



Careers Café...

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

Virtual Work Experience Placements

We were fortunate to have been able to secure virtual work experience placements for a group of Year 10 students. The organisations that took part were Fidelity International, NHS, Wates, Thakeham and Arcadis, offering a wide range for the students to choose from.

The events were held via GoogleClassroom. Each employer had a different programme, but typically each event included a variety of interactive sessions such as:

- Learning about the business and the career options available
- CV writing and application workshops
- Meeting apprentices/graduates
- Team building/problem solving tasks

These insight days have been a great success, showing students a variety of career paths available within the organisations. The feedback on the days was overwhelmingly positive and all students said they found it very useful for their future career choices.

“This has helped me expand my knowledge about other careers and has helped me have a deeper understanding of each aspect of different careers.” Trisha Sureshkumar.

“We were talking about ways of getting to the buildings, for example by bike, bus and walking. Also talking about ways to make the buildings more environmentally friendly.” Benjamin Eldergill.

We hope to be able to run more events like this in the future and expand the opportunity to include more students.





Careers Café Continued...

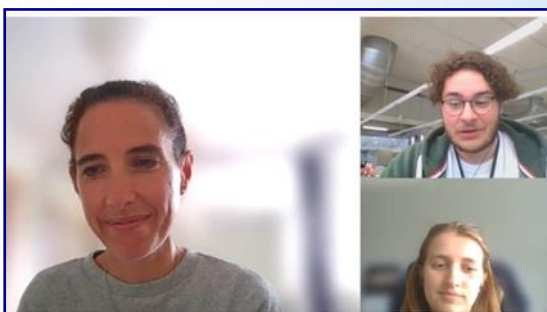
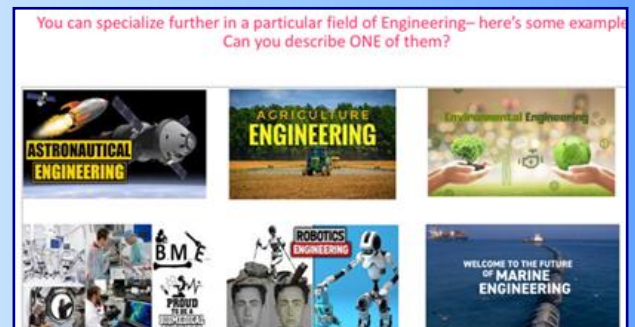
Form Time Employer Encounters

In order to support students in planning for their futures, explore career opportunities and experience employer encounters, a programme of form time sessions were delivered for all Year 7 and Year 8 form groups in July. Year 7 had a focus on Engineering and Year 8 explored careers within the NHS. The format was as follows:

- Session 1 – Overview of a career area (Year 7 - Engineering, Year 8 – NHS). This was an introductory PowerPoint/video recording, which was made bespoke for our students.
- Session 2 – Video detailing a specific career within the area introduced the previous day, where a local person with this job presented. Each form was then asked to submit questions to ask the volunteer via email, with a prize for the best question.
- Session 3 – This was a video recording of a Microsoft Teams meeting where the questions submitted were answered by the volunteer.

The volunteers were Jen, a speech and language therapist and Matt and Jasmine who are both on the Engineering apprenticeship scheme with Thales.

Jen thought the best question was from group 8EFA; ‘How would you describe your daily job to your younger self.’ Well done 8EFA, your prize is on its way to you!





Careers Café Continued...

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.

This Month's Skill: Numeracy

The ability to understand and work with numbers is important in virtually any job. We use maths every day to understand facts and figures, make decisions, and solve problems.

You don't just use your numeracy skills in maths and science. Subjects like art and design and IT are all about solving problems and making plans based on the information you have at your disposal.

Do you have a part-time job in a shop? Or get pocket money? If the answers yes, you almost certainly use your numeracy skills to tot up the amounts, or put cash aside in your savings.

Labour Market Information- Industry shortages

An interesting article in [‘Thisismoney’](#) reports on three industries with hundreds of vacancies to fill across the UK and therefore, offering benefits and commanding good salaries to those who take up the professions. According to the article, the Road Hauliers Association have around 100,000 lorry job vacancies across the UK, meat processing factories, around 15,000 and of course, the hospitality industry which is desperate to recruit following a huge job loss during the pandemic.

The [BBC](#) highlights a report from KPMG which calls on the government to address skills gaps as the number of staff available to fill vacancies falls short of what is required. The hospitality sector, in particular, where, they say, the number of staff available to fill such jobs as chefs, waiting staff as well as roles in IT and computing fall short of what is required.

In addition, the [BBC](#) are also reporting a ‘staff crisis’ due to a hairdressing apprenticeship shortage. Only 7,000 people started an apprenticeship in hairdressing in 2019/20 - a 30% drop on 2018/19 which already saw a drop on the previous year. In 2016/17 15,450 people started a hairdressing or barbering apprenticeship so the numbers have now more than halved since this period according to the National Hair and Beauty Federation. An interesting report about employability and preparing young people for the future of work with some key messages on skills shortages in the workplace can be found [here](#).

Interested in finding out about being a frontline worker?

You may like to watch ‘Dom Digs In’ - a BBC tv series where Dom Littlewood tries out different essential frontline UK careers.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000v10v>

Mrs Andrews

