

NEWSLETTER

February 2023



Community Champion!

Huge congratulations to Mrs Duis who was presented with the Community Champion award at the Leicester City Council Sustainability Evening! This is fantastic recognition for all the hard work she has put in over the last couple of years.

Here's what the nomination said:

"Our parent/school relationship is something we highly value here at Crown Hills. We have worked hard over the last few years to ensure that our parents are fully immersed in all aspects of school life. We had to think of the best way to achieve this and that's when Mrs Duis stepped in and thought of introducing monthly parental gatherings. Each parental gathering has a theme. For example, one of our themes this term was revision. Mrs Duis then puts together resources for parents so, when they attend a gathering, they are able to gain as much knowledge as they can about how to best support their children. Mrs Duis encourages parents to express any concerns and has a questions and answer slot at the end of each session to try and answer any concerns they may have. Not only have the parent gatherings been informative but Mrs Duis has encouraged parents to make new friends and use it as a time to socialise. She makes sure there is enough Chai Tea to go around, and really takes her time to get to know each parent. She makes sure the invitation goes out to all parents every month. The session has started to become increasingly popular. With over 100 parents turning up one month! Mrs Duis has now moved location of the gatherings in order to fit everyone in comfortably!"



BBC RADIO LEICESTER

Huge congratulations to one of our Year 11 students who has recently graduated from the Junior Chef Academy!

17 students from eight different schools in Leicester and Leicestershire have graduated from Leicester College's first ever Junior Chef Academy. The cookery course is a community programme aimed at 14-16 year olds to teach them how to cook and prepare meals, whilst also equipping them with life skills. The programme also encourages healthy eating and cooking a meal on a budget, with ingredients that most of us have at home. Each week, for the duration of the programme, the students learned to prepare breads and pizza, pasta dishes and sauces, vegetables and chicken, salads and healthy meals, among other things.

The College held a graduation ceremony where the students designed their own menus and cooked dishes for their parents and guardians. This was followed by an award ceremony during which the Principal and Chief Executive of Leicester College, presented the students with their certificates and prizes.

We are very proud of our Year 11 student, Suleman, who has completed this course. He has even been recognised by BBC Radio Leicester who wanted to talk to him about his experience.



Suleman, among others, at the Junior Chef Academy

Multi Millionaire Words Winner!



Congratulations are in order for this Year 7 student!

Our Year 7s had an assembly about the importance of reading. Here at Crown Hills we really value reading. We encourage students to use our school library. We are particularly impressed with this Year 7 who has become a 'Word Multi-Millionaire' in just one term!



Our students are taking part in #Readathon. This is a sponsored read. The money raised will help to buy new books. If you would like to sponsor a student, use the Readathon online payment system. Simply go to the CHCC direct link for online payment please scan the QR code.

A 'CLASS READING TRACKER' form with a cartoon unicorn illustration. It includes fields for 'Teacher name', 'School', and 'Class'. Below these is a table for tracking reading minutes. The table has columns for 'Date', 'Minutes spent reading or listening to stories', 'Total minutes', 'Average minutes', and 'Percentage'. At the bottom, there is a section for 'Minutes of reading grand total:' and a 'Read for Good' logo with the website 'readforgood.org'.

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students are reading 'Trash' by Andy Mulligan during form time. They listen to a pre-recorded video & follow the reading with a Crown Hills reading ruler. Reading for pleasure helps boost mental health and students' academic performance. A positive start to the day!



The English Faculty wishes to congratulate four of our Year 9 students Ayaat Kathoria, Mohammed Rayhaan Panjwani, Muhammad-Farid Jariwala and Razeen Mirza who have been selected to take part in the prestigious UCL Scholars programme. The programme, run by @ucl had a high volume of applicants but our students stood out! Watch this space for updates on our young scholars throughout the year...

