



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

De Lisle College

Parent / Carer Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our fourth newsletter of this academic year.

As we are about to break up for Easter, I wanted to thank you again for your support. Easter is a special time of year where we come together to remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us all. We have reflected and used as our themes during Lent the following words, prayer, fasting, almsgiving, sacrifice and journey. These words are the themes for our prayers during standing assembly, prep time and our celebrations of the word. Easter is always a time for us all to pause and rest and hopefully spend some time with our loved ones.

As you can see from the size of our newsletter this has been a busy half term at De Lisle College. We have had so many educational visits from our Year 10 Geography fieldwork to Norfolk, Sixth form visits to Sellafield Nuclear power station, Twycross Zoo, University science and engineering visits and the Curve theatre visits.

Below is an example of one of the prayers written by some Year 8 students for a Standing Assembly.

As we journey through Lent, may we encounter God.
May we welcome to new life and become better people through Christ.

We are all made in the image of God.
Each person we pass in the corridor, each voice we hear in class,
each friend, each stranger—carries the face of Christ.

Encounter means more than just noticing people.
It means recognising their value, their dignity, and their story.
It means loving them as Jesus has loved us—with patience, forgiveness, and respect.

As we journey toward Easter, think:
Who do I really see?
Who might need someone to see them today?
Can I offer a kind word, a smile, a moment of attention?

Love is not always loud.
Sometimes, it's just taking the time to see the best in someone,
and to let them know they matter.

For our Years 11 and 13 students, this is a really important time as they prepare for their summer exams. The Easter holidays are an important time for revision, and we are really looking forward to welcoming Year 11 students to our Easter revision school. We will be doing everything we can to support them during the next few months.

I would like to wish you all a very happy and holy Easter and I look forward to welcoming our children back on Monday 28 April 2025.

Best wishes,
Mr Maher
Headteacher

NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2025



Newsletter Highlights

Headteacher Message
Mr Chris Maher

World Book Day 2025

University of Nottingham:
Inspiring Women in
Engineering Day

Philosophy in Action:
Celebrating Achievements
at De Lisle

Year 12 Chemistry Trip

Highlights from Our
Sports Achievements

Science Club's Wizardry
and Witchcraft Challenge

Students Success

Excellence in Hygiene:
Scores a Perfect 5

Religious Life in De Lisle

Prize-Giving Ceremony

Performing Art in De Lisle

Easter Break Info



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

WORLD BOOK DAY 2025



World Book Day is held annually in the UK on the first Thursday of March and is a fabulous way to celebrate books and encourage reading for fun.

At De Lisle, lessons began with students and teachers reading together from 'A Sound of Thunder' by Ray Bradbury.

Many of our staff dressed in book related costumes such as 'The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy' and 'The Wizard of Oz', whilst in the library 20 teams from all year groups took part in the Ultimate Harry Potter Quiz.

The winners were Jack and Jack in Year 12 and Jesse and Josh in Year 7.

Mrs A Badock (LIBRARY)



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



APRIL 2025

University of Nottingham: Inspiring Women in Engineering Day

On Wednesday 12 March, a group of Year 9 girls visited University of Nottingham for an Inspiring Women in Engineering day. We spent the day on the Jubilee Campus, based in the Advanced Manufacturing Building.

The day consisted of:

- Talks from inspirational students from a range of engineering-related backgrounds;
- A presentation on Carbon Neutral Cities;
- An interactive, hands-on activity where students designed, built and presented a load-bearing model of a two-story structure;
- A tour of the Advanced Manufacturing Building and campus, where we saw a Fringe Projection System and Focus Variation Microscope in action;
- A presentation from University of Nottingham alumni Hayley Jackson, a site manager and Chartered Engineer at Coffey Engineering & Surveying.

The day concluded with a team being selected as winner – with this group taking home a prize!

This was a great experience for students to learn about different engineering fields and their entry requirements, as well as to get involved in a practical activity to understand sustainable structures. The visit was also a great opportunity to visit an engineering lab and be inspired by the real-world activities and cutting-edge research.

Many thanks to the students, staff and alumni at University of Nottingham for arranging this experience day, and to Miss Allsobrook and Miss Parker for accompanying the students.



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025



Year 12 Philosophy Course

A group of our Year 12 students have successfully completed a six-week course led by The Royal Institute of Philosophy! Through engaging discussions on a range of philosophical topics, they honed their critical thinking skills—so much so that by the final session, they were bringing friends along too!

