



Welcome to your whispers of news and events...

09.10.26

Top Weekly Reward Points		
Year 7	7MBI	55.1
Year 8	8JVI	57.5
Year 9	9EMI	52.7
Year 10	10JYE	48.9
Year 11	11TTT	54.1



Star Students

Amy C Y11

Caylyn D-P Y7

Rain Doesn't Stop Play



Our Year 9 Photography students recently ventured off-site for one of our seasonal photography visits, proving that a little rain certainly doesn't have to stop play!

Armed with their cameras, students explored the woodland landscape, capturing photographs and collecting natural materials and inspiration to bring back into their photography lessons. These seasonal visits give students the opportunity to experience an ever-changing landscape and consider how different environments can influence their creative work.

The damp conditions certainly didn't put them off. In fact, the rain provided a wonderful opportunity to see the woodland from a completely different perspective. Leaves and branches were covered in glistening droplets, textures became more pronounced and familiar surroundings took on a more atmospheric quality.

As they explored, students were encouraged to look closely at the formal elements of photography, including line, shape, texture, pattern, perspective, composition, light and colour. They experimented with different viewpoints and ways of framing the landscape, discovering how something as simple as changing their position or perspective could transform an image.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our young photographers to get outside, observe their surroundings carefully and gather ideas for their creative work back in the classroom. The changing seasons provide an ever-evolving subject — and, as our students discovered, sometimes the most interesting photographs can be found when the weather doesn't quite go to plan!



Harvest Collection



This Harvest, we are delighted to be supporting **Chesterfield Food Bank** with a school-wide collection.

The Food Bank provides essential food and toiletries to local people and families experiencing financial hardship, and our donations can make a real difference as we head into the autumn and winter months.

We would love for our families to get involved by donating items from the “**most needed**” list shown on the Harvest poster below.

 **Where:** School Reception

 **When:** Monday 12th October - Wednesday 21st October

A large collection table has been set up in Reception, so simply bring your donations along and pop them on the table.

Every tin, packet and jar counts — thank you for helping us support our local community this Harvest. ♥



Harvest appeal



Help support your food bank this Harvest

In the three weeks leading up to Harvest, the food bank will provide over 300 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help to cover the costs of storing and distributing food, as well as developing sustainable projects.

Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish

Tinned veg/fruit

Cooking sauces

Coffee

Milk (UHT or powdered)

Cereals

Fruit juice (long-life)

Tinned pudding

Jam

Instant mashed potato

Chesterfield Foodbank
chesterfield.foodbank.org.uk

Registered Charity in England & Wales (1174426)

