Issue 15 – Spring 2022

# Improving the Life Chances for All Students

Dear Parents, Staff and Students,

As we approach the Easter break, I am growing ever prouder with all of the young people and wider community at CODA. The school vision of 'improving the life chances of all students' is evident every single day and most importantly I see a lot of happy students who are fully prepared for leaving CODA to be successful citizens in modern day Britain.

This term has been one of the schools' busiest terms, but it has still been a great one on many levels. We have had an Ofsted inspection which recognised the positive steps and direction of travel that CODA has been making.

In addition, the volume of memorable experiences is breath-taking, and this is demonstrated by my Headteacher Blog which keeps getting longer and longer. In particular, we have had our first student who has achieved a gold star award! This is absolutely amazing so well done to Bhavandeep T in Year 7. What a phenomenal achievement, we are so proud.

I also wish our Year 11 students all of the best on the final run in to their GCSE and Level 2 exams. They have worked so hard in their Mock exams and now is the time to have a final push before the 'real' exams start after Easter.

I am also aware of a number of grade 9 pieces of work in the Mock exams, which is absolutely brilliant. Keep up the great work and keep revising. As extra support, Year 11 have been invited to our Easter school as well.

As you will read, there a lot of special achievements that will be mentioned in more detail in the newsletter. These demonstrate what wonderful opportunities our students are flourishing with.

I would also like to thank the school community for maintaining its virological etiquette with Covid this term. Unfortunately, rates in the city and nationally are on the increase again, so please stay safe over the Easter break.

Finally, I hope that you all have a lovely Easter break. Please refresh those batteries and come back refreshed for another exciting term.

Mr P Smith –
Proud Headteacher





### **Activities Day 1**

Before the winter break, over 800 students qualified and participated in their reward trips/activities for term 1. The day was amazing, and we provided a number of memorable experiences. Mrs Eames, who coordinates these days, said

'Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December saw the relaunch of Activity Days. All students who had received 95% positive to negative ratio had the chance to participate in the day. This time saw the highest number of qualifying students - 826 students met the criteria and took part in a wide variety of activities. These included (amongst others) Paintballing, Ninja Warrior, Ice Skating and a visit to the National Space Centre. All qualifying students had an excellent day - as the smiling faces on the photos testify. Well done to all students who achieved the necessary ratio. Students, who work hard, aiming to go above and beyond staff expectations, will see themselves with a high enough ratio to take part in even more activities. Let us see if we can beat December's record.'



In addition, Mr Cholerton said 'A super day at bowling and the cinema. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day, see pictures. I also had the pleasure of seeing many other Coda students past (former year 11) in Derby.'





Miss Bone also said 'I took 36 kids to the inflatable park with virtual reality (Mr Lowe-Bird was screaming when he was in the rollercoaster that turned him upside down) but the staff, who were amazing, came up to me and said how polite the children were and that they were giving money into the charity box. So I thought I would let you know we had a brilliant day'.







### **Y7 Sports Hall Athletics**

Miss Bulloch took 8 Y7 pupils to Woodlands school on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> of January to compete in the Y7 Sports Hall Athletics.

They did the school proud and tried their hardest in every event which included track and field events. The group came 4<sup>th</sup> overall with 102 points and one point behind 3rd! We scored most points in the 4x2 relay, vertical jump, shot and speed bounce. The pupils involved were Reece W, Reece D, Rytrel P, Faris A, Kayson G, Cerim A, Slavomir P and Jonathon M. Well done boys!



### **Geography Success**

Mr Harding would like the following Year 10 students to be given recognition for working above and beyond outside of lessons: Sajan SR, McKenzie R, Anas S and Prince S.

Mr Barker similarly recognises that in his Year 10 group, Jayden W, Abdu D and Jashandeep S have all put in extra revision time in preparation for their Changing Economy of the UK end of unit assessment.

In Year 11, Mr Barker thanks Rashmeet K and Jaskiren K for their efforts in attending the after school revision sessions.

