



What a fantastic year!

Issue 3 – summer 2018

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

As the first year of the new CoDA, under the QEGSMAT trust, draws to an end, I am filled with pride and jubilation. My students are all wonderful individuals and they have been key elements to the school making rapid progress. There have been so many successes in a wide variety of areas that have kept my weekly Headteacher Blog busy and active all year.

On a personal note, this is also my first year at CoDA and every day I am reminded how special the school and community is, and that is why I am delighted and honoured to be leading the school. The schools aim of improving the life chances of all of our students is evident throughout the school and I am pleased that we have worked tirelessly this year to forge strong links with businesses in the local community, including INTU, Rolls Royce and Morrison's Flowerworld, to name a few, to create even more opportunities for our young learners.

There a number of special achievements that will be mentioned in more detail in the newsletter;

- The success of our Year 8 at the Teen Tech awards held at the Emirates stadium
- United Kingdom Mathematics Challenge success.
- Year 9 Compact work with the Derby Fire and Rescue Service
- Professional footballer Alan Stubbs coaching KS3 students
- Oxford Trip
- Houses of Parliament Trip

Our year 11 students have performed remarkably well during their exam period and I am confident that they will be happy with the grades they achieve on Thursday 23rd August. It has been humbling to see so many dedicated students, and in return, the staff at CoDA have compiled a year 11 leavers' video so they can remember CoDA. The video is available on our website and social media streams (see back page for details).

I would also like to say goodbye and good luck to the following staff who are moving onto different paths. I would like to thank them for their care and dedication to our students. The staff leaving are: Ms Thompson, Ms Summer, Mr Harrison, Mrs Squire, Miss Clamp, Mr Dhillon and Miss Boa. I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the best for the future.

I am excited by the plans for next year which include an emphasis on rewarding students who meet our 3 R expectations on a lesson by lesson and daily basis. This will result in termly reward activities. I look forward to giving parents and students the finer details in the new academic year. Next year, we have two information evenings:

- KS3 Tuesday 18th September
- KS4 Thursday 20th September

Finally, I hope that you all have a lovely summer break and come back refreshed for another exciting year.

Mr P Smith
Proud Headteacher



News from Around the Trust

QEGSMAT Chair of Trustees – Max Jeffery



If, like me, you have had a child taking their exams over the past few weeks, you will have been aware of the scale of changes in our children's education. The QEGSMAT is no different; our group of schools is growing and is now just more than one year old. It has taken a significant effort to get us smoothly to this point, but I am pleased to report that we are now really starting to see the benefits of the schools working together.

One of our key priorities as Trustees has been to keep focused on how our students are being taught to ensure that all available resources and energy is focused on them. Examples include teachers sharing their knowledge and being able to use our collective buying power to get better services for less cost, meaning more money can be directed to our most important asset - our students. This supports the staff and governors' focus on ensuring our students get to experience consistently great teaching and learning.

There is still much to do as we grow and really use the power of a group of like-minded schools working together to deliver an even better education for our students. This is the purpose of a Multi Academy Trust. We all have a part to play in this, with our great local governors who know the individual schools well playing a vital part in supporting and challenging the staff who teach our children.

To every parent taking the time to read this, I encourage you to get involved at every stage of your child's education. We have some remarkable teachers, leaders and staff in our schools who need your support as well as your challenge to help provide the very best opportunities for our young people.

This Trust has been set up around four words chosen by the young people themselves, "Question, Explore, Give, Succeed" In some ways, it might be easy to dismiss this activity as just a "brand" exercise – but, if we can all think about turning them into actions, we will better serve our students together as a result.

QEGSMAT Executive Headteacher/CEO – Anne Martin



I have the pleasure of visiting all the schools in our trust, meeting and speaking with staff and governors. My particular focus is, and will always be, the young people. I have seen fantastic examples of work in lessons in every subject in both primary and secondary. Young people enjoying learning both inside and outside the classroom. Duke of Edinburgh award practices, clubs, art exhibitions, music concerts, plays and shows...to name just a few.