A huge thank you to the Royal Institute of Philosophy for funding this enriching experience.

Ethics Cup Champions

Our students showcased exceptional dedication and critical thinking in this year's Ethics Cup, competing from October to January. They spent months after school studying complex ethical dilemmas, such as the justification of nuclear weapons, the ethics of "saviour children," violence in video games, and whether children's books should be revised to remove offensive language. Beyond mastering these topics, they also developed the art of collaborative discussion—where teams work together to refine ideas rather than debate opponents.

De Lisle excelled in three consecutive rounds, winning each one before advancing to the final. In a dramatic conclusion, the first judge ruled for the opposing team, the second for De Lisle, leaving the final decision to the third judge—who awarded victory to De Lisle!

Throughout the competition, our students embodied respect and sportsmanship, immediately congratulating the opposing teams and recognizing their efforts. Their hard work, teamwork, and eloquence were widely praised by other team managers and staff at Nottingham University.

They are being presented with their certificates provided by Nottingham University for winning the regional final.



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

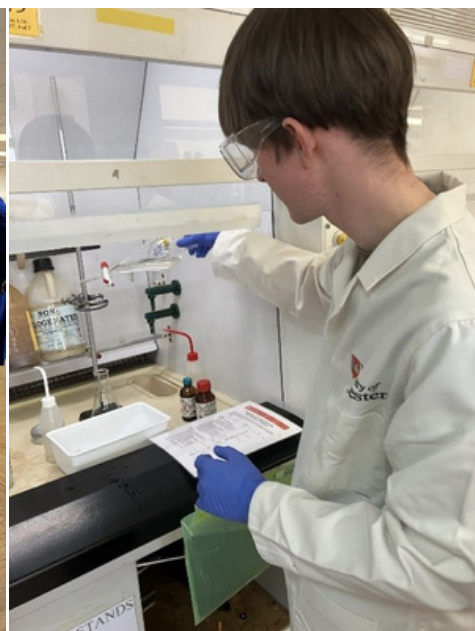
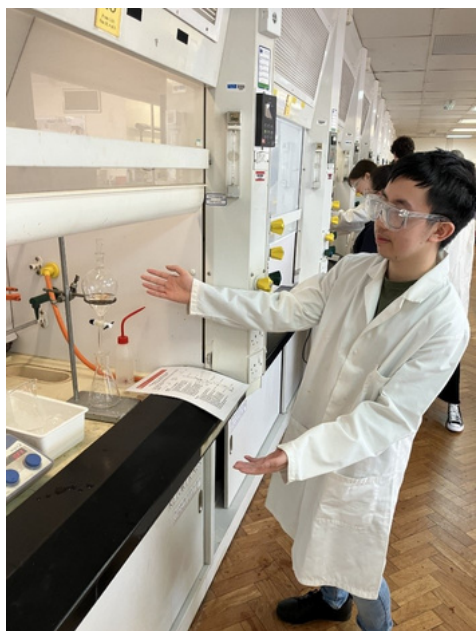


APRIL 2025

Year 12 Chemistry Trip



Year 12 chemists have enjoyed their first trip of the academic year with a visit to the University of Leicester's chemistry department. After a safety briefing the students made their way to the undergraduate laboratories to carry out a Fischer esterification under the expert guidance of the university's chemistry demonstrators. By the end of the visit all students had successfully synthesised their product and analysed it using modern analytical techniques. The day was rounded off with a tour of the NMR, X-ray crystallography and mass spectroscopy facilities giving our 6th formers an in depth look of modern chemical techniques and the chance to put their learning into practice.



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

De Lisle Dominates Futsal Tournament



Our Year 7 girls attended a Futsal tournament on Wednesday, 12th March at Limehurst Academy. We entered two teams into the competition, with all teams split into Group A and Group B.

Our De Lisle team in Group A won all three of their matches, finishing at the top of their group with maximum points. Similarly, our Group B team also won all three of their games, securing first place in their table with maximum points.

As a result, both De Lisle teams faced off in a play-off match to decide the overall winner. In a thrilling final, the Group A team triumphed over the Group B team to take the title.

All the girls played exceptionally well, showcasing their impressive football skills against strong competition. Several schools praised our teams not only for their outstanding ability but also for their excellent sportsmanship.

Without a doubt, every player thoroughly enjoyed the event, and I am incredibly proud of them all.



