



DSTC NEWS

EDUCATING AND EMPOWERING CITIZENS OF THE FUTURE

DSTC SPRING NEWSLETTER 2021

INTRODUCTION BY MRS DAVIS

How wonderful it felt to see the sun shine for several days in a row last week and feel the warmth on our faces - in contrast to the chill this week!

There are parallels to draw on this about the ending of a term and looking to the future which I believe is bright and filled with further opportunities for DSTC. The students have been busy with a range of activities to supplement their academic studies and these are shown in the pages of this newsletter.

I wish all the DSTC community a really relaxing, enjoyable and hopefully bright Spring Break - we return at 8.40am sharp on April 19th 2022.

Kind regards,
Mrs Anne Davis



TAYLOR YATES: COMMERCIAL STREET DANCE

BY MISS WRIGHT

The Year 10 Btec performing arts students thoroughly enjoyed our Commercial Street dance workshop during this half term (Friday 25th February).

Taylor is a professional Performer, Choreographer and Teacher, after completing his training at 'Addict Dance Academy' in 2015 he first started his journey in the professional world. Starting as a professional dancer on a cruise contract, he went on to train further in London gaining more experience in the Commercial industry.

Taylor delivered a fun, upbeat and challenging workshop, teaching the repertoire from The Brits performance he was in with 'Mabel'.

This forms part of their Unit 2 assessment.

A STUDENT SUCCESS STORY

BY ISOBEL

I started playing football when I was five-years-old, when my dad took me along to the Grassroots football club in Longfield. I played there for the next two to three years on Saturday mornings and is where my passion for football began. I was subsequently scouted by Gillingham football club, who I remained playing for until March 2020. Shortly after, the club released all female academy players and members of the women's football squad due to financial difficulties arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.



Although this was a setback, I was confident in my own ability and believed this wouldn't be the end of my journey playing football to an elite level. Fortunately, the coaching staff and parents involved at Gillingham F.C. started a new club (London City Lionesses), which meant I didn't have to wait long before I was playing again. It was a real bonus reunite with the players and coaches I had previously worked with at Gillingham.

It was around this time that I was selected for trials with Kent SFA. Pleasingly, I was selected to represent my county after a really challenging three-stage selection process; I have been playing regularly ever since. As great as this achievement was, it turned out that this wasn't to be the pinnacle of my football achievements.

Every year, each county nominates their top five players to attend trials for the national team. This year, I was one of the five Kent players who attended. Over several months, this entailed me attending a South-East trial, a South of England trial and, finally, a 'South -v- North' trial at Lilleshall, during which the best players were selected to play for the England under-15 team. This whole process was extremely gruelling, both physically and mentally for me and all those involved.

Before Christmas, I received a letter telling me that I had been successful and was now officially part of the England under-15 team. I was so pleased that all of my hard work had paid off. I'm excited to have been selected and can't wait to get going! I must say that I fully recognise that I couldn't have achieved any of this without the support of my Mum and Dad, my siblings and all of the coaches that I have worked with since I began playing almost ten years ago. I'm truly thankful for all of their consistent support and encouragement over the years.

YEAR 8: MURDEROUS MATHS CHALLENGE

BY MISS BERNARTE

On Friday 25th February 2022, all Year 8 students participated in an interactive activity day organised by the Maths department. Throughout the morning, led by the 'As Creatives' company, the 'Murderous Maths' workshop provided the students a fantastic opportunity of problem-solving. Students were introduced to the crime scene, the victim and the suspects (and were armed with Evidence Booklets). A series of clues were revealed - including blood stains, omnibus tickets and personal belongings. As pupils practised and applied their maths skills, the suspects were whittled down one by one - until only the criminal and accomplice remained!

It was then Go! Go! Go! as the students had a jam packed afternoon with follow-up workshops and a pop up house competition. The follow-up workshops again provided the students with another case to solve, but this time with a sports theme. Year 8 students needed to work in teams in order to problem-solve their way through the numerous Maths problems presented to them, in order to eliminate more suspects and unmask yet another criminal!

In addition, the pop up house competition saw some exceptional and creative talents across the board. Students were given the afternoon to work in groups to apply what they have learnt in the morning and in their Maths lessons to produce their own murder mystery puzzles. The competitive spirit and creativity was very prominent throughout the afternoon but... there can only be one winner per form and an overall winner.



From 8D the runner up groups were: Lily, Sophie & Chloe / Kelly, Kyah, Emily & Erin / Zaaria, Chloe & Lizzie. The overall winning group was Ponmile, Shreebit & Sofia.

From 8S the runner up groups were: Nisola / Hanifah, Julia, Evie & Maisha / Izzy & Millie. The overall winning group was Poppy, Mahjebin & Olivia.