#### **Music Success**

Mrs Bell wants to say well done to Faith K. She said 'I would like to highlight to you that one of the GCSE music students (Faith K) did her grade 3 singing exam and got a merit. She was very close to a distinction!' Well done Faith we are very proud of you.

In addition Miss Bell said 'A massive thank you to all those who took part in the Winter Arts Festival including the choir, Michael W (Y11) and Miss Bulloch's dance group. The virtual concert was well received and was accessed widely across the community and beyond, showcasing the amazing music that happens in our school.

This half term we will be creating 'Music Ambassadors' who will be awarded yellow music badges – these students go above and beyond in their music lessons, clubs, choir, and instrumental lessons. Their role as ambassadors is to promote music in this school and mentor younger students who come up through the school years. Watch this space!

Well done to students who take part in Guitar and Drum lessons with Mr Chadwick – They are making exceptional progress and improving their life chances. Rio Q, Gemma G, Olivia S, Kim O, Luqman R, Lucas B, Kai P, Deanna S, Alex Z and Rajvir V, Arkan M, Magina P M, Jasmine S, Gabriel W, Angel N, Isra C, Dominik K, Romeo M.

A record number of students received the termly Music Stars award – the certificates are on display on the music corridor!

Very well done to all.'

Great work everyone, we are very proud of you!

#### PE Success

Miss Bulloch would like to say well done and congratulations to some of our CODA athletes. She said 'Attached is a picture from sports hall athletics. The boys came 3<sup>rd</sup> and the girls came 7<sup>th</sup>. But they were all fabulous! All tried their best in their events and did the school proud. The first two go to qualifiers for Derbyshire so gutted for the boys as they just missed out on qualifying.'



### **Headteacher Award**

I have to start off by saying a huge well done to Bhavandeep T in Year 7. He is the first pupil in the school to achieve the Gold Award!! He has received the Head Teacher's Award and gold star badge. This is an amazing achievement, well done Bhavandeep.



### **GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition**

Mrs Holden wants to say well done to her GCSE Food Preparation group. She said 'I'd like to say a massive well done to the GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students who recently completed their three hour practical exam. This was even more of a challenge than usual due to missing so much practical work time during year 10 (due to covid lockdowns/remote learning). Unfortunately, as it is live exam work, the amazing photographs cannot be shared. The students are:

Shannon T, Gladis S, Danila B, Morgan OS, Marek M, Ethan R, Silvie J, Mackenzie U, Parmjit P, Emmanuel I, Yaicika K, Nehemie I, Oliver N, Gurmeen S, Harkeeret H. Once again, I was blown away with the standard of work produced and organisational skills of the students. They should all be immensely proud of what they have achieved - well done!'

### **Netball Team**

Miss Bulloch is extremely proud of the Y7 netball team. They played in the netball tournament and were a real credit to the school, they showed respect and ready to achieve and succeed in beating Chellaston 1-0! In one of their matches. Well done to Khadjat I, Keren A, Kaja G, Saina S, Sophie D, Beatrise M, Jahdey D and Angel.



### **Local Places of Worship Trip**

Mrs Beeson wants to say well done to her Year 10 RS group. She said 'Mrs Beeson would like to say how very proud she was of the GCSE Religious Studies year 10 students who went on a trip to local places of worship. The students had the opportunity to look inside a Mosque and a Church in Normanton. They also had a meet and greet with worshipers there and our students didn't shy away from asking some fantastic, and at times, challenging questions!

Mrs Beeson would also like to extend her thanks to The Qur'an Project for their generous donation of 20 English translation Qur'ans to assist year 10 with their study of Islam! The students are looking forward to putting them to good use!'







### **Geography Success**

Mr Barker would like to thank Kayla G (7A), Jasleen K (9B) and Tanya D (10XBGo1) for their consistent levels of help they provide in giving out books or resources at the beginning and end of Geography lessons. Their help has been ongoing since September and they are very much appreciated.

