

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



Students visit Google UK

A group of our students joined nine other David Ross Education Trust (DRET) academies for a visit to Google UK's head office.

The event, which brought together primary, secondary and Sixth Form students from across the Trust, was the perfect opportunity to find out more about the skills young people will need to prepare for future careers in technology.

During the session, students experienced a Virtual Reality tour of the solar system, the International Space Station and World War I trenches as part of Google Expeditions. This was just one example of some of the technologies Google believes will become increasingly important in the coming years.

Mark Sutton, Principal, said: "It was a real privilege for our students to meet experts from Google and find out more about the new technologies that are going to influence their futures."

A sporting centre of excellence

At Charnwood, we pride ourselves on being a sporting centre of excellence, and our achievements this term really do show just how talented our students are.

We're delighted that our U17 and U18 Boys' and U18 Girls' Basketball teams made it through to the National League Finals.

Our Football Academy also represented the college with pride, when they were named East Midlands Champions in the

English Schools Football League.

We claimed the sporting progress award for our performances in the DRET Spring Cup and Cross Country Cup and have now received the Sainsbury's School Games Gold Mark Award for sporting participation and engagement.

Alastair O'Connor, Vice Principal, said: "This has been an incredible term for sport at Charnwood.

"Not only are our students continuing to excel at a competitive level, but more of are students are making the most of our incredible sports facilities and the wide variety of sports clubs and activities on offer."



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.

Pride of Charnwood Awards

We are pleased to announce that **Ebony Horton, a Year 12 student and basketball scholar, has received the Pride of Charnwood Award for Creativity.**

The awards, which aim to give positive recognition to young people aged 11-19 years, celebrate the commitment of people who volunteer their time, effort and energy to improve the quality of life in the local area.

Working with Birmingham Police, Ebony has been helping to change the way that police forces deal with

young victims, witnesses and criminals.

Using her creativity, Ebony produced a short film to inform police on best practices when working with young people, this made such an impact that it has now been included into the School of Policing's curriculum for all police officers.

Mark Sutton, Principal, said: "We are immensely proud of all that Ebony has achieved. She is a fantastic role model for her peers and an incredible ambassador for Charnwood College."



Revision, revision, revision

As we approach this summer's GCSE exams, Year 11 students have been participating in a number of intensive revision sessions.

This will continue throughout the Easter holidays, when we will offer revision workshops across each subject area.

During Term 5, we will also be running a number of sessions before, during and after school to give our students as much support as possible in the final weeks before their exams.

Mark Sutton, Principal, said: "Well done to all of our students for their dedication and commitment so far.

"Let's make sure that the hard work continues, with every student giving their Personal Best in the final weeks before the exams."

An eLearning academy

Last term, we were delighted to open a number of **Star Classrooms** at the academy and our staff and students have certainly been making the most of these new facilities.

Mark Sutton, Principal, said: "With equipment and training provided by the David Ross Education Trust, Star Classrooms are designed to allow us to integrate the latest technology into teaching and learning.

"Many of our classrooms across the academy now follow the methods and practices of the programme. From new approaches to marking work, to utilising technology to explore experiments in more depth it is making a real difference to the learning environment."

All set for Cambridge

We're thrilled to report that our Head Boy, **David Horstmann, has received an offer to attend the University of Cambridge in the Autumn.**

David said: "I am delighted to have been given this offer and I am very grateful for the support I have received from my teachers".

Graham Heffernan, Head of Sixth Form, said: "David has always played an active part in academy life, taking part in the student council and many of the enrichment opportunities on offer.

"He has also shown a consistent commitment to his academic studies and will be a great asset to the university next year."



Music Cup

Talented musicians from Charnwood College joined other students from across the network for the DRET Music Cup.

The annual event, held at Kelham Hall, is an outstanding platform for students to build their confidence and grow their talents through live performance.

With several categories for soloists and groups, there were some incredible instrumental and vocal

performances. This included the choir's performance of the theme from the Vicar of Dibley, and Amy Richardson's solo of *Hello*, by Adele.

Simon Toyne, DRET Executive Director of Music, said: "Music is such an important part of our students' lives, so this event is a great way to encourage their love of music through sharing it with their peers and learning from each other."

Looking forward to the trip of a lifetime

Three students have lots to look forward to during the Easter break, when they set off on an international adventure to the Caribbean.

Year 10 students Alex Pearce, Kiera Hughes and Lauren Kidd along with Mr Waqar Ahmad, will join nine students from across the David Ross Education Trust, to take part in an ecological conservation project on St Vincent and the Grenadines.

After taking part in a challenging interview process, the students were also asked to fundraise as part of the selection process, and have been working incredibly hard to secure their places.

Susanna Kemp, Secondary Enrichment Coordinator, said: "This is an incredible opportunity for students to challenge themselves.

"Alongside supporting ecological conservation on the islands, participants will have the chance to learn about new cultures, meet new people and develop life skills that will stand them in good stead for years to come."



Rambert dance workshops

Britain's longest-running dance company, Rambert, recently inspired our students during a day of interactive workshops.

Classes from Year 10 up to Year 12 took part in professional

dance exercises and repertoire from the works of *A Linha Curva* and *Ghost Dances*.

Students were encouraged to explore set phrases and develop their own choreography by learning

the techniques used by the world famous dance company.

One student commented: "It was amazing to learn phrases from the GCSE set works, it was really hard work but also great fun."



DRET Spring Cup

Charnwood College students have been celebrating after claiming the Sporting Progress Award at the DRET Spring Cup 2017.

Supported by Olympic gold medallist Crista Cullen, and former England rugby star Chris Jones, the Trust's most talented rugby and hockey players were brought together to compete for the prestigious title.

Not put off by the challenging weather conditions, every student played their part with pride and passion.

Crista praised the event for giving young people the chance to take part in competitive sport. She commented: "It is fantastic to see talented young people progressing or developing their talents to reach the next level. Congratulations to every student that took part in this event."

Rugby legend visits Charnwood

Former England Rugby 7's Captain, Rob Vickerman, has been working with our students as part of a rugby masterclass at the academy.

From coaching and expert tips to tactical pointers, the students thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the sessions, which aimed to sharpen up their skills ahead of the DRET Spring Cup.

Alastair O'Connor, Vice Principal, said: "It was an honour to welcome such a highly regarded rugby player to the academy.

"Rob gave our students some valuable advice about working together, showing commitment and being a good sport throughout every game."



Swimming star inspires

British Olympic Swimmer, Joe Roebuck, has been inspiring our students as part of an athlete visit to the academy.

During the visit, A-Level students had the chance to find out more about the demands of being an elite athlete, while talented swimmers took part in masterclasses focusing on stroke technique and race turns.

Local primary school pupils also had the opportunity to meet the elite swimmer and take part in some fantastic practical sessions.

Isabelle Perry, Sports Enrichment Officer, said: "We would like to thank Joe for such an excellent day.

"It was so inspiring for our students to hear from a professional swimmer, as they begin their training for the DRET Summer Cup."



Join us

Contact us to book a tour of Charnwood College
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