

CHELLASTON ACADEMY

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Headteacher: Mr D Leese



15th May 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we approach the final week of this half term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a busy and productive few weeks at Chellaston Academy.

Firstly, I want to say how incredibly proud I am of our students who are currently sitting examinations. It has been fantastic to see so many leaving their exam rooms beaming and feeling confident about their performance. This positivity is a true testament to the dedication and hard work of our students, alongside the unwavering support and preparation provided by our staff. I would also like to thank parents and carers for the important role you play in supporting your children at home. Your encouragement, routines and guidance make a real difference in helping them feel prepared and confident.

A continued focus for us as a school is punctuality. Being on time is essential for a strong start to the day and ensures that students maximise every learning opportunity available to them. A gentle reminder that the school day begins at 8.30am, and all students should be on site by 8.25am. Your support in reinforcing this routine at home makes a significant difference.

We are also looking forward to our Year 8 Parents' Evening next week. I am delighted to share that we already have 90% parental engagement, which is absolutely incredible. Thank you for your continued support. These opportunities to work together are invaluable in supporting your child's progress and development. Finally, this weekend we have students taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award expedition. I would like to wish all involved the very best of luck and extend my thanks to the staff who are giving their time to make this opportunity possible for our students. Experiences like these play a vital role in developing independence, resilience and teamwork.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support of the school. We look forward to finishing the term on a strong and positive note.

Year 8 Parents' Evening - Wednesday May 20th 4pm-7pm

On Wednesday it's the turn of Year 8 to get their parents' evening. A reminder that all of these events no longer have an early closure.

The booking for this opened a couple of days ago and within the first hour, 80% of parents had signed up! We are now up to 86% sign up and 4% of you have kindly informed the school that you cannot attend, so that is 90% of families who have engaged with the process. This is one of the highest returns at this stage for our biggest year group. (308 students). 1721 appointments have been made but there are still lots of spaces left. The closing date for bookings is midnight at the end of Tuesday. We are looking forward to seeing you all on Wednesday.



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Nut Allergy Reminder

Can we please remind parents/ carers & students that we are a NUT FREE school, this includes any form of nut chocolate spread including in sandwiches or food tech practicals.



Are you able to support our Year 10 Enterprise Day on Thursday, 2 July 2026?

We are looking for volunteers to share their professional experience and help students tackle an exciting challenge during the day. Your expertise could make a real difference—whether it's guiding students in developing a business plan, working with numbers, or motivating a team to succeed.

If you're able to offer your time—either for a few hours or the full day—we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch if you're interested in supporting this event - careers@chellaston.derby.sch.uk

Year 8 Bake Sale

Our brilliant Year 8s are organising a Bake Sale next Wednesday 20th May for Young Minds!

Year 8 Bake Sale

- **Where:** Outside Food Technology opposite main hall
- **When:** Wednesday 20th (week A) during break and lunch
- Cakes from 50p

We are raising money for -

YOUNG MINDS
fighting for young people's mental health



Junior Maths Challenge results

Congratulations to those who took part in the Junior Maths Challenge. We have received some excellent results with 73 students achieving a bronze, silver or gold certificate. A special mention to Thomas H and Yukuki F for achieving the highest mark in their Year group and a fabulous score.



Sports news

Chicago Bears NFL Regional - Wednesday 13th May

Our U15s girls NFL team went to a Chicago Bears regional competition in Northampton. Despite the torrential downpours and hail, the girls secured a spot in the playoff rounds. The girls faced 3 teams in the playoffs, winning their first game but unfortunately losing their next two games. The games were particularly tough, with one team having two GB flag players. The girls finished 3rd overall, which is incredible!

Mrs Parker is super proud of the girls and how far they have come as a team in a short time! We'll go again next year.



New Aston Villa Contract for Ffion Davies

We are so pleased to share with our community that talented footballer, Ffion Davies (Year 9) has been offered a new two-year contract with Women's Super League team Aston Villa. Ffion has made the switch this season and will soon be released one day a week to train with both the U16s and U21s. An incredible achievement for a 14-year-old!

Internationally, Ffion has played for Wales Under 16s in the last few months in an UEFA tournament in Albania along with training with the U17s. She is also playing for Wales Under 15s over half term. Ffion has immensely enjoyed all of these experiences and helping develop her football skills. England are also keeping a very close eye, as Ffion does not need to decide for a little while longer which country that she would like to play for. We are all very proud of Ffion's achievements at Chellaston Academy and wish her all the best with her football.



Dates for your diary - **NEW LOOK**

- 15th - 17th June - Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award expedition
- 20th May - Year 8 Parents evening
- 20th May - Dodgeball National Event - all day
- 22nd May - Break up for half term
- 1st June - Return to school
- 2nd June - Year 10 NHS Sexual Health Workshop
- 4th June - Year 12 Next Steps Evening
- 5th June - Year 11 Last day of teaching
- 9th June - Year 12 UCAS trip
- 10th June - Battlefields Parents trip meeting
- 11th June - Year 7 Parents evening - information coming soon
- 15th June - 26th June - Year 10 & 12 Mock exams
- 18th June - Year 11 Prom
- 19th & 20th June - Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award practice expedition
- 22nd June - Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
- 22nd June - Year 10 Army Careers Talk
- 22nd June - Year 13 Prom
- 23rd June - SEND Year 6 to 7 Transition Day
- 29th June - Year 11 to 12 Transition Day
- 29th & 30th June - Year 12 Geography Field trip

3rd July - Year 10 Geography Field trip
7-9th July - Year 6-7 Transition Days
10th July - Sports Day
13th-17th July - Year 12 Work Experience
15th-17th July - Battlefields trip
22nd July - Rewards Day 3
23rd July - Break up for Summer Holidays

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Leese', written in a cursive style.

Mr. D Leese
Headteacher