



Primary High Notes Friday 22nd May

Dear Parents

This week in Primary assembly, I began by asking the children how many of them had visited a museum. Many hands immediately went up, with children sharing memories of museums filled with famous paintings, dinosaur skeletons, space exhibits and fascinating artefacts from around the world.

I then told the children that I wanted to create a very different sort of museum, ***The Museum of Ordinary Amazing Things***. Together, we explored a collection of everyday objects that I thought could be in my museum. A simple pencil might represent somebody finding confidence in their writing for the very first time. A shoelace might remind us of perseverance and the determination to keep trying until something difficult finally becomes possible. A plaster might represent somebody quietly stopping to help another person who was hurt or upset.

I spoke to the children about how, in life, we can sometimes become so focused on the biggest achievements or the most obvious successes that we overlook the importance of the small everyday moments that really shape us and those around us. We reflected on the importance of kindness, resilience, encouragement and simply noticing when somebody else may need support. I encouraged the children to think about the fact that extraordinary people are not always those who become famous or achieve remarkable things publicly. Often, they are the people who quietly make ordinary days better for others through their words, actions and care for those around them.

It was a lovely way to reflect on the many ordinary amazing things that happen within our school community every single day.

Have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 1st June.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 5 Residential

Our Year 5 residential trip to PGL Boreatton Park was an unforgettable experience from start to finish! The children had a fantastic time taking part in a wide range of exciting activities, challenging themselves and creating memories that will stay with them for years to come.

Throughout the trip, the children showed incredible courage and determination, with many conquering fears and stepping outside of their comfort zones. Whether climbing to new heights, tackling adventurous activities or simply spending time away from home with friends, every child achieved something to be proud of. Most importantly, they had lots of fun and strengthened friendships along the way.

We were exceptionally proud of the children throughout the residential. Their behaviour was exemplary at all times, and they represented the school brilliantly with their enthusiasm, kindness and positive attitudes.

A huge thank you must also go to the staff who supported the trip and helped make it such a success, especially Mrs Holgate and Miss Dudson. Their care, encouragement and hard work ensured the children had such a wonderful experience.



Year 5 Commonwealth Games festival

On Tuesday, all of Year 5 travelled to Moorways Athletics Stadium to take part in the Commonwealth Games Festival ran by DCCT, proudly representing Tonga and embracing our assigned Commonwealth Games value of *Passion*. The day began with an opening ceremony where representatives of each school were to speak about their assigned value. Sidhant and Julia delivered

a fantastic speech inspired by the value of *Passion*, where they confidently presented their words from memory without the need for a script, showing excellent dedication and enthusiasm.

Throughout the festival, our pupils took part in a carousel of Commonwealth Games-inspired sporting activities, including relay races, Tag Rugby, Netball and Benchball which were organised and run by Sports Leaders from local schools in the City. They showed great teamwork, determination and encouragement towards one another while developing their skills and enjoying the different challenges. The excitement continued as everyone taking part in the event came together for relay races around the 400m track, with every single pupil doing their 100m leg for the relays, creating a brilliant atmosphere filled with energy and support!

The day concluded with a closing awards ceremony celebrating pupils' achievements and recognising those who had demonstrated the Games values of fair play, teamwork, respect and resilience throughout the event. A special congratulations goes to Kendra and Mason, who were awarded certificates by the Sports Leaders for demonstrating the value of *Passion* while representing our school team throughout their activities. We are incredibly proud of all pupils for their positive attitudes, effort and enthusiasm throughout the day - the entire year group represented the school brilliantly and were a joy to accompany throughout the day! Well done everyone!



On Wednesday, the Year 5 and 6 boys cricket team produced an outstanding display to qualify for the finals of the DCCT Cricket Competition. Throughout the day, the boys showed great determination, skill and teamwork, playing some exciting attacking cricket and delivering superb bowling performances.

With the bat, the team played positively and confidently, striking the ball powerfully and keeping the pressure on their opponents. Several boundaries and quick running between the wickets helped the boys post strong totals and maintain momentum in every match.

