

Aldercar High School Newsletter



March 2026

As we reach the end of this half term, it feels like the right moment to pause and reflect. I have now had the privilege of serving as Head of School for just under a year, and as we head into Easter, this newsletter marks both the end of one era and the beginning of the next for Aldercar High School.

I want to say a genuine and heartfelt thank you to our parents and carers, our students, and our staff for the trust, support and encouragement you have shown throughout this interim period. Leading the school during this time has been an honour, and I am incredibly proud of the way our community has pulled together, remained positive, and continued to put students first every single day.

This half term has captured the very best of Aldercar. From National Careers Week and Science Week, to trips, visits, sporting fixtures and enrichment opportunities, our students have thrown themselves into learning both in and beyond the classroom. The experiences shared in this newsletter reflect a school that is ambitious, outward-looking and committed to ensuring every child is known, every lesson counts, and every future is unlocked.

This week has also seen the introduction of our new mobile phone system in school. The impact has already been noticeable and extremely positive. Students are experiencing fewer distractions during the school day, lessons are calmer and more focused, and social interactions around school have improved. Thank you to students and parents for supporting this change so constructively as we continue to embed high expectations that support learning and wellbeing.

Looking ahead, the summer term brings an important academic focus. When we return after Easter, we are just one week away from Year 10 mock examinations, and four weeks away from the start of exams for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. The coming weeks will be crucial, and I know our students will continue to rise to the challenge with the support of our dedicated staff and families.

As we close this chapter, I remain immensely proud of our school and grateful for the opportunity to have led Aldercar through this period of transition. After Easter, I look forward to handing over to our new Headteacher, Mr Smith, confident that the school is in a strong position and excited for the next phase of our journey together.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone return refreshed, focused and ready for the term ahead.

Mr Blake—Head of School

I am excited and truly looking forward to joining the Aldercar High School community after Easter. I recognise that the past year has brought change and uncertainty, and I want to begin by thanking staff, students and families for their resilience and commitment during that time.

I have already had the privilege of being in school for a number of days over the last two weeks and my first impressions are exceptionally positive. I have been welcomed warmly by students and staff and there is a genuinely a lovely atmosphere. Thank you to everyone for such a wonderful introduction period.

All of my experiences of our school, even since submitting my application, have left me genuinely enthusiastic to begin building on the many strengths already in place. I look forward to leading our community in a way that nurtures a culture of inclusivity, pride and high expectations, while fostering a deep sense of belonging and ensuring that no child is forgotten.

We will challenge our young people to live our values of Ready, Respectful and Responsible as we believe these values are values for life. However, these same values will become a daily currency that will also enable our young people to be celebrated for meeting them.

I look forward to sharing more detail and to meeting the whole school community in the near future at our calendared events. However, if parents and carers see me out and about please do not hesitate to come and say hello.

Mr Smith - Headteacher

Exam Guidance

As exam season is this term we would like to remind you of the following guidance.

Try to have a good breakfast before your exams have as this will help you to concentrate. Remember our breakfast club is open from 8am until 8:25 every day and will be based in the sixth form refectory after the easter holidays, please see Mrs Roe, Mrs Mee, Miss Tyrrell or Miss Peplow if you would like to attend this.

Please follow the guidance below:

- Arrive at school on time and go to roll call and switch off mobile phone and hand over.
- Most exams will take place in the Sports Hall - any exceptions are indicated on the timetable.
- Make your way to the exam and wait outside the room. You will be escorted into the room by a member of staff.
- Check the seating plan.
- Exam conditions start as soon as you enter the room.
- Bring your own equipment to each exam in a clear plastic case.
- Bring a clear bottle of water with the label removed. Food is not allowed, except for Art exams.
- Remove your wrist watch/Airpods/earphones/smart glasses and leave them in your bag. Your bag will be left in a designated secure room.
- Invigilators will give you instructions once you are seated.
- Raise your hand if you have any queries.
- Go to your normal lessons when you don't have exams.

Good luck!



