



CASTLE DONINGTON COLLEGE

Summer Newsletter

July 2026

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As we come to the end of another successful school year, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all our staff, pupils, parents and carers for the dedication, support and enthusiasm you have shown throughout the year.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the members of the PTFA, whose dedication, enthusiasm and tireless efforts have made such a valuable difference to our school community. Through their hard work and commitment, they have provided vital fundraising support that benefits so many of our pupils. We are incredibly grateful for all they have done. Further details of their wonderful contributions can be found in this newsletter. Please get in touch if you would like to carry on this work.

As you read through this newsletter, I hope you enjoy celebrating the many achievements, experiences and successes from across our school community. The wonderful stories and highlights featured in these pages showcase the hard work, talent, resilience and enthusiasm of our pupils, as well as the dedication and support of our staff, parents and carers. I am incredibly proud of everything that has been accomplished this year and grateful to everyone who has played a part in making our school such a vibrant and successful community.

I wish you all a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved summer break. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new academic year.

Vickie Beeby

SEE YOU IN AUGUST!

Year 11 pupils can collect their exam results between 9:00 and 10:30am on **Thursday 20th August**
Good Luck Year 11!

College reopens for all pupils at 8:45am on **Tuesday 25th August**

REMINDERS

Wednesday 11th September
Y11 Post 16 Information Evening

Thursday 24th September
New Year 6 Open Evening

Thursday 15th October
Year 7 Meet the Tutor Parents' Evening

October Half term Break
Monday 19th to Friday 23rd October

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!





Message of thanks from the PTFA

As we reach the end of another school year, we wanted to take a moment to write to you to say a huge thank you.

Over the past two years, your support has meant a great deal, and we are proud of what we have been able to achieve for the school and students together.

Across the PTFA's two years, our fundraising raised just shy of £10,000 allowing us to:

- Equip the Music department with a new drum kit, several guitars, keyboards, and a range of accessories
- Supply the Library with over 150 new books, including fulfilling their Amazon wishlist in full
- Purchase pasta-making equipment for DT department's cookery lessons
- Provide the Science department with 4 new microscopes
- Purchase a set of Higher Maths books for the Maths department to support students through GCSEs
- Fund £250 worth of Amazon and Nando's vouchers for the Year 11 incentive scheme for two years running
- Contribute £325 in cash toward the Year 11 prom, generously donated by one of our members
- Create a new Sensory Room for students with additional needs
- Provide the Art and Design department with Cricut machines and screen printing facilities

We are currently working hard to fulfil our final round of purchases with the aim of also providing, the Sports department with table tennis tables subject to our remaining budget and fundraising at the Rock and Pop night.

The business community have been phenomenal – buying event and raffle tickets, sponsoring our events and giving some really great prizes and prizes so we could make as much money as possible. Thank you all so much!

None of this would have been possible without a huge amount of effort from a small group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly with a core group of teachers. With many of our children graduating this year the PTFA in its current form will be closing at the end of this school year.

That said, we sincerely hope this is not the end of parent-school collaboration at Castle Donington College. If there are parents and carers who feel inspired to pick this up and carry it forward in a new form next year, alongside staff from the College, we would be delighted to share everything we have learned about what worked, what didn't, and how to get started. Please do reach out to the school leadership team if you are interested, and we will happily pass on whatever we can.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer and every success in the year ahead.





CDC Ambassador Programme

The CDC Ambassadors are a dedicated team of pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 who play an important role in supporting the life of the College. Pupils apply for these positions, demonstrating their enthusiasm, responsibility and commitment to representing the school in a positive way. Once appointed, Ambassadors take on a wide range of duties, acting as role models for their peers and helping to showcase the very best of our school community.

Throughout this term, our Ambassadors have been involved in many aspects of College life. They have supported school events, welcomed visitors, assisted new members of staff and helped new pupils settle into school. Whether greeting families at events, providing guidance to younger pupils or lending a helping hand at special occasions, they consistently demonstrate maturity, confidence and pride in their school. Their friendly approach and willingness to help make a real difference to the experience of those joining or visiting the College.

This term, our Ambassadors have been particularly busy, supporting a variety of events and initiatives designed to strengthen our school community. Through their involvement, they have helped promote a strong sense of belonging, ensuring that all pupils feel valued, supported and able to thrive. Their contribution helps create a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone can succeed.

We are incredibly proud of the commitment, enthusiasm and professionalism shown by our Ambassadors. Their efforts have had a positive impact across the College and have provided excellent examples of leadership and service to others. We look forward to building on the success of this team in the new academic year and expanding the opportunities available to them. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of our Ambassadors for their hard work, dedication and much valued support.





Year 6 into 7 Transition

Our new intake of year 7 pupils joined us for their transition days during the penultimate week of term. All pupils were welcomed into the Castle Donington family and fully embraced the 'Donington Way'.

Pupils experienced a wide range of engaging lessons across all curriculum areas and left feeling far more assured and excited to start their journey with us. Thanks once again to our dedicated team of staff and fantastic Ambassadors for ensuring this event was a resounding success!