He also wishes to thank the following students in Geography for their excellent efforts in the recent Natural Hazards end of unit assessments:

Year 7 - Sahra O, Jahdey D, Ramandeep T, Kai P

**Year 8** - Allana C, Connor M, Danius P, Naina S, Jasmine S,

Year 9 - Rio Q, Leyla R, Riya S, Taranvir S, Kevin S

Mrs Redding offers praise for several hardworking students:

"The following students always amaze me with their outstanding work, effort for learning and all are making excellent progress in class. I would like to personally thank them all for helping to brighten my classroom with their endless enthusiasm...such a joy!"

Jessica D, Lacey B, Jake B, Malad S, Sana K, Elliot S, Matthew O, Bhavandeep T, Abdulkadir J

Amar S, Simrat S, Ramondeep GG, Ella H Ted E, Gemma G, Olivia S, Seher M, Lovejot S Gurleen K, Micheal W, Lewis S

### Derby Museum of the Making

Year 9 Making Futures Trip – The Science of Safety: Inspections, Experiments and Careers in partnership with Rolls-Royce - Derby Museum of Making

The Museum of Making, in partnership with Rolls-Royce, invited a group of 30 of our Year 9 students to take part in an interactive half-day session as part of British Science Week.

The workshops gave students a unique and exclusive insight into the fascinating world of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) exploring how scientific principles including sound waves, capillary action, X-rays and electromagnetism are used in industry to keep jet engines and nuclear reactors safe.

Students had the opportunity to take a closer look into the Rolls-Royce Trent 1000 aero engine suspended in the museum and engaged in a series of real-life experiments based on testing techniques designed to find imperfections in metals and ensure safety.

Students also heard from Rolls-Royce apprentices and industry specialists about their own career pathways with advice on how to get into NDT as a career.







# CoDA Debating Team

Mrs Matthews wants to praise our wonderful debating team. She said 'Just to give you a bit of a run down as to how the competition went with our debating team. They were competing against Littleover. The subject was use of mobile phones in school. Our team were debating for this motion. We were beaten by a "whisker" the judge's terminology not mine. Our students were absolutely brilliant. I am so proud of them. They presented their ideas well and produced some wonderful counter arguments. All the judges said that the debate was of a "finals standard". They were as good as if they were competing in the final of the debating competition. Our team were: Andrew G, Pawandeep S, Marshall S, Sarah Z'



### **Technology and Business Success**

Well done to this rotation of electronics in year 8. They have learnt about components in a circuit, soldered them to a PCB and used the laser cutter to manufacture their ideas drawn in CAD. Although 8a have all worked hard, there has to be special recognition for amazing work and/or resilience to Mason, Tomas, Zain, Amaia, Laiba, and Alina.



In addition to those, Mr Hughes wants to praise the following students. He said 'Pictured are Maryam B, Zoya M and Adekunle A of Year 8 holding the BBC Micro-bits that Mr Hughes presented to them.

After each technology rotation, the best 'programmers' with the Micro bit are given one to keep. Maryam, Zoya and Adekunle showed great perseverance and tenacity in creating and executing some very difficult coding challenges. Well done to all three.

Remember, that after each Year 8 Computer Science, Micro-bits are up for grabs.'



### **English Success**

Mrs Cunningham would like to say well done to the following. She said 'Mrs Cunningham's year 8 English class (8A2) produced some excellent Shakespeare assessments - special mentions to Zara N (also star student of the week), Lerayah, Decosta, Alexa P, Keely W, Banipreet and Malaika'. Well done everyone, we are proud of you.

In addition, Miss Duke, wants to praise the following students. Victoria K has been collecting donations from numerous people in the school to help people who have fled from Ukraine. Her passion and efforts to organise this is amazing. I am really proud of her.

Miley A has been working so hard in English and taking a real interest in our new topic, Oliver Twist. He has been researching the Victorian era and made an amazing poster all about Oliver. He is such a star!

