

## Sixth Form Newsletter

March 2024



**THE CASTLE ROCK  
SCHOOL**  
Lionheart Educational Trust

<b>Gatherings</b>	<b>Topic</b>
WB 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	World Book Day
WB 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	British Science Week
WB 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Celebration Gathering

<b>Personal Development</b>	<b>Topic</b>
WB 4 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	<b>Year 12</b> – Preparation for Work Experience <b>Year 13</b> – Diversity – LGBTQIA+
WB 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	<b>Year 12</b> – Careers – Labour Markets <b>Year 13</b> – Diversity - Ethnicity
WB 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	<b>Year 12</b> – Careers – Interview skills <b>Year 13</b> – Life Skills for the future

### Examination season

The examination season will begin at the end of April and with this, we know that our students will feel increasing amounts of pressure. Our exam bitesize curriculum continues every Thursday morning during registration which allows students to discover the power of Metacognition and the importance of understanding and reflecting upon the best ways for them to learn. We heavily encourage our students to continue to use the Silent Study room to rehearse writing exam answers in timed examination conditions.

Alongside this, we are providing opportunities in addition to the full-time access to a Pastoral Mentor for students to learn about how to cope during these difficult and often stressful times. Vitamins, a counselling service, will be in school for Year 13 students in April to provide our learners with simple coping mechanisms to deal with pressure and stress.

Interventions for both Year 12 and Year 13 are still in place (as per last half term's timetables) with bespoke programmes of support in place as identified by students' subject teachers. We know that every moment matters in school and guide our Sixth Form students to utilise not only the time they have with us, but the access they have to highly trained subject specialists.

### Year 12 Work Experience

All Year 12 students are expected to attend a form of work experience between the dates of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024. Students have received both a launch gathering and a PDC lesson on how to source experience and how to log it on the Unifrog platform. We know that a meaningful work experience programme in Year 12 can aid our students to make informed careers decisions following the culmination of their A Level's and having the opportunity to engage with local employers also develops their character and general skill set. Please continue to encourage your child to source work experience – if they are having any issues with this or logging it on Unifrog, they must book an appointment with Miss Mugglestone who will be able to support them.

### Disability Student Allowance – Post 18 Education

In order to fully prepare our students for Post 18 Education and Training, we have put together an informative presentation regarding Disability Student Allowance (DSA). Please take a moment to have a look through it – if you believe your child may be eligible, please do reach out to the Sixth Form Team if you require any further support.

## **A huge well done!**

We are busy celebrating a number of achievements this month from both our Year 12 and 13 students. Two of our Year 12 students recently undertook a period of work experience with the prestigious Chemistry faculty at the University of Leicester. They were able to take part in laboratory work with the lecturing team at the University and got a real flavour for what life will be like when they leave us at the end of Year 13.

Year 13's have continued to impress at apprenticeship interviews and obtaining excellent university places. Below are just a few:

Imperial College London – Mechanical Engineering

University of Nottingham – Zoology

Birmingham City University – Architecture

University of Brighton – Biomedical Sciences

University College London (UCL) – Mechanical Engineering

Guildford School of Acting – Theatre Production

University of Derby – Child Nursing

We can't wait to see what our fantastic Year 13 students achieve and look forward to continuing to support them to reach their career goals.

## **Key events coming up:**

Formal start of the Summer examination season – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

UCAS applications open for Year 12 students – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Year 13 Graduation Ball – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024