From 8T the runner up groups were: Jasmine W / Rosina, Georgina, Vanessa & Sima / Oliwia & Alex / Sevgi, Layla, Verity & LEEANZA. The overall winning group was May, Daysee & Evie.

From 8C the runner up groups were: Daria & Summer / Emma, Sophie & Lydia / Ria, Mirella & Trinity / Jasmine & Jessica. The overall winning group was Peyton, Amisha & Olivia

From 8G the runner up groups were: Demi, Maisie & Kesheka / Isabel, Tyra, Jasmin & Tamzyn / April & Jakshija. The overall winning group was Megan, Poppy, Michalina & Kayathiry.

The OVERALL winner was... Poppy, Mahjebin & Olivia. Massive congratulations ladies!

Read below to see what some students and the "As Creatives" company thought about the day:

"I really enjoyed the day! I have learnt how to work in a team and to use my maths skills to improve my problem-solving."

Kyah, 8D

"What I liked about today was having fun and solving the mysteries! I really enjoyed having fun working with my friends and I enjoyed volunteering for the different activities. It was funny, exciting and I loved every bit of it!"

Evie, 8S

"I really enjoyed Year 8 murder mystery because it was fun working out the questions and figuring out who the murderer was. I liked making our own murder mystery too because we would put all our ideas through and work together as a team. I think this improved my maths and would like to do it again."

Raya, 8T

"Today we played murder mystery maths and I had loads of fun, especially working with my group. The day started off with an amazing game of mystery solving to find out who was guilty of the murder. When we went back to the hall we played a fun game of sausages - yum yum!"

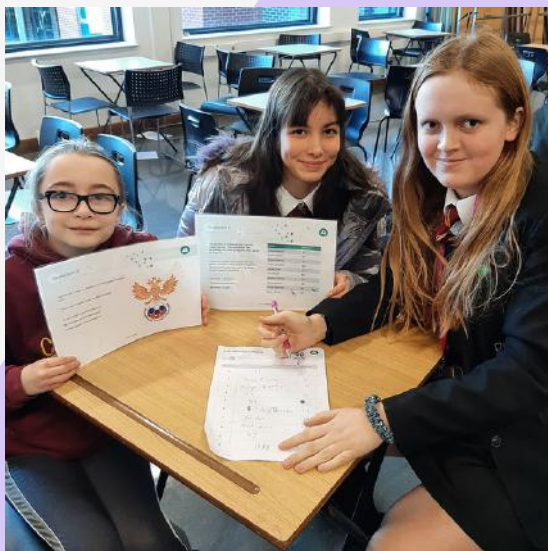
Eloghosa, 8C

"Today was really fun because I loved doing the murder mysteries, but I loved it even more because we got to make our own. I thought it was really cool that we did one as a whole year group!"

Megan, 8G

I had a truly wonderful and memorable day at DSTC, supporting the whole of Year 8 as they called on all their mathematical skills and understanding to solve two crimes. First, they worked as a whole group, using their knowledge of time, distance, money and shape to answer the century-old question, 'Who Killed Puffing Billy?' And then, one or two forms at a time, they cracked a more modern day case, 'The Attempted Murder of Michaela Maths', where reasoning and problem solving were absolutely to the fore.

"The Dartford Detectives" (DSTC team name)



Throughout the whole day, the students were pleasant and polite, displaying great skills of perseverance as they remained constantly and consistently on task to become problem solving personified – what more could I ask? The staff, too, were incredibly welcoming and got actively involved in all the sessions – in a day that was organised to the nth degree (maths pun intended!) by the remarkable Miss Bernarte!"

Jackson Kavanagh, As Creatives

A BIG well done to Year 8 for fantastic engagement, participation and outstanding teamwork – you all were superb throughout the day. A big thank you as well to the As Creatives company and the Maths Department for leading a brilliant event.

