

#DSTC NEWS

Dartford Science and
Technology College Newsletter
May Edition

ALL THE NEWS FROM DARTFORD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

SCIENCE WEEK: CONSERVATION OF POLLINATORS AND BEES INVESTIGATION

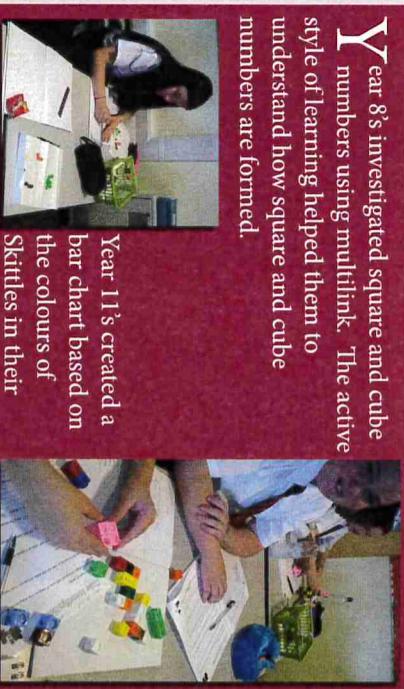
During this project, Year 7 students had the opportunity to investigate and research into the possible antibacterial properties of honey.

They explored the pollen load carried by bees and tulips under the microscope; they completed some simple dissections of insects to analyse their biology and studied the melting point of beeswax to produce their own lip balm.



DSTC MATHS CHALLENGES

Year 8's investigated square and cube numbers using multilink. The active style of learning helped them to understand how square and cube numbers are formed.



YEAR 8 DANCE - MUSICAL THEATRE

The photos below showcase Mrs Wright's Year 8 Dance Class. The lesson is musical theatre, the title of their dance is 'Emerald City' from Wicked. Girls are working in pairs, small groups and as a whole class to create a choreographed piece inspired by the musical.

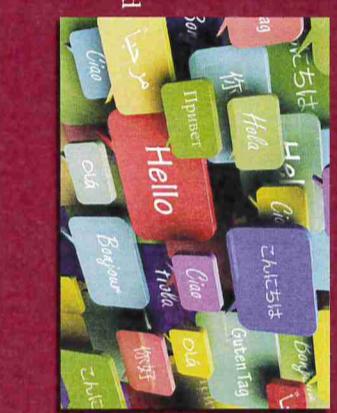


DSTC GOES ON A LANGUAGES TRIP TO CANTERBURY UNIVERSITY

At DSTC we aim to raise pupils' aspirations and promote opportunities for pupils to reach for the stars. In the Spring term, a group of Year 10 pupils attended "Languages à la carte" organised by the University of Kent in Canterbury. Pupils enjoyed taster sessions in Mandarin, Japanese, Portuguese and Italian.

Furthermore, University Ambassadors and Speakers presented thought-provoking information about the possibilities of combining languages with their chosen University subject(s) and shared their experiences on spending a year abroad and how languages enhanced opportunities for employment.

The Year 10 pupils fully embraced the opportunity given to them in a mature and engaging way.



YEAR 9 CONSERVATION PROJECT

Our Year 9 took part in conservation projects about the importance and relevance of modern zoos. The research and the presentations were of a very high quality and the subsequent debates were extremely interesting! Well done to all!



DSTC SCIENCE FAIR 2017

Year 7 had the privilege of taking part in the Science Fair organised between DSTC and Kent and Medway Trainers. At the fair there were 15 stands with teachers of Physics, Chemistry and Biology from a range of schools who presented Science topics in interesting and engaging ways. The topics ranged from electrostatics (standing hairs); chicken wing dissections; collapsing cans to non-Newtonian fluids (the ones used to build bullet proof jackets). Students and teachers had an equally engaging afternoon.



YEAR 10: BIOLOGY CHALLENGE

The Biology Challenge was an online competition that took place in school on Tuesday 21st March. Questions were set on the school curriculum but also rewarded those students whose knowledge of the subject has been increased by reading books and magazines; watching natural history programmes; taking notice of the news media for items of biological interest and those who are generally aware of our natural flora and fauna. Our 10al students took part in this challenge. Five students have obtained very good scores: Marnie Coxall, Katie Donald, Darcy Haskins, Sadini Jayatissa and Alice Stockburn.