Outcomes for me is about both academic and personal success; developing the whole child to enable them to be an active and responsible citizen in an ever changing world. Our schools need to be happy and safe places where children, young people and staff thrive.

I have two children who have both gone through examinations in year 11 and 13 this

year and completely understand and appreciate the pressures that external exams, at any age bring. It is important that our school communities support all young people through their education, particularly at these key points and I wish all pupils and students every success as they progress to the next stage of their development.

School Governors

Governors have an important part to play in raising standards of schools. The role of the governing board is absolutely key to the effectiveness of a school. Governors provide strategic leadership and accountability in schools. They are, also, the key link between the school and the wider community. We have a fantastic team of Governors that play a part in shaping the City of Derby Academy.

If you would like to know more about becoming a Governor, please contact Mrs Bell on mbell@cityofderbyacademy.org

Head Students

This term, year 10 students have been busy preparing for the Head Student role. After presenting in front of staff and students, four students were voted onto the next stage – interview.

On Monday 3rd July, Connie, Amrit, Danyal and Zainab attended an interview. Mr Smith, Mr Bult and Cllr Joanna West formed the interview panel.

All students did amazingly well and it was a difficult decision to award only two of the students with the Head Student role. So, all four students were recognised for their hard work and dedication to CoDA and were appointed the following roles:

- **Head Student:** Connie & Amrit,
- **Deputy Head Student:** Danyal & Zainab

Cllr Joanna West was, ‘tremendously proud of all the students who applied for the Head Student roles’.

Oxford University Trip

On Thursday 3rd May, City of Derby Academy students had the opportunity to visit Oxford University.



Students took part in a number of tasks which they completed with great confidence. They were, also, given a tour of the Corpus Christie Campus.

Normanton Parents' Evening

On the 20th June we held a successful community parents' evening at the Madeley Centre.

In partnership with Adem Repesa and his team (New Communities Achievement Team) we have been able to provide a community parents' evening for families whose first language is not English. This was the 2nd successful evening held this year, with more to be arranged for next year.

Teen Tech – Emirates Stadium

On the 20th and 21st March, Year 8 took part in a Teen Tech event where they have to design and build their vision for the 'City of Tomorrow' out of recycled items. All of the buildings were judged and three of the teams were successful in being invited to the national final. The final took place at the Emirates Stadium. The 12 pupils took part in a Microsoft challenge where they had to design a safer road system; they were presented with workshops by different industries including Rolls Royce and the MOD; and they had to deliver a presentation of their building to representatives from leading industries in the UK. One of our teams was, also, selected to interview the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport - Matt Hancock.

All three CoDA teams won the 'best recreational and best outdoor space' awards, the 'Tree of Life Inn building award, and the team of Keisha, Amirah, Zoha and Jake were the overall winners of the Smarter, Kinder, and Safer Award.

An outstanding achievement!



YES! COMPACT

Six of our Year 9 students took part in a 5 day programme (Yes! COMPACT) with the Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service. The pilot programme is part of their Youth Engagement Scheme; creating opportunities for young people's personal, social and educational development.

The programme includes; search and rescue techniques, basic first aid and resuscitation, communication skills, basic operational skills and team building. Students took part in a number of tasks; hose running, pumping water, ladder drill, fire awareness, aerial Ladder platform plus more.

The programme completed with a Pass Out Parade on Friday 8th June 2018. Students really engaged and excelled in the programme. All six were awarded certificates and were highly praised by the fire service.

Thank you for Miss McCann and Mrs Goodman for organising this opportunity and Well done to:

Kadin K-, Radoslava H, Megan K, Louis M.
Luna C, Kumbona S



France Trip

Early this month, thirty seven academy pupils in years seven, eight and nine spent three days in northern France, accompanied by four teachers.