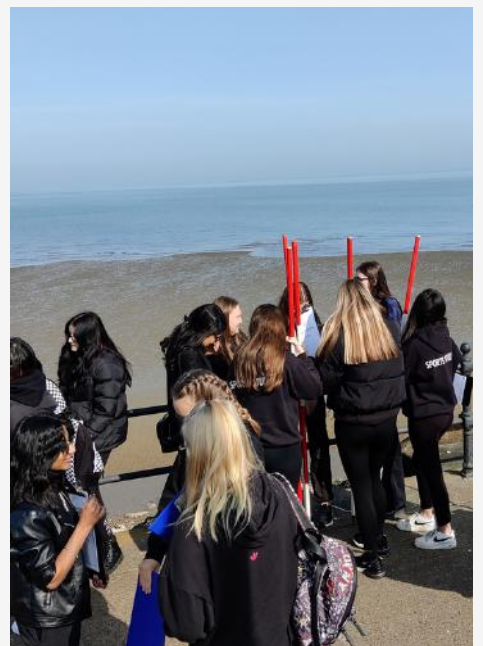
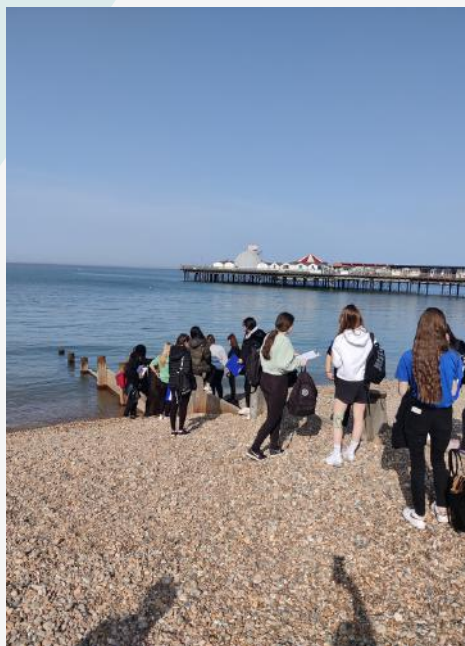
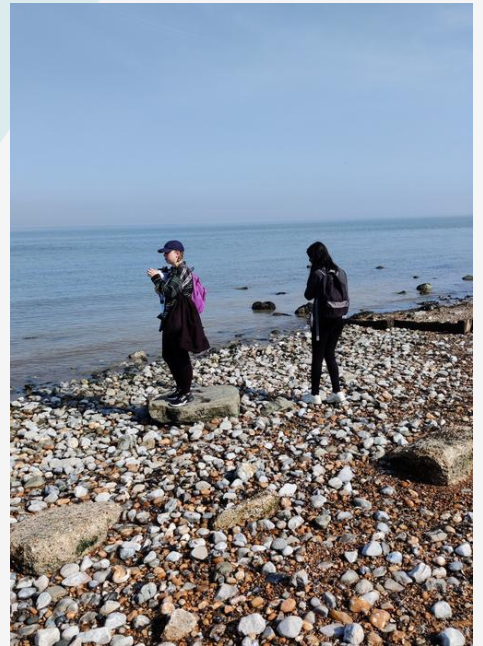
Y11 TRIP TO RECULVER & HERNE BAY

BY THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

On Tuesday the 21st March, Geography students, in Y11, went to Reculver and Herne Bay accompanied by their Geography teachers to undertake GCSE fieldwork. The aim of the day trip was to put into practice some of the theory of learning about methods in fieldwork for their upcoming exams. The morning was spent taking a series of measurements below Reculver cliffs in order to learn more about the coastal processes at work there. The afternoon was spent in Herne Bay to complete a land-use survey and to analyse the coastal sea defence systems in place.

Students worked hard and behaved impeccably well. The entire Geography Department commented on how extremely impressed they were with the high levels of enthusiasm and engagement for learning throughout the day. Well done Y11.

Mrs Rowson, Director of Learning



CAREERS: KS3 EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE FOCUS MORNING

BY MRS P SMITH

On 21st March we had the pleasure of holding our first large-scale, in-person Careers event since 2020.

Representatives from Early Years childcare, Primary and Secondary education took time out of their busy schedules to talk to our students in years 7, 8 and 9. They spoke about their current roles and the varied pathways they took to get where they are today.

Miss Cherry from Rainbow Day Nursery told students how she came to be working in the childcare sector after being made redundant twice during the Pandemic. She joined the nursery in November 2020 and has since completed her Level 2 childcare qualification whilst working full time. She advised the students that there are further levels to this qualification which she can take, as she progresses in her role. Miss Cherry was very honest about the challenges within her job but emphasised how rewarding it is and how she especially enjoys working with the children who have Special Educational Needs.

Mr Hudson from Westgate Primary School impressed the students with his previous career as a professional dancer in Disneyland. He talked about his route as a mature student - taking an Access Course at North West Kent College, before studying for his degree through the University of Greenwich. He became a Higher Level Teaching Assistant at Westgate Primary, before gaining his Teaching Qualification. Mr Hudson explained how he loves his job - with all its ups and downs - especially the 'lightbulb moments' with his students.



Our very own Ms Lazell shared her 'very winding' career path to becoming a Geography teacher at DSTC. She discussed her early setback when a school adviser said that her grades weren't good enough for her dream job as a Meteorologist. She then left school and had a short time in College, before going into full time employment. Ms Lazell worked in a variety of roles but she felt that none of them challenged her enough.