Ella D has done so much work to prepare for the Y11 mocks. She has made extensive revision worksheets on each of the characters and themes for English literature. Her revision sheets are so good I have shared them around the English department for revision. Her dedication and efforts throughout KS4 are so impressive.'

Mr Meehan, wants to praise our Bedrock Reader stars too. They are:

- Ishveer B scored 470 points the most in the school.
- Mohammed H made the most progress: 455%

Well done everyone, we are very proud of you.

### **Library News**

### **World Book Day**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> March CODA celebrated World Book Day! We had some fantastic form time activities including writing a song, a shorty story and of course all entries will receive class charts points and be put into a raffle with the chance to win vouchers! Every student at CODA also received their voucher to claim their free book. The year 7's were extremely lucky and they were able to participate in a Macbeth Workshop! Mr Carney from *As Creatives* said the year 7's were fantastic and he hopes to come back one day!







#### Miss McQuilton's stars of the week

Layla RB, Rio Q and Edward E have been so helpful this week as my student librarians. They make big jobs small and are polite and a pleasure to have in the library!

#### **Star Students**

Miss McQuilton has awarded Rhema I (Y8) 20 classchart points as star of the week for taking a real interest in our reading group. He said, "Miss I never knew reading could be so interesting, some books are actually really good".

#### Reader Leader

21 new year 9's have volunteered to become reader leaders! Our morning reading leader group is a huge success!

Miss McQuilton wants to thank the year 10 and year 11 reader leaders for their hard work and determination over the last 3 weeks. The morning reading in the library is wonderful!

#### **Reading Rampage**

14 students across year 7 and 8 have chosen to participate in Reading Rampage, a new national reading initiative. The students will have the opportunity to read up to 9 novels carefully selected. We will complete activities and choose our favourite at the end!

#### **Book buzz**

CODA has recieved over 400 books that have been chosen and ordered by our year 7 and year 8 students. Over the next few weeks the students will receive their free book! Some of the book buzz books were so popular, the year 8 students asked Miss McQuilton to order more copies! The library now has 5 copies of each bookbuzz book in the library.

#### **Student Librarians**

Over 50 students have volunteered to be student librarians, Miss McQuilton has had to do a rota as so many students wanted to help!

#### **Novel Books**

We had a delivery of 50 graphic novel books requested from students, within one day of them being on the shelves they had **all** been taken out!

Well done everyone, we are so proud of you.

# EDT Year 8 Faraday Challenge 2022 – Derby University

A group of our Year 8 students were invited to take part in the EDT (Engineering Development Trust) Faraday Challenge. By taking part in the Faraday Challenge Day, students received an Industrial Cadets Challenger Award for completing hands-on problem solving and critical thinking activities. Industrial Cadets is run by the EDT and works with UK employers to create a talent pipeline and a future skilled workforce, whilst helping young people to develop the skills they need to enter industry with confidence. Year 8 students had a fantastic day at Derby University where they had to design and manufacture an appliance that could be used by the NHS. All the teams had to do a presentation of their ideas to the judges. Other schools competing on the day were Derby Grammar School, Derby High School and Willam Allitt. The students who took part in the challenge day were: Gabriel W, Alana C, Dainius P, Luqman R, Yusuf D, Romeo M, Maheer S, Dylan H, Amar S, Ranyot S, Mohammed H and Mohammed A. These students should be so proud of themselves as they performed exceptionally well in this challenge.











#### **MFL Success**

There's been a lot of great work going on again in the MFL department. Our teachers have been really pleased with the way in which all pupils in year nine have been discussing the importance of languages and the vital role it could play in their future plans. We looked at Arsenal football club and Sylbo (the whistling language) and enjoyed some pain au chocolat and brioche.

Mrs. Sagoo would like to give a special mention to the following pupils for their excellent work/participation and effort in class at all times.

Y7 Spanish: Hajra B, Yashwin S Y8 French: Connor L, Tamika S Y9 French: Ella Louise W, Millen W

Mrs Nielsen and Mr Day would like to give a massive 'bien fait' (well done) to the year 11 French group for their efforts in the recent French mock exam.

