

Our termly newsletter to celebrate  
all that has happened across the academy

## Summer Cup Success

**Students from Charnwood College competed in this year's DRET Summer Cup – the biggest event within the Trust's sporting calendar.**

The spectacular event welcomed a number of sporting stars to inspire and support the students as they represented the academy with pride. The star-studded line-up included the likes of Sir Steve Redgrave, Colin Jackson CBE, Crista Cullen MBE, Goldie Sayers, and Joe Roebuck.



Five-time Olympic gold medallist rower and this year's VIP Special Guest, Sir Steve Redgrave, was impressed with the talent he saw. He said: "I have seen some outstanding performances and thrilling medal celebrations, but there were also students that were just so proud to compete and be part of this incredible event.

"Getting involved in sport is such an important part of a child's education. From health and wellbeing to developing important communication skills, not only does sport prepare young people for living in a competitive world, but it also plays a vital part in bringing communities together. The mutual respect and sportsmanship I have witnessed amongst competitors today has been wonderful to see."



## Looking for a secondary school or sixth form?

Find out more about what Charnwood College has to offer. Contact us on 01509 554400 to arrange a visit.

# Careers Morning

**Year 9 and 10 students from a number of schools across Loughborough attended the annual Year 9 and 10 Futures Event hosted at Charnwood College.**

The careers morning was an incredible chance for the students to gain valuable information on the professions available within their chosen subject area.

Veterinary nurses, university lecturers and web designers attended the event, along with representatives from regional and national companies such as Santander, Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre and UFCB Wembley.

Specialists led workshops that explored the skills and training required for different opportunities that will be available to them.

Jon Wright, Assistant Principal at Charnwood College, said: "This was an incredible chance for the students to access high quality interactions with employers and help raise their aspirations for the future."



## Star students scoop top prizes at debating final

**Charnwood College student, Mina Chowdury, was delighted to take home the title of 'Most Improved Debater' at the DRET Debating Cup. Our debating team were also thrilled to be named runners up of the entire competition.**

Secondary students from across the Trust came together for the annual debating contest, held at the Lakeside Arts Centre within the University of Nottingham.

During the contest, students were encouraged to debate on political topics such as 'the voting age should be reduced to 16' and 'war can never be justified.'

Sir Michael Graydon GCB, CBE, a former Chief of the Air Staff and Governor of the English Speaking Union, presented Mina with her well-deserved trophy following a flawless performance.



# Charnwood Challenge

**In preparation for their applications for secondary school next year, Year 5 pupils from local primary schools were invited to spend the morning at Charnwood College.**

The pupils gained an insight into life at the academy as they enjoyed a wide range of exciting classroom activities relating to Art, Drama, Sport and Science. Rebecca Sharp, Head of Year 7, said: "This was a brilliant event where pupils were able to benefit from the fantastic facilities we have at Charnwood College. This is a great way to prepare any upcoming students for the transition from primary to secondary education."

# A Caribbean Adventure

During the Easter break, three of our students travelled to the Caribbean as they took part in an incredible ecological conservation project.

As part of the exclusive visit, a group of 12 students from DRET academies had the chance to trek through the jungle, hike up a volcano, plant trees on a beach and participate in scuba diving sessions.

Working alongside a local school, the group also found out more about daily life on the island. Waqar Ahmad attended the trip as group leader. He said: "The trip was an incredible experience, which I am sure the students will never forget."



# DioSing! choral workshop

We were delighted to welcome pupils from five local primary schools as part of a DioSing! workshop hosted by Charnwood College.

During the special event, which is part of a singing schools programme led by Leicestershire Cathedral, pupils participated in a themed singing workshop based on 'Earth, Sea and Sky'. Young vocalists were given the opportunity to rehearse and perform a number of pieces that they have been working on throughout the year.

Following the sessions, pupils came together for a final performance, where they showcased their impressive singing voices to parents and peers. Two Year 9 students from Charnwood College, Shriya and Alivia, joined the pupils on stage for a performance of their own composition 'Dreams'.

Mark Sutton, Principal, said: "This was a fantastic day for all involved. The students were superb hosts and the visiting pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience."



## David Ross Education Trust Inspiration Fund

Raising aspirations, inspiring interests and enabling young people to see the opportunities the world has to offer are at the heart of everything we do at the David Ross Education Trust. The DRET Inspiration Fund aims to enhance the Trust's enrichment programme, by delivering thousands of new enrichment opportunities for our pupils. Our students have been taking part in lots of fundraising activities this term, in order to raise as much money as possible for next year's enrichment programme. To contribute to the DRET Inspiration Fund visit our website to find out more.

# Mara Yamaruchi Inspires

Students were thrilled to welcome British track runner, Mara Yamauchi, to Charnwood College this term.

The two-time Olympian, who is the UK's second fastest female runner of all time, joined the students as part of an athlete visit to the academy. Mara spoke to students about her own experience as an athlete, led a nutritional workshop and delivered a range of inspirational practical sessions.

Shane Ward, Sports Enrichment Manager, said: "This was an incredible experience for the students as Mara offered them lots of advice on how to further improve running techniques".



## Tour of Team GB HQ

Aspiring athletes from Charnwood College joined students from across the Trust for a day at the Team GB Head Office in London.

Students were given an exclusive tour, allowing them to find out more about how the British Olympic Association helps elite athletes to prepare for sporting events.

During their visit, three-time javelin Olympian, Goldie Sayers, spoke to the students about her career and provided an insight into life as an athlete. Alice Page, Sports Enrichment Officer, said: "It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to see what goes on behind the scenes at Team GB HQ."

## Gold medallist swimmer visits Charnwood

Olympic and Commonwealth gold medallist swimmer, James Goddard, has been inspiring our students during a visit to the academy.

During the exclusive session, students had the chance to find out more about life as an Olympian, the elite swimmer led a fantastic masterclass with the academy's talented swimmers. James also made a surprise visit to the Charnwood Swim School, where learners were delighted to meet the sporting icon.

Alastair O'Connor, Vice Principal, said: "It was so inspiring for the students to meet such an accomplished professional swimmer. They learnt a lot about the dedication needed to reach their goals."

# Join Us

Contact us to book a tour of Charnwood College  
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