However, they all helped her to build a number of the skills she needs for teaching today. She also became a mature student, following a similar route to Mr Hudson. As part of her degree she presented History days at a Primary school with her tutor. This made her realise she wanted to be a teacher but that she would prefer to teach older students. This decision was confirmed when she undertook work experience at a Secondary school. Ms Lazell said that the setback she experienced at school, has made her want to ensure that every student at DSTC has the opportunity to follow their dreams and get the support they need to reach their full potential. She also emphasised that it is important to work hard and gain your qualifications in school, as they will be needed for any career you want to pursue in the future.

Students in all year groups greatly enjoyed this event - here is a sample of their very positive feedback:

"The presentation gave me courage of following my dreams, by working hard and trying. It also reminded me that throughout life my ideal career could change but no matter what, I should always believe that I can achieve anything. Right now I would love to be a writer but I might change my mind."

7G

"From the assembly today I learnt that you shouldn't give up even when it's hard. There is no right or wrong answer, if you do get it wrong, just keep trying over and over again."

KE 7G

"I liked the assembly because I learnt different ways you can have future careers with children. And I liked how all the stories/pasts were different and inspiring."

GB 9C

"The assembly was very informational. I think Cherrie Cherry was the most interesting and inspirational. I liked how proud she was to take care of children. She also was giving both the negative and positive reasons to be in a career that involves taking care of children."

B and E, 9C

"Careers day inspired me to follow my dreams and to try out things to find my chosen job."

T 7s

"I really enjoyed the careers event since we could understand the things that happen in education and if you wanted to work in education, what you need to do/get in your A levels and GCSE's. Also that you can do an apprenticeship and still work."

NH 7S

"I found it helpful and it opened a new career door that I had never thought of before."

RT 9D

"I thought that it was extremely interesting to find out the career paths of people in those professions and how they got to where they are now. I also thought it was inspiring for people who were thinking about choosing a career in childcare in the future."

EC 9D



MFL DEPARTMENT - WORLD BOOK DAY: HARRY POTTER AND THE TRANSLATOR'S NIGHTMARE

BY MRS SAENZ CARRERO

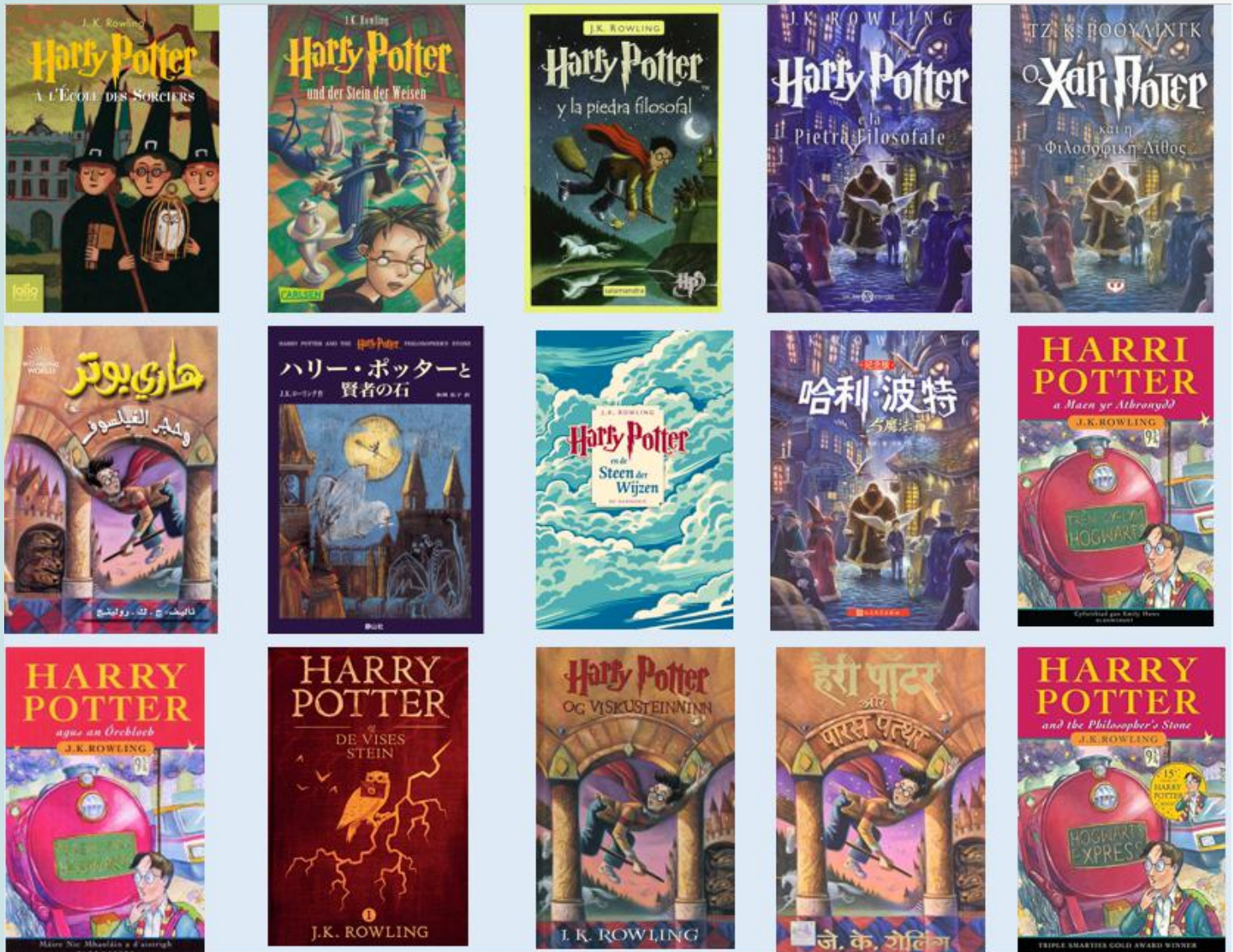
Are you a fan of Harry Potter?