Year 10 Mock Exam Timetable

		9:15am	1:15pm
W/C 20 April 26		YEAR 10	YEAR 10
20-Apr	Monday	English Literature 1h 45	Construction (online) 1h 30m
21-Apr	Tuesday	Mathematics Paper 1 & 4 1h 30m	History Paper 1 (Medicine) 1h 20m
22-Apr	Wednesday	Geography 1h 30m	English Language 1h 45m
23-Apr	Thursday	Biology 1h 45m Combined Science 1h 15m	Business Paper 1h 30m
24-Apr	Friday	Mathematics Paper 2 & 5 1h 30m	

		9:15am	1:15pm
W/C 27 April 26		YEAR 10	YEAR 10
27-Apr	Monday	History Paper (USA) 1h 30m	Spanish Writing (H) 1h 20m (F) 1h
28-Apr	Tuesday	Chemistry 1h 45m Combined Science 1h 15m	
29-Apr	Wednesday	Mathematics Paper 3 & 6 1h 30m	Spanish Reading (H) 1hr (F) 45m Listening (H) 45m (F) 35m
30-Apr	Thursday	Physics 1h 45m Combined Science 1h 15m	Statistics 1h 45m
1-May	Friday		

Year 11 Live Exam Timetable

Date	Start time	Subject
23rd & 24th April	Full day	Art
30th April & 1st May	Full day	Photography
5th May	9:15	Health and social Care
7th May	9:15	Sport
7th & 8th May	Full day	Spanish Speaking
11th May	9:15	English Literature P1
11th May	13:15	Business P1
12th May	13:15	Biology P1 / Combined Science Biology P1
13th May	9:15	Geography P1
14th May	9:15	Maths P1 (Calc)
15th May	9:15	History P1
15th May	13:15	Polish Speaking
18th May	9:15	Chemistry P1 / Combined Science Chemistry P1
19th May	9:15	English Literature P2
21st May	9:15	English Language P1
21st May	13:15	Business P2
2nd June	9:15	Physics P1 / Combined Science Physics P1
2nd June	13:15	Polish Listening and Reading
2nd June	13:15	Statistics P1
3rd June	9:15	Maths P2 (Non Calc)
3rd June	13:15	Geography P2
4th June	9:15	History P2
5th June	9:15	English Language P2
8th June	9:15	Biology P2 / Combined Science Biology
8th June	13:15	Further Maths P1
9th June	9:15	Spanish Listening and Reading
9th June	13:15	History P3
9th June	13:15	Construction- On Screen
10th June	9:15	Maths (Calc) P3
11th June	9:15	Geography P3
12th June	9:15	Chemistry P2 / Combined Chemistry P2
12th June	13:15	Polish Writing H
12th June	13:15	Statistics P2
15th June	9:15	Physics P2 / Combined Science Physics P2
15th June	13:15	Further Maths P2
16th June	9:15	Spanish Writing

Year 13 Live Exam Timetable

Date	Start time	Subject
11th May	13:15	Health and Social Care
12th May	9:15	Geography ADV P1
12th May	9:15	Chemistry AS P1
13th May	13:15	Business P1
14th May	13:15	Criminology P1
15th May	9:15	Psychology A Level Component 1
19th May	9:15	Business P2
19th May	9:15	Chemistry AS P2
20th May	9:15	Psychology A Level Component 2
20th May	13:15	Physics P1
21st May	13:15	Geography ADV P2
1st June	9:15	Physics P2
2nd June	9:15	Chemistry P1
2nd June	9:15	Chemistry A
3rd June	13:15	Maths P1
4th June	13:15	Biology P1
4th June	13:15	Criminology P1
5th June	9:15	Psychology A Level Component 3
8th June	9:15	Physics P3
9th June	9:15	Chemistry P2
9th June	13:15	Business P2
11th June	13:15	Maths P2
12th June	9:15	Biology P2
15th June	9:15	Chemistry P3
15th June	9:15	Chemistry A
16th June	9:15	Biology P3
18th June	13:15	Maths P3

**BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE,
 PREPARATION IS THE KEY TO
 SUCCESS.**

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

Mobile Phones in School

Helping students focus, learn and feel safe



Ready

Respectful, Responsible

✓ Students CAN bring their phone to school


For travelling to and from school – but it will be stored safely during the school day

Every Morning – Tutor Time

- 1 Students **switch their phone OFF** 
- 2 Phone goes into their **named wallet** 
- 3 Wallet goes into the **tutor phone box** 
- 4 Phone boxes stored **securely in Reception** 

