

Academy Articles



DSL V

Nurture | Aspire | Achieve

An E-ACT academy



July 2016

Key Dates

Thursday 1st September

Academy closed to all students —
Professional Development Day

Friday 2nd September

Academy Open for Year 7 and 12
students only

Monday 5th September

Start of Term – all students back

Friday 14th October

Academy closed to Senior & Sixth
Form only -Professional Development
Day

Friday 21st October

Last day of Term 1

Charity fundraising at DSLV

Over the past academic year DSLV
children, parents/carers and staff
have raised an amazing **£5711.34**

for various charities
during events
including our non-
uniform days for
Sport Relief, Children
in Need and British
Heart Foundation.



This is fantastic and we would like to
give thanks to you all for achieving
this considerable amount!

Dear Parents\Carers,

It has been a busy 2015/2016 at DSLV and we are
all feeling the effects of an intense, but – certainly
from *our* point of view – extremely positive and
productive period.

We are particularly proud of our young people in
their representation of DSLV at; Inter-school sports,
County athletics, Strictly dancing, Primary Choir
event, Daventry Matters – Music event, Green-
power car racing; It also gives us great pleasure to
see students becoming heavily involved in the life
of the school including: Dance show, Yr6
production, Daventry Arts Festival, Christmas and
Easter shows. DSLV has changed significantly
since September and I hope that this has been
evident in the conversations you have had with
your children, as well as our improved
communicated through Twitter, Website, Facebook
and of course our Academy Articles. There is still
much work to do however and we am pleased to be
able to welcome 12 new members of staff to our
academy to help accelerate our improvement.
In welcoming new staff, we inevitably say goodbye
to staff who have been part of DSLV's journey. We
send our best wishes therefore to departing staff,
all of whom take up new and exciting positions
elsewhere:

Finally, we would like to thank you for *your* support
of DSLV. We are well aware of the less than
positive reputation DSLV had in the past and thank
you for your confidence and loyalty this year. The
last 11 months has not been without its challenges,
however we hope now that change is well
underway, you feel justified in your support and
hear much more positive comments about our
school.

It only remains for us to wish you a wonderful
summer break. We hope you find time to relax and
enjoy it and we look forward to speaking with you
again next term.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Mr S Cotton
Principal DSLV

Mrs Katie Towers
Senior VP – Head of
Primary

Year 11 Leavers Day

We said a fond farewell to our year 11s in June. We had worked hard to prepare them for exams and life, and now we were releasing them into the world. It was a day of happiness and reflection, tinged with sadness at the ending of this stage in their lives.

Having spent the day in exams, the year 11s gathered in the dining hall for a shared lunch and to sign books and shirts. From here they moved to the stage hall for one final assembly where the presentations were made for the Student Awards 2016.

Some of the recipients were:

Student most likely to end up ruling the world	Ryan Roberts
Student most likely to become an Evil Genius	Luke Mayhew
Student most likely to still be getting ID'd at 30 (Male)	Sam Hennesy
Student most likely to still be getting ID'd at 30 (Female)	Megan Evans
Student most likely to end up teaching	Charley Rose and Lauren Harrington Carter
The Best Dressed Student Award	Nathan Robertshaw
Student most likely to be rich and famous	Finlay Davis
The Nicest Person Award (Male)	Param Kapoor
The Nicest Person Award (Female)	Emily Sanderson
The Most Serious Student Award	Shimra Ahmed

The students were awesome during this event and there was an amazing atmosphere in the room. We are immensely proud of our year 11s and all the hard work they have put in during this year.



Sixth Form Transition Day

On the 6th of July over 80 students attended the launch of The Daventry Post 16, a joint venture between DSLV and The Parker academy. A good day was had by all as students visited both campuses and had the opportunity to meet students and staff from both academies. Students were given a welcome breakfast at The Parker before experiencing taster lessons in their chosen subjects. All students enjoyed lunch at DSLV before completing a range of team building activities in the afternoon. The Daventry Post 16 is an exciting development in further education for the 2 EACT academies in Daventry. It is allowing students to access a much wider range of courses at level 2 and level 3 meaning that more students than ever before have the option continue studying at DSLV after they have completed their GCSEs.



Congratulations to DSLV Girls' Rounders teams for their fantastic effort and achievement in the South Northants School's Rounders League.



Year 7 finished - 3rd
Year 8 finished - 2nd
Year 9 finished - 2nd



Miss Hughes (PE teacher) would like to thank all the girls for their amazing commitment, attitude, determination and performance at all training sessions and fixtures!

