

2 February 2024

Dear families

On Tuesday, the academy held its annual careers fair. Each year this gets bigger and better as more employers, apprenticeship providers and colleges get involved with this great event. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all exhibitors who joined us and supported this fantastic opportunity for our pupils to talk to such a wide range of people from different backgrounds and industries. It was a great success; pupils found it informative, asked lots of relevant questions and were able to obtain advice about future options and next steps for a variety of careers and courses.

We also received lots of very positive feedback from the employers about the conversations that had taken place. Communication is a skill that employers rate highly, and we know that young people need opportunity, practice and experience of speaking with unfamiliar people in order to improve this. Therefore, as an incentive, our exhibitors were handing out 'golden tickets' to any pupil who asked them a great question. These then went into a prize draw for the opportunity to win one of five £20 Amazon vouchers that will be drawn at the beginning of next week.

I would also like to thank those families who visited the fair at the end of the school day and the staff who organised this great event.



Year 8 trip to Hampton Court Palace

Pupils have been studying the Tudors as part of their history curriculum and have the exciting opportunity, on Wednesday or Thursday next week, to visit Hampton Court Palace. We would like all Year 8 pupils to go on this heavily subsidised trip. If you have not already done so, can we please remind you to provide consent and make payment via ParentPay just as soon as possible. A copy of the letter is available [here](#).

Year 7 Assessments

Next week, year 7 pupils will be doing their first assessments since joining the academy. Educational research shows that assessments are far more useful when they are conducted infrequently, as it allows pupils to be assessed on a broader range of knowledge and understanding, rather than the content that they have just studied. Year 7 pupils have been provided with information about the topics that will be covered by these assessments and have already begun their preparations in school. Please encourage your child as they complete their final revision in preparation for these. If they have any questions or need support, they can speak with their subject teachers who will be happy to help.

Crossing Patrol, Grange Street

There is concern in the local community that Derbyshire County Council have not recruited a crossing patrol on Grange Street due to a recruitment freeze. The concern is that the road is dangerous without a patrol or pedestrian crossing and a local campaign has been set up to demonstrate the strength of feeling in the community. If you would like to find out more and offer your support, please click on the link below.

[Campaign link](#)

Please remind children about the importance of road safety.

Lost property

We have many lost property items, including blazers, school trousers, shoes, winter coats and school bags, 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. Any items which are unclaimed will be donated to charity at the end of each half-term. Thank you for your support with this.

Dates for the diary

Monday 5 to Friday 16 February	Year 7 assessments
Monday 19 to Friday 23 February	Half-term holidays
Monday 26 February	All pupils return to a Week B timetable
Wednesday 28 February	Year 9 Parents evening (face-to-face)
Monday 4 March	Year 9 Parents evening (online)
Monday 4 to Friday 8 March	Year 11 Mock exams
Monday 18 to Friday 22 March	Year 11 Mock exams

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 good weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mr R White
Head of School