We have had a large number of visitors to our new buildings since our opening in February. However, we know that lots of the local community have not yet been able to visit. We are therefore running an Open Evening for the whole community, with a particular focus on Year 5 pupils and their families, on Wednesday 21st June 2017 from 5.30pm. You will have the opportunity to tour the academy with some of our current students, visit interactive subject displays and meet our staff. Refreshments are available and there will be a presentation in the Main Hall from me at 6pm repeated again at 6.30pm. Please do come and join us, we are looking forward to showing you around.

**Year 11**

**Presentation Evening**

We were delighted to hold our annual Year 11 Presentation Evening at the start of May. This evening allowed us to celebrate the efforts of our Year 11 students with their friends and families as they were about to start their final GCSE examinations. A full list of the subject prize winners is included later in this newsletter. I am very grateful to Mrs Howard for organising this event.

**GCSE Preparation**

Year 11 students have continued to work towards their GCSE examinations, ably supported and encouraged by their teachers. The academy building has been open most Saturdays to allow extra sessions to be run and May half-term saw revision sessions run every day. The students and I are immensely grateful to the staff who have given up their weekends and holidays to plan and lead these sessions.

We were also pleased to welcome Learning Unlimited who came to run sessions with all Year 11 students on stress management prior to the start of the GCSE examinations.

**Examinations**

Our new examination facilities and arrangements were put into practice with the start of the GCSEs. Mrs Proctor-Smith, Examinations Officer, and her team of invigilators are ensuring that everything is going to plan. We were very pleased to welcome the JCQ examinations inspector for the annual inspection and even more pleased to receive a very favourable report. Full information about the public examinations are available on our website or please contact Mrs Proctor-Smith mproctorsmith@davidnieper.academy

**Leaving Assembly and Prom**

Our final Year 11 assembly will be held at 9am on Friday 23rd June at 9am in the Main Hall. This will be followed by shirt signing, leaving the remainder of the day for final Prom preparations. The Prom is being held at Morley Hayes starting at 7pm. I know that many students have been looking forward to this event, marking the end of their GCSE examinations.

**Results day**

The GCSE results are published on Thursday 24th August. All Year 11 students are invited to the academy to collect their results, full details will be sent to all students. Staff, including careers staff, will be available to share in the celebrations and to offer any advice and support.
Sixth Form – Business and Enterprise Centre

We are continuing to recruit students into our Business and Enterprise Sixth Form. Our focus for September 2017 is on the Level 2 BTEC and will include GCSE resits in Maths and English and we will progress to the Level 3 course the following year. Enrolment will take place from GCSE results day. Please contact the academy on 01773 832331 to discuss applications and enrolment into our Sixth Form.

Year 10 World of Work week – 10-14th July 2017

Final arrangements are now in place for the World of Work week and students are completing their application forms. Mrs Adani, Progress & Achievement Leader Year 9 & 10, and Mr Artliff, Pastoral Support Manager Year 9 & 10, have put together a very exciting programme of events. We are very grateful to our employer partners, Alfreton Rotary Club, staff at Learning Unlimited and the Army who have offered to support us with this event by providing staff to run workshops, lead sessions on CV writing and presentation skills and to accompany students on the visits to the Base Adventure Centre and Sheffield University. The full itinerary includes:

Monday – Meet the employers

Key Note speaker – Professor Kathryn Mitchell, Vice-Chancellor Derby University

Employer Workshops – a range of ten interactive employer workshops

Introduction to our Online careers support package “Fast Tomato”

Tuesday – Team building

Day at Mill Adventure Base

Wednesday – University visit

Visit and tour of Sheffield University, travelling by train and tram

Thursday – Interview day

Presentation and interview skills followed by a mock employer interview and feedback

Friday – Round up

Army assault course. CPR training and final assembly and celebration of achievements

Year 7 trip to London – Monday 17th July 2017

We are very pleased that we have been able to book a trip for all Year 7 students to visit London. David Nieper Ltd have very kindly offered to subsidise this trip making this a very affordable day for all students and we are very grateful for their support. Students will travel by coach and will have the opportunity to visit the Tower of London to see the Crown Jewels as well as seeing some of the many sights of London including Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square, 10 Downing Street and many street entertainers on the Embankment. We look forward to sharing our photos and memories of this day in future Newsletters.

Rewards

We are continuing to celebrate success, effort and achievements. We celebrate good behaviour and encourage staff to issue rewards daily for students meeting expectations. Reward points are also issued for good attendance, outstanding effort and for representing the academy. Reward points are celebrated weekly in assembly and ‘super student’ rewards are issued, with a display board in place to celebrate this success. Weekly lunchtime fast passes are still in place for students with the most reward points, and vouchers are issued to students with the best Attitude Towards Learning in each year group.
after each Assessment Point. We are very pleased to see the continuing increase in rewards points issued.

