

The Castle School World of Work Newsletter



Term : Summer 2018

Edition Number: 13

What a year! As the academic year for 2017-18 draws to a close, we can take time to reflect on what an amazing year it has been. We have grown and built on our relationships with local organisations and have seen eleven new employers from a wide range of businesses join our work experience programme for the first time. A number of our students have grown their confidence and skill-set to the level where they have been able to find paid, part-time jobs, and we have had one of our long-term work placements convert into paid employment. Our in-house catering business "Castle Hospitality and Catering" has gone from strength to strength, and has managed and catered events from office lunches, to private parties. The cherry on the cake has been the World of Work programme winning two national awards, from BASE and from the Careers & Enterprise Company, recognising what we do and the achievements of our students.

Our ultimate aim for our students is to prepare them for employment. When a work experience placement evolves and results in a paid position, this is the best possible outcome. We are delighted that this is the case for our student, Alisha, at Cobbs Farm Shop. Following a long-term work placement, where Cobbs have really got to know Alisha and develop her skills, she has recently started a part-time, paid position in their newly refurbished commercial kitchen. Alisha will continue to work at Cobbs Farm when she leaves school in July, and will be supported by our local supported employment service "Ways into Work". We are very proud of Alisha and wish her all the best in her new role.



We are very proud to announce that the Castle School World of Work team was awarded the "SEND Careers Provision of the Year" award for 2018 by the Careers & Enterprise Company, a government-funded organisation, tasked with supporting careers provision and work experience in schools. We won both the regional and national award, which was presented at their annual conference in July 2018.

We are very happy that three new businesses have joined our World of Work programme in the last term, offering work experience for the first time: Jamie has started at Vue Cinema, where he has worked through their induction programme and learnt what goes on behind the scenes, and the tasks necessary to keep the cinema running and the customers happy. Laura has started work experience at Johnsons Cleaning, where she has been learning about the dry cleaning business, sorting orders and assisting customers. Finally Danny started a placement in the M&S café, where he has been working on a full range of tasks and has quickly established his place in the team.



This has been a great year for growing our relationships with local organisations, through new work experience opportunities, classroom visits and site visits, and new business contacts. Special thanks goes to all the new businesses who have offered work experience for the first time and opened up opportunities for our students in new areas, as well as to those who support us so well on an ongoing basis. We hope to continue working with many of you next term, and would also love to hear from any new businesses interested in learning more about what we do.



Thank you so much to all the wonderful organisations who support our World of Work programme. The Castle School will break up for the summer on Friday 20 July. We wish you all a great summer and look forward to working with you again in September.

Work Experience Providers school year 2017-2018



We are continually looking for new organisations to participate in our World of Work Programme through educational visits to local businesses, guest speakers and further work experience opportunities.

If you feel you could support us with this, please contact:

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For information on Castle Hospitality and Catering, please contact:

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What a Year! WOW Highlights 2017-18



Newbury College



Waitrose



Willow & Blooms



M&S
SIMPLY FOOD



Little Queens
Must



Johnsons
THE CLEANERS



the community
furniture project



the ugly
duckling



GFS



TIMPSON
Great Service by Great People



donnington valley
HOTEL • SPA • GOLF



HOMEBASE



vue



Sainsbury's



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Pizza
Hut



WOW – in school and out and about



John Lewis Community Matters Donation



World of Work Celebration March 2018



Madejski Stadium visit



BACK THE BOYS



READING FC
COMMUNITY
TRUST