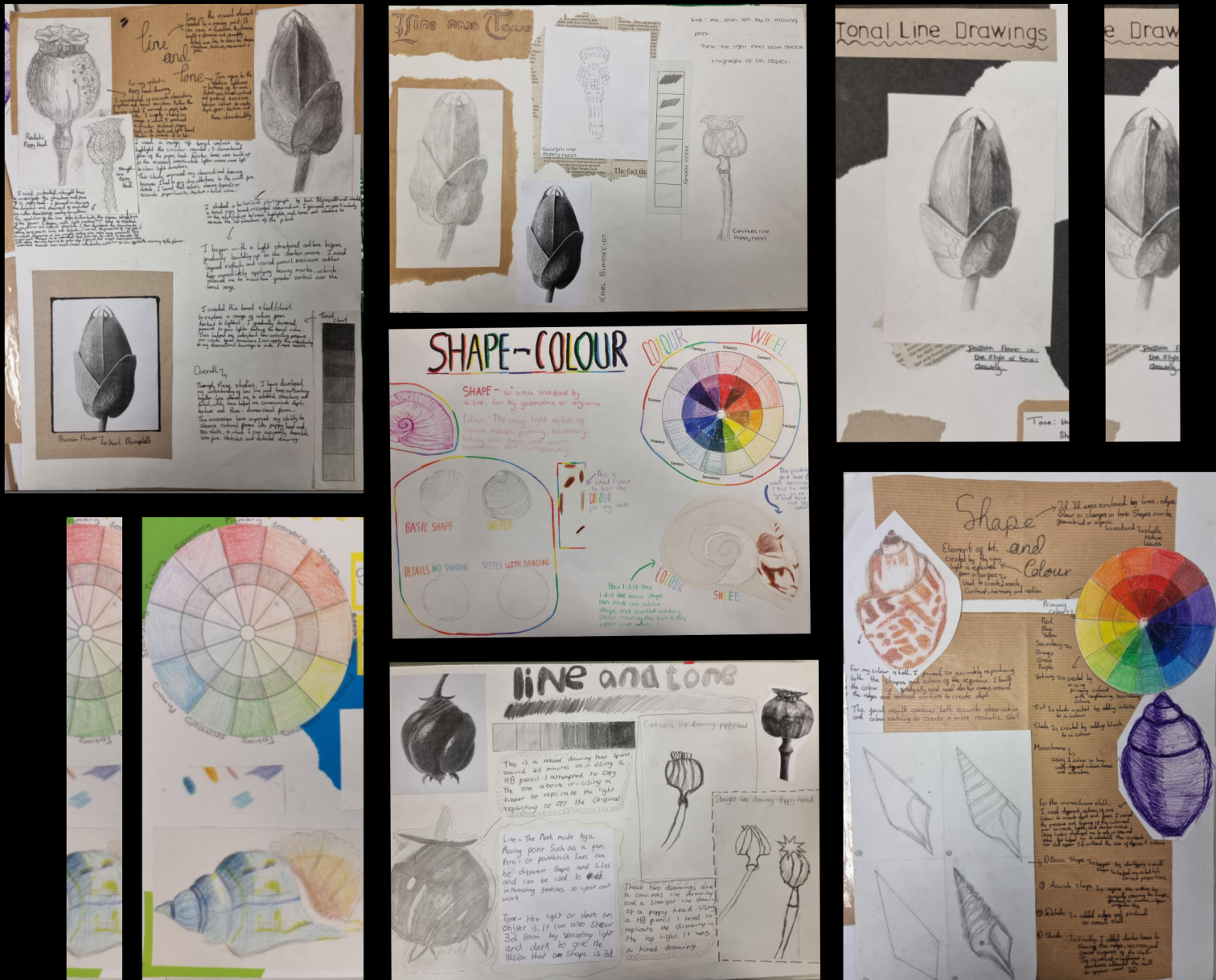


Year 10 Art – A Feast for the Eyes!

We had the pleasure of popping into the art room to see what our Year 10 artists have been creating with Mrs Walford, and we were seriously impressed!

The students have been exploring some of the formal elements of art — the building blocks artists use to create and communicate through their work. They have been looking closely at line and tone, developing their ability to use different types of line and carefully controlled shading to create detail, depth, texture and a real sense of form.

And what beautiful work they are producing!