Summer Term Celebration Assemblies

A large proportion of our pupils were awarded for their progress and achievement across all subject areas during the final week of term. Specialist awards were also presented to those who routinely embody the college values and go above and beyond in terms of their commitment and dedication to both their academic studies and personal development. Congratulations once again, we are very proud of you all!





Library News

It's been another busy term in the library, with pupils making the most of Breakfast Club, break times and lunch times. Our extra-curricular clubs continue to be popular, with Creative Writing Club on Thursdays, Puzzle Club on Tuesdays and Chess Club on Wednesdays.

A huge thank you goes to the Student Council for funding six new chess boards, which have been a fantastic addition to our growing chess community.

This term has also seen another change to our library layout. Our previous system has now been replaced with genre categories to make browsing even easier.

Around 30 of our regular library users volunteered to help with the move, spending their Friday break and lunch times emptying and refilling the shelves. Their teamwork, enthusiasm and hard work were incredible, and the whole job was completed much faster than we imagined. Teamwork really does make the dream work!

Thank you to all the pupils who continue to make the library such a welcoming, vibrant and well-used space.

The library has also been a hub for exam revision with Y11 coming to Breakfast Club to revise together and now we have Y10 pupils utilising the space.





Un-book-lievable! New Books! New Worlds! New Adventures!

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the PTFA for their incredibly generous donation of a magnificent new collection of books for our school library.

The sheer volume and variety of this donation have immensely improved our library shelves. Covering an extensive range of both fiction and non-fiction, there is truly something to spark the imagination of every single student. From gripping mystery novels and magical adventures to beautifully illustrated books on science, history, and the natural world, these additions have breathed new life into our library.

The excitement in the air since the books arrived has been absolutely magical. Children have been buzzing with anticipation, eagerly lining up just to get a glimpse of the new titles. Seeing their eyes light up as they browse the vibrant new covers, swap recommendations with their peers, and proudly borrow out their first choices has been a joy to witness.

This donation does so much more than just fill shelves: it fosters a genuine, life-long love for reading and learning. Thank you, PTA, for your unwavering support, your hard work in fundraising, and for investing so beautifully in our pupil's futures. Your impact will be felt with every page turned!

Our school library continues to accept good-quality age-appropriate fiction and non-fiction books. Please send any donations to the school reception where they will be gratefully received.





Sparking a Love for Reading in the Library!

This half term, a selected group of our fantastic Year 7 and Year 8 pupils took part in the exciting 'BookSpark' initiative. Hosted in our wonderful school library, the sessions were a brilliant success and very well attended!

'BookSpark' gave our pupils the opportunity to dive into a vibrant collection of brand-new books, encouraging them to experience unique stories and diverse texts they might not otherwise have discovered. Beyond just reading, our pupils became literary critics – sharing thoughtful reviews, debating their favourite hooks and plot twists, recommending stories to one another and illustrating texts too!

It has been wonderful to watch their confidence and enthusiasm for reading grow. A huge well done to all our participants for bringing such great energy and insight to the library!





Maths News

Intermediate Maths Challenge

A number of selected Year 7 and 8 pupils attempted the Junior Maths Challenge. The aim of this Maths challenge is to advance the education of young people in maths by providing stimulating problems.

Pupils achieved some fantastic results with a number of bronze, silver and gold certificates being awarded.

Congratulations to the two pupils qualified for the next round of the competition, with one of these pupils achieving a bronze certificate in round 2. Congratulations to all pupils involved.

Primary School Visits

The maths department have been busy visiting Primary feeder schools and delivering a maths taster session to Year 6 pupils. This session has included work on using and applying Pythagoras' theorem. Mrs Roberts, who has delivered the sessions has been really impressed with the Year 6 pupils' effort and attitude. Well done to all Year 6 pupils involved.

Axiom Maths

Axiom Maths has continued to be successful during the summer term with up to 12 selected Year 7 pupils attending the weekly after school sessions.

The lessons involve challenging problems that nurture mathematical talent and inspire pupils to think like university mathematicians. Lessons have featured an introduction to Game Theory. Well done to all the pupils involved.

Maths Club

Maths club (Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm) has continued to be very popular with pupils from all years attending the weekly club. Maths club has been created to help support pupils with their understanding of the subject. Well done to all the pupils who have attended.

Further Maths

A big well done to the Year 11 Further Maths students for all their hard work on completing the course and attending all their additional after school sessions.

Maths Enrichment week

Year 7 – 9 maths enrichment week is to begin during the Summer Term. Projects including Designing a Theme Park and Code breaking.



History News



This term began with 50 Year 7 pupils visiting the British Museum in London. On the trip, pupils got to see first-hand artefacts from the History they have studied in Year 7. This ranged from the Sutton Hoo hoard to the most famous floor tiles in Medieval Europe, and plenty of objects from Medieval China. Pupils also got a sneak peek at Year 8 History visiting the galleries on the Kingdom of Benin and Aztec Empire. We even had time for a brief detour into some Ancient Greek sculpture!

