

The Castle School World of Work Newsletter



Term: Autumn 2024

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The latest term at the Castle School seems to have flashed by, and it has been a very eventful start to the new school year for World of Work. Just a couple of weeks in, one of our students was offered some paid employment at Podium Place. This is the result of some great previous work experience, and was a fantastic way to start the term. We are really pleased to have a large number of students already out on regular work placements, thanks to the support of the amazing organisations who work with us year after year, and form the backbone of what we do. We are also delighted to have started working with Wasing Estates this year, and we are looking forward to collaborating with them over the coming months.

Last term, our student – Sam – started some work experience at Podium Place, assisting the team in the café. Sam really loved the work and the environment, and was able to continue work experience through the summer holidays. As a result of this, Podium Place have offered Sam some regular part-time work. As well as continuing with tasks around the café, Sam is also being trained on caring for the “super cars” that are on display, and has been trusted with cleaning and polishing some of these. This is Sam's perfect working environment as he is passionate about cars, and we are delighted for him.



We are delighted to announce a brand new partnership with Wasing Estates, in Aldermaston. Our students, Alex and Harvey, have started a work placement with Wasing's gardening team, and will be assisting with all kinds of tasks across the Estate's beautiful grounds. In their first session, the boys worked with the gardeners in the walled-garden, helping with clearing leaves, cutting back foliage, raking and tidying. They are keen gardeners in their spare time, and loved the work, particularly the camaraderie of working alongside the team. We are very excited about this great new initiative.

Joe started work experience at Fair Close last term, helping with lunch service. He was a huge hit with the customers, and we wanted to combine this with his passion for cooking. This term, we proposed a new approach, where Joe would assist the kitchen team in preparing the meals. The team embraced this idea, and have given Joe a really warm welcome. He is doing brilliantly and really enjoys the work. Plus the customers are delighted to have him back!



At the heart of the World of Work programme are an amazing core of regular employers, who work with us year after year, offering wonderful opportunities for our students, through amazingly supportive work experience. These placements allow us to plan ahead, and place students into a known environment, that we feel will be right for them at their own stage in their journey towards adulthood and employment. We are incredibly grateful to these organisations, and are delighted to be working with many of them already, so early in the school year, as shown below.



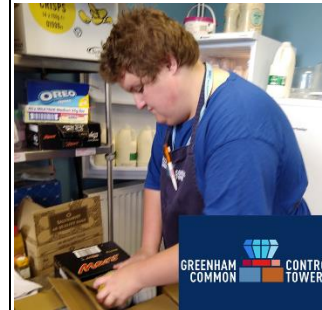
Ethan and Dante have started work experience at Sandham Memorial Chapel. They enjoy helping with planting, weeding, apple picking and lots more.



James and William are the latest students working at Sainsbury's, where they have been dealing with "overs" – putting out stock all around the store.



Olivia wants to work with children, and she loves her new placement at Dingley's Promise; an early years setting for children with special educational needs.



Aiden has started a placement in the Greenham Control Tower Café. He works really hard; helping to set up, sort deliveries, and wash / clear up.



Connor looks forward to his work experience at City Arts Café every week. He loves the work, and has his own checklist of tasks that he ticks off as he goes.



Layna and Emily are really enjoying work experience at Little Quavers. They help with singing, giving out props, preparing drinks and tidying up.



Adam has had a great placement at Waitrose. He has put out stock, including Halloween products, and formed a great relationship with Waitrose partner – Chris.



Zack is continuing his experience, working with the caretaker at St Joseph's School. So far they have done painting, repairs and have made a box.

Thank you to everyone who works with us, and supports the World of Work programme in so many different ways.

Please note, there will be no work experience during our half term break: Friday 25 October to Monday 4 November



World of Work – Recent Participants & Supporters



We are continually looking for new organisations to participate in our World of Work Programme.

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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