Mr. Milner would like to say 'gut gemacht' to year 11 German pupils for their attendance at the intervention sessions and for their performance in the mock exams, particularly in:

Listening - Ibi M, Gurveer K and Shamsher S

Speaking - Harkeeret H

Writing - Luke C, Oli F, Gurleen K and Saad U-H

### **New Minibus**

Fantastic News that we have taken delivery of a new CoDA minibus. This should be a great help in allowing our students access to off-site activities, including sports events and competitions.



### **Dance Club Success**

Miss Bulloch is super duper proud of the dance club. They have performed in two shows over this half-term. Firstly the celebration of dance where other primary and secondary schools danced in a show in front of an audience, which after so long was lovely to see. Secondly the Unite Performing Arts Show where we along with Derby Moor were the only schools there, the rest of the show was filled with dance schools across the city. The students were extremely professional at both events and I'm so so proud of the way they have performed! Well done girls! Klara S, Beatricse M, Jahdey D, Saina S, Tia G, Leena A, Chinadirim E, Neve B and Abi S.



### CoDA's Cadet Contingent

It has been an amazing term for CODA's Cadet Contingent, with cadets gaining qualifications and continuing to train towards their end of year camp next term. 6 Cadets have been promoted to Lance Corporal and have taken up Junior Leadership positions in the Contingent.

17 Cadets have gained CPR First Aid certificates and 16 Cadets have qualified as Basic Communications awards having learned how to use Morse Code and how to encrypt messages.

23 Cadets have also been awarded their Army Proficiency Certificate (Half Star). Well done to all those cadets who have gained qualifications. There are more awards and training opportunities to come soon!

It is with sadness that the Contingent has said goodbye to Lt Walker, who has left her role as School Staff Instructor to take up a national post with the Cadet Force Association, to support schools nationwide with their Cadet Contingents.

We wish her all the best for her in undertaking this new post.

Lt Walker's experience and dedication to Cadets at CODA was fundamental in it becoming the success that it has, and she will be missed by pupils and staff alike. She has however, kindly offered to volunteer at CODA when she can, continuing to deliver the cadet experience.





### **Army Careers Days 24th and 27th January**

Our Year 10s had a fantastic opportunity looking at the different career roles that are available within the army and took part in practical tasks including STEM activities. Representatives were present on the day from the:

#### **Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers**

Conducted STEM activities with a building/making theme

#### **Parachute Regiment**

Conducted team tasks and Para trooper equipment display

#### **ARMY Careers Outreach Team**

Conducted team tasks and informed students about the different job roles available within the army.







### **Careers**



### **East Midlands Airport Visits**

Year 9 students visited EMA where they had a tour of the airport and it was highlighted to them the various employment sectors that are present within the airport setting e.g. hospitality, retail etc. The workplace visits inspired students' exploration of career opportunities, expanded their networks to exciting opportunities available to them. The workplace visits also provided students with a critical understanding of the world of work and the vocational relevance of education. Students also had talks from airport staff including security. Students had the chance to ask about qualifications and routes into that particular employment sector. They were also involved in practical activities too.















### Derby University Health, Psychology and social Care Insight Day

Year 11 Health and Social Care students were invited to Derby University to take part in an insight day. Students had a tour of the university's amazing Health & Social Care facilities and take part in taster and practical sessions that included occupational therapy, mental health nursing, social and community studies, midwifery and psychology. They also gained an insight as to the courses and the career paths available to them if they wish study at the university.



### HALF TERM ACTIVITIES



### **COVID-19 GUIDANCE**

The government set out the next steps for living with Covid-19 in England from Friday 1 April.

The universal testing offer has now ended but free Covid-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups.

#### **Updated guidance advises:**

- Adults with the symptoms of Covid-19 should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- Children and young people who have symptoms or have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid
  contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they
  are well enough to attend
- Adults with a positive Covid-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5
  days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will
  be 3 days.