Our GCSE historians have shown exceptional commitment this term in revision. Many Year 11s attended sessions at lunchtime and after school and well done to the truly committed who saw out the truly marathon pre-exam sessions! Ahead of their mocks, Year 10 have also shown great engagement and responsibility in their revision. Collectively they should be very proud.

History Club have also been busy this term, particularly in helping with the Year 6 transition. In June, 26 pupils from St. Edward's visited the College for a special History lesson on Anglo-Saxon crime and punishment. Mr Turner and Miss Stazicker were ably assisted by helpers from Year 10 and Year 11 who helped it be a success. Special appreciation and thanks go to the Year 11s who showed absolute dedication to History by volunteering to stay after their last GCSE exam!





Year 10 Visit to De Montfort University Design Degree Show

Our Year 10 Art and Design students recently enjoyed an inspiring visit to the DesignDegree Show at De Montfort University. The exhibition gave students the opportunity to explore a wide range of creative disciplines, including architecture, graphic design, product design and digital media, providing valuable insight into the exciting possibilities of studying creative subjects at university level.

Despite the exceptionally hot weather, the students were a credit to the school throughout the day. Their behaviour, enthusiasm and maturity were exemplary, and they engaged thoughtfully with the work on display, asking insightful questions and showing genuine interest in the creative processes behind the projects.

The visit was both enjoyable and inspiring, and we are certain it has encouraged our students to think ambitiously about their own creative futures and to enhance their GCSE portfolios. Well done, Year 10!



PE News



What a busy half term it has been in PE. We have hosted a primary rugby transition festival, introduced a sports ambassador programme, had sports day and held lunchtime football matches.

On Friday 12th June we hosted nearly 60 Y6 pupils from Orchard and St Edwards primary schools. Although it was a very warm day, the children were brilliant showing our school values in all that they did. What made the event even special was that our new 'Sports Ambassadors' organized and ran the festival alongside our community rugby coach. Well done to all involved.

If any students want to start playing rugby then our local club link is Melbourne rugby club, they are offering free tag rugby sessions through the summer for Y7 and Y8 students (see information below).

Sports day 2026

On Tuesday 30th June we held our annual sports day, the day was fantastic with excellent participation across Y7, 8 and 9. We even had lots of school records broken, Milo G (7NN Nerf Howler), Emily W (8PS Nerf Howler), Jerome AI (8AMH – Hurdles), Finn B (9MB – Hurdles), Connie L (7NN – Hurdles), Olivia D (8JD – Hurdles), Matilda M (7NN – 300M). A special mention goes to Casey S(7CJ) who broke two school records on the day – Hurdles and 300M and Sophia F (9MB) who also broke 2 school records in both the hurdles and High Jump. The winning tutor group in Year 7 was 7NN, In year 8 the title went to 8JD and in Year 9 the winning Tutor group went to 9MB. Well done to all students that contributed to the running of the day and the performers that showed outstanding attitude.

Ready to give rugby a try?

Free non-contact rugby all Summer

Under 9 to Under U13 boys & girls
(Year 4 to Year 8)



- ✓ T1 Rugby: a non-contact game like rugby union
- ✓ Supportive atmosphere for new players
- ✓ Chance for established players to develop skills
- ✓ Lots of fun !

Contact: Tim Wilbraham
07799840482 or timwilbo@gmail.com



Melbourne Rugby Club
Mondays 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
May to September





MFL News

Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators

A huge congratulations to the following pupils for receiving a commendation for their exceptional work in completing the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators. Each pupil has received a certificate from Queen's College Oxford, who organised the prize. Their names also listed on their website [Anthea Bell Prize 2026: Winners and Commendees](#) – The Queen's College, Oxford

Spencer J and Carl B in 7LED (French to English)

Arvin S in 7LED (Spanish to English)

Macy C in 8HP (German to English)

Luci DP in 7LED (Italian to English)



Creativity in Languages

8JD have used their knowledge of their most recent topic on Daily Routine to create beautifully-decorated alarm clocks with a paragraph written in Spanish. Well done to everyone!





More MFL News

7NN have been learning how to describe their family and house and have created a piece of extended writing in Spanish, decorated as a house. Well done for all of your hard work this term!



7CJ have been learning about Bastille Day in French this term and Miss Bettison ran a competition for the best poster or leaflet; our three winners were:

Alana-Bo S

Lola T

Aviana S



We'd also like to give a special mention to Sienna S in 7LED who worked very hard to create a PowerPoint presentation on Bastille Day