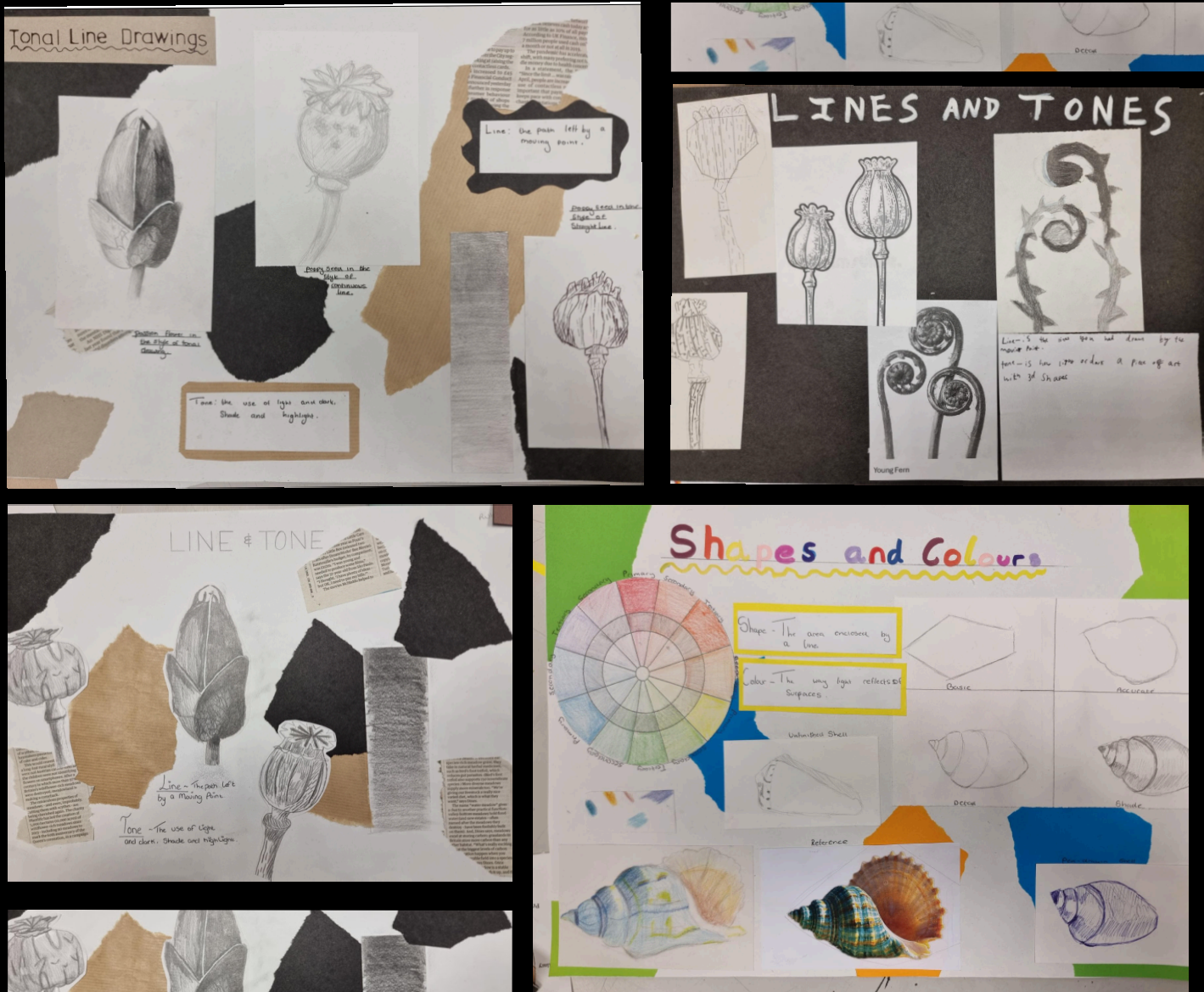


There were some wonderfully detailed drawings on display, showing just how much time, patience and observation the students have put into developing their skills. It was lovely to see the confidence coming through in their work, particularly in the way they have used tone to create light and shade and bring their drawings to life.

The students have also been exploring colour and shape, looking at how colours can work together and how different shapes can be arranged and manipulated to create interesting and effective compositions. These might sound like simple ingredients, but in the hands of an artist, they can completely change the mood, movement and impact of a piece of artwork.

It was fantastic to see such a variety of approaches and, most importantly, to see the amount of work and care that the Year 10s are putting into their art.

With their GCSE art journey well underway, these skills are an important part of building their portfolios and developing their own artistic voices.



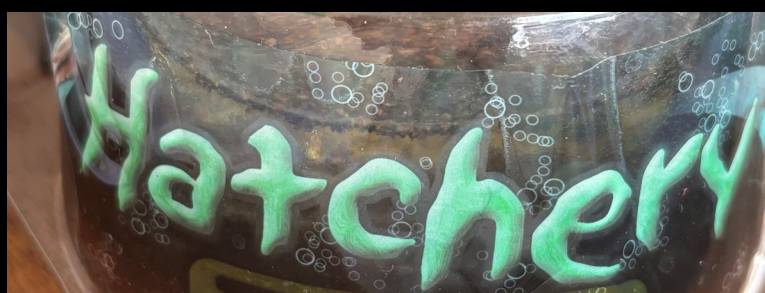
A Visit to Mr Ashworth's Science Lab

As always, a visit to Mr Ashworth's science lab is an entertaining experience, and this week certainly didn't disappoint!

We were particularly excited to hear that Mr Ashworth has started growing a city of sea monkeys! For those who like to get technical, sea monkeys are actually tiny crustaceans. The eggs were added to the hatchery on Tuesday morning, so fingers crossed that by next week we'll have some tiny sea monkeys swimming around.

