

### ALL THE NEWS FROM DARTFORD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

#### PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

As we look forward to summer holidays and the extra time to spend with families and friends, we are also able to look back and reflect on the past year.

For the students who have taken exams this summer, they will be wondering where the year went and eagerly awaiting the results days. Our best wishes for outstanding success are with them.

For those left at DSTC, the year closes with a flourish - Sports Day, Race for Life, STEM activity days and Community Day fill the last week. I want to thank all parents/carers/staff and students for their contribution to making DSTC such a wonderful place to work and study. I wish everyone a relaxing and safe break and look forward to seeing the new Years 7 and 12 on Friday 30th August and all other year groups on Monday 2nd September.

Anne Davis

#### COMING UP

Here are some key DSTC dates for your diary.

- 15th August
- 22nd August
- 22nd - 23rd August
- 30th August
- 2nd September
- 6th September
- 11th September
- 23rd September
- 3rd & 15th October
- 8th, 16th and 18th October
- 21st October - 1st November

- A Level Results Day
- GCSE Results Day
- Post 16 Registration
- Years 7 and 12 return to school
- All other year groups return
- School Photos Years 7 - 10
- School Photos Years 11-13
- Year 12 Information Evening
- Year 6 Open Evenings
- Year 6 Open Mornings
- Half Term



#### DSTC MATHS BUDDIES

Eleven Year 10 students have completed 16 lunchtime sessions mentoring Year 8 students for Maths. They attended every session and buddied up with Year 8 students to work on Maths workbooks together.

Many of the mentors also gave their Year 8 buddies additional help such as times table tests and extra questions.

Mrs Lea, Mrs Hall and Miss Bulley hosted a lunchtime pizza party to say thank you.



#### GARETH JOHNSON MP

Gareth Johnson, Member of Parliament for Dartford, will be available to meet with constituents on the following dates: Bluewater, DA9 9ST (4.00 pm - 7.00 pm - Appointment required)

- Friday 13th September
- Friday 18th October
- Friday 22nd November
- Friday 13th December



If you would like to meet Gareth at one of his regular appointment-based surgeries in the future, please contact him at [gareth.johnson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:gareth.johnson.mp@parliament.uk) or telephone 020 7219 7047.

#### DSTC WATES VISIT

On Friday 28th June, Mr Law and Mrs Donegan-Edwards took 21 Year 8 students to London for a STEM day in aid of INWED - International Women in Engineering Day. We started by heading to the Emmanuel Centre to listen to STEM lectures on robotics, the bloodhound ssc - the car that can go faster than the speed of sound and also the ocean. We watched videos of how robotics have developed so quickly in such a short space of time and saw that a plastic bag had made its way to the deepest part of the ocean.

After the lectures, we caught the tube across town to explore the world of construction, architecture and project management at Wates Construction in the King's Road area of London. The students were able to experience real life work scenarios and met employees of various roles that make up a large construction company. Our students completed some 'hands on' practical tasks and were taken to one of the sites where they saw parts of a building being constructed. This experience showed them how exciting real life STEM jobs could be! A massive thank you to Wates Construction and Yvonne Ellis for helping arrange this trip and making it possible.





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### YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY GCSE FIELDWORK

We were very lucky with the weather again this year for our day out with the Year 10 Geographers to study how characteristics change along the length of a river.

49 students went to measure the River Darent near its source at Westerham and then compare the results with data collected at Lullingstone.

It was such a nice day that the girls did not mind getting a bit wet and all gained some valuable fieldwork experience that they will need for their Geographical Investigations paper next year.



### DSTC TEACHER WINS THE RISING STAR AWARDS

On 3rd July 2019, Mrs Donegan-Edwards attended a star-studded awards ceremony at the Landmark Hotel in London run by WeAreTheCity. Since 2015, WeAreTheCity's Rising Star Awards have highlighted the achievements of over 450 female future leaders and role models across a variety of different industries and professions.



Mrs Donegan-Edwards had previously been nominated and shortlisted under the Education and Academia category for the work that she does in getting more girls interested in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).



Despite the competition being fierce, Mrs Donegan-Edwards won her award, a fantastic achievement for her and the school.