Year 7 Team

Thalina Houghton (**Captain**)
Mia Heron
Millie Farrow
Catalina Placinta
Megan Norman
Amy Randall
Courtney Kerr
Chloe Jones
Abbie Wheeler
Lucy Alesbrook

Year 8 Team

Katie Berry (**Captain**)
Charlotte Burt (**Captain**)
Mollie Bunting
Lily Baker
Hannah Ridgewell
Molly Collins
Karen Davies
Jessica Johnson
Erin Pratt
Hema Nakra
Ella Nyakanyanga
Nicole Arissol
Polly Smith

Year 9 Team

Saffron Burt (**Captain**)
Jessica Webb (**Captain**)
Lucy Church
Maya Patchett-Smythe
Brodie Crees
Celine Khong
Debbie Wood
Megan Scott
Harriet Billingsley
Megan Hill
Charlotte Kennedy

Primary Languages Days

in June, students from Year 5 and 6 at DSLV, the Grange, The Abbey, Woodford, Badby, Weedon and Kilsby Primary schools came to join us for a range of foreign language related activities.

Two groups spent the morning cooking lunch in French, making Breton butter cake, tomato salad and croque monsieur. This was followed by French playground games, a boules tournament and language detective activities in the afternoon. Other children joined us for the afternoon to share their language learning with us (we loved your performance of Le Fermier Dans Son Pré, DSLV!). They learnt some Spanish and German, plus Cantonese and Polish thanks to some of our EAL students in year 9, who kindly taught them some of their home language. They even did a bit of PE in French!



The afternoon finished with a French café, with the children trying new foods – especially the cheeses!

The children all enjoyed their time with us and when asked to give feedback about the things that they had particularly enjoyed, many comments were about the 'food, food and more food'. Others were so enthused by their day that they said they 'really enjoyed it' and were 'desperate to go to (DSLVS)' as a result. Thank you to Year 5 and 6 and their teachers and staff and to our Year 7 and 9 helpers and to Mrs Dodge for making the days such a success. *Annette Soden—MFL Teacher*



STUDENTS HAVE A BALL AT THE YEAR 11 PROM!



The Year 11 School Prom was held on Friday 1st July at Hellidon Lakes Hotel and it was wonderful to see so many parents, families, friends and staff greeting and supporting the Year 11 students as they arrived to their 2016 Prom.



The School Prom is always a much anticipated event in the School calendar and students certainly rolled up in their finest and looked a million dollars, as you can see from the photos. Every year staff vote for the Prom King and Prom Queen and this year's winners were Alex Jackson and Rachel Verner.



Staff were proud to celebrate with them and we would all like to wish them the very best of luck with their GCSE exam results.



Year 6 Performance



Year six children have been working hard on their acting and singing skills in preparation for their end of year production – 'Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies'. Set in the depths of Sherwood, this version of the English legend takes a humorous turn when professional dancers have to become professional fighters. Year 6 have greatly enjoyed seeing the reactions to their hard work and determination in delivery a chorus of catchy songs and funny one liners!

Well done Year 6, we would like to wish you good luck and best wishes for your move into Year 7 in September.



Primary Sports Day



On Sports day KS1 and KS2 took part in multiple sports activities. KS2 took part in the morning and KS1 in the afternoon. We did running races, relays, egg and spoon, sack races and hurdles. Then we did a rotation of field sports activities. KS2 had a picnic lunch with their parent/carer. Both KS1 and 2 did their activities on the big field and thoroughly enjoyed it. If you were one of the parents or carers who came to watch your child or have lunch with them we hope you enjoyed your time, we certainly did!

Andreea Tamasciuc and Leighton Davy, Year 6

Summer Fayre



The Friends of DSLV PTA did a wonderful job organising the Summer Fayre that took place on Friday 15th July. The KS2 playground was a hive of activity, even the drizzle at the start didn't put off the crowds that attended! There was plenty of fun and games for all with a bouncy castle, human fruit machine, hook a duck, penalty shoot out and a bbq for those that fancied a bite to eat. The tombola was an overwhelming success and thanks must be given to all those parents/

carers and staff who donated various bottles on the non-uniform day for this.

There was a Tai Kwon Do demonstration and performances from the Primary Strictly dancers and the Senior B-TEC dance groups. Daventry Radio were also in attendance to broadcast from the Fayre.



Thanks to all the parents/carers, children and staff who volunteered their help and contributed to making this event so successful. We must also thank Tesco's, Daventry Leisure Centre, Tigers Indoor Play and Lantmannen Unibake UK for their generous contributions.

Year 6 Residential to Frontier Centre



Year 6 children had a fun filled time at Frontier Centre in Irthlingborough.

The children were challenged to climb high ropes, abseil down a 40ft tower, work as a team to manoeuvre their

kayak, hit a bullseye in archery and climb an indoor rock face. Even though the rain poured it didn't dampen the children's spirits – they pulled together as a team and overcame many obstacles. Well done Year six! #DSLVanproud



SIXTH FORM LEAVERS AFTERNOON TEA

DSLVL has said goodbye to our year 13 students with a tea party. Many students returned to the academy after their exams to share memories, say goodbye and enjoy a cup of tea and a slice of cake with staff. The Sixth Form band provided the sound track highlighting the talented group of students we have had as our year 13 this year.