During the School Day

-  Students can focus on learning ✓
-  Less distraction & social media pressure ✓
-  A safer, calmer school environment ✓




 If a student needs to contact home they can go to:

- Reception
- Head of Year
- First Aid
- Learning Support

End of the School Day

-  Students **collect** their phone during **afternoon tutor time**
-  Students with after school **detention** or attending **Period 6** will receive their phones afterwards
-  Students leave school with their phone

Why We Are Doing This

-  Reduce distractions in lessons
-  Improve focus & learning
-  Support wellbeing

Our Aim



Less distraction



Better focus



Calmer classrooms



Students still have phones

Every Child Known, Every Lesson Counts, Every Future Unlocked



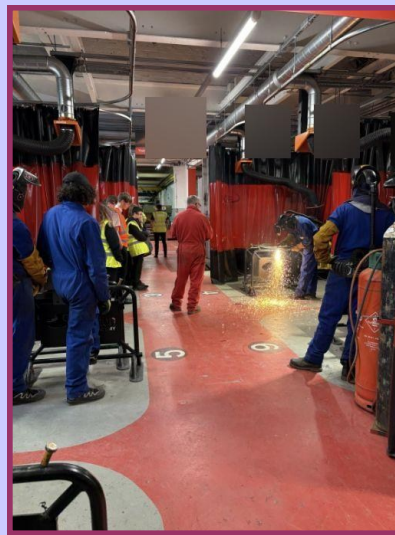
National Careers Week—Caunton Open Day

As part of National Careers Week, Mr. Goddard took a group of our Year 10 students to Caunton Engineering for a special insight into the world of apprenticeships. The visit proved to be a fantastic experience, all students thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Caunton Engineering, which runs its own apprenticeship academy, hosted an open day for young people to explore future career pathways. Our students were given access to a range of areas across the site—including the boardroom and the workshop floor—allowing them to see first-hand what an engineering apprenticeship involves.

A highlight of the visit was meeting several of our ex-students who now work at Caunton. One former student, currently completing his apprenticeship, even demonstrated welding skills to the group. Moments like this truly show our students what is possible and how their learning in school can lead directly to exciting career opportunities.

Experiences such as this emphasise the importance of preparing our students to be “life ready.” Many of our young people will go on to pursue apprenticeships across a wide variety of sectors, and National Careers Week plays a key role in raising awareness and showcasing these routes. There are so many opportunities available to our students in every subject area, and ensuring they have the knowledge and confidence to make informed decisions about their future is essential.



caunton
ENGINEERING

National Careers Week 2026

National Careers Week has once again been a fantastic celebration of opportunity, aspiration, and inspiration for our students.

Students have been engaged, excited, and truly motivated by the range of visitors and workshops offered throughout the week.

Collins Trucking Company Visit

This week we welcomed Collins Trucking Company, who sparked a huge amount of interest from our students. Several pupils requested further information, explored apprenticeship opportunities, and are now considering applications for the summer. The company also generously donated a large amount of merchandise for students.



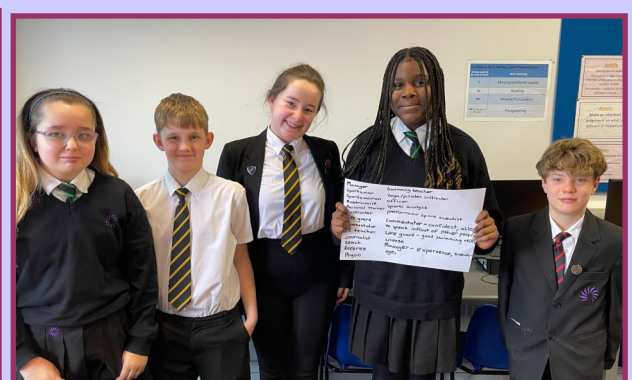
BBC Workshop with Lewis Allsop

Former Aldercar student Lewis Allsop returned to deliver an inspiring workshop about his journey from our classrooms all the way to working for the BBC. Those who attended were treated to an uplifting session that showcased the success of one of our own alumni. Lewis was fantastic with the students and left them feeling motivated and encouraged.