**Respect and Behaviour outside of the academy**

While our increase in rewards points issued highlights the good and excellent behaviour and attitude to learning demonstrated by the vast majority of students within the academy, we have been working with all students on respect for others and the need for good behaviour outside of the academy. I am very proud each time a member of the public takes the time to contact us to say how well behaved and smart our students look in our uniform.

Unfortunately, we have had a few instances where members of the public have phoned to express concern at the behaviour of a very small number of students. David Nieper students are aware that they are role models for younger children and that when in school uniform they are ambassadors for our academy and that all of our usual school expectations apply.

**Travel to school**

We are very pleased that we were the first Derbyshire secondary school to be awarded the Bronze award for Travel. We are continuing to encourage our students to walk to school, or if car travel is essential, at least to be dropped a little way away from school and walk the final section. Not only does this provide some additional exercise but it also makes the temporary entrance a much safer place for our students but also for the pupils at Woodbridge and Alfreton Nursery. In assemblies last half term we focused on road safety and particularly crossing roads safely now that our temporary entrance opens out onto a crossroad.

**Visitors**

We have been very pleased to welcome a number of external visitors to the academy since our opening.

- Mrs Kathryn Boulton – DCC Director of School & Learning
- Mr Russ Barr – DCC Assistant Director Schools & Learning
- Mr Dick Vasey – Headteacher Ashfield School
- Mrs Alison Brannick – Principal, Landau Forte College Derby
- Mr Peter Lauder – CEO, EFSA
- Mr Mike Green - EFA
- Mr Richard Howsen – CEO, Carillion PLC
- Mr Phil Wakefield – Managing Director, Carillion Building
- Right Honourable Iain Duncan Smith – Candidate for MP, Chingford & Woodford Green
- Andy Cook – CEO, Centre for Social Justice
- Edward Boyd – Managing Director, Centre for Social Justice
- Nigel Mills – candidate for MP for Amber Valley
- Deborah Turner – NUT representative
- Alistair Land – Headteacher, Repton School
- Sir Henry Every – Chair of Governors, Repton School
- Employer partners
  - Denby Pottery, Mr David Ashton and Mr Dean Barlow
  - Owen Taylor & Sons Ltd, Mr Carl Evans

**Admissions**

In the last newsletter I was very pleased to welcome the twenty new students who had joined us over the year. This has now risen to thirty students who have joined us across Years 7 to 10. We are always happy to show potential students around the academy. Please contact reception to book a visit or join us on our Open Evening on 21st June 2017 from 5.30pm.

**Year 5 Enterprise days**

We are looking forward to welcoming Year 5 pupils from our local Primary and Junior Schools to join us for an Enterprise Day on Wednesday 7th or 14th June. The day will be an opportunity to work in teams to produce a product and present the ideas to the other teams.

**Year 4 Sports day**

Following on from the success of our joint concert Mr Brankin and the PE department are planning joint Year 4 Sports days on Friday 30th June and/or Friday 7th July. We are looking forward to welcoming the pupils and their families to the academy. Our Junior
Sports Leaders will be putting all of their training into action to run many of the events.

**New Building**

After now being in the building for half a term it is very difficult to imagine being back in our old school buildings. We have had a large number of notice boards fitted in the corridors and classrooms and the building is starting to feel like a vibrant teaching and learning environment rather than the blank canvas we were met with in February. The teaching wall storage solutions have worked really well and the classrooms are all looking very neat and tidy with all of the resources having places to go. It is hard to believe that staff unpacked and were ready to teach in only 48 hours – I am very grateful to all staff who worked so hard to ensure that we were ready to teach on the Wednesday morning meaning that children did not lose too much teaching time. As with any new building there were a number of snags that needed fixing and I am pleased to report that most of this work is now completed. I would like to give particular thanks to Chris Biggs, our Site Manager, and his team of Anthony Blades and Barry Lewis who have undertaken a whole range of jobs to allow the move of buildings and the settling in to our new school to happen so smoothly.

Please do join us, and invite your friends and families, for our open evening on Wednesday 21st June 2017 from 5.30pm to have a look round our new school to see why we are so pleased with our new facilities.

