News**

#### **Year 7 Indoor Athletics**

The Year 7 indoor athletics team were delightful when competing at Noel Baker this week!

Students were:

Gabriel P  
Fred P  
Nikhil P  
Lewis C  
Seb B  
Raheem S  
James C  
Archie R-M  
Dotty H-D  
Erin B  
Evelyn H  
Amelia C

Lily S  
Sophie W  
Eva P

- Boys were 3rd in the one lap race and the girls were 2nd
- Boys were 4th in the 2 lap race and the girls were 2nd
- Boys were 4th in the 8 lap paarlauf and the girls were 1st
- Girls & boys were 2nd in the 6 lap race and 1st and 2nd in the 4 lap relays.

In the Derbyshire School cross country we had standout performances from Remy C finishing 1st in his category and Jessica W finishing 6th. All ran "blinders" in tricky wet conditions. You could say it looked more like a triathlon with the amount of water - Well done to all who took part.

### **International Synchronised Skating Competition**

This weekend, Elsie B will travel to Eindhoven to compete in the Lumiere Cup, an International Synchronised Skating Competition. Elsie skates with the Nottingham Synchronized Skating Academy, where she is a member of both the Mixed Age team, Ice Unite, and the Basic Novice Team, Ice Stars. We'd like to wish Elsie the very best of luck, we are so proud of her!



### **Ffion D Year 9**

We are also delighted to share with you that Ffion D in Year 9 will be at Cardiff Training Camp in Wales to train with the **Wales U16 Football team** next week, we are incredibly proud of you Ffion and can't wait to hear all about it!



### **Dates for your diary**

5th February - Year 12 Parents evening - 4-7pm  
13th February - Break up for half term  
23rd February - Return to school  
23rd February to 6th March - Year 11 mocks (amended)  
26th February - Year 9 Options evening - 5-7pm  
2nd March to 4th March - Year 13 mocks  
18th March - Year 9 Immunisations