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

KS4 Girls' Basketball Team

On Thursday 13th March our year 10/11 girls' basketball team made it all the way through to the semi-finals of the Team Leicestershire county rounds and played against Lutterworth High School. It was a very tough and physical match between the two sides and our girls stood their ground and fought back hard. Unfortunately, they did not win, however, to make it through to the semi-finals is a massive achievement that they should all be proud of, I know I am certainly proud of every single one of them. They showed skill and determination against every team they beat to get this far in the competition.



Year 7 Girls in Football Tournament



On Tuesday 21st January I took the year 7 girls' football team to a tournament at Charnwood College where they beat all the other teams to top the table. This meant they went through to the next round of the Leicestershire Teams county rounds where we faced Catmose College on Monday 17th March. Whilst the girls put in 100% effort and kept their heads high throughout the game, they did lose 4-0. I would definitely say that our team had more possession within the opponent's half and had more shots on goal, unfortunately the goals just didn't hit the back of the net for us. Once again, the skill, sportsmanship and resilience our year 7 girls displayed was outstanding and I am very proud of every single one of them. To get through the tournament into the next round is an amazing achievement in itself and the girls should be proud of themselves.

Miss Sharp



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

KS Composites sponsors De Lisle College boys' football



On the 4th February 2025, the De Lisle College Year 9 boys football team debuted the new team kit.

Keeping with traditional black and white home colours, the kit was manufactured and provided by Leicestershire kit provider MDH Teamwear.

The kit was funded and financed by a gracious sponsorship from local company KS Composites.



De Lisle College would like to extend its thanks and gratitude to KS Composites for agreeing to sponsor a new boy's home kit, to be used by Years 9 and 10 in upcoming football fixtures.

Student Success: Rosalie Secures Place at Guildford School of Acting



Congratulations to Rosalie, who has been offered a place on the Foundation Musical Theatre (CertHE) Course at Guildford School of Acting! This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to her dedication and talent in the performing arts.

We are incredibly proud of Rosalie and wish her every success as she embarks on this exciting next stage of her journey. Well done!



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

Holly Joins GB U18 Dragon Boat Racing Squad!

As our year 11 cohort prepares for the summer exam season, it goes without saying that each student has demonstrated hard work, determination and a certain amount of resilience. Combining study with extra-curricular interests is a balancing act; students who are able to manage their time effectively to continue with their pursuits outside the classrooms while maintaining high standards in their subjects deserve recognition, none more so than Holly in year 11.

Holly was recently selected to be part of the Great Britain squad preparing to compete at the World Dragon Boat Championships in Brandenburg, Germany, in July 2025. This follows months of intensive training in all weathers and a nerve-racking weekend of trials earlier this year.



The hard work continues as training intensifies and the squad are taught about different aspects of elite performance, including technical and tactical elements, and anti-doping training with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

Holly joins a select number of De Lisle students who have gained international honours or performed at elite level in their sport. The championships take place after the summers series of exams and we wish Holly all the very best as she flies the flag for Team GB out in Germany.

Science Club's Wizardry and Witchcraft Challenge

Mr. Akers and Mr. Taylor would like to congratulate our Year 7 students who took part in the Science Club's wizardry and witchcraft challenge! From cool chemical reactions to learning about mythical creatures, you all did a fantastic job.

Certificates will be handed out in due course, and we look forward to seeing more magical experiments in the future. Keep up the great work!



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

APRIL 2025

PD Lesson Poster Competition Winners



Congratulations to our Year 8 students who won the poster competition in their PD lessons, following an insightful talk on exploitation delivered by Leicestershire Police.

Their creative and thought-provoking posters demonstrated a strong understanding of the important issues discussed, helping to raise awareness among their peers.

Well done to all the students involved!



Friday 29th February 2025
Exploitation

Exploitation

There are 3 types of it

When someone is taken advantage of for someone's gain. There are 3 types

Financial;
- Money from other people - when they or teachers arent told its illegal (money laundering)
- Selling in fake job applications online with details + then asked to withdraw money
- Tell a trusted adult
- Childline 0800 1111
- NSPCC website
- Visit livesafe.org.uk

Criminal
- Getting others to deliver parcels for - often containing drugs
- Which leads to that person getting in more trouble despite not knowing
- Joint enterprise - if you are party to a crime, you are a crime
- Speak to someone if you feel uncomfortable

Sexual
- Being groomed + given money, gifts or praise in return which makes you feel obligated to stay
- Visit livesafe.org.uk

What is it?