Amber Valley School Sport Partnership (AVSSP) -Sports Industry Careers Session

Representatives from AVSSP hosted a dynamic workshop exploring careers in the sporting industry. Students enjoyed hands-on activities, teamwork challenges, and healthy competition. The session was well received and offered great insight into a wide variety of sports-related roles.



National Careers Week 2026

Derbyshire Constabulary Forensics Unit

The Forensics Unit from Derbyshire Constabulary provided one of the week's most memorable workshops. They demonstrated specialist forensic equipment, and a few of our students even had the chance to dress up in full forensic attire! Student engagement was outstanding.



B&Q Interactive Maths Workshop

B&Q visited to deliver an engaging, maths-focused session about the role of a store manager. Year 7 students were especially enthusiastic and impressed our visitors with their engagement and curiosity.



Careers in the Classroom and Beyond

Alongside our visitors, many departments ran career-linked lessons, activities, and trips throughout the week. Thank you to everyone who planned, and delivered these sessions.

Rolls Royce Museum, of Making



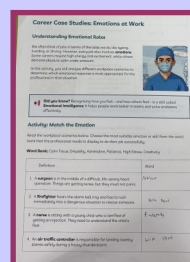
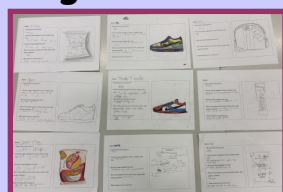
Some Year 10 students visited the Museum of Making in Derby to attend a series of workshops led by Rolls Royce. They covered a variety of areas and learnt about lots of apprenticeship schemes available in areas such as non-destructive testing.



Can You Help?

We are currently planning our Careers Fair on Thursday 9th July. If you have contacts in any industry who may be willing to deliver a workshop, speak in an assembly, or host a stall at the fair, please get in touch.

Email: info@aldercarhighschool.co.uk



Curriculum Capture—Science Week

Students at Aldercar High School recently immersed themselves in a week of hands-on discovery as part of their annual Science Week celebrations. The event was designed to bring science to life while highlighting the wide range of careers linked to scientific study.

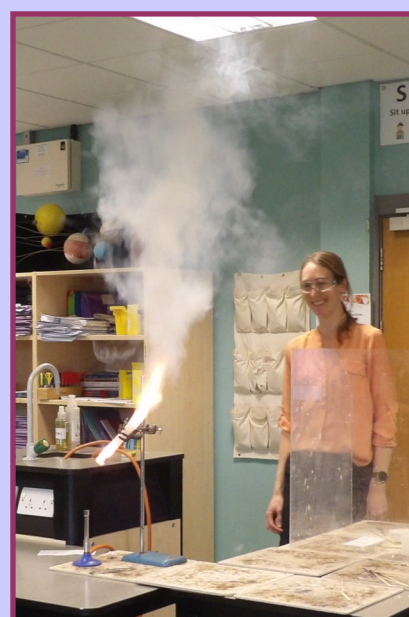
One of the most engaging activities for students was a rat dissection workshop, where they were able to explore real anatomical structures and gain a deeper understanding of mammalian biology. The session helped students connect classroom learning with careers in fields such as medicine, veterinary science, biomedical research and forensic science.

Students also took part in an environmental activity by making fat balls for bird feeders, learning about wildlife nutrition and ecosystems while discussing careers connected to ecology, conservation, environmental science and zoology. The activity highlighted how small actions can support local biodiversity and demonstrated the practical side of environmental science.

In the chemistry lab, pupils were treated to a series of exciting chemistry demonstrations, showcasing colourful reactions, energy changes and the principles behind everyday materials. Alongside the demonstrations, teachers discussed career pathways in chemical engineering, pharmaceuticals, materials science and industrial chemistry.

A particular highlight of the week was the opportunity for students to chat with visiting scientists, who shared insights into their work, educational journeys and the many different routes into scientific careers. These conversations helped students see how the skills they develop at school can lead to real-world opportunities across science, technology, engineering and research.

Science Week at Aldercar High School provided an inspiring opportunity for students to explore the practical side of science, ask questions, and discover how their interests could lead to exciting future careers.