DT Creations

Crochet Club

Some of our students go above and beyond from that which they learn in their lessons. Students have enjoyed making some fantastic creations at lunch times and after school. In Crochet Club this half term they have been making some amazing things. Look at the key rings they have made from scratch. They are so realistic-and will look great on their backpacks!



Pizza making!

We are super-impressed with this Year 7 DT class which made these delicious pizza's from scratch! Such a great atmosphere in the classroom- and a skill they've definitely developed for life!



Art Corner



The following showcase some fantastic art work in the style of Thomas Saliot by a year 10 student, T. Arvindkumar.

A Pablo Picasso replica study by R. Parsotam in year 8.



The following showcase some fantastic art work from students in key stage 3.



Year 9
A. Nathanie



Year 9
A. Mohseen



Year 9
A. Cetin



Year 9
I. Majid



Year 9
Q. Haji



Year 9
M. Abdul- Karim

Year 7 Sketchbook Work

Wire sculptures inspired by natural forms.



Can you guess where in the city centre this continuous line monoprint is from?



A beautiful sea life study page in inspired by Ernst Haeckel.



A. Chaus



H. Kalla

Key Stage 3 Art Club
Years 7-9
Tuesday 3-4pm
Miss Matthews XL5

Key Stage 4 Art Club
Years 10-11
Wednesday 3-4pm
Mrs Bond XL6
(NOT JUST FOR GCSE STUDENTS, SEE MRS BOND FOR DETAILS)

Community

Air Ambulance Appeal

As part of their character education, our Year 8 volunteers have collected lots of donations from our whole school. They then organised and packed the donations into boxes. They couldn't believe how much there was! They sorted them into different categories from toys and puzzles to clothes and shoes. These boxes will be taken to our local Air Ambulance shop.



Litter Picking



We encourage our students to become student leaders. After applying to become a leader they will receive a variety of opportunities throughout their time at Crown Hills. One of these opportunities in Year 7 is the chance to go litter picking. This group of Year 7s went out around the community this half term and did an amazing job of cleaning up the streets we live on. This group collected the most rubbish out of all our Year 7's who have gone out over the past couple of years. One even collected 3 bags full, just by herself! We were so impressed by their positive attitudes.

One of our values is aspiration. We always hope to give our students experiences that will excite them for the future. After the litter pick, one student asked "Can this be my first step in becoming Prime Minister? This will be my first policy!"

University of Leicester Trip



In February, all Year 7 students attended an educational visit to the University of Leicester. The purpose of this visit was to introduce our students to what a university is, explore the academic side of university education, the benefits of attending higher education and the extra-curricular side of university life. During the visit, the students had a talk by a university lecturer and had a question and answer session with current university students. Our students also had a guided campus tour whereby they saw some of the different specialist faculties, such as the Bennett, the George Porter, and the Physics and Astronomy (College of Science and Engineering) Buildings; and the Archaeology and Ancient History (College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities) Building. This included seeing a dinosaur skeleton, a rocket, a periodic table housing all the elements and the skeleton of Richard III. The students also saw the David Wilson University Library, Percy Gee Students' Union, Centenary Square and Danielle Brown Sports Centre. The trip was well received by our Year 7 students and we hope that the trip has provided the Aspiration to our students to one day to choose to attend higher education. We would like to thank the University of Leicester for hosting us and we look forward to taking our next cohort of Year 7s in the next academic year.



This year, we decided to interview some of our Year 7 students to hear their opinions on University education. We collected the views of the students before, during and after the trip and see if the trip has changed their impression of possibly attending university one day. We then collated these clips into a video and love the end result! It is fantastic to see how much impact these external trips have on our students. Watch out for the video!

