

The Castle School World of Work Newsletter



Term: February 2024

Edition Number: 39

This has been a relatively short term – but as always, lots going on in World of Work! We have an ever-growing number of students attending work experience every week, in line with their own particular interests and aspirations. Since Christmas we have also had additional students starting at Sainsbury's, two more participating in our annual collaboration with Welford Park, and one brand new placement at Shared Lives / The Phoenix Resource Centre. These opportunities are extremely important to our students, and work experience is often a highlight of their week. Thank you to all the different organisations who work with us, and to the people on the ground that make this possible by welcoming our students into their workplaces, and supporting them in their work.

This term, Oliver has started new work experience in the Shared Lives office at the Phoenix Resource Centre in Newbury. Oliver loves office work, and is assisting the team with a variety of tasks, such as filing, shredding, delivering post, answering the phone and sorting out stationary. The team have made Oliver feel incredibly welcome and have even created him his own office space, desk and phone, and he is already well-known both within the team and across the centre as a whole. Huge thanks to Shared Lives and the Phoenix Centre for making this happen, and for making it such a positive experience for Oliver.



As part of our ongoing relationship with Sainsbury's, we have recently started two new students on work experience in the store. We have Layna, who has just started in Tu Clothing, and William in the chilled / dairy section. These students are in addition to Troy, who is already doing a long-term placement in different areas of the store. Sainsbury's is a valued supporter of World of Work, and we are very grateful to the opportunities they offer our students year after year. It is a great environment for our students to learn a wide variety of skills, and to experience different aspects of the retail industry.

Snowdrop season is here again, and we are delighted to be back at Welford Park. Our students, Franklin and Adam are helping the team in the Snowdrop Tea Rooms, which is open through February, during the annual charity opening of Welford's snowdrop woods and beautiful grounds. The team are always very welcoming to our students, and it is great to be involved in such a special event. Franklin and Adam have been assisting with clearing and cleaning tables, and sorting crockery and leftovers. They both really enjoyed the work and the chance to experience something new.



Recently, one of our Key Stage 4 classes, (Oxford Class), attended Sparsholt College, near Winchester, for an educational visit, in line with their term topic. This kind of interaction is really valuable for our students to learn about a variety of industries, courses and job opportunities in different areas. It was a fantastic trip, with lots of hands on activities and the opportunity to see lots of areas of the college and campus and learn about some of the equipment used and skills needed. Many thanks to the Sparsholt team and to Ian Revill in particular for organising this visit.

World of Work – Recent Participants & Supporters



We would like to say a huge "Thank You" to everyone who is, or has been, involved with the World of Work programme

The Castle School has half term from Friday 9 February to Monday 19 February. There will be no work experience during that time.

We are continually looking for new organisations to participate in our World of Work Programme through educational visits, virtual / face-to-face meetings, guest speakers and work experience opportunities.

We would love to hear from you, if you would like to get involved with the World of Work programme. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more or if you have any questions:

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