

Newsletter for Students and Parents

Friday 25th January 2019

Riddlesdown Collegiate



Learners of today, Leaders of tomorrow.

The Principal writes

This week, we held what has now become an annual event – the Year 10 Mock Interviews. All Year 10 students were required to submit their CV in advance for a matched interviewer to peruse before they met face-to-face for a 10-15 minute mock interview. Students came prepared, having thought about the ways in which they could make a positive impression and how they should express themselves clearly and impressively. Many of them chose to dress in business attire, adding to the feeling of this special event. I want to congratulate all students for their engagement and effort – the interviewers were very complimentary. I would also like to thank the 40+ volunteers from local companies and organisations who joined us for the day to interview the students and give them valuable feedback. Some students were extremely confident, some were more nervous, but however they performed, I know that this provided a fantastic learning experience which I hope they all enjoyed. Particular thanks to Miss Knox, Careers Co-ordinator, for the leadership of the event.

Year 8 students were also thinking about the world of work this week with an impactful performance on careers in the National Health Service. The key purpose of school is to prepare young people to have happy and successful lives and so introducing ideas of the workplace early in students' school experience is useful in encouraging them to start thinking about their futures. There will be follow up work in the coming weeks. If you or your child would like to find out more, please visit www.JobsThatCare.co.uk.

Meanwhile, Year 11 students have been taking their French and Spanish speaking exams. This can be a nerve-wracking experience for some students – it is, ultimately, a performance which students need to have practised for, but students approached these exams with determination this week and I hope that the experience will mean that they can perform even better when they take their final GCSE speaking exams after Easter.

With just over two weeks to show time, the cast and crew of The Wizard of Oz are into final rehearsals. I am sure that this show, like all our others, will be an amazing display of talent and I am very much looking forward to it. A few tickets are still available for some shows – [details on how to book tickets here](#).

Finally, I wanted to thank parents again for the very generous donations received through the Parents' Fund. The funds accumulated can now enable us to make some significant purchases, which otherwise would have been very difficult – I will be pleased to share details of how this money is being spent very soon.

**Timetable:
Week commencing
Monday 28th January
will be Timetable Week B**

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 29th January

- Grade 9 - 7 Seminar Chemistry
- Year 11 Theatre Trip GCSE Drama

Wednesday 30th January

- Young Musician Round 2 Auditions

Thursday 31st January

- Y11 GCSE PE Road Cycling - Gravesend - Friday 1st Feb
- Y12 Geography Fieldwork Trip
- Grade 9-7 Seminar Art

Friday 1st February

- Y11 Spanish Student Conf
- BTEC H & S Care Exam

Term Dates

Half Term Holiday	Monday 18 th Feb 2019 to Friday 22 nd Feb 2019
End of Spring Term	Friday 5 th Apr 2019
Easter Holiday	Monday 8 th Apr to Monday 22 nd Apr 2019
Start of Summer Term	Tuesday 23 rd Apr 2019
May Bank Holiday	Monday 6 th May 2019
Half Term Holiday	Monday 27 th May 2019 to Friday 31 st May 2019
End Summer Term	Tuesday 23 rd Jul 2019

AQUILA

ORION

PEGASUS

PHOENIX

CPA

COLLEGE VI



Year 10 Mock Interviews

On Wednesday 23rd January Year 10 students had the opportunity to take part in Mock Interviews where local business people were able to provide feedback and guidance on CV's and cover letters, as well as their performance in the interviews. The interviewers spoke very highly of our students and left with a wonderful opinion of Riddlesdown Collegiate. Many students chose to attend in business dress and they should be commended on how smart they looked, having selected appropriate clothing. Students have said that whilst they were very nervous just before going in, the interviewers were 'not scary' and instead very helpful. I am confident the day was a fantastic learning experience and it is now important that students act upon the feedback received and make improvements to their CV's.

Miss Knox

Review by Theo Casey Harwood, 10JEB

I found that the mock interviews were very useful and helped me to gain knowledge that I did not have before the interviews. It was also a big relief to have such a nice and welcoming person interview me and calm me down when I was stressed about the interview. I felt the feedback from my interviewer was very insightful and helpful. Leaving the interview I knew I had gained a lot more knowledge of what to say and how to act during future interviews. I believe that the mock interviews were a success and were worth the time taken to take part in them.



Interviewers wrote....