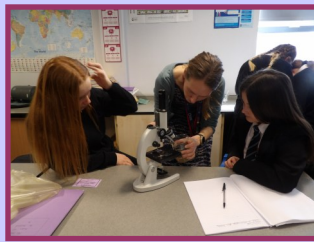
Curriculum Capture—Science Week

Across Years 7 to 9, Science Week was also embedded into regular science lessons with a range of engaging STEM-focused activities. Students explored stem cells by modelling cell differentiation using play dough, helping them visualise how specialised cells develop in the body and linking to careers in medical research and regenerative medicine.

Students also learned about environmental DNA (eDNA) and how scientists can use traces of genetic material in water samples to detect different species in environments such as the ocean. This activity introduced students to modern techniques used in marine biology, conservation science and environmental monitoring.

Finally, students put their engineering skills to the test by designing and creating power turbines, investigating how energy can be generated from movement and renewable sources. This activity linked directly to careers in renewable energy, engineering and sustainable technology.

Science Week at Aldercar High School provided an inspiring opportunity for students to explore the practical side of science, ask questions and discover how their interests today could lead to exciting careers in the future.



Year 7 students built working models of the human lung using everyday recycled items. Using plastic bottles as ribcages, balloons as lungs, and straws as airways, pupils were able to see exactly how breathing works. By pulling on a balloon attached to the bottom of the bottle, students watched the “lungs” inflate and deflate—just like in real life. The activity helped everyone understand how the diaphragm moves to draw air in and out of the body.

The lesson combined creativity, teamwork, and science, showing how simple materials can bring biology to life. Many students said it was one of their favourite practical's so far this year!



Fire, Ice and Northern Lights: Our Icelandic Adventure

Last week, a group of intrepid students and staff swapped the classroom for the dramatic landscapes of Iceland. From the moment we touched down in the "Land of Fire and Ice," it was clear this would be a trip to remember. The 9-hour delay on the other hand...not so well remembered!

Chasing the Lights

Our bad luck at the start was soon swapped for good luck. On a crisp, clear evening, we were treated to nature's greatest light show: the Northern Lights. Watching the green ribbons dance across the Arctic sky was a silent, awe-inspiring moment that no photograph can quite capture (though we certainly tried!).

Living on the Edge

We didn't just look at the scenery; we lived in it. Our accommodation was situated right at the base of a volcano, a humbling reminder of the tectonic forces shaping our world. To understand the science behind the scenery, we visited the Lava Centre, where interactive displays showed us exactly how the island was forged through fire.

Waterfalls and Giants of Ice

The Icelandic landscape is a masterclass in geography:

The Waterfalls: We stood in the mist of towering falls, feeling the raw power of the water crashing into the basins below.

The Glaciers: Getting up close to a glacier was a highlight for many, seeing the deep blue tints of ancient ice and learning about the changing climate firsthand.

City Lights and Snowball Fights

It wasn't all serious science, though! Between the landmarks, we found plenty of time for a legendary school-wide snowball fight—a necessary rite of passage in the Icelandic snow. We wrapped up our journey in Reykjavík, the world's northernmost capital, exploring its colourful streets and unique culture.

"Seeing the things we study in class actually come to life was amazing, but the snowball fight with the teachers is something I'll never forget!" — Year 10 Student

A huge thank you to all the staff and students who made this trip such a fantastic success. Iceland was "cool" in every sense of the word!

Fire, Ice and Northern Lights: Our Icelandic Adventure



Glaciologist Dr Tris

This term, our students had a fantastic opportunity to learn directly from Dr Tristram Irvine-Fynn, a glaciologist from Aberystwyth University. During his visit, Dr Irvine-Fynn shared insights into his research and the vital work scientists do to understand glaciers and the rapidly changing Arctic environment.

Students were especially fascinated to hear what it is really like to work in some of the most extreme and challenging conditions on Earth. Dr Irvine-Fynn spoke about travelling across remote ice fields, using specialised scientific equipment, and working safely in Arctic environments such as Greenland and Svalbard.