3 types of exploitation: Criminal, Financial + Sexual

Criminal is when other people make money or someone else does criminal acts eg. drug dealing

Financial is when people take someone's money or their assets for their personal gain

Sexual exploitation is when someone is taken advantage of sexually

Types of exploitation

CRIMINAL - Drug dealing
Money laundering - **FINANCIAL**
SEXUAL

All of these are illegal facts criminals who someone is persuaded to do something criminal

Who can help?

People can help by:
- Trusted adults at home or school
- Childline 0800 1111
- NSPCC website
- Visit <https://livesafe.org.uk>

Warning

Someone can persuade someone to do something over a long period of time

They change a person's personality

Can happen over years

Someone is given money, gifts or promises to make them feel good

Can start off very small as someone who is given money to buy out little things

What to do

If you are worried that you are being exploited or someone you know is, you can:

Tell a **TRUSTED** adult

Speak to a member of your pastoral team

Call child line, or visit the NSPCC website or visit <https://livesafe.org.uk>

Remember, if you know something and don't do anything, you can be prosecuted for joint enterprise

EXPLOITATION

Exploitation is when someone is taken advantage of for someone's gain

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES?

Criminal Exploitation
Financial Exploitation
Sexual Exploitation

WHAT TO DO & WHERE TO GET HELP

If you are worried about exploitation you should talk to a trusted adult, a friend or the police

You can get help from:

CHILDLINE 0800 1111
NSPCC website
Visit [HTTPS://LIVESAFE.ORG.UK/](https://livesafe.org.uk)

GROOMING

Grooming is when someone could befriend someone online pretending to do or be something they're not, making

EXPLOITATION

Exploitation is when someone is taken advantage of for someone else's gain. Anyone can be exploited but it is usually the most vulnerable people.

There are three types of exploitation: **financial**, **criminal** and **sexual**. Exploiters know what they are doing. If you think you know anyone who is or has been exploited they should contact a trusted adult

Grooming is when a person builds a relationship with a child, young person or an adult who is at risk so they can abuse them and manipulate them into doing things that they wouldn't normally do such as running the county lines which is taking drugs from a city to town.

You can get help from trusted adults at home or at school
Childline 0800 1111
NSPCC website
<https://livesafe.org.uk>

Friday 29 February

gangs and knife crime

Exploitation

Exploitation is when someone is taken advantage of for someone else's gain

Exploitation is when someone is taken advantage of for someone else's gain. This paragraph will focus on financial exploitation. An example of financial exploitation is when a bad person black mails a 12 year old saying 'give me all the money or I will tell ur dog wags ur alright mate'. This happens because people want money. The person will not report this as they are scared and keep on giving them money. If this happens to you you can report them or stay away from them and their friends. Overall financial exploitation causes problems because it is harmful.

My paragraph on exploitation

EXPLOITATION

is when someone is taken advantage of for someone's gain

FINANCIAL CRIMINAL

Exploitation

This is when you are told to put money in your bank account and then you move it to another. You may be given money, praise or gifts in exchange. This is classified as money laundering and is illegal. You could be prosecuted if you are found to be doing it.

This is when you are told to deliver a parcel somewhere. These parcels may contain drugs or illegal substances. You may be given money, praise or gifts in exchange. This is exploitation because you are unaware of what you are doing. You may be prosecuted if you are found to do this.

Grooming happens before exploitation. It is when a person is kind and gives you things before taking advantage of you.

Joint enterprise is when you don't commit a crime, but are present so get convicted.

IF YOU FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE TELL SOMEONE

This can be a teacher, trusted adult, parents or childline.
Childline's number is: **0800 1111**