Sheela Mavadia, Transport Officer at Croydon Council

I have to say how impressed I was with the students who were thankful for the help and feedback given to them. They were all very professional, well dressed, mannered and all did well in their interviews. I wish the students all the best in their career choices.

Debbie La from Xerox

All students were polite and well presented. Some gave really insightful answers that definitely would have landed them a job had it been a real interview!

Trisha Horncastle from Aberdeen Standard Investments

Overall, very positive experience. Some students had put in a lot of time and effort prior to the interview and this really helped them on the day.

Helen Gray from London Chamber of Commerce and Industry

I was very impressed by the students - smart, articulate and enthusiastic.

Year 8 NHS Careers Talk

A engaging performance was given by Enact Solutions this week to Year 8 students with the aim of preparing them for happy and successful lives in the NHS. There will be follow up work in the coming weeks. If you or your child would like to find out more, please visit www.JobsThatCare.co.uk.

Poppy-May Gardner 8YRW

I really enjoyed the NHS performance because it was very humorous, but also very factual. I also really enjoyed the storyline and how it links in with the jobs on offer through the NHS. The NHS performance has got me thinking about the future. They asked us questions at the end so we could reflect on everything we saw. I enjoyed the play as it's taught me things I didn't know before.

Alex French 8YRW

I thought the NHS was funny, but also educational. It's crazy to learn how many jobs there are in the NHS, Now that I know what the website is called, I will visit it to find out more about jobs such as a paramedic or a dietician. The storyline was very good and it's helped me to think about what qualifications I may need to get into this profession.

Ridhi Kharbhanda 8ACW

The talk on the NHS got us thinking about if we would like a job in the NHS. We found out there are over 350 jobs in the NHS so there must be a job that suits everyone. We also found out that there's not only jobs for doctors and nurses but jobs for social carers, dieticians and many more. Some jobs don't require a lot of qualifications, for some jobs you can study while you work, whilst for other degrees are needed. This play may be getting a lot of year 8's thinking of getting a job in the NHS.

Sophie Clay 8ACW

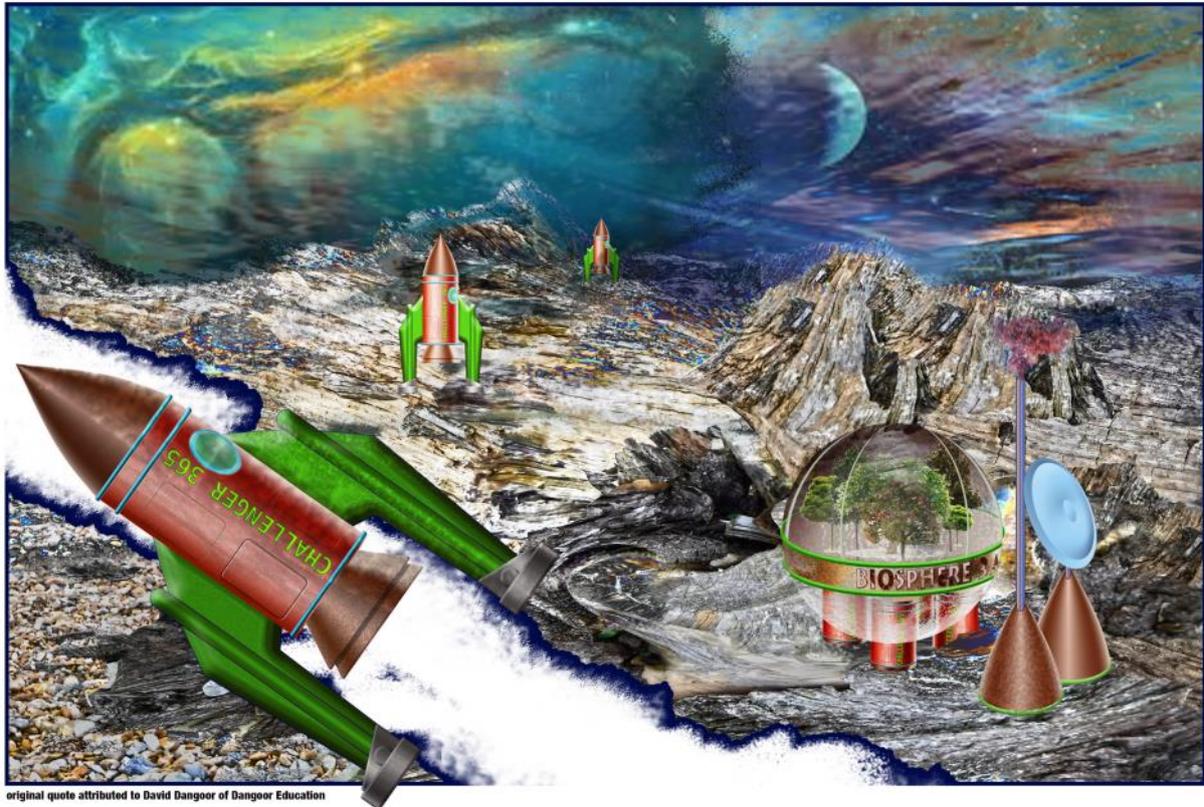
The NHS talk was a good talk and I learnt a lot from it. I now understand that there are more than 350 jobs in the NHS. I have always watched Casualty and to see and listen to that performance was fun and educational for me. I have always wanted to become a paramedic, and through this play I learnt that you need good GCSEs but you don't have to have brilliant ones. I also learnt that you have to communicate well, work as a team and have good confidence. Overall I thought the talk was really helpful to me.





IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE *

.....well actually it is!



* original quote attributed to David Dangoor of Dangoor Education

Saturday, March 23th 2019



For more information, speak to or email [Isabelle Singh](mailto:Isabelle.Singh)

For the first time ever, Riddlesdown Collegiate will be running the Galactic challenge on Saturday 23rd March, from 9am-3.30pm.

The Challenge

It is the Year 2060.

Each participating primary school will work in a team of 12 students who will be split up in 4 sub teams, which will be working to design a solution to a specific brief, as the population relocates to Mars. Each team will be assigned with our own UKSDC team members on hand to support and guide the pupils. This will be a fast-paced and fun day of team-building, problem solving, and academically stretching experiences, culminating in team presentations. A teacher from your school will also attend.

If you are interested can you please email isabelle.singh@riddlesdown.org before 11 February 2019.

Additional information can be obtained on the Galactic Challenge website, <https://gchallenge.org>. This is an incredible opportunity for any pupil, and could inspire your students to become the engineers, scientists, architects, and leaders of the future!

PE Fixtures Round Up

There were only two fixtures over the past week due to poor weather and dangerous conditions. They were both Year 9 football matches and both ended in a positive manner. The first game took place last Friday when Riddlesdown travelled to Tunbridge Grammar for the last 16 of the National Cup. This was a very tight affair with both teams defending well without creating too many chances. The first half ended 0-0 and after a slow start to the second half Riddlesdown started to play football. Joshua Burr broke the deadlock with a good low drive from 20 yards to give us the lead. Tunbridge equalised and then missed a penalty to take the lead and the game went to extra time. George Vincent scored early in extra time to put Riddlesdown back in front and then Tunbridge chucked everything at Riddlesdown. This cost Tunbridge the game as Hugo Fisher cleaned everything up in the goal mouth and sent a long ball to Aron Sasu who ran from the half way line to score and finish the game off. Riddlesdown now progress to round 7 for the third consecutive year and face St Paul's Academy in the last 16.



On Tuesday the Year 9 football team were back in action in the County Cup, where they took on Hinchley Wood. A poor first half gave Hinchley Wood the lead at half time. A few changes were made and the boys started the second half much better with George Vincent going close very early. After 20 minutes Ashley Armitage scored a contender for goal of the season with a cracking strike that nearly broke the net. Minutes later the skipper George Vincent found himself free in the box to put Riddlesdown 2-1 ahead and this was the final score. Man of the match went to Tom Kelly for a solid second half performance in midfield. Riddlesdown now face Cheam High in the quarter final.



The only other fixtures of the week took place on Thursday when the under 14, 15 and 16 netball teams took on Oasis Coulsdon. Three cracking games took place with the Year 9 C team drawing 4-4, the Year 10 B team winning 8-7 and the Year 11 A team winning an impressive 28-2. Well done to all the girls involved.

Mr Langan



"FORC is looking for someone who knows anything about bingo and might be willing to act as 'Caller' at our forthcoming Bingo evening on 29 March. If interested in helping, please email Theresa.Ward@riddlesdown.org. Thank you."



The Giving
Machine™

**So far we have raised.....
45 Givers
193 donations generated
£73.88 donations in total.**

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/>