Even more MFL News

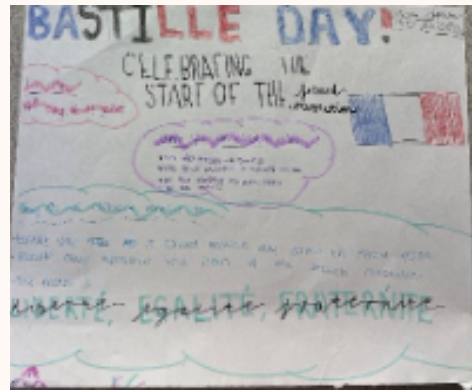
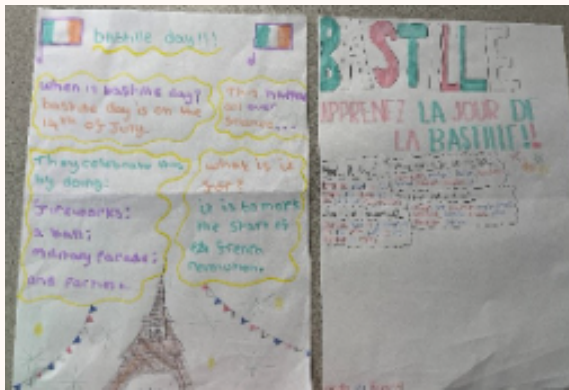
7NN have also been creating posters to educate about France's national holiday, Bastille Day.

We have attached some of our favourites, including the three winning posters:

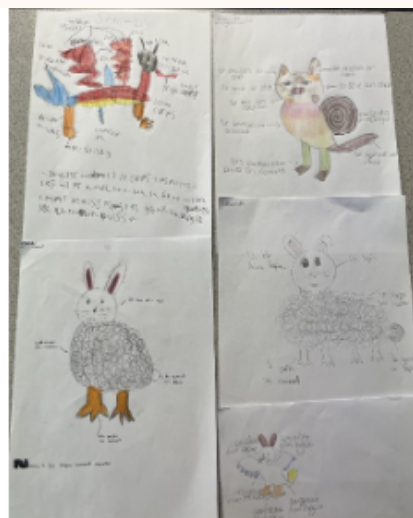
Audrey H

Penny H

Lily M



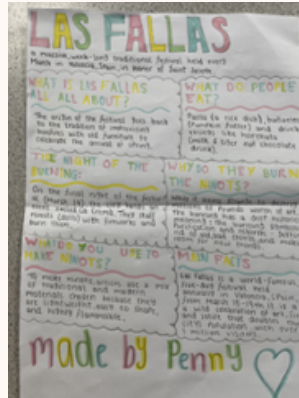
Year 7 also created some creatures using their knowledge of animals in French – they were asked to use various animals and body parts to create a fantastical beast! Here are some of our favourites from 7GT:



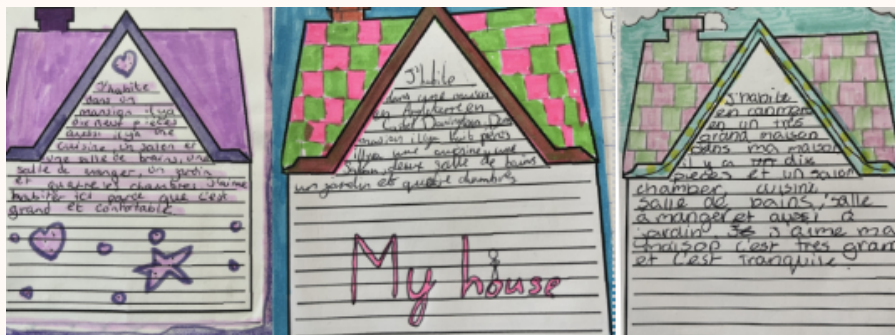


MFL News continued....

Some of 7NN have been learning about the Spanish festival of Las Fallas – a festival in Valencia in which huge satirical sculptures are made by locals, and burned in a huge bonfire! Penny created this beautiful and informative poster to tell us more:



Year 7 French have been working on descriptions of where they live; well done to Grace, Dominik and Elise in 7TW for these lovely pieces of work for Madame Amyot!



In Year 8 French, pupils have been creating French pamphlets about sport; look at these two by Eden H (8AMH) and Jess P (8HP) – neatly illustrated and written in French. Well done, both!





MFL News continued....

Meanwhile, in Spanish, Miss Bettison's class 9X3 chose to create designs of the sculptures from Las Fallas. Known as ninots, these are often political or show a topical issue from the year. Have a look at the pupils' designs – who do you recognise?



