



## Welcome from the Principal

There are three words that I think are at the heart of what makes a good school – achievement, ambition and vision.

Over the last few years, Charnwood College's students have been excelling. Our GCSE results have improved year on year since 2012. More students than ever are heading off to Russell Group universities and our students secured the best individual results across the whole of the David Ross Education Trust (DRET).

It is also safe to say, that Charnwood College is full of ambition. We are offering opportunities that

we have never offered before.

Some of our students will be heading off to St Vincent in the Caribbean to take part in conservation projects. In the summer, some will be heading to Canada on Outward Bound experiences. We have benefitted from aria lessons with professional opera companies, students have accessed scholarship programmes and have even had training from leading barristers to help their interview technique.

Yet, what I am most excited about, is the vision that is forming for the future of Charnwood College.

I have been in many meetings this term where the unlimited sporting, academic and cultural potential that our college offers has been discussed and explored.

The good news that you will read in the following pages is just the tip of the iceberg of this vision coming to fruition.

This is an exciting time, and I am very proud to be leading such a fantastic group of staff and students.

Warm regards,



**Mark Sutton**  
Principal



## Summer Sports Programme launched

Staff and students at Charnwood College were delighted to welcome local primary school pupils and their parents to the launch of a Summer Sports Programme for individuals from the Loughborough area.

The programme brings together talented netballers, basketballers and runners for a six week programme of coaching for pupils aged 9 – 11.

Mark Lewis Francis MBE, Ellie Stevens, Loughborough Lightning players and the Head Coach of the Leicester Riders

led the first round of events, which are designed to inspire the next generation of sports stars.

Alastair O'Connor, Vice Principal commented: "We are delighted to be working with top athletes to deliver this free sports programme for local primary school children.

"The children have already been so inspired by the activities they have taken part in, and we can't wait to see them progress as part of the programme. This is only the beginning and we look forward to providing more opportunities like this in the future."

## 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.

# British Science Week

To celebrate British Science Week, there were activities galore for our students to take part in.

Year 7 students learnt about the science of flight, while Year 8 students witnessed the explosive side of chemistry.

A group of Year 9 girls worked together to build a go-kart from scratch and Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit the Big Bang Fair at the NEC Birmingham.

Tom Regan, Head of Science, commented: "British Science Week is a fantastic opportunity to show our students how creative you can be with science.

"There are so many wonderful things that we can learn about the science and technology that surrounds us and it was brilliant to see the students enjoying these projects."



# Students are interviewed for the future



Employers from across Leicestershire visited Charnwood College this term, for a day of interviews with Year 11 students.

Set up by Leicestershire Cares, the event saw representatives from local organisations including Access Group, Aggregate Industries, Leicestershire Constabulary, Pricewaterhouse Coopers and Santander, give up their time to meet the students.

Each student had a one-to-one interview with the employers to discuss their future plans and aspirations as well as practising their all-important interview skills.

One student commented: "I found this experience very rewarding as it gave me an overview of what a real interview will be like.

"I have gained confidence from the feedback received from the employers and I feel prepared to apply for jobs in the future."

# Students 'write an aria' with Nevill Holt Opera

Students have been learning more about the classical art of opera during a range of workshops from Nevill Holt Opera.

The critically acclaimed opera group visited the academy as part of a weeklong programme of events. Students had the chance to devise their own opera scene and write their own alternative versions

of arias, which they would later go on to perform.

Pupils from Holywell Primary School also took part in a range of activities. One student, said: "It was an amazing experience and the workshops have broadened my knowledge of opera. We are not exposed to classical music everyday, so experiences like this really do take some beating."



# Talented dancer set to study at world-renowned institute

Tammy Tsang, a Year 13 student, has been awarded a place at the prestigious Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London.

Following her successful audition, Tammy will begin a BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance in September.

Over the last few years Tammy has regularly taken to the stage in national and international shows, including performing in Cinderella for the Corps de Ballet, Hong Kong.

A talented Contemporary Dancer, Tammy has also benefited from an Odey Scholarship from the David Ross Education Trust (DRET) to help her pursue her dancing ambitions.

Speaking about her success, Tammy said: "I am delighted to have achieved my dream of studying at Trinity Laban. I can't wait to start there in September."



# DRET Music Cup

A group of our aspiring musicians recently took part in the DRET Music Cup at Kelham Hall.

From the choir, to the ensembles competing against the Trust's made us all proud of their fantastic performances.

Mark Sutton, Principal, said: "Our students were a credit to the college and the event was a great success.

"We are extremely privileged to have this opportunity and I know that the students were very proud of their achievements."



# Charnwood students are set for international adventures

A number of our students have lots to look forward to over the next few months as they set off on international adventures.

Year 10 students Joel Dungworth, Billy Storr

and Lorraine Wright will join Mr Regan for a trip to St Vincent as part of an ecological project during the Easter break.

Two Year 12 students, Hannah Bailey and David

Issekya, have also just been selected for a three-week Outward Bound trip to Canada, sponsored by the Stuart Horne Bursary, in August.

Hannah said: "I am thrilled to have been chosen to go to Canada, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity. I know it will be an amazing experience and something I will always remember."





# National Basketball Champions

For the first time in Charnwood College history, the Charnwood College Riders have been declared national basketball champions.

After storming the league competition and cheered on by staff and students from the college, both the girls and boys squads competed in the national finals.

Playing against Myerscough Basketball team, the boys squad claimed victory with a 73-62 win, while the girls team took the

silver medal against Barking Abbey.

Krumesh Patel, Head Coach, commented: "What an amazing game! Both teams have shown so much growth and development over the season, with outstanding performances in the finals."

Mark Sutton, Principal, added: "This is a fantastic achievement. We have so many talented students and I am extremely proud of team Charnwood."

## DRET Spring Cup

Rugby legends Lawrence Dallaglio and Rob Vickerman joined students from across the David Ross Education Trust, for the first annual Spring Cup at the University of Nottingham.

Competing in Rugby and Hockey, students from Charnwood College showed off their skills in tournaments against other secondary academies.

Hockey stars Charlotte Hartley and Harry Martin offered encouragement and

advice to the girls hockey team, as they reached the plate final. Meanwhile the boys rugby team reached the 3rd and 4th place playoffs, narrowly missing out on progressing to the next round.

Karl Strange, Head of PE at Charnwood, said: "Our students were really inspired by the international rugby and hockey stars. Every single student gave their all in the competition, and thoroughly enjoyed competing against the other academies."



## Top Paralympic athlete visits Charnwood

Paralympic track and field athlete, Sam Ruddock, recently joined our students for a day of sports masterclasses.

Sam, who is the current British Record holder for the F35 Shot Put, delivered a range of coaching sessions as part of the Sky Sports Living for Sport initiative.

Students heard about Sam's journey to success, before he put them through

their paces with some circuit training.

One Year 11 student said: "It's so inspiring to meet such an accomplished British Paralympian. Sam talked about the importance of being committed and hard working in order to succeed."

"We also learnt a lot about the importance of perseverance, dedication and pushing yourself to reach your goals."

### KEEP IN TOUCH

Don't forget to check out our website at [www.charnwoodcollege.org](http://www.charnwoodcollege.org)  
Follow us on twitter @CharnwoodColl



An academy sponsored by the [David Ross Foundation](http://www.davidrossfoundation.org)  
Broadening Horizons