The hatchery itself is quite something. Once the sea monkeys hatch, Mr Ashworth will be able to lift the little doors between the compartments, allowing them to make their way from one section to another. They'll be able to travel around their miniature world, almost like a little Centre Parcs for sea monkeys!

On the other side of the classroom, we revisited the tank for the first time since the summer. Normally, at this time of year, you wouldn't expect to see any tadpoles, but we still have one large one left, causing plenty of havoc. He is nicknamed Big Barry, and he really is quite a sizeable tadpole!



There have also been some froglets in the tank, making for a rather unusual sight at this time of year. Perhaps the changing temperatures have had an effect on the timing of the tadpoles' development, but it's fascinating to see how nature doesn't always stick rigidly to the calendar.

And Big Barry isn't the only interesting resident. We also have some water snails, happily munching away on the pondweed. They can sometimes appear to be walking across the surface of the water, thanks to a clever little trick involving surface tension. The surface of the water behaves a little like a very thin, stretchy skin, allowing the snails to move along it without immediately sinking. It's quite a clever trick from our slimy little friends!

There are also some lovely sights to see in the tank, with the pondweed doing what pondweed does best — photosynthesis. As it produces oxygen, tiny strings of oxygen bubbles can be seen forming on the plants. In the sunshine, they look absolutely gorgeous, sparkling away beneath the surface.



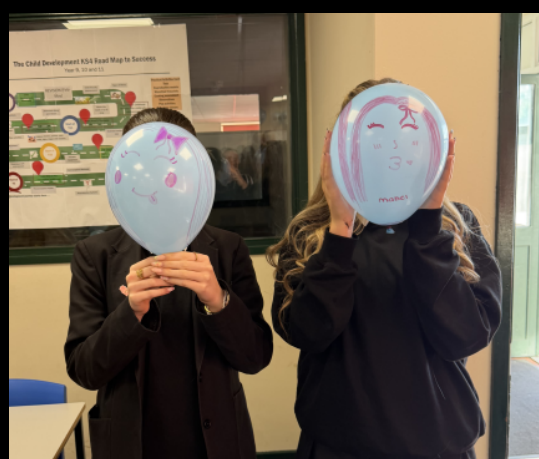
A Labour Practical with a Difference!

Our Year 11 Child Development students recently experienced a rather unusual practical lesson — they took part in their very own labour practical!

Using balloons to recreate the process of labour and birth, students were able to explore what happens during contractions and how a baby makes its way through the birth process. It was a fantastic way of bringing the theory they have been learning in the classroom to life and giving them a memorable, hands-on experience of the subject.

And, of course, no baby would be complete without a little personality! Students also had the opportunity to decorate their balloon babies, creating everything from sweet little faces to some wonderfully imaginative designs.

The students absolutely loved getting involved, and there was plenty of laughter along the way. It was a brilliant example of how practical learning can make even some of the more complex areas of Child Development engaging, memorable — and quite a lot of fun!



Year 11 Netball Team Take on Their Final Tournament



Our Year 11 netball team recently travelled to Dronfield Henry Fanshaw to compete in their final Chesterfield Schools netball tournament.

The team showed huge improvements throughout the games, with students confidently taking on a range of positions and giving their very best against some of the toughest opponents in the competition. Their commitment, determination and positive attitude were fantastic to see, and they should be incredibly proud of how they represented the school.

A special mention goes to Elsie, who received the most Player of the Match awards, following some excellent performances at goal attack.

A huge well done to all of our Year 11s for their hard work and dedication throughout the season — you have shown great progress and determination. We are very proud of you!

Safer Knives, Same Great Skills



This week, the Catering Department welcomed representatives from Derbyshire's Violence Reduction Unit as part of an exciting initiative to promote safer knife use within schools and the wider community. The team visited Whittington Green School to replace our existing catering knives with specially designed flat-edged alternatives. These innovative knives allow students to develop the same essential food preparation skills while reducing the risk of injury. The initiative is part of a wider programme aimed at encouraging safer choices and raising awareness around responsible knife use. By introducing these products in schools, students gain confidence and experience using safer equipment and may be more likely to choose similar products in their own homes in the future. We are incredibly grateful to the Violence Reduction Unit for their support and generosity. This fantastic partnership not only benefits our Catering students but also demonstrates how education can play an important role in supporting safer communities. A huge thank you to everyone involved in making this opportunity possible. We look forward to continuing to work together on projects that make a positive difference both inside and outside the classroom.