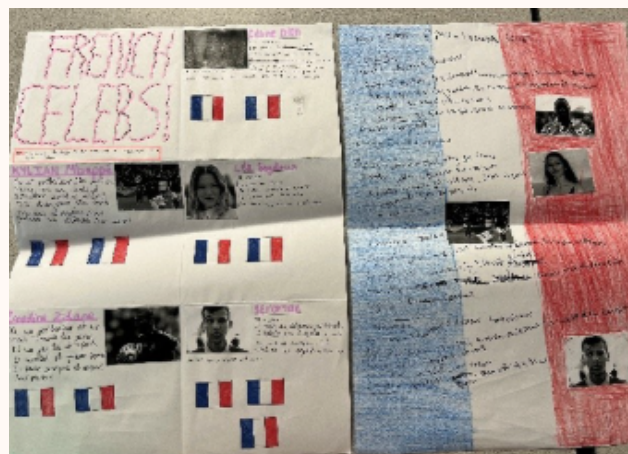
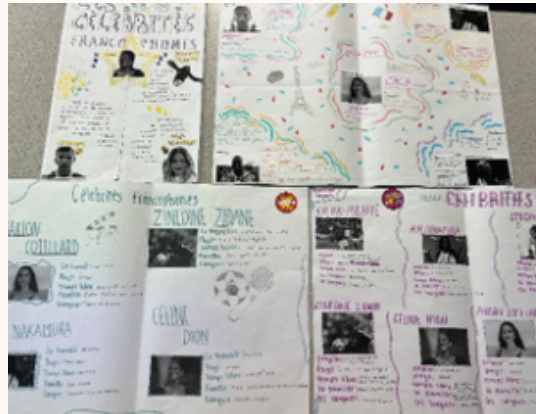
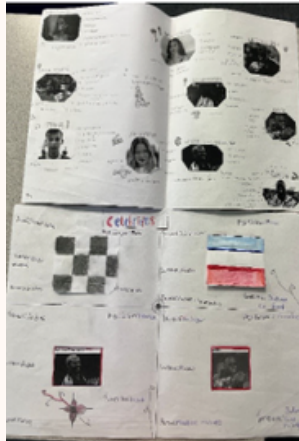
9x3 and 9x1 have also been learning about the much smaller Spanish festival of Huevos Pintos. Meaning “painted eggs”, the festival takes place in a small town in northern Spain, and residents intricately decorate hollow eggs as one of the many ways they mark the Easter season! Pupils had a go at designing their own:





MFL News continued....

In French with Madame Amyot, 9X2 and 9Y2 have created some incredible and informative posters in French about French celebrities – bon travail!



9X2 also created and gave presentations to the rest of the class on festivals from French-speaking countries. The following pupils created particularly memorable and well-researched presentations. Well done!

- Joe N – Carnaval de Québec
- Alicia K – Feria de Pentecôte de Nîmes
- Penny L – Carnaval de Nice
- Edward N – Rally Paris Dakar
- Kara E – Nuit Blanche de Paris
- Oliver H and Ruben F – Grand Prix de Monaco

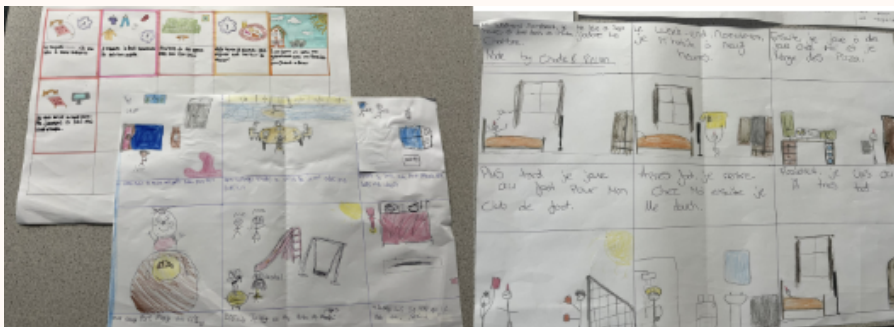
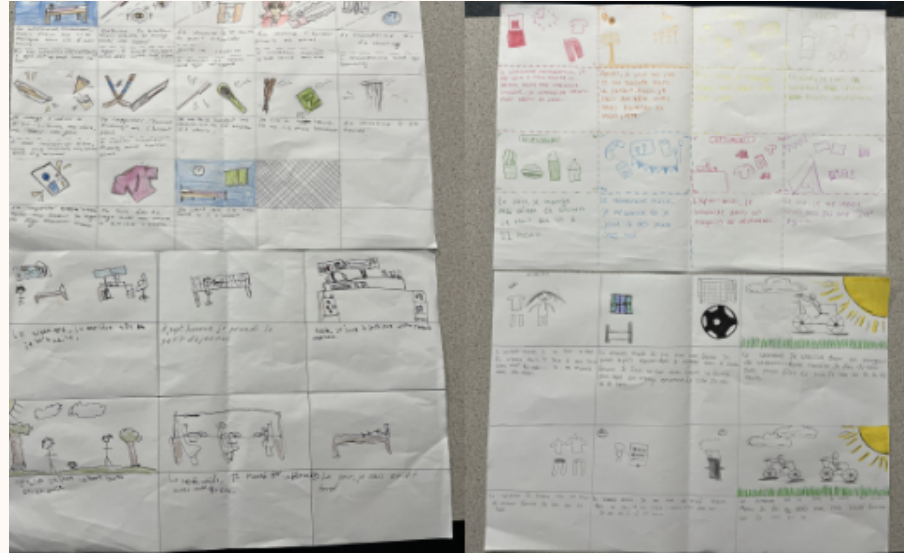




MFL News continued....

Madame Amyot's 9Y2 & 9X2 have been working on storyboards in French to describe their daily routine. They had to include times of day and key reflexive verbs. Some of the most impressive ones are pictured below, well done to:

Achilles and Kobee
Holly N
Marwa A
Emelia and Megan
Calem and Jenny
Edie and Scarlett
Revan and Charlie
Sophia and Freya
Sophia F and Lily P
Megan T and Grace R



MFL News continued....



