

# Careers Café...

In this section of the newsletter, we bring students, parents and carers information on careers and the world of work.

## **Virtual Careers Interviews**

We are delighted to let you know that we have started a programme of Virtual Careers Guidance Interviews, initially with students in Year 11.

The meeting will be with our careers advisor from the Education Development Trust, Mrs Gibbs-Halbert and will take place via Zoom. Mrs Gibbs-Halbert will contact students on their school email account to confirm their meeting time. It is vital that students check their emails regularly to ensure that they don't miss their invitation.

During the 30 minute careers meeting, students will be able to explore their career aspirations and discover the steps that they need to take to achieve their study and career goals. A careers action plan will be completed during the meeting and emailed to the student within one week of the meeting taking place.

Please contact your Head of Year Team, or Mrs Frost (<a href="mailto:lfrost@hazelwick.org.uk">lfrost@hazelwick.org.uk</a>) if you would like to request an appointment.



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### **Virtual Employer Encounters - Half Term**

Our careers partner Education Development Trust invited students to attend Virtual Employer Encounters sessions over half term.

The aim of the sessions was to give students the opportunity to hear first-hand from employers across the UK and learn more about working in a particular sector or job role. There were a wide variety of organisations and industries represented during the week. We hope that students who took advantage of this opportunity found it beneficial.

## **Monthly Key Skills Focus**

Each month this year, we will focus on a different employability skill. These are the skills that you need for the world of work – and they are pretty important for life as well! By developing employability skills, you will improve your chances of getting a job and thriving in your career. There are lots of different ways to develop them – including in lessons or extracurricular activities at school, in a Saturday or holiday job, doing projects in your own time or work experience.



# Careers Café Continued...

#### This month's skill: Professionalism

As a school leaver, there's a chance that you've never really experienced being in a professional environment other than school. For this reason, employers often find younger job applicants a bit too laid back. When applying for jobs, it's important that you show that you have a



professional approach to work and that you understand the importance of maintaining high standards. When you are communicating with an employer, be that in an email, on a telephone or video call, or during virtual work experience, make sure you do your best to come across as professional. If you have a job interview, make the effort to look professional and dress the way that employees of that company would dress.

### **Hazelwick Alumni**

It is great to be able to share career stories from Hazelwick Alumni. This month we meet Dr Ashley Fly, Lecturer in Vehicle Electrification at Loughborough University. Ashley studied A Levels in Maths, Physics and Design Technology at Hazelwick.

"We all know the world is going through a climate crisis, and transport currently contributes over 20% of global CO2 emissions. Zero emission electric vehicles, powered by renewable electricity, will help reduce transport emissions as well as reducing harmful particulate emissions from burning petrol and diesel.



My research looks at how best to operate batteries in electric vehicles so you can drive longer, have a more accurate range estimation, and increase the overall lifetime of the battery before it is recycled. This includes looking at how to heat and cool the batteries so they are at the ideal temperature and how to perform 'health-checks' on the battery to identify potential faults and predict how much lifetime the battery has left.

Battery research is a very diverse community requiring a wide range of skillsets; we need chemists and material scientists to develop new battery materials, chemical engineers to scale up production, manufacturing, mechanical and automotive engineers to make the battery packs and vehicles and electrical and systems engineers to work on the control and management systems.

Working and interacting with people from so many fields means you are always learning something new, even if you are an expert in one area! I also like to work closely with industry in my research and have worked on electric vehicles with a range of automotive companies including Ford, Jaguar Land Rover and McLaren Applied.

I never considered becoming an academic when doing my A Levels, but it's what I do now and I love it!"





# Careers Café Continued...

Ashley's advice: Be confident in yourself and your ability to succeed and avoid underselling yourself when looking into the future.

Also, make a career plan. Research the qualifications and skills you will need to achieve that goal, but don't be afraid to change and adapt your plan as you learn more.

### **ONS** Report of Impact of Coronavirus on Industries

ONS have published a report on the impact of the coronavirus on industries to date which depicts the industries which have thrived, struggled or recovered. For example, the Accommodation and Food Services activities shrunk by 90% compared to the previous year but Public admin and defence saw consistent growth. Chemists too constantly traded above pre-pandemic levels as did Camping whilst the accommodation industry was down. For the full report click on the link.

## Careers with a Spark

The Electrotechnical Skills Partnership have issued a <u>downloadable</u> resource which shows different routes into the Electrical trade. The website is also good to find out more about careers in the Electrical Industry and includes a video. <a href="https://www.electricalcareers.co.uk">https://www.electricalcareers.co.uk</a>

Mrs Andrews