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



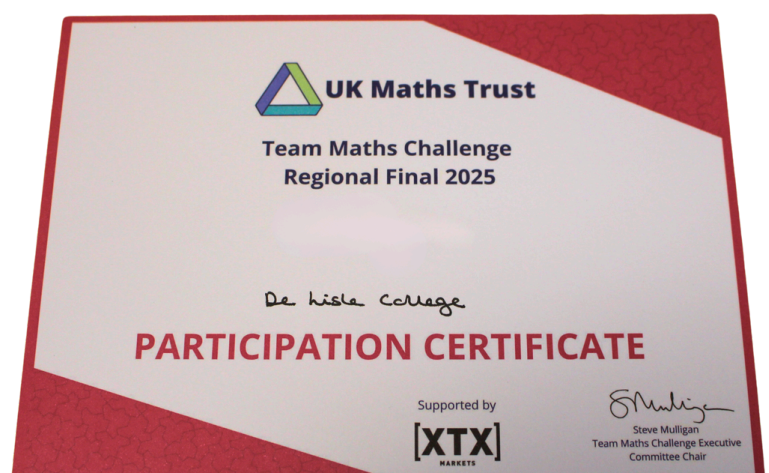
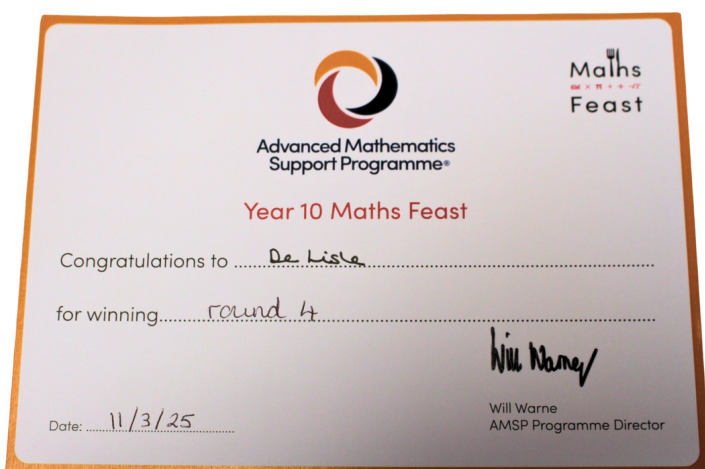
APRIL 2025

Team Maths Challenges



In March, a team of four year 10 students went to Loughborough University to compete in the Year 10 Maths Feast – a team challenge against other schools in Leicestershire. They had to use team-work and problem-solving skills to answer a variety of questions over four different rounds. They had to look at the position of a ribbon on a tilted cube, work out which calculator button was broken from given information, and take part in a mathematical relay. As a team, they worked brilliantly together and were joint winners of the final round. Well done to Ethan, Oliver K, Oliver Y and Reuben.

Later in March, a team of two year 8 and two year 9 students went to Leicester Grammar School to compete against other 17 other schools from the East Midlands in the UKMT Team Maths Challenge. After some initial puzzles together, they had to work in pairs to complete a shuttle round – where the first pair's answer gave information for the second pair to use in their question. Next was a cross number where the pairs were split with the across and down clues. Finally, there was maths relay which did involve running across the hall. Some students were more competitive with this than others! Overall, De Lisle's team came 6th, and they were in the top three schools for 3 of 4 the rounds. A fantastic achievement by Harris, Avik, Isla and Isaac.





—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

Catenian Public Speaking Competition

On Sunday 23rd March Bella in yr12 represented De Lisle at the Catenian Public Speaking Competition. This is a prestigious competition for Catholic schools from Nuneaton to Chesterfield and everywhere in between. Bella prepared and presented her own speech to an audience of dignitaries, family and friends and was adjudicated by a panel of eminent judges from the world of law and performing arts. The standard of the competition was excellent with young people speaking on topics from climate change to perceptions of beauty.



Bella writes. "My experience of taking part in the Catenian Public Speaking Competition has been nothing but positive. Having the opportunity to create a speech on something I am passionate about and deliver it to an audience was amazing. The organisation who provided the event were spectacular, they really treated you with care! The lunch provided by the Becket School was a nice treat and the fellow competitors were very friendly. I felt as if the competition was a great experience as it helped me to develop my writing skills, as well as my confidence when speaking publicly. I highly recommend taking part in this unique opportunity".

Catering Team Awarded 5-Star Food Hygiene Rating!

A huge congratulations to our catering team, who have been awarded a top 5-star Food Hygiene rating by Charnwood Borough Council. This prestigious rating reflects their dedication to maintaining the highest standards of cleanliness, food safety, and hygiene. We're incredibly proud of their hard work and commitment!



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



APRIL 2025

Bishop Patrick's Pastoral Visit to De Lisle College



We were blessed to welcome Bishop Patrick to De Lisle College recently for a special visit. The students and staff had the opportunity to engage with Bishop Patrick during prayer and conversation. Bishop Patrick encouraged us to grow in our faith and live out the Gospel in our daily lives especially in how we can be ambassadors of hope in this Jubilee Year. During his time with us, he also met with students and staff, shared words of encouragement, and celebrated our school's Catholic life and mission.