Did you know that Harry Potter's books have sold more than 400 million copies worldwide and been translated into more than 60 languages?

The books are filled with a clever mix of wordplay, invented words, songs, allusions, British cultural references, and more. No doubt, translators had an arduous task adapting J.K. Rowling's book in order to fit the language and culture of their target audience. If you are a Harry Potter fan, I am sure you will want to know a bit more about it and how key characters or places became something else in different languages.

DSTC Students have already entered the competition and now, parents and/or carers it is your turn to challenge yourself!

How many languages can you spot? Match each book cover with one language.



MFL: FOOD CHALLENGE

BY THE MFL DEPARTMENT

This term in MFL Year 7 and 8 students have been learning about food. How to order food at a restaurant or discussing the food they eat at school in the canteen or at break time.

Year 8's had the opportunity to look at real conversations which inspired them to write their own scripts. They rehearsed and performed them in groups and gave each other feedback on the performances.



Here's what they thought about the experience:

"We spoke clearly and we had accurate pronunciation. Next time we need to remember to order the drinks!"

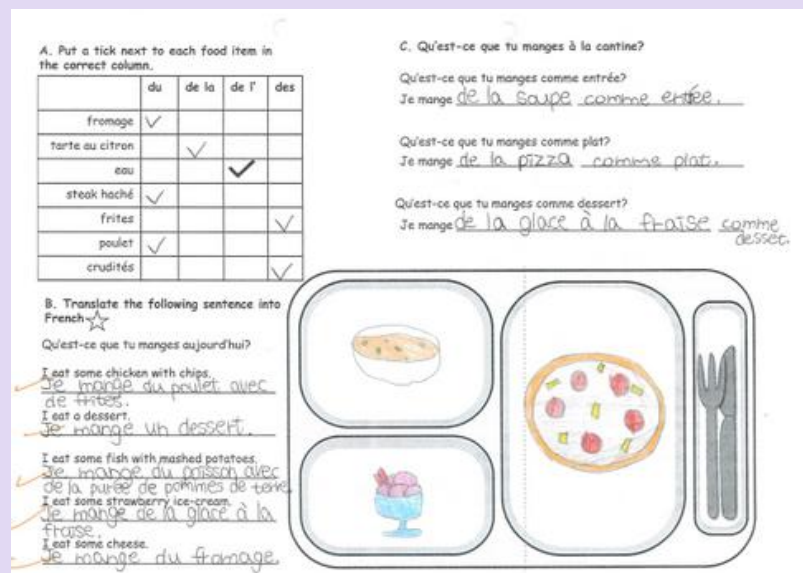
"I enjoyed this experience because it gave me the idea on what I could say and how I would respond to questions in a restaurant. Next time I might improve on memorising my lines and adding detail."

"I enjoyed the activity as it was a fun way to practice speaking Spanish in front of a crowd."

"I found this experience interesting. This was an amazing way to learn Spanish."

"I found this role play fun and exciting. It is just as important as writing as we need to know how to say it as well."

Year 7's explored the type of food eaten in French schools. They had the opportunity to discuss their views about the food in our DSTC canteen and compare it to a French school canteen. Students then designed their own menus or created an ideal meal that they would like to see in DSTC.



ST GILES TRUST VISIT

BY CARYS

This half term, our KS4 and KS5 students had a very special assembly from the "St Giles Trust". One of our students has written her account of the assembly:

The assembly itself was very strong. It made me realise how life isn't as bad as I think it is. The speakers Richard and Aisha had mind changing stories that are crazy and honestly scary. I am going to start with explaining what County Lines are and how they relate to drug dealing. County Lines is a form of criminal exploitation where gangs persuade, coerce or force young people to transfer drugs and money, deal drugs and transport them to big towns and cities in England. County lines isn't just an English or UK issue - this happens all around the world. County Lines and drug dealing has become a massive issue in the UK over the last 10-20 years. In this assembly I observed and was shocked by what I heard and the trauma that Richard and Aisha went through.