**Annie – Wednesday 5th & Thursday 6th July 2017**

We are very much looking forward to our academy show “Annie”. Mrs Turner and the student cast have been working very hard in rehearsals. The lead roles are taken by Emily Brown-Stronge Yr7 (Annie), Selina Thom Yr10 (Miss Hannigan) Abbie Hillyer Yr10 (Grace Farrell), Mason Bottomley Yr8 (Rooster), Sarah Hill Yr10 (Lily) and Kenny Bearton Yr10 (Mr Warbucks) and lots of our other students are supporting by playing Orphans, members of Mr Warbucks household and the Boylan sisters. We look forward to great performances.

We are delighted to welcome our local Infant and Junior schools to our morning dress rehearsal performances; tickets for the evening shows on 5th & 6th July are now available to purchase £2 students & children / £3 Parents & adults - please contact Main Reception. The show starts at 6.30pm with refreshments available from 6pm.

**Visit of Iain Duncan Smith and the Centre for Social Justice**
On Thursday 25th May 2017 we were very pleased to welcome the Right Honourable Iain Duncan Smith, founder of the Centre for Social Justice and MP candidate for Chingford & Woodford Green, Andy Cook, CEO of the Centre for Social Justice, Edward Boyd, Managing Director of the Centre for Social Justice accompanied by Nigel Mills, MP candidate for Amber Valley. The visit had been arranged to look at the work and relationship between David Nieper Ltd and the academy in light of the fact that we are one of only a small number of academies across the country to be sponsored by a local business and that we have the support of local employer partners. The visitors had a tour of the David Nieper factory before coming to the academy for a tour of our new buildings and facilities and seeing our old school site as well as having the opportunity to meet with a number of students and staff.

The visitors were very keen to visit classrooms and to talk to teachers about the recent changes and the planned changes to our curriculum to ensure that employability skills are at the heart of our work. The student council and some of our Year 11 student leaders had completed research on our visitors and created a wide range of questions that they had ready to ask over a lunch in our Sixth Form Centre.

Our visitors then agreed to attend a Year 7 and Year 8 assembly where they introduced themselves and their work before taking further questions which the students had worked on in their tutor groups.

Questions included: “How can we get more young people interested in politics?” Emily Mansfield Year 8

“Shouldn’t I just be allowed to vote at 16?” Ben Stoker Year 7

The visit proved a talking point for the whole academy and followed on from our recent assemblies on politics and the general election. The pupils were keen to ask questions and to engage our visitors in conversation. We received some very positive Twitter comments after the visit including being described as “exemplary” in approach to tacking the skills shortage.

Netball Fixtures

March saw the return of the Amber Valley Netball league this time held in Swanwick. David Nieper had teams representing each of the competitions from Y7 through to a combined Y10 & Y11 team.

Across all the teams we had some excellent performances and won many of our games, scored some excellent goals and produced some outstanding interceptions. Students thoroughly enjoyed the events and I feel had made significant improvements from the first rounds.

Pictured below are members of the Year 7 and Year 8 netball teams;

Back row L to R – Katy Chambers, Bethany West, Grace Carlin, Tegan Culverhouse.
Front Row L-R – Lily Davies, Harley Goodwin, Emily Brown-Stronge, Jaime McKinlay.
**Girls Football**

**Back row L to R** – Katy Chambers, Leanna Hardstaff, Grace Bingham, Chloe Allen.

**Front row L to R** – Caitlyn Smyth, Lily Davies, Tegan Culverhouse, Katie Caudwell, Harley Walker.

**KS3 Girls Football team**

The first round of the Amber Valley girls’ football took place at Ripley Academy in March. The girls performed fantastically despite having little match experience. They finished the event with 3 draws. The second round took place at Aldercar in May and building from their experiences at Ripley they managed to secure some wins and draws from their games. Well done girls.

**Sky Sports – Living for Sport**

Over 135 world-class Athlete Mentors from a range of sports deliver free visits to schools to share their inspiring stories of success and support us as teachers to deliver our projects.

At David Nieper we were assigned, Joe Roebuck, a swimmer from Rotherham who represented Team GB at the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Each student received a t-shirt and wristband as a memento of their day which Joe was happy to sign for them as well.

Working with a selected group of Year 9 boys, Joe delivered the 6 keys to success through both a classroom session and a practical session in the gym.

The six keys to success are:

1. Mental toughness
2. Hunger to achieve
3. People skills
4. Sports and life knowledge
5. Breaking barriers
6. Planning for success

The boys had a fantastic day and we have started our project which will hopefully have a positive impact on all the students involved.
Lucy Boulding Year 9

Lucy is a keen Go Karter racing for the ‘Boost Race Team’. At Christmas Lucy won the Junior x30 Championship at Tatteshall.