Workbench Wonders

With Mr Wakefield

The Japanese Bullet Train, or Shinkansen, is one of the world's most impressive examples of design and engineering. Travelling at incredible speeds, engineers faced a problem: when trains entered tunnels, they created a loud "tunnel boom" that could be heard from miles away.

The solution came from an unexpected place... nature. One engineer noticed how a kingfisher dives into water at high speed with barely a splash. Its long, streamlined beak allows it to move smoothly between air and water. Inspired by this design, engineers reshaped the front of the Bullet Train to mimic the kingfisher's beak.

The result? A train that was quieter, more energy-efficient and even faster. It is a brilliant reminder that some of the best design ideas come from observing the world around us. Sometimes, nature has already solved the problem.



Why it's a Workbench Wonder:

When solving a modern engineering challenge, designers looked to a bird for inspiration.

Think you've found a Workbench Wonder? Let Mr Wakefield know and your nomination could feature in the next newsletter!

Year 11 RS Create a Buddhist Shrine



Our Year 11 RS students have been getting creative with their revision by creating a Buddhist shrine to help them explore and remember the importance of worship in Buddhism.

At the centre of the shrine is the Buddha Rupa, representing devotion to the Buddha. The students also included candles and flowers, which represent the teachings of the Buddha, and incense, symbolising the importance of practising good thoughts, speech and behaviour.

It was fantastic to see the students bringing their learning to life in such a thoughtful and creative way. Mrs Edwards was incredibly proud of the effort, care and understanding shown by the group and was delighted to see them engaging so enthusiastically with their revision.

An Artist to Watch!



Sometimes, a piece of artwork comes along that makes you stop, look twice and say... "Wow!"

That's exactly what happened when Miss Scothorn was marking the first drawing task for our Year 7 students.

Amongst the work was a wonderfully detailed drawing of a shoe by Nikola, and Miss Scothorn's exact reaction was:

"Wow. For a Year 7, it's pretty impressive!"

And we couldn't agree more!

The drawing shows an impressive level of observation, detail and control for a student so early in their secondary school art journey. Apparently, this isn't a one-off either. Nikola has been producing fabulous artwork across the board, so we may well have an artist to watch developing right here at Whittington Green School.

It's always exciting to see those early signs of creativity and talent, and we can't wait to see how Nikola's artistic skills develop over the coming years.

Different
Minds
Brighter
World

NEURODIVERSITY CLUB

Be kind
Be curious
Be inclusive
Belong

Everyone Welcome!

Looking for a safe, supportive space to relax, connect and be yourself?

Join us at Neurodiversity Club, where you can:

Make new friends

Play games and enjoy activities

Chat with others who understand

Relax in a calm, welcoming environment

Build confidence and have fun

ALL MINDS

ALL IDEAS

ALL FEELINGS

ALL WELCOME

Where: The House

When: Every Monday after school

Time: 3:10pm – 4:00pm

Whether you're neurodivergent, want to learn more about neurodiversity, or simply want a friendly place to spend time, you are welcome here.

Led by:

Miss Wells-Cole

Miss McDermott

Miss Doran

Be Yourself • Feel Supported • Thrive Together

KIND PEOPLE
BRIGHTER PLACES

RESPECT UNDERSTANDING ACCEPTANCE FRIENDSHIP

Celebrating World River Day

Recently, we held a special assembly to mark World River Day, celebrating the importance of rivers and the vital role they play in our world.

As part of the assembly, we were delighted to hear a beautiful poem written by our Year 8 student, Esmail. Her thoughtful words capture the beauty and significance of rivers and offer a lovely reminder of why it is so important that we value and protect these precious waterways.

A river that runs through the town,
A once blue river that's turned brown.
A river of tears formed by a puddle of fears,
A river that's drifted up over the years.
A river losing water as kids jump in,
A river that can be both thick and thin.
A river that crashes against rocks,
A river that flows through the holes in your crocs.
A river that's seen you grow up,
A river watches you in your wedding gown,
A river that runs through the town.