Mckenzie Edwards, Ellie Fletcher, Megan Shepherd and Gloria Buaku have shared their journey and experiences for the newsletter;



We travelled down by coach and through the Eurotunnel to Boulogne sur Mer, Calais and le Touquet. They're on the coast and have many cultural opportunities and great beaches. It was lovely weather, so we spent some time playing games on the beach, speaking French in shops, and visiting a chocolate factory, the 'Nausicaa' sea life centre, a traditional French market and, best of all, experienced a real French bakery, where we tried to make croissants. It was a great trip and we would like to go back there again someday.



Exams

All students have conducted themselves amazingly well over the exam period. We would like to thank them for their professionalism throughout and we wish them all the best in their results.



GCSE Exam Results day is Thursday 23rd August 2018. Results will be available to collect from school between 10:00am – 1:00pm.



If you wish to have results posted to you, please leave an A4 self-addressed, stamped envelope with Mrs Stockley showing the student's form in the top left hand corner.

Alternatively, you may issue a letter giving your permission for another person to collect your results. This requirement applies to parents and guardians as well as other relatives and friends. This person must bring a form of identification with them.

Results will not be issued over the telephone, and we would be grateful if you did not telephone the school requesting results.

Former Professional Footballer Coaches Key Stage 3 Pupils

On Wednesday 2nd May, 17 pupils from Key Stage 3 took part in a coaching session delivered by former Derby County FC player, Alan Stubbs. Alan Stubbs played at the highest level for club and country, played in front of crowds of 62,000 people and he said the best talent he played against was Wayne Rooney. The opportunity was given to the school because one of our parents nominated us to the Football Association. The pupils took part in a variety of practices focused on developing their football skills and completed the session by playing in a conditioned game.



“Respect, enjoy and listen to your coaches and teachers” Alan Stubbs, 2018

Following the session, Alan invited the boys to take part in a question and answer session. The pupils asked what his time was like at Derby, what was his best achievement and what advice would he give to a young person wanting to become a professional footballer. The Academy would like to thank the Football Association for this great opportunity and the pupils were a credit to the school.



Talented Mathematicians

Message from Mr Smith:

I was delighted to spend some time with some of our talented mathematicians at CoDA. Not only did it give us the opportunity to discuss the joy of maths, but I had the opportunity to hand present the certificates from the latest round of the UKMC [UK Mathematics Challenge]. All of the students have performed brilliantly and it was an opportunity for me to say how proud I am of them.



Well done to:

Year 7 – Ella D, Gurveer K, Oliver G, Mason B, Vinjeru M, Muneeb H

Year 8 – Inder P, Jake B, Sukhjeevan J, Kai M, Eesa H, Balraj N,

Year 9 - Himanshu J, Aishmin S,

Year 10 - Joris T-G, Libby H, Harpreet G, Amrit A, Joshua L

Mr Smith’s Weekly Blog

Each week Mr Smith uploads a weekly blog to our website, Facebook and Twitter pages. The blogs are a great way to showcase/ recognise students. To read Mr Smith’s blogs please visit our website: www.cityofderbyacademy.org

Year 11 Prom/ Staff Video

What a busy year it has been for our year 11 students! To recognise and celebrate their hard work, we held a leavers' assembly on Friday 22nd June which included the launch of the staff leavers' video, performed to The Script – Hall of Fame.

Year 11 students, also, attended the end of year Prom which was held at Mickleover Court Hotel. Students turned up in style and enjoyed the evening dancing. They finished off the evening with a request for the DJ to play The Script – Hall of Fame!

We wish all our year 11 students all the best in their next stages of life.