On 28th April Lucy attended Wilton Mill in Daventry to participate in a driver training day, she got measured for her specialised racing suit and received training about how to prepare her kart for racing.

Lucy is hoping to participate on the European circuit next year.

Pi Day π

Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th (3/14) around the world. Pi (Greek letter “π”) is the symbol used in mathematics to represent a constant — the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter — which is approximately 3.14159.

Pi has been calculated to over one trillion digits beyond its decimal point. As an irrational and transcendental number, it will continue infinitely without repetition or pattern. While only a handful of digits are needed for typical calculations, Pi’s infinite nature makes it a fun challenge to memorise, and to computationally calculate more and more digits.

So not to miss an opportunity the Maths department challenged students and staff alike to memorise and recite Pi to as many decimal places as possible. All entrants received a prize... a pie!

Year 11 students helped as judges and the results are:

**Students:**

1st William Hughes 7CRU - 90 decimal places  
2nd Jarvey Stinson 8MDO - 64 decimal places  
3rd Morgan Bearder 11HBA - 28 decimal places

**Staff:**

1st Miss Bacon - 32 decimal places  
2nd Mr Clerc - 26 decimal places  
3rd Mr Hutchinson - 19 decimal places

Joint Local Concert – March 29th 2017

We had arranged with our local Infant and Junior schools to hold a joint concert in our new hall. The event included eight local schools, 206 of their children aged 5-11, 40 of our own students and 375 audience members. The schools included:

- Croft Infants  
- Christ the King Catholic Primary  
- Copthorne Community Infant School  
- Shirland Primary School  
- Leys Primary School  
- Fritchley Primary School  
- Woodbridge Junior School

The schools arrived at 3pm for a joint rehearsal for the three songs we all performed together, they then had the opportunity to rehearse their individual items as well as to take part in a number of activities around the academy including, Duke of Edinburgh, Art, ICT, Science, French, German, PE and Dance. The children then had tea with us and the concert started at 6pm. The event was a fantastic celebration of local talent and hard work and I am very grateful to all of the staff and parents at all of the schools who
supported the event. We are now planning for this to become an annual event.

It was our first concert in the new school and everyone worked hard to make the event a great success.

Photo - Students from Fritchley school playing the Djembe drums.

E-Safety

It has become increasingly challenging for parents and carers to keep young people safe when using social media and being online. Students have explored this issue by watching and discussing "Kayleigh's Love Story". The resources have been made available to you as well in the Parent section on our website. We have also uploaded a Digital Parenting Magazine.

Year 11 Presentation Evening

On Thursday 11th May our current Year 11 students gathered with their family members to celebrate their efforts and achievements. Simon Ord, Head of Academy Education and Welfare at Derby County Football Club was welcomed as Keynote speaker and gave a motivational speech to the group. His presentation included the ten things you could do that had no cost to you, that would create a positive impression to any future employers and others, for example, being on time.

Entertainment for the evening was provided by Amy Shelton and Sarah Hill performing solo dances and Cheyanne Crowder performing a solo vocal.

Students were awarded with certificates in subjects they had been nominated in and then the top students from each subject received a trophy and a voucher. The following students received the awards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Awarded to</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>Millie Easton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Emma Fairbrother</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Caitlin Emerson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Flayne Button-Twiname</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Ayesha Begum</td>
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<tr>
<td>PE Core</td>
<td>Holly Richardson</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCSE PE</td>
<td>Caitlin Emerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>BTEC Sport</td>
<td>Chelsea Garner</td>
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<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>Flayne Button-Twiname</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Nathan Hopewell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Tech</td>
<td>Holly Richardson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graphics</td>
<td>Caitlin Emerson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Flayne Button-Twiname</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Jacob Kirkland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
<td>Molly Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethics</td>
<td>Millie Easton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Harry May</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICT</td>
<td>Kitty Gdula-Marshall-Clarke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>Nathan Hemsley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Harry May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Studies</td>
<td>Hannah Westbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistant Materials</td>
<td>Chelsea Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product Design</td>
<td>Charliel Belshaw</td>
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Matt Bingham Award for contribution to college life
Nicole Limbert

Improvers of the Year
Charlie Hollamby & Raice Hampson

Students of the Year
Sean Marshall & Holly Richardson

100% Attendance - Jordan Caudwell, Millie Easton, Caitlin Emerson, Sean Marshall, Ethan Wake.

Congratulations to all the students on their achievements throughout Year 11.