Esmail Y8

In English and Art, students will be invited to celebrate National Poetry Day by getting creative.

This year's theme is **WONDER**.

Students are encouraged to submit an entry to our creative competition. Entries can be written or artistic or a blend of both.

Written entries:
submit by **Friday 16th October**

Artistic entries:
submit by **Thursday 23rd October**

Where? **Room 8**
(opposite Room 12 and 13 in English)

**WELCOME
TO A
WONDERFUL
WORLD OF
WONDER**



**NATIONAL
POETRY DAY
THURS 1 OCT 2026**



Post-16 Open Evenings

Post-16 provider		Date
	Netherthorpe School	6 th October 2026
	Outwood Newbold	13 th October 2026
	Tupton Hall School	14 th October 5.30pm onwards
 Eckington School Chrysa Education Trust	Eckington school	21 st October 5.15pm-8pm
	Dronfield Henry Fanshaw	11 th November 5pm – 8pm
	St Mary's Catholic high school	12 th November 2026
	Brookfield Community School	6 th October 2026
	Chesterfield College	Sixth form open evening 4 th November 4pm – 6pm Showcase open evening (range of courses and apprenticeships) 11 th November 4pm – 7pm 17 th March 4pm – 7pm 23 rd June 4pm-7pm

Whittington Green School

IT Technician

Help desk technician, IT service engineer, service desk analyst
IT support technicians give technical help to computer users by identifying and fixing hardware, software and network problems.

You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- a college course
- an apprenticeship

University

You could do a foundation degree, higher national diploma or degree in:

- computer science
- network engineering
- network security
- software engineering
- business information systems

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

- 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree

College

You could take a college course that may help you to get a trainee technician job with an organisation.

Useful subjects include:

- computing
- IT support
- ICT systems and principles
- T level in Digital Support and Security

Entry requirements

Entry requirements for these courses vary.

- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths for a T Level

Apprenticeship

You could apply for a place on a Level 3

Advanced Apprenticeship, such as:

- IT Solutions Technician
- Digital Support Technician
- Information Communications Technician
- Cyber Security Technician

You can apply for a foundation apprenticeship if you're aged 16 to 21.



Job of the
Week



Skills and knowledge

You'll need:

- knowledge of computer operating systems, hardware and software
- analytical thinking skills
- customer service skills
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to work well with others
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be flexible and open to change
- the ability to use your judgement and make decisions
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages confidently

Salary - £24,000 - £36,000

Find out more about this job. Scan the QR code for the MYPATH video.



**+BOWMER
KIRKLAND**

**CONSTRUCTION
DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS**

LAUNCH

EVENT

SAVE THE DATE



WEDNESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER 2026 5:30PM – 7PM
DERBY MUSEUM OF MAKING

**Join us to discover everything you need to know about our
Construction Degree Apprenticeship Scheme**

REGISTER HERE

- Find out about the roles available and how to apply
- Meet current and previous apprentices
- Hear short presentations from our leadership team
- Q&A session and opportunities to find out more



We build careers

bandk.co.uk



YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS



START YOUR BRONZE DOFE

Getting started

Are you ready to start
an adventure you'll
never forget?

To get started with your DofE,
speak to Mr Ashworth
or Dr Albon.

How do I get involved?

Speak to:



Dr Albon
Room 40

How do I get involved?

Speak to:



Mr Ashworth
Room 16

Doing DofE helps you leave your limits behind.
It's the perfect way to try new things, meet
new people, discover new talents, learn new
skills, give to your community, feel more
confident, make a difference, recognise your
potential, boost your wellbeing – and know
that nothing can hold you back.

Art Exhibition

Unfortunately, the Chesterfield School Art
Exhibition had to be cancelled, but all is not
lost!

The wonderful artwork that was due to be
displayed at the exhibition can now be seen
in school, in the library.

Everyone is welcome to come along, have
a look and enjoy the fantastic work on
display. Please come and support our artists
— we'd love to see you there!



Art Exhibition



Art Exhibition

Mr Ashworth's Brain Teaser

I'm tall when I'm young and short when I'm old.

What am I?