St Giles

Turning a past into a future

This is Richard's story - Richard grew up in an abusive and painful household with just his Mum who used substances. Richard had a dream to be a footballer so he would constantly be on the pitch. He used it as an escape from what was happening at home. When Richard started Secondary school he wouldn't go straight home, he would go to football practice but then he would stay out until 11pm at night even though his football practice finished at 6pm. Due to him being out at that time he fell into the wrong crowd. He didn't want to hang around his estate because he knew his Mum would see him, so he went to a friends' instead. These friends smoked substances and Richard eventually took part too. When he was 14, he was asked by one of these friends to sell some illegal substances for him.

Richard thought that these people were his family, so he said that he would do it. That one act of selling made him fall deeper into this world. He was given false promises, such as being taken to a fancy apartment. He was fed more lies, such as being told he would receive £100 a day for a 14 year old. The 'fancy apartment' turned out to be a 'trap house' (a drug users home). These houses have no water, smell disgusting and Richard had to live there for what he thought was only going to be a week - it turned out to be a month. Richard was given a second phone and instructions to answer it and make the illegal drug sales. This meant that he had to be on alert 24/7, for 24-48 hours straight without sleep. He barely showered and was constantly looking behind his back. Richard was groomed at the age of 14 to work effectively as a slave for a drug dealer. He was never paid.

Grooming is very common - people often don't know that they are being groomed. There are several main stages of grooming. Targeting, friendship, a loving relationship and then an abusive relationship. These stages are very difficult to notice especially if you are being groomed. You just feel like a person is being nice and cares about you. People who get groomed are commonly vulnerable or have additional needs. People who have nothing to lose or who have adverse childhood experiences are also commonly targeted.

As a Criminology student, this assembly has made me understand that groomers will target anyone. County Lines are scary and dangerous, they need to be spoken about more because I didn't even know it existed. It's made me have a whole new outlook on society.

HEALTHY CHINESE CUISINE AMBASSADORS

BY MR DIX

On Monday 17th March we welcomed Healthy Chinese Cuisine Ambassadors. They are the education arm of Lee Kum Kee sauces. They aim to show students how healthy and quick Chinese cookery is.

We had two sessions with year 9 DSTC students pairing up with year 5 students from Westgate and Wentworth primary schools. They all used a variety of high-level knife skills to make a Kung Pao Chicken. It was an amazing learning experience for all involved.

Many of the Primary school students had never cut up meat or vegetables on their own and the accompanying staff were amazing at how well they did.

Well done to all students from DSTC, Wentworth and Westgate!



BTEC PERFORMING ARTS: MASTERCLASS

BY MISS WRIGHT

This term has been our 'Masterclass Workshop' focus.

Our BTEC Performing Arts pupils have been lucky enough to have some fantastic visitors attend DSTC to deliver fabulous dance and drama workshops, as part of their Unit 2 work.

These have included visits from Taylor Yates from The X-Factor and Brits, teaching a dance 'Don't Hit Me Up' performed by Mabel.

Learning some of the fantastic famous work from Bob Fosse 'Blackbird' with Ricia Taylor or Cascade dance company.

Exploring drama skills and scripted work from 'Eastenders' actress Sophie Courtman working on a duologues in an emotional piece.

Having fun dancing the cheerleaders routine from 'Legally Blonde' with Jonathan Mawson from the West end musical show.

Look out for their forthcoming performance in the summer! They have such a lot of talent and we certainly have some stars among us.



NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK 2022

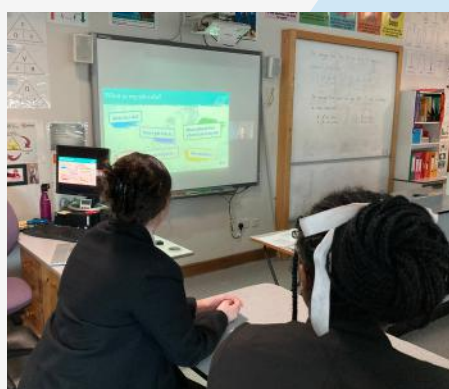
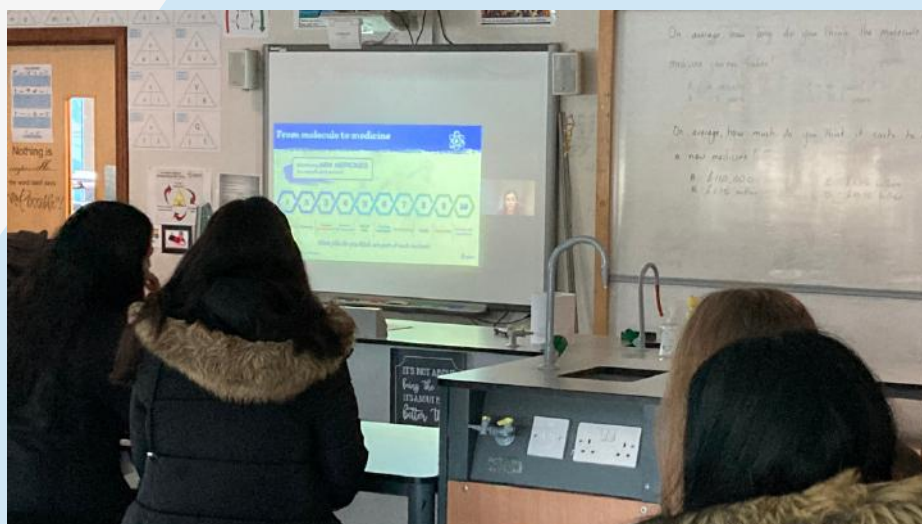
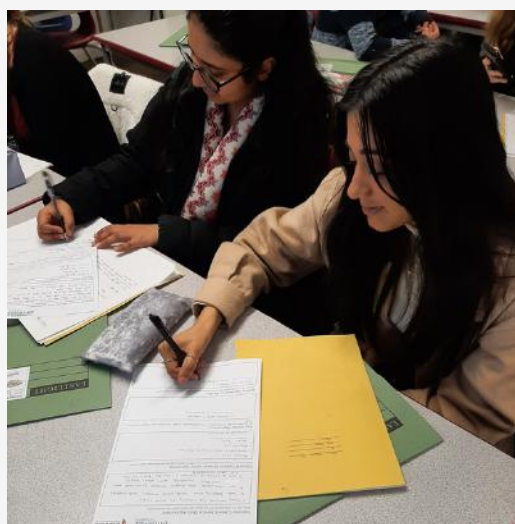
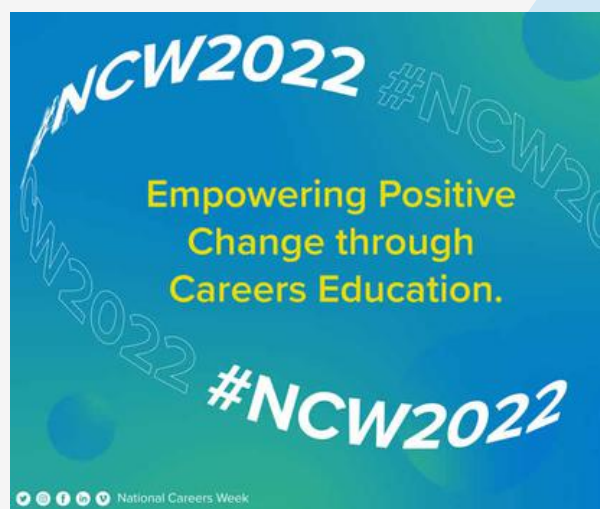
BY MR ALLEN

National Careers Week 2022 was a whole-school event for our DSTC students. It was an opportunity for students to engage with a variety of careers-based learning and reflect on what they have done with careers so far.

Up and down the country, careers engagement was seriously disrupted by COVID. Years 9, 10 and 11 will remember when we had several employers come in to school, including the police, army, various businesses and more. We are now able to start having external speakers come in to school again, such as with the "Early Careers" talk we did for Years 7, 8 and 9.

In Individual Character Education lessons (ICE), our students engaged with the "National Careers Service" skills self-assessment. It is a very insightful activity that allows students to answer various scenarios and questions, resulting in a number of recommended careers. This was a fascinating activity with many students being presented with ideas that they hadn't thought of exploring. Students also used the time to develop their "careers tracker" that shows all the careers engagement they have had across the last 18 months. Year 11-13 students also watched interviews with young people currently undertaking apprenticeships, gaining further insight in to this very popular and engaging method of training.

Across the Science and Maths departments, students watched a series of live seminars about careers in STEM subjects. These included talks from engineers, chemists and digital experts. These virtual engagements meant our students could listen to key experts in STEM fields.



YOUNG WRITERS COMPETITION

BY MRS AVCU

I am really pleased to announce that the following students are now published authors: Emma, Ruby, Niamh, Phoebe, Neriah and Lakeisha.

Young Writers recognised the talent of their writing and their poems now feature in the latest edition of their book entitled 'Empowered'.

Keziah and Dorota's poems were also chosen for publication. DSTC is very proud of them all.