L to R – Mr Christopher Nieper, Nicole Limbert Year 11, Mr Roger Stevenson, Chair of Alfreton Rotary
Subject in the Spotlight

Performing Arts

At the David Nieper Academy, Performing Arts comprises of Dance and Drama. We are very lucky to have brand new facilities that really allow us to explore all aspects of both subjects. Dance and Drama are taught by Mrs Turner and Mrs Speed. We are a very popular faculty, with many students choosing Dance or Drama (sometimes both!) at GCSE and BTEC. Studying the Performing Arts allows students to develop their knowledge and understanding in the creative industries. The creative industries contribute £87.4 billion to the UK economy, employing over 2 million people. Dance and Drama gives students the knowledge and skills to contribute to this industry in later life. The Performing Arts also teaches important life skills, such as teamwork, confidence, public speaking and decision making.

In Year 7 and Year 8, Dance and Drama is taught on a termly rotation. Year 7 study an introduction to both Dance and Drama, as well as choreographic devices in Dance and the script The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty in Drama. In Year 8, students’ progress to looking at professional dance works (Swansong choreographed by Christopher Bruce) and they study a GCSE text in Drama (Blood Brothers by Willy Russell). Year 8 allows students to use the skills learned in Year 7 and apply them to professional works in preparation for studying Dance or Drama at GCSE and BTEC.

In Year 9 are currently studying BTEC Level 2 Technical Award in Performing Arts. The course is practical based and supported by coursework. Year 9 are currently completing the unit Exploring the Performing Arts. They are acting in the style of Naturalism and looking at the practitioner Konstantin Stanislavski. Year 9 are learning how to act in a believable and realistic way, whilst also being a character that is different from themselves. In Dance, Year 9 are studying AQA GCSE Dance. They are learning about physical, technical and expressive skills through their knowledge organisers. Students are practically exploring the set phrases. They are learning the set phrase Breathe, which they have to perform as a solo. Year 9 have been working hard in both Dance and Drama and I am looking forward to seeing their work.

In Year 10 Dance and Drama students are currently completing BTEC Performing Arts First Award in Dance or Acting. The course is practical and students are required to complete written coursework to support their work. In Dance, students are choreographing and performing in the style of contemporary. They are looking at the works of Martha Graham and Merce Cunningham. They will be creating choreography to perform in a solo, duet or trio. Acting students have just completed pieces in the style of non-naturalism. They were required to complete work that is based on a theme or issue. Work can be presented in a variety of ways, including using movement and mime. They have been studying the playwright Sarah Kane. Their pieces have been highly original and creative and I have very much enjoyed working with our acting students on these pieces.

In Drama, Year 11 are coming to the end of their GCSE courses. GCSE Dance students had their practical dance exam on Friday 12th May. I just want to take the opportunity to say a massive well done. Their
choreography was performed beautifully and Mrs Turner and Miss Speed are very proud of the work produced. GCSE Performing Arts Acting students have their exam at the end of May. They are creating work based on the stimulus ‘Curiouser and Curiouser’. I am very much looking forward to seeing their final pieces!

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DIARY - 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Art &amp; Technology Exhibition</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moorways Athletics Event</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Academy Open Evening – All welcome</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Yr6 Transition Days</strong></td>
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<td><strong>‘Annie’</strong></td>
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<td><strong>World of Work Week</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Yr7 Visit to London</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sports Day</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Last day of term – 3.35pm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>INSET DAYS for 2017/2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4th September 2017</td>
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<td>Tuesday 5th September 2017</td>
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<td>Monday 30th October 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 2nd January 2018</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3rd January 2018</td>
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Your Invitation to visit the new David Nieper Academy!

OPEN EVENING
Wednesday 21st June 2017 – 5.30-7.00pm

On Wednesday 21st June, the David Nieper Academy will be holding an Open Evening to give Yr 5 students and the wider community the opportunity to visit this fantastic new academy.

The evening will include:
• Interactive subject displays
• Tours of the academy by current students
• Refreshments
• Presentations by Headteacher (6pm & 6.30pm) Main Hall

The new David Nieper Academy is one of Derbyshire’s most ambitious and innovative academies. This year our school started a new chapter with a new name, a new sponsor, a brand new £15 million academy building and a smart new uniform subsidised by our sponsor, with parents only required to make a £10 contribution.

The addition of a Sixth Form Business and Enterprise Centre opening in September 2017, offers our 16+ students the opportunity to take a business focused qualification which has the potential to open doors in a variety of career paths.

We look forward to welcoming you.
Dr Kathryn Hobbs, Headteacher

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF!

Further details will be on our website www.davidnieper.academy
alternatively, please call us on 01773 832331.

DavidNieper
ACADEMY

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