

# The Hart

## NEWSLETTER

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear parents and carers,

After a very busy term, the staff and students can enter the Christmas holidays knowing that a combination of hard work and determination has certainly paid off. Over the term there has been much to celebrate, starting with the excellent GCSE and /A level results, the continued individual excellence by a significant number of students, the Creative Education Trust events, the Remembrance Day, breaks with the Principal and the Christmas carol service at St Augustine's Church this week to name a few.

We have also continued to face a significant challenges as a result of Covid disruptions and it is with great pride that I thank our staff, students and you the parents, for the way in which the community has continually pulled together in a show of solidarity, trust and strength. I am delighted to can confirm that we have had no external supply in school today.

I want to reassure you that we will do everything we can to ensure your children remain happy and safe. As always,

we cannot achieve any of this without your support, so I thank you on behalf of the governors and staff. You really do make a difference each day and certainly play your part in making sure our school continues to improve. I hope that the holidays give you the chance to rest and spend quality time with your loved ones. This is a special time of year and your children have earned the break. Wishing you a peaceful Christmas.

Miss Sandham

## Key Stage 3 Assessments

Last week, we wrote to parents/ carers of children in Key Stage 3 to inform them of the schedule for assessments after Christmas.

Students have spent time learning about organisational skills and effective revision strategies. As with our students in Key Stage 4, it is really important that students in years 7-9 revise over the Christmas period so that they are able to do well in these assessments; they are an excellent opportunity for students to show off what they can do but they are also, crucially, an opportunity for teachers to identify any areas where students need to develop, allowing teachers to support students in these areas.

We hope that all our students are able to do lots of high-quality revision over the break whilst also striking the right balance with taking time to recharge their batteries and spend quality time with family and friends.

WE CAN • WE WILL • WE DO

# Sixth Form At De Montfort

An article written by Megan Gilbey with photographs provided by Blake Vincent

Earlier this month we ran a Life and Soul day for all Hart students. As part of this event our Sixth Form students got to experience university life first hand, spending the day at the De Montfort University in Leicester. One student gives her account of the experience.

On Thursday, 2nd December 2021 The Hart School Sixth Form went to De Montfort University Leicester. This trip was to help us all decide on what type of university was for us or if De Montfort was the one!

Slightly behind Mr. Brennan's schedule, we set off at 9:15am. After losing and then regaining one coach due to satnav mishaps we arrived at De Montfort. Firstly, we completed an activity which was a little insight into the financial side of university. With a budget of £2,473 working with partners we had to plan out our first semester of finances choosing from a selection of items to buy from. Then it was lunch time "Oh this onion bhajia is spicy!" Ms Harding exclaimed: as we all used our £6 vouchers to buy lunch.

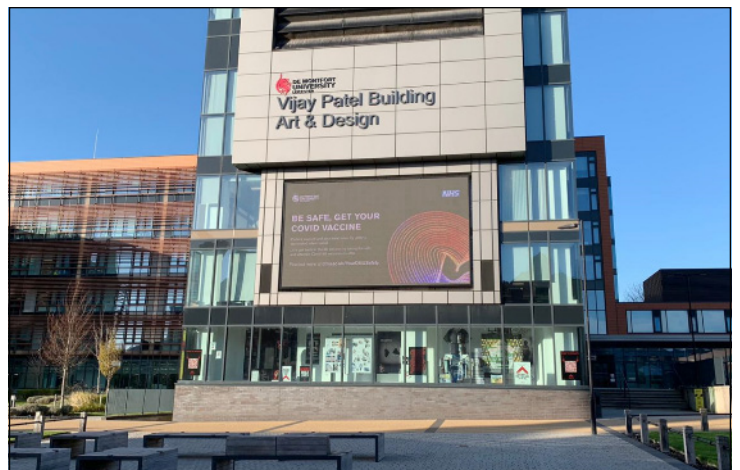


Next, we had a tour of the campus with a population of 25,000. We saw the student union, library, fashion and engineering workshops and student accommodation. The union and library were well designed for student use and there was very comfortable accommodation. At the top of one of the buildings there were

amazing views looking out over the whole of Leicester. We learnt that being a university student is very different to being a sixth form student. You have to learn to control your time more effectively as undergraduates have more study time and we will be living on their own, which is very different from what we know now.

One of the main features of the campus was the big advertising screen in the middle of the campus for everyone to see. It advertises all the events happening within the campus and different types of art created by the students. We finished off with closing questions answering all our university queries and then we got back on the bus for a good sleep!

Head Student, Holly Matthews, said: "The university visit really helped to open my eyes and discover what it is like to be a university student." Another student commented: "Through the tour, talks and questionnaires, we were able to envisage the key concepts of university life. Furthermore, we were open to a wider field of studying, education and city life when visiting De Montfort". After reflecting on this trip, Elisha Jarvis said: "I liked that it was a community." and Edward Cutler added: "I really liked how the university campus was big while still being seamlessly integrated in the city and easy to navigate" Overall, we all really enjoyed this trip!



# Annual End of year Christmas Quiz

During the last week of the school term, primary schools from across the local community will be taking part in the annual Hart School Christmas Quiz.

The quiz consists of seven rounds, each with ten themed questions. The rounds are all themed and include working out picture puzzles and Christmas film clips to literacy and numeracy, all of which have a Christmas theme to get the students into the festive mood.

The quiz was designed to be highly engaging and was delivered through a series of pre-recorded videos, photographs, screen shots, video graphics and audio sound bites.

Each primary school competed internally and each student in the winning team of

each school won a chocolate Cadburys selection box, provided by The Hart School.

The scores from the top teams across all schools were then collected and the overall winning school announced.

The Hart School Christmas Quiz 2021 winner was, Chancel Primary School.

Each student of the winning school also received a Hart School certificate and a gold star pin badge.

We hope the students have as much fun taking part in the quiz as we had making it.



## Year 11 Pre-Public Exams

**Congratulations to our Year 11 students for an excellent set of results in their pre-public exams.**

All students received their results on Wednesday 15th December in a PPE result afternoon – results were in envelopes and handed out to students to replicate the process they will experience in August and, like any GCSE results day, there were a mixture of emotions. Lots of students, who had worked extremely hard in their revision and preparation, celebrated and

were deservedly proud of their results; however, there were also a number of disappointed students who knew that they hadn't worked hard enough.

As part of the results afternoon, Mrs Cleary led as assembly with the students to highlight the importance of a positive attitude to learning. There are just five months before the formal exams start and students need to make the most of these final five months of learning if they are to achieve results of which they can be proud in the summer. It has been a busy term and one with unavoidable disruption due

to testing, vaccinations and some children (and teachers!) having to self-isolate, so it is only right that students take some time to relax, recharge and refresh over the break; however, it is imperative that they also use the time to continue with their learning. Spending two hours each day (four chunks of 30 minutes) doing high-quality revision will ensure that they are well-prepared for the spring term after Christmas.

## Foodbank Friday

10 Dec 2021



Over the last few weeks staff and students at The Hart School have been collecting non-perishable goods for the Rugeley Foodbank.

Over the weeks the donations grew and on Friday 10 December The Hart School donated 409 kg of food. Due to the quality on donations we had to use the school mini bus to transport it all to the foodbank.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated, the food will help people in need over the Christmas period.