During his visit, Bishop Patrick took time to speak to the students about the importance of their faith in the modern world. He reminded them that they are called to be disciples of Christ, sharing His love and light with others through acts of kindness, prayer, and service.

It was a memorable day that deepened our sense of belonging in the Church and our commitment to our faith. His visit was a reminder of the importance of faith, community, and discipleship in our daily lives. We are grateful for Bishop Patrick's time with us, for his presence, his prayers for our school, his inspiring words, and we look forward to welcoming him again in the future.

Thank you to all the staff and students who made Bishop Patrick's visit so special, and for the prayers and hospitality that were shared throughout the day.





APRIL 2025

Year 9 Retreat Day – 'Vocation'



Our Year 9 students took part in a deeply reflective Retreat Day focused on the theme of Vocation. The day began with a Celebration of the Word and keynote led by Deacon Keith, who introduced students to the concept of vocation, sharing inspiring stories of faith and calling.

Throughout the day, students engaged in a range of activities, including a 40-minute singing session and a hands-on Vocation Booklet activity. Guest speakers shared powerful testimonies, helping students reflect on various perspectives of vocation in both religious and secular contexts.

The afternoon included a time for reflection and discussion, where students worked through their Vocation Passport booklets. The day concluded with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Colin Patey, offering students an opportunity to reflect on their own vocational paths in a spiritual context.

Thank you to all the staff and guest speakers who contributed to making this retreat a truly meaningful experience for our Year 9 students. Your support in fostering an environment of reflection, respect, and inspiration is greatly appreciated.



Ash Wednesday at De Lisle

On Ash Wednesday, our school community came together in a spirit of prayer and reflection to mark the beginning of the season of Lent. The day began with student-led standing assemblies, where pupils from across year groups prepared and delivered thoughtful prayers and reflections to help us enter into this important time in the Church's year.

Later in the morning, our Sixth Form students took on a special role of service by distributing ashes to form groups across the school, sharing in the ancient symbol of repentance and new beginnings.

The day culminated in a beautiful and reverent celebration of Mass during Prep Time, led by Fr Michael Eastwood. It was a powerful moment for staff and students to gather in prayer, to reflect on the call to 'repent and believe in the Gospel', and to begin Lent with renewed hearts.



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



APRIL 2025

Year 12 Retreat Day - 'Giving'

Our Year 12 students recently gathered for a reflective and meaningful Retreat Day centred around the theme of 'Giving'. The day began with a Celebration of the Word and a powerful keynote led by Frank Fay, who inspired students to reflect on the importance of generosity in our lives, especially in our local community of Loughborough.

Throughout the day, students were able to choose their own activities and workshops that allowed them to really retreat and relax from everyday school life. Students also engaged in deepening their understanding of giving in different contexts, both personal and societal. These sessions allowed students to explore how they can apply the principle of giving in the 21st century, considering ways they can contribute to their communities and beyond.

The day concluded with a period of reflection followed by Mass, celebrated by Fr. Jonathan Cotton, offering students an opportunity to reflect on their experiences and connect with the theme spiritually.

We are grateful for the participation of staff and students who made this retreat a truly enriching experience. A special thank you to everyone who helped in organising and supporting this important day in our school's spiritual life.

We look forward to the continued growth of our students in their journey of faith and service to others.





—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

Prize Giving Ceremony



On Thursday 3rd April De Lisle College held its annual Prize Giving Ceremony at Loughborough Town Hall. The event was attended by over 400 parents, carers, staff and special guests, who gathered to celebrate the achievements of over 150 students.

We were delighted to welcome our guest speaker, Dr Julie Bradshaw MBE, the Mayor of Charnwood to share her experiences, including her record-breaking English Channel swim, and to offer her valuable advice to our students. Our fantastic Show Cast, Ensemble and GCSE Music students were also in attendance, opening and closing the ceremony as well as performing a superb rendition of 'Consider Yourself' from this year's school performance, Oliver!.



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

The number of students recognised, and the breadth of the awards they were being recognised for, is testament to their hard work and dedication. Students in all year groups were recognised for their progress and effort across their subjects, with students in years 11 and 13 recognised individually for their contribution to particular subjects.