Breakfast Club

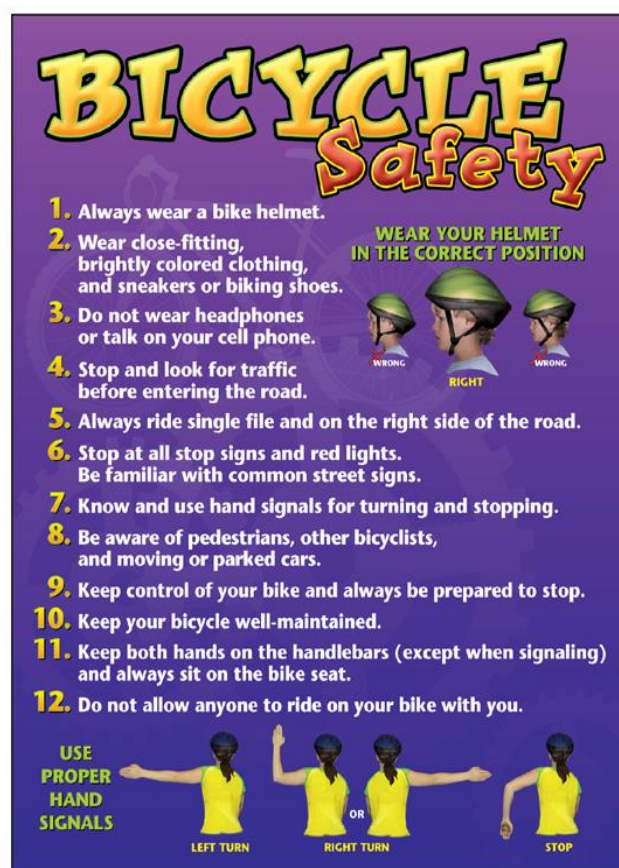
Breakfast Club is available to all students, from 8.00am - 8.30am every morning.



Road Safety

We have received a number of reports recently regarding students cycling on roads in a dangerous manner. We have been speaking to students about the importance of staying safe and ask for parents/carers to, also, discuss the importance of staying safe at home.

We have provided some information and useful links below:

A purple poster titled 'BICYCLE Safety' in large, yellow, bubbly letters. It lists 12 safety rules for cyclists. Rule 1: 'Always wear a bike helmet.' Rule 2: 'Wear close-fitting, brightly colored clothing, and sneakers or biking shoes.' Rule 3: 'Do not wear headphones or talk on your cell phone.' Rule 4: 'Stop and look for traffic before entering the road.' Rule 5: 'Always ride single file and on the right side of the road.' Rule 6: 'Stop at all stop signs and red lights. Be familiar with common street signs.' Rule 7: 'Know and use hand signals for turning and stopping.' Rule 8: 'Be aware of pedestrians, other bicyclists, and moving or parked cars.' Rule 9: 'Keep control of your bike and always be prepared to stop.' Rule 10: 'Keep your bicycle well-maintained.' Rule 11: 'Keep both hands on the handlebars (except when signaling) and always sit on the bike seat.' Rule 12: 'Do not allow anyone to ride on your bike with you.' The poster includes illustrations of a person wearing a helmet correctly (labeled 'RIGHT') and incorrectly (labeled 'WRONG'), and illustrations of hand signals for 'LEFT TURN', 'RIGHT TURN', and 'STOP'.

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/what-you-can-do/cycling/cycling-safety-and-rules/road-safety-cyclists>

<http://think.direct.gov.uk/cycling.html>

CoDA Residents

We have had a family of blackbird nest within the grounds of CoDA.



I am pleased to say Mummy Blackbird took very good care of her babies, who have all flown the nest. Thank you to Mr Barker for the photographs.

Farewell

We will be saying farewell this term to:

- Miss Thompson (Head of Art)
- Miss Clamp (Teacher of PE)
- Mrs Squire (Teacher of Dance)
- Miss Boa (Teacher of History)
- Ms Summer (Chef Manager)
- Mr Dhillon (Head of Expressive Arts)
- Mr Harrison (Teacher of ICT)

From everyone at CoDA, we wish you all the very best in your next venture.