YEAR 9+10 AWARDS

BY MRS SUTTON

Well done to the year 9 and 10 students who received exceptionally high Engagement in Learning grades for their latest report. Receiving almost all "grade 1's" in a track shows real dedication to learning and is something to be very proud of.



INTERNATION WOMEN'S DAY SPEECHES

BY MRS ALLEN

During this half term, our Year 10's had the opportunity to write a speech for International Women's Day during form times. This was a "pop-up" event that followed on from 10T's excellent assembly on IWD2022.

The quality was very high and we were very impressed with all of the entries. A selection of the winning entries can be read below:

*Putting women up does not put men down.
Us women are strong, powerful and brave.
We battle pains and problems, reproduce life and still put
on a smile.
Women are incredible.
Never doubt women.*

Ruby 10S

*We women are strong.
We are powerful.
We can do what men can do too.
We make lives which men cannot but we are still treated
unfairly.
We have the pressure that men do not.
We are strong individuals.
If women did not exist, where would popularity be?
Women are needed.*

Izzy 10S

*I think International Women's Day is a good day because
it gives women the power, love and respect they deserve
and the appreciation they truly deserve for how much of
an impact they really make on the world, how different it
would be without them and their choices. Without
women, power and opinions, the world would be so
different.*

Olivia 10T

*I believe women deserve the same equal rights as men.
We should be respected, listened to and inspired by what
women have done in this generation.
Greta Thunberg has vastly improved our community and
the earth we live on.
Malala Yousafzai fought for female education, shared her
story and helped many people deserving a successful
future.
It's these women who chose to speak, not for themselves
but for everyone.
We should all be heard no matter how young, old, man or
woman, we all have a voice which can impact the world
dynamically.*

Ahishana 10G

*In today's society, women tend to have a problem bringing
one another down.*

*We seem to think another woman's success takes away
from ours.*

*We need to realise we can all be amazing, we can all be
successful, there's enough praise for everyone.*

*We should say 'Well done' and 'I'm proud' to each other.
People seem to think a beautiful, popular girl is powerful,
however, I seem to think differently. I think a kind hearted
woman that brings another woman up and smiles at every
person is a powerful woman.*

A woman that follows her dreams is a powerful woman.

Rhianna 10S

*Feminism, It's not about the fall of men, it is about
equality.*

We need to abolish the patriarchy and secure equality.

*We need to unite as sisters, support each other, show
passion for what we believe.*

*We are the mothers in mother nature and nature is strong
enough to consume the trees in her path but she is also
gentle like a sweet summer breeze.*

*We can end sexism if we continue to fight with the fire
within us.*

Ella 10S

A woman is the equivalent to life.

Women are smart, strong and independent.

*They are the foundation of those who came before us and
those who will come after us.*

Their story and adventures they have are shared with us.

They should never be silenced.

A woman's song that she sings should never be shushed.

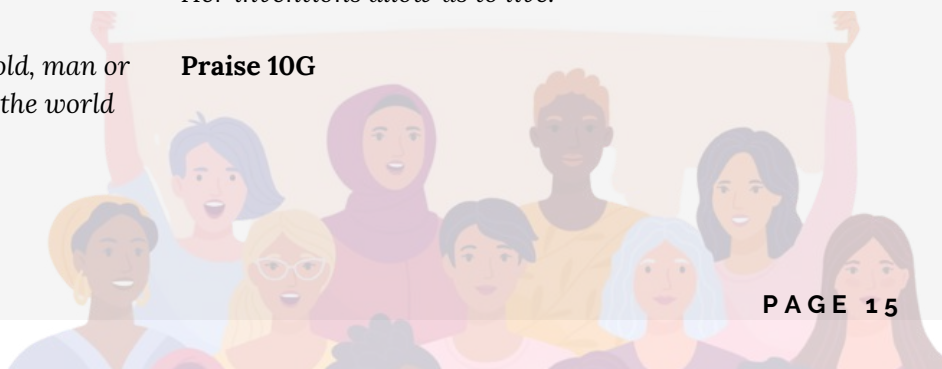
She is smart.

Her inventions allow us to see the world below our feet.

Her inventions teach us new things.

Her inventions allow us to live.

Praise 10G



**DARTFORD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
COLLEGE
PRESENTS**

**MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
TIM MINCHIN**

**BOOK BY
DENNIS KELLY**



ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL JR.

18TH - 19TH MAY 2022

19:00 - 20:30

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE TO BUY DIRECT FROM PARENT PAY

£5 ADULT TICKETS

£2.50 CHILD TICKETS (UNDER 16'S)

PLEASE EMAIL OFFICE@DSTC.KENT.SCH.UK FOR ALL ENQUIRIES



Dartford

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

EDUCATING AND EMPOWERING CITIZENS OF THE FUTURE