Curve Trip

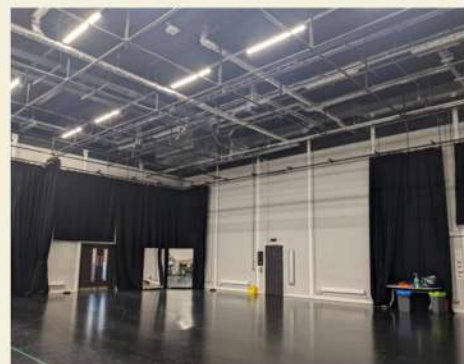
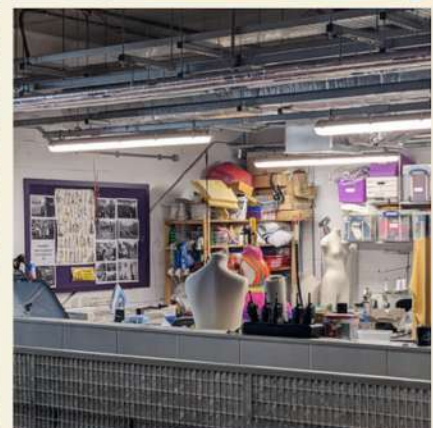
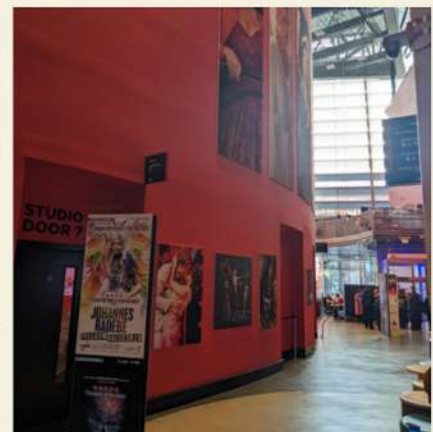
☆☆☆☆☆
'Theatre at its best.'
Daily Telegraph



In February, some of our drama students got the opportunity to visit the Curve Theatre in Leicester City Centre. Some of our students had never been to the theatre before so this was a fantastic life experience for them.

They were lucky enough to go and watch 'The Ocean at the End of the Lane' theatre production. It is the National Theatre's major new stage adaptation. During the show a man finds himself standing beside the pond of the old Sussex farmhouse where he used to play. He's transported to his 12th birthday when his remarkable friend Lettie claimed it wasn't a pond, but an ocean - a place where everything is possible... They are plunged into a magical world, their survival depends on their ability to reckon with ancient forces that threaten to destroy everything around them.

Our students absolutely loved the experience! From all the lights and special effects to the costumes and makeup. They even got the opportunity to go back stage and see the wardrobe and got to experience everything that make a production successful.



Physical Education

Boys Move



We are lucky to have the Inspire Together Team on our school site. One of the programmes they offer is Boys Move. The aim of Boys Move is to give boys who perhaps don't always enjoy physical activity, a place in which to thrive. Being part of a smaller group, with our coach Aaron, allows boys a safe space to think about their feelings and connect these positive feelings with physical activities.



This half term, a group of our Year 9s took part in the programme. They spend half of the session doing some work around their feelings and emotions. Then the second half is spent playing a sport of their choice.

Our Year 9s have already made changes to their behaviour in lessons after these sessions.

**INSPIRE
TOGETHER**



A healthier, happier, future generation

LOUGHBOROUGH COLLEGE TRIP

the purpose of our 'raising aspirations' trip to Loughborough College was to provide an experience of Further Education to our students. In particular, a sports college with PE courses. This trip was aimed at our Sports Academy students to inform them of Loughborough College as a strong choice for further education particularly where they can access high quality courses as well as having the support and opportunity to continue to develop their sporting ability.

The trip included taster activities of both practical and theoretical aspects of sport and PE related courses. This trip succeeded in inspiring Year 9, 10 and 11 students to think about their further education options and is the start of a strong link between Loughborough College and Crown Hills for the future.



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ASPIRATION

*Be the best
that you can be*

COMMITMENT

*Do what it takes for
as long as it takes*

SUCCESS

*Be ready to take
on the world*