New Appointments

Over the past couple of terms, we have been busying recruiting for appointments across the school. We have successfully appointed:

- **Miss Bulloch**
(Teacher of Dance/Drama)
- **Ms Dacus**
(Teacher of Citizenship)
- **Mr Green**
(Teacher of Art)
- **Miss McCalla**
(Learning Mentor)
- **Mrs Radcliffe**
(Teacher of Literacy/Numeracy)
- **Mrs Redding**
(Teacher of Geography)
- **Mrs Seymour**
(Lead Teacher of ICT/ Business Studies)
- **Mrs Taylor**
(Learning Mentor)
- **Mrs Tomblin**
(Connect Centre Leader)
- **Mrs Wilshaw**
(Head of Art)
- **Lynne Roberts**
(Teacher of History)
- **Miss Duke**
(Teacher of History)

I am sure you will join us in welcoming them all to CoDA.

Good Luck

City Sports

Congratulations to the 23 pupils from Years 8 and 9 who represented the Academy at City Sports on Wednesday 4th July 2018.

Jay K, Niks G, Gladis S, Kellisher H, Elliott V, Makenna-Mae R, Keleasha S, Eloise U, Jakub P, Alex D-M, Kai M, Loveynia J, Michela B, Vinjeru M, Skye S, Ben S, Mohammed M, Taig B, Natalie A, Gemma T, Lemuella Anna Z, Dominic C and Roy W.

Well done all – we are very proud of you

Loveynia, Kai and Taig achieved a top 3 position in their events.



Thank You

Thank you to INTU Derby for their support and kind donations. With their help we have been able to purchase football and netball kits, and we now have new seating in the school's entrance area.



Thank you to Debenhams for their donation of two shop mannequins. These have been used to display our school uniform and are in our reception area.



CoDA Choir

Two schools come together in harmony!
On January 25th 2018 students from CoDA and Merrill Academy joined together to participate in a vocal workshop, 'An Introduction to Singing Skills', devised and led by Cathryn Haywood, Musical Director of The Merrill Melody Makers.

Bianca Woods, Music Teacher/Coordinator at CoDA had heard the choir at a recent showcase and thought the student's ability to entertain and delight an audience was impressive. Bianca really wanted CoDA students to experience the 'buzz' of being part of a great musical experience.

Miss Haywood says, *'At the very first enrichment session, the sense of community, enthusiasm and engagement were really strong. I knew if we could develop the singer's confidence and self-esteem, alongside learning singing techniques and performance skills we could create something very special. I, also, know that reaching out and getting involved in combined projects is a wonderful way to share success and inspire others.'*
The idea of a joint singing workshop was formed.

Singers from both academies filled the music room. If there was any trepidation they certainly did not show it!
Within minutes students were engaged. They were tasked to make, either a buzzing or humming noise, and they had to locate other students who were making the sound. This exercise required total focus and acute listening. The music room sounded like a giant bee hive!

Students were completely integrated and enjoyed using masks and mime to

demonstrate reactions without using the voice. This was a fun way to explore how body language can communicate to an audience.

Within twenty minutes, everyone participated in an improvised song based on the concept that in any successful team or group, individuals are a valued, are a vital component, a cog in the wheel.
We were now singing together in harmony as a 'pop up' choir!

It was great to witness, and be part of creating the powerful sound with students from year 7 to 11 and students from two different schools who had never sung together before. Any issues with age, gender, culture, ability, previous experience etc. were left at the door.

The second half focused on singing as one voice, and the joint choir began to work on songs that would form part of a working repertoire.
The joint choir were now 'buzzing' and performed all three pieces to several teachers, who were drawn to the music room by the singing, which could be heard from the reception area.

Student's comments included... *'I didn't want it to end...we were strangers at the start, but at the end we felt like friends...I can't wait to do it again...it was fun and I learnt such a lot too.'*

The experience was such a success that we organised to meet on a regular basis. The singers now perform together, as a collaborative choir called 'Encore'. Even singing in two and three part harmony at Merrill Academy's Easter showcase!
They have since performed at two major Teach First events at Nottingham University in

May and June. Earlier July, they performed a programme of songs to over 200 year 6 student, visiting the school on transition day. The hall was filled with the sound of them and the audience joining in to sing one their anthems 'We are the Champions.'