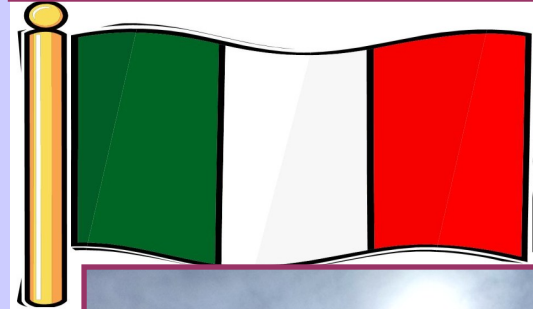
Our students asked thoughtful and engaging questions about his research, life during polar expeditions, and the techniques scientists use to gather data in harsh, icy landscapes. The session not only deepened their understanding of climate science but also inspired many to think about the exciting possibilities within geography and scientific careers.

We are extremely grateful to Dr Irvine-Fynn for giving his time and expertise, and we are proud of the enthusiasm and curiosity shown by all of the students who took part.



Tuscany Trip

In March, ten Year 8 students went to Tuscany on an Eco Themed trip of a lifetime. They visited the Leaning Tower of Pisa, explored the incredible mountain trails looking at waterfalls and beautiful wildlife and visited Lerici Castle including a paddle in the Mediterranean Sea to cool off. We also visited an Italian School who we had been completing a project with over the last few months in Eco Club. Our students were a credit to the school and our local community by representing their identity and dreams through group art work.



Sports News

In January, seven excited students had the incredible opportunity to attend a specialist swimming masterclass with Olympic champion **Adam Peaty** at Repton School, accompanied by Mr. Briggs.

The morning began with an inspiring question and answer session in which Adam spoke openly about his training, determination, and journey to becoming one of the world's greatest breaststroke swimmers. Students were fully engaged, asking thoughtful questions and soaking up every piece of advice he shared. Following the Q&A, the group headed to the pool for a high-energy coaching session led by Repton's outstanding swimming staff. The session focused on technique, discipline, and the mindset needed for high-level performance. Students threw themselves into the drills, showing maturity, enthusiasm, and excellent behaviour throughout.

By the time the minibus pulled away from Repton, the students were buzzing with excitement—energised by the experience and motivated to push their swimming even further.

It was truly a day to remember, offering real inspiration from one of Britain's sporting greats.

On 14th January, a group of girls travelled to Sleetmoor United to play U15s football. Despite the ice-cold weather, the girls put in a fantastic shift and showed real determination. They were also playing up age groups, which is an incredible achievement in itself. There were some excellent performances across the team, and everyone should be proud of how they played.

A fantastic display of hard work, teamwork, and determination from all the Year 9 football team on January 21st battling the cold and wet. They absolutely deserved more from the evening — especially in the first two games, where they hit the post several times and a penalty was saved by an excellent stop from the keeper.

Despite the tough conditions and some frustrating moments, every single player worked their socks off. We are very proud of them — they did themselves and the school proud.



Sports News

Mr. Hollway took a group of our Year 7 and 8 students to Ripley Leisure Centre this week to compete in an indoor rowing event. Our students performed brilliantly throughout the competition, showing determination, teamwork, and great enthusiasm.

There were a few nerves at first—especially after spotting the very tall Heanor Gate team—but our students quickly found their confidence and threw themselves into the challenge. Their positive attitude and team spirit were fantastic to see, and they represented the school exceptionally well.

Well done to everyone who took part!



In February, Mr Holloway took a group of Year 7 boys to play a tournament at Sleetmoor United. It was a very wet afternoon, however they did not shy away from it and were brilliant. They dominated large parts of both games and played some really nice football, unfortunately they couldn't quite find the net, hence they came away with a draw and a loss. They represented the school really well with their great attitudes and effort. Well done team.!

Year 7 and Year students attended Football plus, they represented the school very well and put on a great performance.



Not every sporting event ends in victory, but our teams prove that success is about much more than the final score. Throughout all competition, our players show outstanding perseverance, determination, and teamwork.

Even on the journeys home, the smiles, laughter, and positive energy from the teams say everything. Their attitude shows what truly matters: representing the school with pride, supporting each other, and always giving their best effort.

These experiences build resilience and strengthen the valuable learning skills that will help our students be Life Ready. We are incredibly proud of their commitment and the way they continue to grow with every match.