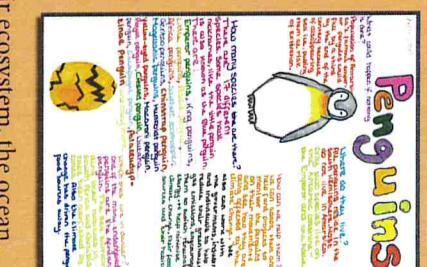
MONEY WEEK!

Students in Years 7 - 10 took part in a financial mathematics day. Each year group had a different activity, pictured here is the Year 7 activity. Students used plastic coins to find different ways to make £1.99 exactly.



YEAR 8 - STEM AND PENGUINS CONSERVATION

Our Year 8 students took part in a joint project with Science, Maths and DT to design Easter eggs. In Science they investigated the properties of plastics and which plastics would be suitable for moulding the egg; in Mathematics they explored cost calculations and in DT they moulded and constructed their products. Among the keywords they had to investigate and use in context were: polymers, polystyrene, high density polythene and thermoplastics.



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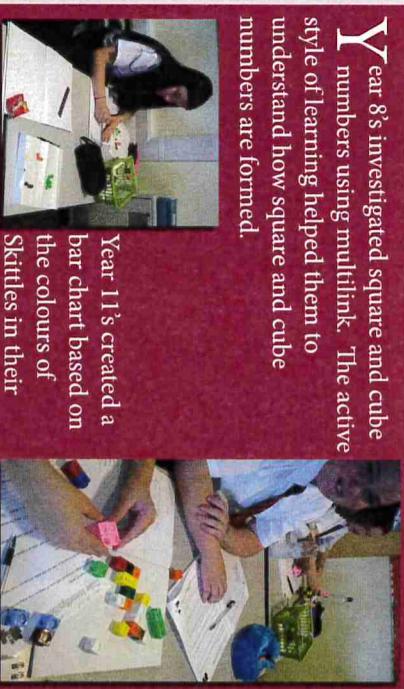
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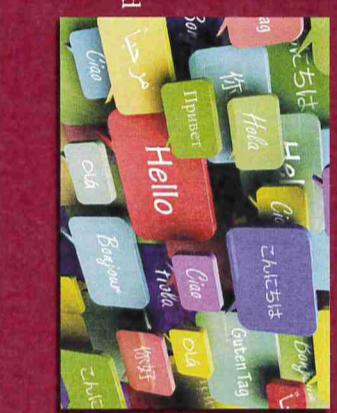


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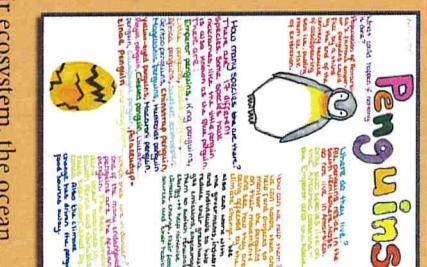
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KENT SCHOOLS GYMNASTICS EVENT

DSTC entered the Kent Schools Gymnastics competition for the first time this week. We took 8 novice competitors and 4 more advanced from Years 7 and 8. They all did really well in their first ever competition, all completing a vault and a floor piece. Our U13 came 3rd in Kent and, as an all Year 7 team, that's a fantastic achievement against older pupils. The bronze medallists were: Rugi Kanu, Mia Spriggs, Erin Jenner and Millee Maddison. A special mention to Erin who was 6th overall in her vault, and 7th overall in the competition. In addition Millee Maddison did exceptionally well coming 8th overall.



WORLD BOOK DAY

On 2nd of March, DSTC pupils celebrated World Book Day in a variety of fun and exciting ways. An abundance of competitions and activities swept through the school. Many of the pupils and teachers brought their favourite characters to life by dressing up and impersonating them. Additionally, pupils were also given the opportunity to work with the published author: Anne Cassidy.

Just remember:
"You can find magic wherever you look.
Sit back and relax,
all you need is a book". Dr Seuss.

6TH FORM DARENT VALLEY HOSPITAL CAREERS EVENT – 21ST MARCH 2017

On Tuesday 21st March we arranged for Darent Valley Hospital (DVH) to hold a Careers Event in the College for our 6th form students. Denise Aspland (Senior Nurse for Nurse Education), led this event, bringing with her representatives from 9 different specialties within DVH. Denise gave an introduction giving an insight into the many different professionals involved in the passage of a patient through the hospital.