From September, Miss Haywood will be coming into school as a vocal coach, to develop the CoDA Chromatics own unique sound. Choirs are a community in themselves and can reach out to the wider community.

Miss Haywood says, 'I am thrilled to be coming to work at CoDA, the students have shown commitment and passion and I look forward to working with them on a regular basis.'

As Karen carpenter once said 'We have only just begun...'

Student Well-being

The world is recognising that emotional well-being needs to start at a young age. As a school, we have a duty to help and guide students with their emotions and feelings. To do this, we intend to make well-being a whole school priority next year for both staff and students. We'll include events on mindfulness, learning about mental health, coping with exam stress and building self-esteem and confidence.

Well-being is really important to us here at CoDA. At the moment, we are creating the space needed for this. It is based over in the extended learning centre and we encourage students to come and see what we have done so far. As you can see, Mr Tedaldi has created a fantastic mural for one side of the room.



We would like students to create the name and logo for the room; the competition for this has begun and the final deadline is Friday 20th July. We shall update the room over the summer to include our new name and logo!

CoDA understands that school is about more than learning in a classroom. Together, we can help every student reach their full potential.

Miss Mallen, Well-Being Co-Ordinator

Break/Lunchtime Changes

From September there will be a slight change to the school break and lunch timings. Please see the table below;

Lesson/Break	Start	Finish	Duration
Registration	08:40	09:00	20 minutes
Period 1	09:00	10:00	1 hour
Period 2	10:00	11:00	1 hour
Break	11:00	11:25	25 minutes
Period 3	11:25	12:25	1 hour
Period 4	12:25	13:25	1 hour
Lunch	13:25	14:00	35 minutes
Period 5	14:00	15:00	1 hour

Did you know.....?



When paying for school dinners, trips, etc. you can pay electronically through Parent Pay. If you would like to access this, please contact the school so we can register you.

City of Derby Academy now have a Facebook and Twitter account. We regularly update these accounts to keep everyone up to date with news and information including school closures.



Uniform Pop-up Shops

We have three Uniform Pop-up shops arranged between now and the beginning of September. The Pop-up shops will be set up in the Gym and will be available between 10:00am – 2:00pm on the following dates:

- Friday 27th July 2018
- Thursday 9th August 2018
- Thursday 23rd August 2018

From September, the Pop-up shops will be held in the Gym from 3:00pm – 4:15pm. The dates are;

Thursday 6 th September 2018
Thursday 4 th October 2018
Thursday 8 th November 2018
Thursday 6 th December 2018
Thursday 10 th January 2019
Thursday 7 th February 2019
Thursday 7 th March 2019
Thursday 4 th April 2019
Thursday 2 nd May 2019
Thursday 6 th June 2019
Thursday 4 th July 2019

For uniform prices, please visit our website:
<http://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/uniform/>

Important dates for your diaries

Terms Dates 2018-19

- 5th September – 26th October 2018
- Year 7's only - 5th September
- 5th November – 21st December 2018
- 7th January – 15th February 2019
- 25th February – 12th April 2019
- 29th April – 24th May 2019
- 3rd June – 19th July 2019

INSET days 2018-19

- 3rd September 2018
- 4th September 2018
- 8th October 2018
- 26th November 2018
- 22nd July 2019

Information Evenings 5:30pm-7:00pm

- Tuesday 18th September 2018
KS3 (Year 7 & 8)
- Thursday 20th September 2018
KS4 (Year 9, 10 & 11)

Parents' Evening 4:00pm-6:00pm

- Wednesday 16th January 2019 – Year 11
- Wednesday 30th January 2019 – Year 9
- Wednesday 6th March 2019 – Year 8
- Wednesday 3rd April 2019 – Year 11
- Wednesday 15th May 2019 – Year 10
- Wednesday 12th June 2019 – Year 7



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