BBC's X-RAY visits Castle School

Journalist Rachel Treadaway-Williams gives the film club some top filming tips

This article appeared in the school's first issue of the Castle School Gazette, written by one of the reporters at the newspaper.



On the 2nd July Rachel Treadaway-Williams, a local journalist, came in to school to talk to Years 9 and 10 and spoke to us about journalism. She showed us a video of some of her work on 'X-Ray' – a show on the BBC – where she gets sent messages about shoddy workmanship and goes out to confront those accused of it. I think it takes a lot of bravery, but she was so confident and didn't really seem scared at all. The reason for this being that she believed people wouldn't attack a woman on TV, so she was reassured she'd be safe. However, at times she had security when she thought violence could occur.



To achieve her end goal she had to volunteer long hours in journalism jobs until she stepped in for someone on a sporting interview. She stayed with that job for a while, until her talent was noticed which led to her being scouted for 'X-Ray'. She was later offered a front of camera role rather than being behind the scenes. Initially being a news presenter made her feel uncomfortable until she realised that it would be scripted and there would be the opportunity to retake if she made a mistake.

Overall the discussion and insight that Rachel afforded us, in particular for us aspiring journalists, was extremely useful as it made us all understand what it takes to get what you want in life. That is—hard work, perseverance and the ability to remain calm in distressing and stressful environments. It opened our eyes and made us realise that you don't have to stick with one thing and that you can be pushed further than you think.

So Rachel— if you're reading this, thank you very much.