Year 10 Mock Exams

Year 10s in French and Spanish have completed their first round of proper mock exams this term, including their first full speaking exam! The students conducted themselves brilliantly and we are proud of their achievements so far. These exams should really help to prepare the students for their real GCSE exams next year! Well done, everyone 😊

Coupe de Monde / Copa del Mundo – EMET Competition

KS3 have been getting involved in the World Cup & Languages EMET Competition this half-term; some pupils have been completing World Cup-themed starter and plenary activities in lessons with a focus on languages in sport.

There was an EMET sweepstake, in which Castle Donington College received Portugal as their ‘big’ team – lots of students were very excited to follow their progress in the competition!

There will also be prizes to be won for any pupils wishing to take part in the Creative Challenge; they can create a player profile, commentary, poster, video, match prediction presentation or similar in French or Spanish to show their creativity and enthusiasm for languages and the World Cup.



MFL Spelling Bee Draw



Year 7 French draw winners :

Luci 7LED
Sam 7NN
Milo 7NN
Teddy 7GT
Alfie 7GT
Ava 7NN



Year 7 Spanish draw winners:

Emmie 7NN
Daisy 7LED
Lola 7CJ
Louisa 7LED
Rose 7CJ
Lenny 7NN

Year 8 French draw winners :

Charlotte 8PS
Gabriel 8JD
Bella 8AMH
Elisa 8HP
Brendon 8AMH
Bella 8JD

Year 8 Spanish draw winners :

Evan 8RH
Izzy G 8JD
Jamie 8RH
Darcy 8AMH
Olivia 8PS
Charlie 8JD

Year 9 French draw winners:

Edie 9Y2
Kara 9Y2
Emelia 9Y2
Sophia S 9X2
Imogen 9X2
Alicia 9X2
Joseph W-S 9X1

Year 9 Spanish draw winners :

Rylee 9Y1
Joseph R 9X1
Hugo 9X1
Tilly 9Y1
Molly 9Y1





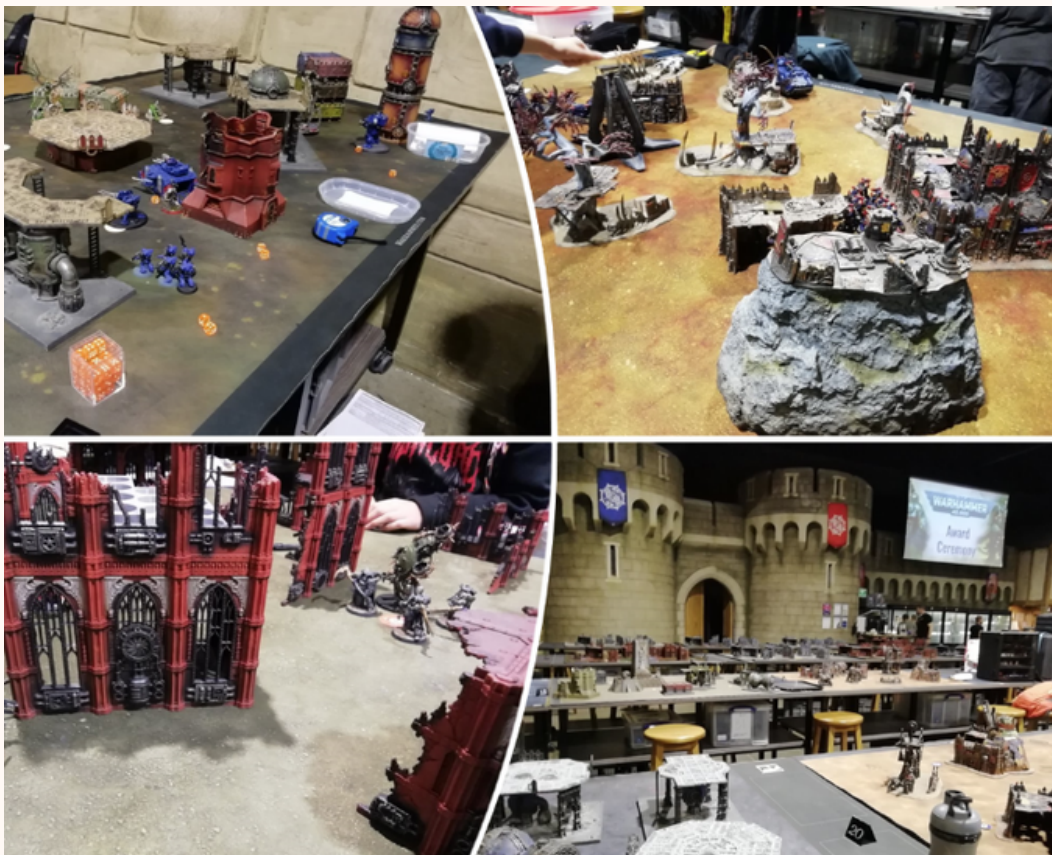
Warhammer Club trip to Warhammer World

Twelve pupils from Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 recently enjoyed an exciting trip to Warhammer World, joining five other schools for a fantastic day of strategy, creativity and competition.