A few brave students assisted Denise and her colleagues by dressing up to represent

various roles within the hospital. This introduction made students aware of the great

variety of career opportunities within the NHS, from patient care through to admin

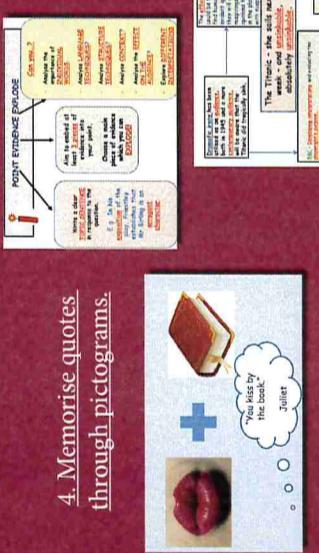
support and finance.

The rest of the event consisted of 20 minute sessions, where small groups of students took part in activities/discussions presented by each of the specialties. These included: Midwifery, Nursing, Apprenticeships, IT, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Medicine, Pharmacy and Radiography. Following the event we were given very positive feedback from the students – over 70% rated it Very Good or Good, with more than 20% rating it Excellent. Positive comments included: “Very informative, I learnt a lot from the professionals’ experiences and have received good links to apprenticeships and helpful information I need to know about my future”

ENGLISH LITERATURE REVISION TIPS

Your English Literature exams are fast approaching. Therefore, now is the time to ensure that you know your texts really well and can recall important quotations. Below are the English department's 5 Top Tips for Learning Quotes:

1. Don't try to remember too many at once. Pick out 5 quotes at a time to work on. Trying to memorise too many all at once is going to confuse your brain.
2. Choose quotes for the main characters/themes and create a visual display. Look at the quotation display outside EN3 for inspiration. E.g. Social responsibility quotes from 'An Inspector Calls'.
3. Create cue cards for each quote. Write the full quote on one side. Then on the other side write key words from the quote as a memory prompt.



5. Explode the quote

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PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

At last we see the glimmers of the sun through the cloud and this welcome change in the seasons reminds us it must be time for examinations. There is no shortcut for success. It is all about examination practice and fact learning now. Our mantra to Year 11 and Post 16 students is to 'eat, sleep, revise, repeat'. We wish them good luck and hope that their hard work will pay dividends when they see the results. Please note that GCE results for Post 16s are available from 9.30am – 11.30am on 17th August 21.07. GCSE results for Year 11 girls are available from 9.30am – 11.30am on 24th August 2017. Anne Davis

COMING UP

Here are some key DSTC dates for your diary.

• 3rd May	Year 13 Sociology Trip
• 9th May	Year 12 Geography Trip
• 24th May	Music and Dance Review
• 28th May	Trip to Iceland
• 29th May – 2nd June	Half Term
• 5th June	Students return to school
• 19th July	Community Day
• 20th July	Last day of term

If you require any more information regarding our upcoming diary dates, please contact us.

DARTFORD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLEGE RATED 'GOOD' BY OFSTED

"Pupils achieve well and thrive" at Dartford Science and Technology College, according to the findings of an Ofsted inspection published on 25th April 2017. As well as being rated 'good' overall, the College was rated as 'good' in all five areas of inspection:

- Effectiveness of leadership and management
- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- Personal development, behaviour and welfare
- Outcomes for pupils
- 16 to 19 study programmes

Ofsted noted that 'teaching supports good and often strong progress' and that 'there is a positive climate for learning throughout the school'.



DSTC - BOROUGH NETBALL TOURNAMENTS

The Year 7 tournament saw 18 girls turn out to play for the College; some girls were brand new to the DSTC team and all are doing fantastically well. Our Light Blue team only lost two games; they were both to Dartford Grammar School for Girls where we were too 'nice' against some well-drilled aggressive play. Our girls won their third/fourth play off to become Bronze medallists in the borough: a fantastic achievement. Players of the tournament for each team: Leanne Mitchell (who had an elbow in the face and played on), Hava Kaso (brand new to the team) and Maisie Perry. Our Year 8/9 Netballers played in the Year 9 Borough rally losing just one game 2-1 on a very windy night, which means they were runners up. A fantastic achievement for a predominantly Year 8 team playing older pupils. Players of the match were: Alexia Phokou and Fern Manley. Our Year 11 (and some younger additions) did even better and became Borough Champions, unbeaten all tournament, even with Dartford Grammar School for Girls as opponents. Player of the week was Georgia Butler and a massive well done to them all. All players remained high-spirited in the face of bad weather - there were hailstones at one point! Congratulations to all, this was our first netball trophy for a few years.



INSPIRING EDUCATION, NURTURING SUCCESS

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