Brain Teaser author this week is Kaylen L in Y11



Do you think you know the answer to this week's brain teaser?
Be the first to find Mr Ashworth in Room 16 with your solution for the chance to win a small prize (and, of course, eternal bragging rights).

Congratulations!
The last week's winner is:

Mia L Y11

Q: What do you call cheese that isn't yours?

A: Nacho Cheese!



After School Clubs

Have you explored our after school clubs?

We have a fantastic array of activities that cater to every interest and passion.

Whether you're keen on sports, arts and crafts, technology, gardening or anything in between, there's something here for everyone.

Beyond the fun activities, our clubs provide an incredible opportunity to forge new friendships and develop valuable skills. Whether you're honing your teamwork on the sports field or unleashing your creativity in the art room, there's no shortage of opportunities to grow and learn together.

Our convenient after school bus ensures that you can join in on the excitement without any worries about transportation – it departs promptly at 4.00pm.

Come and be a part of the adventure!

After School Clubs

Monday

***Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals**

Girls football

Miss Kemp

Y8 Boys Football

Mr Kingham

Y10+11 Boys Football

Mr Spacey

Y9 Boys Football

Mr Williamson

Neurodiversity Club House

Miss Wells- Cole &
Miss McDermott

Manga Monday Library

Mrs Bingham

Upper School Band

Room 27

Mr Redgrave

Writing Club

Room 20

Miss Turner

Project Club

Rm 45

Tuesday

Tech Theatre Club Dance Studio

Mr Bathurst

Chess Club

Library

Mr Reid

Wednesday

***Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals**

Y7+8 Netball

Tennis Courts

Miss Kemp

Y9, 10 & 11 Netball

Tennis Courts

Mrs Dewberry

Y7 Boys Football

Mr Townsend

DofE Drop in Room 16

Mr Ashworth & Dr Albon

KS4 Independent Study Room 21A

Mr Spacey

Book Club

Library

Mrs Bingham

Lower School Band

Room 27

Mr Redgrave

Y11 D&T Int

Rm 35

Mr Wakefield

Project Club

Rm 45

Thursday

***Beauty & the Beast Rehearsals**

Gardening Club

Rm 43

Mrs Pates

Art Club

Room 28

Miss Scothorn

Textiles Club

Room 36

Miss Donkin

Starts 17/9

(Limited places)

STEM Club

Room 38

Dr Albon

Starts 23/9

Y11 English Rev Power & Conflict

Room 12

Mrs Gallacher

* Please see Performing Arts notice board for details

Kip McGrath™
EDUCATIONCENTRES



In Centre



Online

ENGLISH AND MATHS TUTORING

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY



Qualified Teachers

Personalised Learning

International Reputation

Proven Methodology

Chesterfield West



Matlock



Boost your child's confidence -

Book a FREE ASSESSMENT today



07825 354728

Undertsanding our attendance TRAFFIC LIGHTS

Any questions, email attendance@wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk



95%+



Well done!

Attendance that is 95% and above is our target for all our students. The student is attending school regularly and is on track with their learning. No immediate action needed.

Improvement needed

This level of attendance can begin to impact academic progress. Our attendance officer may monitor attendance more closely, discuss reasons for absence with the student and family, and provide support if needed.

90-94%

below 90%



Cause for concern

The Department of Education classes anyone below 90% attendance as a persistent absentee. When this is the case, we will reach out to you to see how we can support you and your child and addressing any concerns you or they may have.

Derbyshire
Family Health Service

UI	L351
Version	1
Approved	23/4/25
Review by	23/4/27

NHS
Derbyshire Community
Health Services
NHS Foundation Trust

Public health nurse contact details

Whether your child or young person is in school or home educated, we can support with...

Continence

Sleep

Healthy
lifestyles

Puberty

Anxiety

Mental
health

Relationships

And much
more

For parents/carers of 5-19 year olds in Derbyshire text us on 07312 263744

Available Monday to Friday 9am-4:30pm (except bank holidays)

We can also support young people aged 11-19 with all of the above as well as sexual health, drugs and alcohol support.

Young people aged 11-19 years in Derbyshire can text us on 07507 330025

Available Monday to Friday 9am-4:30pm (except bank holidays)



derbyshirefamilyhealthservice.nhs.uk



DerbysFamilyHealth