Throughout the event, every pupil took part in three games, each lasting 1 hour and 45 minutes, giving them plenty of opportunities to develop their tactical skills and meet fellow enthusiasts.

We were especially proud that two of our pupils won painting medals, recognising the exceptional quality of their miniature models. Pupils also had the chance to explore the impressive two-floor exhibition area, showcasing the rich history, artwork and craftsmanship behind the Warhammer universe.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and successful trip, and we look forward to returning in the future.



Year 11 Prom



On Friday 26th June, the staff at Castle Donington College had the privilege of saying goodbye to our year 11's. Our 2026 Y11 Prom was held at the home of football, Derby County! A venue befitting of the occasion and an evening that certainly did not disappoint.

Students enjoyed a VIP welcome, along with a refreshing welcome drink, posed for formal photos before taking their seats for their 3-course meal. On the hottest day of the year, the best welcome for all was delivered by way of the Air Conditioning in the room.

During the evening Mr Purkiss (Head of Year) congratulated the year group on their immense effort and commitment through their time at CDC, but specifically during the lead up the exam season. The students then danced the night away led by the resident DJ, before saying their goodbyes.

A fantastic year group who has shown real determination, resilience, and strength of character in preparing for this summer's examinations.

All of us at Castle Donington College wish all the students well in their future endeavours, look forward to celebrating your successes on results day, and hearing about all your future successes.



Staff Farewells



As we come to the end of the academic year, we would like to say a heartfelt farewell to several valued members of staff who are moving on to new opportunities. We thank Miss Bettison (MFL), Miss Bryneton (English), Ms Cross (Textiles), Miss Walsh (PE), Mr Ashraf from the Admin Team, and Mr Gardiner, one of our Learning Support Assistants, for their hard work, dedication and contribution to our school community. Each of them has played an important role in supporting our students and colleagues, and they will be greatly missed. On behalf of everyone at the school, we wish them every success and happiness in their future endeavours and thank them for all they have done during their time with us.

We would also like to pay special tribute to Mr Figg, our Site Manager, who is retiring after over 20 years of dedicated service to the college. Throughout his time with us, Mr Figg has worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure our school is a safe, welcoming and well-maintained environment for students, staff and visitors alike. His commitment, reliability and friendly presence have made a lasting impact on our college community. We thank him sincerely for his many years of service and wish him a long, happy and well-deserved retirement.

The governing body would also like to thank Mr Hicken. After 23 years of service, Mr Hicken left Castle Donington College earlier this year. During this time, he worked with commitment and supported many students and colleagues, contributing to the day-to-day life and success of the college. The governing body thanks him for his service and wishes him well for the future.



Uniform Expectations



Please get in touch with your child's Head of Year if you need to discuss any aspect of your child's uniform.

Uniform Item	What we MUST wear	What we DO NOT wear
College jumper	Navy-blue college jumper with logo	Any form of non-uniform jumpers or hoodies
Polo shirt	Navy-blue or white college polo shirt with logo	Any form of non-uniform shirts
School trousers	Tailored black or grey school trousers	Any form of non-uniform trouser made of fabric other than standard school trouser fabric i.e. denim trousers, combat trousers, chinos, leggings etc.
School skirt	Black or grey tailored or pleated school skirt worn to the knee	Lycra, jersey or skater style skirts
School shorts	Tailored black or grey school shorts worn just above the knee	Any form of non-uniform shorts i.e. sports shorts
School tights	Plain black or grey tights	Patterned tights or tights of an alternative colour
Shoes	All black leather-type, polishable footwear. Flat with a closed toe and heel	Any form of alternative footwear
Hair	Hair must be of a natural colour	Brightly coloured hair of an unnatural colour i.e. pink, blue, purple, green etc.
Jewellery	One pair of stud earrings are permissible	Jewellery such as rings, bracelets, necklaces, dangly or hooped earrings, facial* or tongue piercings *Clear plastic retainers may be worn
Make up	Light, natural make up is permissible	Excessive make up, including false eyelashes and false acrylic nails
PE top	Navy-blue college PE top with logo	Any form of non-uniform jumpers or hoodie
PE bottoms	Dark coloured sports shorts, tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms (minimal branding)	Brightly coloured sports shorts, tracksuit bottoms or jogging bottoms with excessive branding
PE trainers	Safe, sensible sports shoes	

It is strongly recommended your child wears football boots with plastic moulded studs or astro turf trainers for when they use the 4G full size astro pitch.

Working Together Positively:

New Communication & Conduct Expectations from the Autumn Term



At Castle Donington College, we know that strong relationships between home and school help young people thrive. We hugely value the support, encouragement and partnership of our parents, carers and wider community.

To help ensure that communication remains positive, respectful and effective for everyone, a new Communication with and Conduct of Parents, Carers and Visiting Adults Policy will come into effect from the start of the Autumn Term 2026.