Students were also given awards for voted by their fellow students including 'most likely to be a millionaire' and 'most opinionated'. They also received photographs to remind them of how much they had changed since joining DSLV 7 years ago. It was a wonderful chance to say goodbye to our lovely year 13 students and to wish them all the best for a prosperous



THE ELECTRIC PYTHON RACES AT ROCKINGHAM MOTOR SPEEDWAY

On Tuesday 28th June, students from years 9 and 10 raced DSLV's Greenpower car, the Electric Python, at Rockingham Motor Speedway. The car, built by DSLV students with the support of Cummins, was significantly developed since the last race to reduce weight and increase speed. Students split into two teams for the two races of the day. The first team to race was a group of year 9 students consisting of Jessica Webb, Charlotte Kennedy, Shayan Shiekh, Oscar Lancaster and Megan Hill with each driver on track for around 15 minutes.



The team showed incredible teamwork and skill, with Megan's aggressive driving style helping the team finish the race ahead of other cars including Eagle, Blaze, Chain Reaction and local team ParkerPride. Battery failure during testing meant the drivers had limited track time before racing, and meant that team 2 started the race with used batteries. Undeterred, the year 10 group consisting of Orry Keig-Hobbs, Kieran Hambrook, Kain Brill, James Allen and Jacob Courtney-Thompson gave it everything, even in heavy rain. Their determination paid off as they brought the car home to finish 32nd out of 56 cars, the best finish for the car to date and ahead of many of our closest rivals.

James and Jacob now plan to spearhead a project to propel DSLV up the grid by designing an all-new, super lightweight car to enter the series in 2017, putting us up against fierce rivals including The Black Bullet, Rotary Racer and Lazarus.

A STAR IN THE MAKING!

Nicole Archer, Year 3 pupil took part in the TAE KWON-DO International World Championships in Birmingham on the 16th & 17th July. Nicole came 4th in Patterns with Pattern Chon Ji which is an amazing achievement since Nicole only took this up in September last year. Well done Nicole!



Friday Tieday

We believe that everyone should be proud of attending DSLV, whether that is staff or students. Our uniform is a key part of showing your pride in attending DSLV. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT) want to remind students that our uniform is important so every Friday, members of SLT wear the DSLV tie to show that they are proud of working at DSLV, so Friday is tie day.

Friday Tieday is also to remind students that they are part of a community made up of students, teachers and non-teaching staff. To quote High School Musical, we're all in this together, by working together we can make DSLV a great place to work and learn. Wearing the DSLV tie has certainly been a discussion point with students about why our tie is important. It may seem like a gimmick, but Friday Tieday is all about making DSLV a community to be proud of.



#DSL Vandproud

PINK BIKE PROJECT



Students from DSLV were invited to take part in the Pink Bike Project for the Aviva Women's Tour on Sunday 19th June which passed through Daventry Town.

Both the Primary and Secondary students helped to paint and decorate bikes that had been donated and they did a fantastic job.



DSL STUDENTS TAKE PART IN THE DAVENTRY ARTS FESTIVAL



Students from DSLV were invited to perform on the bandstand in Sheaf Street, Daventry on Friday 24th June as part of the Daventry Arts Festival. The students were part of 4 music groups - the Soul band 'Soul Machine', DSLV Choir, Y9 rock band 'Bandito's', and sixth form rock band 'The Last Hurrah'. All groups went down very well with the crowd that

gathered to watch, and Kyle Doney's rendition of 'Love Shack' was a particular highlight!

Unfortunately the performance was booked in for the same weekend as Glastonbury, and we had to endure some very 'Glastonbury-ish' weather, but not before everybody had a chance to strut their stuff. Well done everyone!



Staff Goodbyes

- Dr N Noor
- Mr J Hibberd
- Mrs C Margieson
- Miss L Norman
- Mrs T Brownell
- Miss L Briggs
- Mrs H Tibbles
- Mr S Cook
- Mr A Adeliyi
- Mr T Jinks
- Miss R Palmer
- Miss A Chorzelski
- Mr J Partridge
- Mr M Sullivan
- Mr J Underwood
- Miss B Cleaver
- Mr S Parsons

English Teacher flying high for NSPCC

Kelly Mitchell, English teacher is hoping to raise a minimum of £500 for NSPCC in October this year.

'Most of my students know that I scuba dive as a hobby - spending much of my free time up to 40 metres below water - and so I have agreed to turn things around slightly and skydive from 10,000 feet up... (Eeek!)

If anyone would like to sponsor Kelly and help to raise money for this worthwhile charity please contact her via the Academy.

New Staff



Mrs C Heffernan – Head of Science



Mr J Wright – Science teacher



Mrs M Milsom– Science and Head of Year 10



Miss S Miles– Year 1 Teacher



Mr K Willis– Science Teacher



Mrs A Reeves– Humanities Teacher



Mr H Young - Accelerated Reading Lead



Mrs S Wilson– Maths teacher



Mrs C Gerrard – Science teacher



Mr M Taylor– Year 5 Teacher and PHSE Lead



Miss N Creak– Maths Teacher



Miss J Hawkins– Design Teacher



Mr N Minter– Year 4 Teacher