Beyond the classroom, students were also celebrated for their commitment in an array of extra-curricular activities, with over 50 students being given headteachers ties in recognition of their contribution to sport, music, drama and the library. We also recognised students who embody mission values everyday with our #DeLisleLoves awards as well as the prestigious Matty Hatton award for an exceptional student who shows amazing resilience to flourish and shine at De Lisle College.

We are already looking forward to our Prize Giving assembly, which will take place after the Easter holidays, where all our prize winners will be able to collect their certificates. We are extremely proud of all our award winners and were delighted to be able to celebrate all their achievements with them.



*📸 More photos from the evening have been uploaded to the school website!



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

A Twist of Success: Oliver! Brings the House Down!

This term, our school's Performing Arts Department staged a spectacular production of Oliver!, and what a triumph it was!

Over **60 students from Years 7 to 13** took to the stage, dazzling audiences with their talent, energy, and dedication. From the toe-tapping "*Consider Yourself*" to the heart-wrenching "*Where Is Love?*", every number was performed with passion and professionalism that left audiences raving.

Adding a special touch of magic were **guest appearances from three of our feeder primary schools**, whose pupils joined the cast as cheeky orphans in the opening number Food Glorious Food. Their enthusiasm was infectious, and it was fantastic to see future students getting a taste of secondary school life through the joy of theatre. The cast and crew worked tirelessly for months to bring Charles Dickens' beloved story to life, with stunning costumes, clever staging, and live music that transported us to the streets of Victorian London. Backstage, our student tech team and band played a vital role in keeping the show running smoothly and sounding amazing.

A huge thank you goes out to all the staff, students, and families who supported the production, and to everyone who joined us in the audience. With such incredible talent on display, the future of school theatre is looking brighter than ever!

Bravo to the cast and crew of Oliver! – you certainly left us wanting more!



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025



Celebrating #WorldTheatreDay in Style – A Trip to Curve!

To mark #WorldTheatreDay, we took a group of yr9 and 10 students to Curve Theatre in Leicester for a careers workshop. We had a day packed with inspiration, insight, and a real taste of the world behind the curtain!

Students from Years 9 and 10 took part in an engaging careers workshop, where they learned about the wide range of opportunities in the performing arts industry – from acting and directing to stage management, lighting design, costume, and sound. It was a brilliant way to explore the many creative and technical roles that bring a show to life. Working with leading experts from actors, to Curve's show producer, costume designer, tech manager and social media manager – the diversity of roles in the theatre world was evident.

The highlight of the day? An exclusive backstage tour of the Curve! Students stepped into the wings, explored the costume department, saw the incredible set-building spaces, and even watched the set for Muriel's Wedding being built on the main stage, soaking up the atmosphere from a performer's point of view. It was a rare and exciting glimpse into the professional theatre world.



The trip was not only educational, but also deeply inspiring – encouraging our students to dream big and think creatively about where a passion for performance might take them.

We're proud to support and celebrate the arts in our school, and this trip was a perfect reminder of how theatre continues to excite, educate, and empower young people.

#WorldTheatreDay | #CurveTheatre | #FutureTheatreMakers



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS
CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

Musical Theatre Choir

 Join the Spotlight! Musical Theatre Choir Club is Here! 

Love to sing? Dream of performing on stage? Can't resist a good show tune? Then Musical Theatre Choir Club is calling your name!

★ Who can join?

All students – no experience needed, just enthusiasm and a love for music!

 What do we do?

- Sing iconic songs from Hamilton, Wicked, Les Misérables, The Greatest Showman, and more!
- Learn performance techniques and harmonies
- Take part in exciting concerts and school shows
- Make friends and have loads of fun!

 When & Where?

Every Tuesday 3:30-4:30 in Dr1

★ Whether you're a seasoned performer or just want to try something new, the Musical Theatre Choir is the perfect place to shine. Come along, be part of the magic, and let your voice be heard!

Sign up on Arbor to join us, we can't wait to see you there!

“
 “There's no business like show business!” 
”

Yr7 Music Concert

 **A Musical Welcome – Year 7s Treated to Live Concert Experience!**

Last week, our **Year 7 students** were treated to a special live music concert, performed by our talented **GCSE Music students** and the school's **Ensemble Group** – and what a performance it was!

Held in the main hall, the concert aimed to introduce Year 7s to the range of musical opportunities available at school, as well as to inspire them with live performances across a variety of styles and instruments.

The concert also gave our **GCSE Music students** a chance to perform their coursework pieces in front of a live audience – gaining valuable performance experience while also serving as fantastic role models for the younger year group.

