



Friday 23rd May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's hard to believe that we are at the end of another half term quite so quickly and another bank holiday looms ahead next week. The weather has been glorious lately and our students have enjoyed their lunchtimes and PE lessons in the good weather. We hope that the weather will continue to be kind to us as we move closer to the summer. However, I have noticed that not all students bring a bottle with them to school to enable them to get a drink on hot days. There are water machines in our main hall and students are encouraged to use them during break and lunch to fill their own bottles free of charge.

Year 11

Our Year 11 students are now over halfway through their GCSE exams and their conduct and work ethic has been excellent so far. We are offering revision sessions over half term as follows and students are welcome to attend these sessions for final revision support and top tips;

Science Tuesday 27th May 10-11.30am

English Tuesday 27th May 12-1.30pm

Maths higher Friday 30th May 10-11.30am

Maths foundation Friday 30th May 12-1.30pm

Students do not need to wear uniform to attend these revision sessions.

As we fast approach the end of the exams, we are also planning for the end of year celebrations with the Leavers Assembly taking place on Thursday 19th June and the Leavers Prom on Friday 27th June. It will be wonderful to celebrate with our students and parents as their compulsory schooling journey comes to an end and they move to pastures new to begin adult life.

Year 7 Parents evening

Thank you to all our Year 7 parents/carers that attend the annual parents evening last night. The attendance at the evening was 78%, which was lower than we had hoped for, but I do appreciate everyone who took the time to attend. Face to face meetings with subject teachers are crucial to understand the progress your child has made and more importantly their next steps. Teachers are also able to inform parents and carers on how best to support their child outside of school to continue their learning using our online homework system Class Charts.



Year 9 Access to Sheffield programme

Last week a group of Year 9 students visited the University of Sheffield for their final day of the Access to Sheffield programme this year. During the day they learnt more about faculties and courses available at the University of Sheffield through hands-on activities and challenges and took part in their first exciting and hands-on subject taster workshop. They also explored what it is like to be a student at the University of Sheffield with advice from student ambassadors and staff. Working alongside students from schools out of our area they are making new friends and developing their team working skills. Students have said they are loving the experience and are gaining an understanding of what universities offer, whilst also learning vital study and employability skills. They are all looking forward to continuing the programme next year.

Attendance

I'm pleased to announce that whole school attendance is at 91.9% currently which is in line with national averages. As we move into summer, we are receiving increased absence requests for term time holidays. Please be aware that no term time holiday will be authorised unless the circumstances are exceptional. Please do complete an absence request form at least 4 weeks prior to the date of your holiday to allow time for processing.

Future Leaders



On Tuesday 20th May a group of our year 10 students, of black heritage, attended day 2 of the Future Leaders programme at Derby University. In the morning, they took part in an interactive session with Emmanuel Anthony, a motivational speaker, who engaged them in activities to help them be the best that



Da Vinci Academy

A L.E.A.D. Academy

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they can be, stepping out of their comfort zones and taking on challenges. He was inspirational and our students loved it and engaged well. In the afternoon they were given a group challenge to develop a product or app to solve a real problem. They worked with students from other schools in Derby, showing confidence and leadership, and produced products that they could be proud of. Students are all looking forward to day 3 in June.

Year 10 Exam Ready

Thank you to the 88 parents/carers and students who attend our annual exam ready evening last Thursday 15th May. This was an informative evening where information was shared with students and parents/carers regarding how to prepare for the forthcoming mock examinations. Top tips for revision, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and post 16 planning were also covered by senior members of staff. Mr Gregory also covered the current exam regulations to ensure everyone is aware of these expectations.

Headteachers Clinic

Should anyone parent or carer wish to raise a concern or speak with me regarding any matters relating to the education and welfare of their child then please do not hesitate to get in touch. I am available to meet with parents/carers on a Thursday evening at 4.30pm should you wish to book an appointment to see me. Mrs Graham holds my diary so please contact her on emma.graham@davinciacademy.co.uk to make a booking.

Thank you for your on-going support in the education of your child(ren).

Yours faithfully,

Miss Jayne Scattergood
Headteacher

Key Dates

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| Monday 2nd June | School re-opens for final summer term |
| Monday 2 nd -Friday 13 th June | Year 10 Progress Meetings |
| Monday 16 th June | Year 10 Art mock exam 5 hours (10.2 group) |
| Tuesday 17 th June | Year 10 Art mock exam 5 hours (10.3 group) |





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Thursday 19th June

Y11 Leavers assembly

Thursday 19th June

Celebration of Achievement evening

Friday 27th June

INSET day – school closed to students

Friday 27th June

Y11 prom evening

Monday 23rd June-Friday 3rd July

Year 10 mock exams

Thursday 10th July

Year 10 mock interviews day

Monday 14-Friday 18th July

Year 10 work experience week

Thursday 24th July

Break up for summer holidays