### DSTC GOES TO NAPLES!

During the Easter break, the Geography and Food Technology departments combined to take 45 Year 10 and 11 students to Italy. We spent a day looking at the destructive power of a volcano that erupted in 79AD and buried the city of Pompeii under metres of lava. It was amazing to walk around and see the now re-exposed city and get a unique insight into daily life in Roman times. We then drove up the coast to get a very close look at the volcano that caused the problem. We literally walked up into the clouds to see the crater of Vesuvius which is still an active volcano.

We stayed in the lovely coastal resort of Sorrento and during our time there visited a local Mozzarella farm, made ice cream, pizzas and gnocchi. We also had a visit to an olive oil factory and even a look to see how they make Limoncello. We all had a wonderful few days enjoying the sights, sounds and tastes of this lovely part of Italy.





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#### DSTC GOES TO DARTFORD ATHLETICS TRACK

On Independence Day, the PE department took the athletics team to Dartford Athletics Track for the Borough Sports Competition. One student per year can enter each event and each student can do up to one track event, one field event and the relay. Some of the Year 10 Sport Studies Leaders also came to help out with team organisation and officiating. The girls did really well, winning 10 medals in total:

##### Bronze

Emily Mainwaring Javelin  
Rachael Badero 200m  
Maisie Perry 100m  
Year 9 Relay Team Maisie, Rugi, Jodie G, Rachael.

##### Silver

Thelma Aremu Shot

##### Gold

Piruntha Pushparasa Javelin  
Neve Taylor Long Jump  
Rugi Kanu High Jump  
Poppy Allen 1500m

To top that off, the Year 9 Athletics Team were Borough Runners Up, missing out only to Dartford Grammar. An amazing achievement. Well done girls!



Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10

#### DSTC GOES TO LEE VALLEY HOCKEY CENTRE

On 7th June the Years 9 and 10 Sports Studies and Sports Leaders students went to Lee Valley Hockey Centre to see England Women (the reigning Olympic champions) take on Germany in a Pro League match.

The weather was not the best for a summer's evening but it didn't dampen our spirits. The girls used the free ponchos to good effect and cheered on their home team for what was an end-to-end encounter. They started Mexican waves off, chanted and sang along to the music at each quarter-time.

England were 2-1 up with 6 minutes to go but some defensive errors let a Germany goal in and then, in the last 17 seconds when we thought it was going to penalties, Germany scored the winner. A real shock to the crowd. An undeserved result but a fun evening in the rain.



#### DSTC TALENT SHOW

The second annual DSTC's Got Talent took place on Tuesday 2nd July and it proved to be a battle of some highly talented girls. Nine acts, including six solo singers, one duo, one dancer and a four piece band, took to the stage and gave the judges a very hard job due to the high standard set by their performances.

Four Year 10 dancers also performed whilst the judges were deliberating, but it was such a close contest that it still took the judges half an hour to return their verdict. As a result, we had two acts taking first place; Molly Wakeman for her performance of Dancing On My Own and Feyza Kabadayi for her rendition of Scars To Your Beautiful.

A very close third place went to the Year 10 four piece AnTics with their version of Seven Nation Army by The White Stripes. Izzy Rackham gave a spirited performance as singer, leading Amelia O'Brien on guitar, Faith Knight on keyboard and Joy Wood on drums.

Special congratulations go out to all who took part as performers and thank you to all those in the stage management and front of house crew who ensured the smooth running of the event.



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### DSTC YEAR 7 FORD VISIT

As a part of the International Women in Engineering Day, our Year 7s visited Ford to get some hands on experience with engineering at one of the largest automobile companies in the country. Throughout the day the students tackled a number of exciting STEM challenges designed to give them a flavour of what it is like to work at Ford and in the engineering sector as a whole.

The challenges that the students completed, with flying colours, ranged from rocket design and launching to assembly line production of automobiles that had to pass extremely strict success criteria. Students also experienced a talk about the role of women in STEM and why it is so important for our students to get involved. Another challenge that the students completed was that of programming self-driving robots which were then tested on a mini road mat. After getting to grips with the coding language, and getting some expert pointers from the professional Ford robotics programmers, our students had programmed their robots to respond to a number of different environmental and time based cues and successfully completed their missions to get their robots around a course without hitting obstacles. Some of our students went even further and managed to get their robot to complete an entire lap of the circuit given to them which received a high level of praise from the programmers present who were very impressed.