What will this mean?

The vast majority of our families already communicate with staff in a constructive and supportive way. This policy simply sets out clear expectations and procedures so that concerns can be addressed efficiently while protecting the wellbeing of pupils, families and staff.

We ask all adults engaging with the College to:

- Treat staff, pupils and other adults with respect.
- Communicate in a calm, courteous and constructive manner.
- Follow College processes and communication pathways.
- Raise concerns promptly and appropriately.
- Support the College's expectations around behaviour, attendance and conduct.
- Model positive behaviour and language for our young people.

Communication arrangements

From August, parents and carers should contact the College through our established channels, primarily via:

postroom@cdcollege.uk
01332 810528

Emails sent to the postroom will be triaged and directed to the most appropriate member of staff, helping us ensure enquiries reach the right person as quickly as possible.

To support consistency:

- Routine enquiries will normally be acknowledged within 3 working days.
- Full responses will usually be provided within 5 working days.
- Staff are not expected to monitor or respond to messages outside working hours.

While we understand that there may be occasions when people feel frustrated or upset, behaviour that is aggressive, threatening, abusive, intimidating or defamatory will not be tolerated. This includes inappropriate behaviour in person, via email, by telephone or on social media.

Where communication becomes unreasonable or unacceptable, the College may take proportionate action, including placing conditions on communication or restricting access to the site where necessary. The safety and wellbeing of pupils and staff will always remain our priority.

We are proud of the positive relationships we enjoy with our families and look forward to continuing to work together in partnership. By treating one another with kindness, professionalism and respect, we can ensure that Castle Donington College remains a safe, calm and successful community for all.

The full policy will be available on the College website before the start of the Autumn Term.



Belonging and Inclusion: Working Together for Every Child



At Castle Donington College, our ethos is built on a simple principle: every child has the right to learn, every teacher has the right to teach, and everybody has the right to feel safe, respected and included. We are proud of the positive culture we have created together and of the strong relationships that exist between our pupils, families and staff.

Our vision for belonging and inclusion means ensuring that all pupils can thrive in a calm, orderly and supportive environment where mutual respect is the norm. High standards of behaviour are not separate from inclusion; they are essential to it. When expectations are clear and consistently applied, all young people can feel safe, valued and successful.

As we prepare for the new academic year, we would like to remind families of an important partnership principle. When parents choose Castle Donington College, they are also choosing the College's values, routines and our Attendance, Behaviour and Uniform policies. This means supporting the standards we set, the decisions we make and the consequences that may follow when expectations are not met.

We recognise that all young people make mistakes. Our approach is never about sanction for its own sake; it is about helping pupils learn from their choices, take responsibility, repair relationships and move forward positively. Alongside sanctions, we provide support, restorative conversations, recognition and rewards to help students become the very best version of themselves.

Parents and carers play a vital role in this process. Our policies make clear that families are expected to work with the College to encourage high level of attendance, safety, responsibility, respect and good behaviour, attend meetings when required, engage with support mechanisms and reinforce the expectations we set in school. We ask that, as adults, we work together to help young people reflect on their actions rather than making excuses for poor choices.

At times, pupils may receive sanctions such as detentions, lesson removals or other interventions. These are not optional and are applied to protect learning, maintain high standards and ensure fairness for all pupils. We ask parents to support staff when these decisions are made and to reinforce the message that actions have consequences.

Our commitment in return is to be fair, consistent, compassionate and inclusive. We will always seek to listen to the pupils when things have gone wrong and understand individual circumstances, including the needs of pupils with SEND, while maintaining the standards that allow every member of our community to feel a sense of belonging and achieve their potential.

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, speaking with one voice and maintaining high expectations, we can ensure that Castle Donington College remains a safe, inclusive and successful community where every child can flourish.



Term Dates 2026 - 27



Autumn Term 2026	
Staff Training Day (1) College Closed to Pupils	Monday 24 th August 2026
Term Starts	Tuesday 25 th August 2026
Bank Holiday College Closed	Monday 31 st August 2026
Mid –Term Break	Monday 19 th October to Friday 23 rd October 2026
Staff Training Day (2) – Disaggregated College Closed to Pupils	Friday 27 th November 2026
Term Ends	Friday 18 th December 2026
Spring Term 2027	
Staff Training Day (3) College Closed to Pupils	Monday 4 th January 2027
Term Starts	Tuesday 5 th January 2027
Mid –Term Break	Monday 15 th February to Friday 19 th February 2027
Term Ends	Friday 19 th March 2027
Summer Term 2027	
Term Starts	Monday 5 th April 2027
Bank Holiday - College Closed	Monday 3 rd May 2027
Mid –Term Break	Monday 31 st May to Friday 4 th June 2027
Term Ends	Friday 9 th July 2027
Staff Training Day (4) – Disaggregated College Closed to Pupils	Monday 12 th July 2027
Staff Training Day (5) – Disaggregated College Closed to Pupils	Tuesday 13 th July 2027