Equally impressive was the standard of bowling and fielding. The boys bowled with accuracy and discipline, taking important wickets at key moments and restricting the opposition with some excellent teamwork in the field. Their energy and focus were evident from the first ball to the last.

Most significant of all, however, was the outstanding sportsmanship shown by the team throughout the competition. The boys represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating respect, encouragement and fairness in every game. This was led superbly by Rohan, whose attitude and leadership set the standard for the entire squad.

The boys should be extremely proud of both their performances and the way they conducted themselves throughout the day. We wish them the very best of luck in the finals.



Year 1 Swallows and Thrushes Visit to Tamworth Castle

On Wednesday, Year 1 Swallows and Thrushes visited Tamworth Castle as the exciting conclusion to their *Battles, Banquets and Balls* history topic.

The children showed great determination as they climbed the steep hill up to the castle, ready for a day of historical adventures. During a fascinating workshop, they listened carefully and learned all about armour and weapons from the past. The children helped to build a suit of armour by dressing a knight and had the opportunity to inspect swords, arrows, longbows and a battle axe. They also learned how to complete a bill hook drill.

Later, the children met the lady of the castle, where they practised bowing and curtsying, helped to lay the banquet table and enjoyed trying on period costumes.

After lunch, the children explored the castle and discovered more about what life would have been like many years ago. It was a wonderful day full of hands-on learning and memorable experiences for everyone involved.



Primary Tea Time concert

Our Primary Teatime Concerts are a special chance for pupils to share the results of all their hard work in lessons and at home. Last night's concert was no exception, with a wonderful variety of performances that really showcased our pupils' talents. It was especially exciting to see so many pupils performing for the very first time, while our older musicians continue to flourish and shine with their chosen instruments. A huge well done and thank you to all our performers for making the evening so memorable.



Year 2 & 3 Open Centre

On Monday 18th May, the children in Year 2 and Year 3 took part in engaging workshops led by the Open Centre. This was a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn about different cultures and beliefs, focusing on the Hindu and Sikh faiths.

The Year 2 children enjoyed participating in Bollywood style dancing, and showed their curiosity when examining artefacts from the Hindu faith. During the Year 3 sessions, the children explored the significance of the Five Ks in the Sikh faith and began to understand how these important symbols guide followers in their everyday lives. They also learnt about Hindu beliefs, including the role of Brahma and other deities, helping them to develop a broader awareness of world religions.

The workshops were interactive and informative, and the children showed great curiosity and respect throughout. It was a valuable experience that supported their understanding of diversity and inclusion. Our guest was very impressed with all of the children, commenting on their curiosity, kindness and exemplary behaviour.



Lots for Tots Awards

On Saturday evening, Mrs E and Miss Hyland proudly represented Derby High School at the Lots for Tots Awards. Mrs E was honoured to be named a finalist in the Early Years Educator of the Year category, having been shortlisted earlier this year in February.

The competition was extremely strong, and although Mrs E did not receive the final award, it was wonderful to see her outstanding contribution to Early Years education at Derby High School recognised in this way.

Thank you to everyone who voted.



Portrait Photos

You may recall that Alethea Simpson visited the school to take individual portrait photographs

The deadline for online orders is Wednesday 27th May at midnight. Orders placed by this deadline will be delivered to the school within 10 working days. Once the photographs arrive, they will be distributed to pupils to take home.

Year 11 and Year 13 students may collect their photographs from Student Reception when attending school for revision sessions or examinations.

Orders can still be placed after the deadline; however, a £5 postage and packaging charge will automatically apply, and the photographs will be sent directly to the home address provided.

Uniform reminders

This is a polite reminder that all Primary School students are expected to return in full Summer Uniform after the half-term break.

In preparation for Sports Day, please note that it is a uniform requirement for students to have a house top.

If you need to purchase any uniform items, these are available via the school blazer website or through the Second Hand Uniform Shop at uniform@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk.

