

20 October 2023

Dear families

Thank you to the families who joined us last night for the first of our parent forums. It was great to hear about your children's experience of school, providing really helpful feedback on some of the things that are currently working well and also on some things that could work better. It also provided some agenda items for our next forum which will be on the evening of Monday 13th November. The focus will be **Improving communication between school and home**. If you have any questions or points that you would like to be discussed through this forum, please can you email them to mhackett@davidnieper.academy by Thursday 26th October.

Fashion Challenge

David Nieper Academy Fashion Challenge took place this Tuesday, with employees from David Nieper Ltd supporting students with the design and manufacture of a collection of outfits for the catwalk. Year 8 students worked in tutor groups and within house teams to design outfits based around chosen themes. These included 70s disco, the environment, robotics and electronics, the weather and literary greats. Students learnt about the role fast fashion plays in their lives and the impact on the environment the industry is currently challenged with. With this in mind, they worked with real determination and enthusiasm to complete their outfits from pre-loved and donated clothes and materials over the course of the day. Judging went on throughout, as David Nieper employees supported and chatted with students about their designs. The levels of creativity in the design work and finished collection was really inspirational and as a faculty we were really proud of the effort, collaboration and confidence all the students demonstrated through different tasks. The volunteer models showcased their creations during the catwalk show, which was watched by the rest of the year group and saw staff from around the academy descend on the hall for the main event! Thank you to the staff who supported this event, for the planning, set up and running on the day as well as the volunteers from David Nieper Ltd who gave up their day to support us. We couldn't have done it without them! Well Done Year 8.



Senior Maths Challenge

Students received their results this week from the Senior Mathematical Challenge. Four Year 11 students took the challenge, two of whom, Isabelle Kirk and Max Ingham, scored highly enough to earn a bronze certificate. Finnlay Gigg, in Year 13, also took part, and he received an excellent silver certificate. This is an incredibly challenging event, so huge congratulations to everyone.

MAT Lecture

The first MAT lecture of the academic year took place after school on Wednesday. The topic was The Dark Universe, and thanks to Dr Susan Cartwright, from the University of Sheffield, who presented to our pupils, explaining the fascinating subject of visible darkness, dark atoms, dark matter and dark energy. It was great to see so many pupils staying behind after school to be part of this. We look forward to the next lecture in the series.

Year 11 Parents Evening

Our Parent Evenings for Year 11 students take place on Wednesday 8 November (in the academy) and Thursday 16 November (online), where you will have the opportunity to discuss your son/daughter's progress with subject teachers. Please see separate letter for full details.

To book appointments with staff please visit our online booking system via <https://davidnieper.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/>

Lost property

We have several lost property items, including blazers, school trousers, shoes, winter coats, school bags, lunch bags and water bottles, which are not labelled. If pupils have lost any items, please encourage them to ask at Main Reception. We ask that all items are labelled to allow us to return them to their rightful owners. Thank you for your support with this.

Dates for the diary

30 October-3 November	Half-term holidays
Wednesday 8 & Thursday 16 November	Year 11 Parents Evening (face-to-face & online)
Monday 13 November	Parent Forum – Improving Communication
Tuesday 14 November	Early finish at 2pm – for staff training
Friday 22 December	Last day of term, 2pm pupil finish

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email info@davidnieper.academy and a member of staff will be in touch.

Have a great weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr R White
Head of School