We finished our day with a tour of the Ford facilities where they test emissions and how the cars they design stand up to environmental conditions before finally being taken on a lap of the test track. The engineers took the time to show the students how the cars work at different speeds and at different inclines as well as going through some of the complicated technology used to ensure all of their cars meet such high standards. Overall, our students were wonderful ambassadors for the school, really impressed throughout their challenges and all seemed excited to return in the future. Our thanks go to Ford for hosting us and for taking the time to run the challenges that our students gained so much from.



### DSTC GOES TO SEE ANNIE

On Wednesday 19th June, 23 students from the BTEC Dance group went to The Orchard Theatre to watch a production of 'Annie The Musical' starring Craig Revel-Horwood from Strictly Come Dancing. The trip was for professional dance works appreciation, which links to the new BTEC Performing Arts Units 1 and 2.

The musical is set in 1930s New York during The Great Depression, where brave young Annie is forced to live a life of misery at Miss Hannigan's orphanage.

Her luck soon changes when she's chosen to spend a fairytale Christmas with famous billionaire, Oliver Warbucks. Meanwhile, spiteful Miss Hannigan has other ideas and hatches a plan to spoil Annie's search for her true family...Craig Revel Horwood was excellent in the role of Miss Hannigan and the girls had a fabulous time watching him perform.





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#### DSTC HISTORY EXCURSIONS

During the Easter break Year 11 GCSE History students visited the Clink Museum in London to discover how this famous prison changed over time. It complemented their learning for their exam paper on Crime and Punishment. After the Clink Museum visit, we travelled by underground to Whitechapel where we were guided around the sites of the notorious Jack the Ripper murders. This is a hot topic for the GCSE exam. The tour is a popular experience and we took Year 10 Historians on the same 'Ripper Tour' this term. The girls enjoyed the guides but were also struck by how Whitechapel contrasts with the nearby City of London. They were particularly excited by the selfie opportunities offered by the landmarks and the glorious summer evening light.

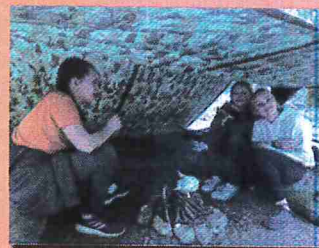
The History department took 48 Year 8 girls to visit Dover Castle in June. College staff ensured the girls experienced as much of the history on the site as possible, from the Roman ruins to the 1940s underground hospital and the medieval castle itself. Castle staff commented on the impeccable behaviour of the girls on several occasions, they were a credit to the College. We look forward to making castle visits a regular event for girls studying History in KS3.



#### DSTC BUSHCRAFT

At the beginning of the May half term, 55 Year 7s spent a weekend at Bushcraft. This is the third year we have organised this team-building activity and the girls always seem to throw themselves into it and end up having an unforgettable time. Being the largest group we have taken, we had to go to a new site near Chichester on the South Downs which meant a slightly longer journey than before but they still managed to fit in several activities before settling down for their first night under canvas. On the Saturday, the girls set about building survival shelters with help and advice from their tribe leaders. The results were so good that several of the girls elected to spend the night in them rather than in their tents – and they lasted all night despite some rain!

Over the weekend the girls learned many bushcraft skills and we even had a 'Bushcraft's Got Talent' on the Saturday night. We returned home on the Sunday with a coachload of very tired but happy girls who have a much better chance of being able to survive should they ever find themselves lost in the woods!



#### DSTC SPORTS LEADERS

On 3rd July 2019, the Year 10 Sports Leaders had another opportunity to improve their officiating skills by helping at the Primary Schools' Boccia Competition. Boccia is a game similar to bocce, played by competitors who have a physical disability that requires the use of a wheelchair but is also open to able bodied athletes.

The competition had pupils with hearing and physical disabilities. The girls had to check the players stayed in their seat when throwing and had to decide which Boccia balls were closest each game and communicate all this with the players.

The girls even had the chance to try out some sign language with the deaf pupils. The girls were very professional and kept score perfectly, they also gave the medals out at the mini medal ceremony which was a lovely end to the event.