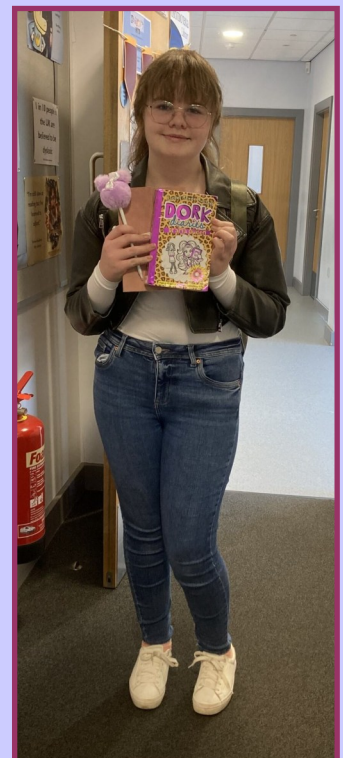
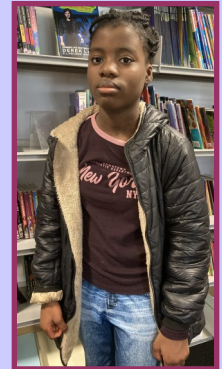
Well done to all our teams. We look forward to the Summer term.

World Book Day..

On World Book Day we were thrilled, amused and disturbed by the incredible range of costumes. Kudos to the maths department, 7D and the HI unit for their terrific costume efforts.

A total of 109 students took part in The Traitors. lots of new faces were seen in the library, lots of chat heard all over school and lots of students were huddled over making their deductions. The engagement was terrific.

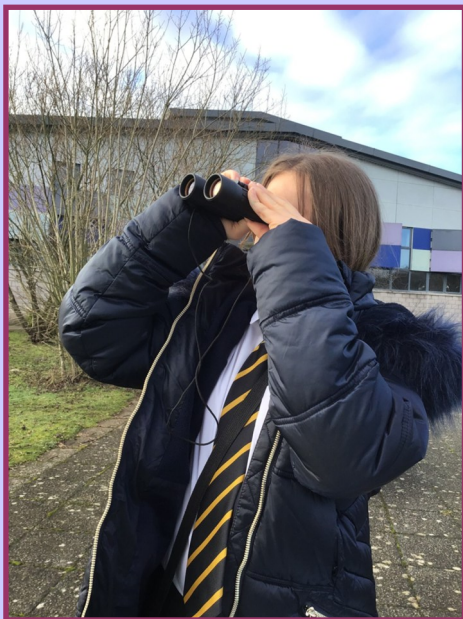
OUR TRAITORS WERE: Mr Prest, Mrs Wainwright and Mrs Cleveley.



RSPB Birdwatch

Students from Hearing Impaired took part in the annual Bird watch survey with the R.S.P.B. This year we discovered that the school site has lots of different types of birds, including Wag tails, Robins and Magpies. We were excited to see that our resident Buzzard remains in school alongside his wife and baby Buzzard! We spotted the nesting box for them in one of our neighbouring gardens.

However, there's an unidentified bird at school whose distinctive call sounds like laughter. Have you heard it?



Period 6 revision Attendance

Year 11 students have been working hard in preparation for their upcoming exams, with many attending our Period 6 revision sessions after school. Attendance has been fantastic, showing real dedication and maturity from the year group.

We were especially proud to reward 52 students who attended 10 or more sessions out of the 12, recognising their commitment to learning and their determination to succeed.

We wish all our Year 11 students the very best in their upcoming exams and look forward to celebrating their achievements.

Rewards Trip to Hickorys

Breakfast club students have been rewarded again with a trip to Hickorys Smoke House in January and another in March. They made pancakes, enjoyed popcorn and juice. Then had some outdoor playtime where the students enjoyed the climbing frames and slides. The students had a fabulous day.



ERS trip to Butlins

The ERS department had an amazing week in Butlin's.

They had great weather and lots of fun, including, swimming, archery, crazy golf, ten pin bowling and go karts.