#### **Additional COVID Safety Reminders**

I am also urging parents/carers and students to continue to follow the safety measures that are in place. These are:

- Regular sanitising when moving around the school site
- Moving around school on the left-hand side of corridors

#### **Face Coverings in School**

Students are not required to wear a face covering in lessons. However, if students want to continue to wear a face covering, we encourage that. I would like to strongly encourage as many students and staff as possible to continue to wear a face covering.

### REMOTE LEARNING FOR SELF ISOLATING STUDENTS

# If your child is self-isolating but is well enough to complete school work then they need to access relevant learning.

This guide will provide you with links and information to access relevant learning so that your child does not fall behind. It is important that your child continues their learning so that they miss the minimum education.

#### Where do I need to get my work from?

To access your remote learning you will need to login to Microsoft Teams. To access Teams you will need to go to <a href="https://portal.office.com/">https://portal.office.com/</a> and login with your school details. There is a video guide on how to use Teams on our website:

#### http://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/remote-learning/

In the past we have set work on ClassCharts. You will now need to look on Microsoft Teams for all your work. If you want to access additional online learning, or if you are an individual who is self-isolating, then you can log in to EdClass and select online lessons. There is a guide on how to do this on our website.

#### How do I know what my child should be learning?

The teaching plans for all year groups are available on our website at <a href="http://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/remote-learning/">http://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/remote-learning/</a>. Here you can find out what topics they would have been working on in school. You can then use these to select the most appropriate topics in all the subjects that they study. We recommend spending time reviewing topics that have been studied previously.

#### If you have any problems

Please contact the school if you have any problems with remote learning. Your child's Year Team are the best people to speak to. Your child's Year Team will also call you for updates, please see table below:

YEAR 7			YEAR 8	YEAR 9		
HoY:	Mr D Cholerton	HoY:	Mr Lowe-Bird	HoY:	Mr A Bult	
DHoY:	Mrs D Richards	DHoy:	Ms A Rerrie	DHoY:	Mrs Woods	
	YEAR 10		YEAR 11			
HoY:	Mr S Mumtaz	HoY:	Mr K Day			
DHoY:	Mr R Timmins	DHoy:	Mrs A Kamaran			

If you have any problems with computer or internet access, then please let us know as we may be able to help you.

If you need more work in a particular subject area, then your child can email the subject teacher directly using their school email account.

You can also email <a href="ICTsupport@citofderbyacademy.org">ICTsupport@citofderbyacademy.org</a> if you need help with any logging on issues.

# **KEY DATES**

# School Term and Holiday Dates 2021-2022







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### Hello and Goodbye

We will be saying farewell to the following staff.
We wish them all the best in their next ventures in life.



Colin Clennell - Science Technician Caroline Willatt - Music Teacher Martin Burke - Site Manager Susie Walker - SSI Cadets Natalie Allen - Art Teacher

We would like to welcome new staff that have started with us in the last term;

Lydia Singleton - Headteacher's PA
Robert Foster - Site Team
Ross Stevenson - Music Teacher
Vicky Richardson (returning from maternity leave)

### **Uniform**

Uniform can be purchased from our supplier -Schools in Uniform. Uniform can be ordered online at any time for home delivery, please visit: https://www.schoolsinuniform.co.uk/

They also hold monthly pop-up shops in school near the reception area between 3:15pm and 4:15pm, forthcoming shop dates are below:

- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2022
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022

#### Student Lockers

Student lockers are available in school for a small annual rental fee from Independent Locker Solutions Ltd. For more information please visit: <a href="https://ilsschools.co.uk/">https://ilsschools.co.uk/</a>

### **Payments**

We are no longer be accepting cash payments for trips etc. Parentpay can be accessed via the parent tab on the Academy website. If you are not able to make payments via ParentPay or have any queries please contact the Academy.

### Mr Smith's Blog

Each fortnight Mr Smith uploads a 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: <a href="http://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/">http://www.cityofderbyacademy.org/</a> headteachers-blog/



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