A huge well done to all the performers and a thank you to the Music Department for organising such a fantastic event. The future of music at our school is sounding bright!



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk



—ST THOMAS—
AQUINAS

CATHOLIC MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



APRIL 2025

De Lisle's Got Talent

🎨🌟 **De Lisle's Got Talent – Show Us What You've Got!** 🌟🎨

 **Coming June 12th – Be Part of the Show!**

Got a hidden talent? Love the spotlight? Whether you sing, dance, juggle, act, play an instrument, tell jokes, or have a unique skill no one's seen before – we want YOU on stage!

💚💜 **De Lisle's Got Talent** is back and bigger than ever!

This is your chance to shine, have fun, and show the whole school what makes you one of a kind.

🌟 **Open to all year groups** – solo acts, duos, groups – everyone is welcome!

🎁 Prizes for the winners, and a packed audience cheering you on!

📌 **Auditions open soon – don't miss your moment!**

Sign up via the forms document shared on Satchel or at the Performing Arts office by **30th April**.

The grand show will take place on **Thursday, June 12th** – mark your calendars and get rehearsing!

You've got the talent. We've got the stage.

Let's make it unforgettable. 🎬



01509 268739



delisle.org.uk

EASTER HOLIDAYS 2025

As the Easter holiday approaches we wanted to send our usual information sheet out to you with some ideas to keep costs down

Discounted meals

There are lots of places offering free or very discounted meals for children. At Prezzo, children under 12 eat free from 31st March to 27th April 2025. This offer is valid with the purchase of one adult meal.

For more discounted ideas click on the Easter eggs!



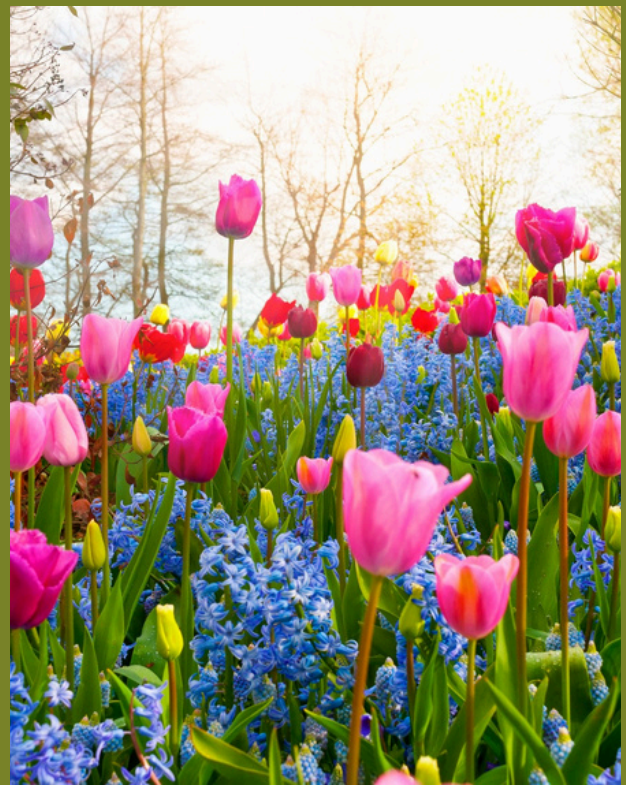
Things to do

Click below to see low cost family friendly activities around Leicester and Leicestershire and Rutland. Events include Easter egg hunts, crafts and Easter bonnet parades!



More things to do

Prima have produced a list of ideas for family friendly activities to ensure a fun Easter break. Click on the daffodil for some inspiration.



Going away?

Did you know many hotel chains offer free breakfast for children with a paying adult. Hotels include Travelodge, Premier Inn and The Holiday Inn. Click on the hotel to find out details of Premier Inn's offer (up to two children 16 and under can eat breakfast for free!)



Half term book poster competition!

We would love for our pupils to spend some time reading during the Easter holidays. Pick your favourite book and create a poster about that book describing what you enjoyed about it, your favourite characters and why you think others should read this book!

There is a prize for the winning primary pupil and one for secondary! Photos of the student with their poster should be sent via email to: **kstuart-jones@aquinas-cmat.org** and should state the pupil name and school name. Pupil photos should be emailed in by parent/carers and by entering you consent for your child to be featured on our social media pages. **Closing date is Monday 28th April 2025 at 9am.**