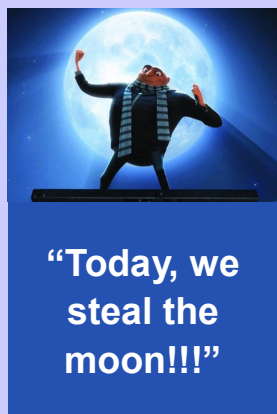


Hearing Impaired Visit to Heanor Park Care Home

Christmas feels a long way away now, but our Hearing Impaired students still have plenty of memories about their visit to Heanor Park Care home just before we broke up for the Christmas holidays. Heanor Care Park Home has a unit for Deaf and Hearing Impaired residents with staff who are trained in BSL. We visited the residents to perform our Christmas songs and have a lovely chat with them. After the visit, we went to the local Asda to perform our Christmas songs whilst trying to raise money for the department. We were well received and we raise over £150!



Today we Steal the moon!!



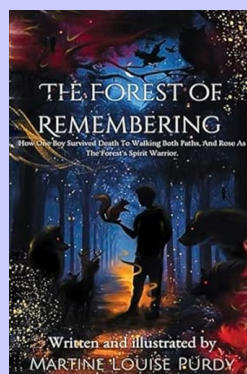
As part of World Book Day Hearing Impaired students and staff came dressed as Minions, Bananas and Gru. Lots of fun was had and they did literally steal the moon!



Author Visit

We were extremely lucky to have a visit from a local author, Martine Purdy. “The Forest of Remembering” is her first published book and DHI form have been reading it during DEAL time.




Students were lucky to meet Frankie who is the main character in the book and Martine’s son, he answered questions that students had. Martine read some of the book and then treated them to an illustration session. Students thoroughly enjoyed the session and were inspired to start writing!



Post-16 News

DANCOP Workshops: Building Future-Ready Skills

During January, our students took part in two highly engaging **DANCOP workshops**, focusing on:




-  *Identifying key employability skills*
-  *Understanding what employers look for*
-  *How to succeed in applications, interviews, and assessment centres.*

These sessions gave students practical tools to help shape their future career journeys.

National Apprenticeship Week 2026

From **9-13 February**, students were given the opportunity to participate in the **National Apprenticeship Week** activities, including the **Unifrog Online Apprenticeship Fair**.

Students had the chance to:

-  Meet real employers
-  Join live professional sessions
-  Explore the latest apprenticeship opportunities

 Chat one-on-one to gain expert application tips

We hope these experiences sparked new ideas and confidence as students consider their next steps.

Celebrating UCAS Success

We are thrilled that **all UCAS applicants have received multiple offers**, with many already securing all five.

Courses applied for include:

-  Chemical Engineering
-  Nutrition
-  Policing
-  Architecture
-  Education
-  Business

Post-16 News continued

Students also joined an online **Student Finance session** delivered by *Nottingham Trent University*, which provided clear, valuable guidance. A big thank you to NTU for their ongoing support!

Year 13 Mock Exams & Progress Reports

Year 13 students have now completed their **final set of mock exams** ahead of their summer A-Levels. Reports were sent to parents/carers before the February half-term .

Year 13 Parent Contact

Instead of holding an in-person Parents' Evening this term, staff personally reached out to all Year 13 parents and carers via **phone or email**, ensuring everyone received the support and updates they needed.



Diary Dates

Event	Date
EASTER BREAK	30th March-10th April
Return to school	13th April
Macbeth Theatre trip	14th April
Year 10 Mock Exams	20th April—1st May
Madrid trip	20th April—24th April
May Day Bank holiday. School closed	4th May
GCSE and GCE exams	5th May— 19th June
Year 10 work experience	18th—22nd May
Year 8 Anti-social behaviour workshop	18th May
Last day of half term	22nd May
HALF TERM	25th-29th May
Students return to school	1st June
Year 13 Leavers meal	19th June
Sports week	22nd—25th June
Key Stage 3 exams	22nd—24th June
Year 6 Transition evening	25th June
Inset Day — School closed to students	26th June
Year 6 Transition Day 1	2nd July
Year 6 Transition Day 2	3rd July
Year 11 Prom	3rd July
Howitt and Shippley Celebration Evening	14th July
Gregg and Ormonde Celebration Evening	16th July
Year 7 and Year 8 Disco	21st July
Last Day of Term	23rd July
SUMMER BREAK	24th July—7th September
GCE A-Level Results	13th August
GCSE exam Results	20th August