Little Learner Teddy Bear Picnic

Parents and children aged 2 to 4 in the Derby area are invited to join us for our annual Derby High Little Learners Teddy Bear Picnic on Friday 5th June. This fun event will take place on the school field (unless the weather doesn't cooperate, in which case we'll move indoors!).

Each child will receive a picnic box, and there will be refreshments for the grown-ups, along with plenty of fun teddy bear-themed activities and games.

To help us prepare, please RSVP by emailing littlelearners@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk or calling the Admissions Team on 01332 514267.

We can't wait to see you – and don't forget to bring your favourite teddy bear and a picnic rug!



Allestree Netball club

If students in Year 4 to 6 are interested in joining a Netball team, Allestree netball club currently have spaces available. Please note that this organisation is not part of Derby High School.



Safeguarding Corner

Episode 70 - Supporting Healthy Media Use at Home

We recently asked our students in the Senior School about how they use social media and their devices in the form of an anonymous survey. In this week's podcast Mrs Bellman (Deputy Head - Pastoral) and Miss Jordan (Senior Deputy Head) discuss the findings of the survey and how parents can support their child, [Click here](#) to listen

Further support and information can be found here:

Internet Matters: <https://www.internetmatters.org>

NSPCC Net Aware: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk>

National Online Safety: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com>



Episode 70 - Supporting Healthy Media Use at Home

Derby High School Podcasts



Episode • 3m 21s

Parent & Carer Workshop - Behaviour, Rules & Boundaries

Compass, a charity providing health and wellbeing services, helping people unleash their unique potential and live healthier, safer and more fulfilling lives, have published a parent and carer workshop which we'd like to share.

The workshop is based upon behaviour, rules and boundaries and covers the following areas:

- Providing hints and tips for parents/carers.
- To help improve parents confidence when managing their child's behaviour.
- To help support their child to become more independent.
- To give insights into setting routines and boundaries in order to manage behaviour.

To watch the workshop on You Tube please [click here.](#)

When Your Child Is Struggling Emotionally, You Don't Have to Figure It Out Alone

For more help and guidance please [click here](#)

Online Course

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S MENTAL HEALTH

A gentle, supportive 3-week online course for parents wanting to support their child.

- ✓ Understanding behaviour differently
- ✓ Emotional overwhelm & anxiety
- ✓ Screens & modern pressures
- ✓ Coping skills & emotional literacy
- ✓ Practical support you can use at home

Starts 10th June
7pm - 8:30pm

Live online
Choose What You Pay
Small supportive group

BRIDGE THE GAP

This is where hope lives

Book via jwbridgethegap.com

Omoggle the New Omegle?

There was a huge sigh of relief when finally, after many years, Omegle was ordered by a court in the US to cease. So many children were harmed on Omegle, but as always it doesn't take long, now we've got Omoggle.

This is starting to come onto the radar, it's very similar to Omegle where users are connected randomly on live video calls. There is no age verification, just a "Yes I am 18" button, but not only that it uses what is known as a PSL scale to scan faces using AI and people are assigned a numerical rating and placed on a leaderboard. This is known as 'mogging', meaning to outperform someone else by being judged by their looks.

Honestly, what I want to say can't be typed into an email as all I'm seeing is red mist at the moment. But luckily my good friend Wayne Denner has written a sensible article about Omoggle and I would recommend you raise this with staff so that they are aware and send the article link to parents.

Link - [Omoggle and the PSL Scale - a guide for parents.](#)

For Parents - Find the Right Words

Virgin Media and Internet Matters have released a wonderful new resource for parents/carers. Called 'Find the Right Words', the video and resources help with some of those difficult conversations about how to keep children safe online.

Link - [Find the Right Words.](#)

For Parents - Steam Parental Controls

Steam is a huge digital distribution platform for PC gaming and hugely popular with children and young people. Basically Steam acts as a storefront, installer, launcher and social network for 30,000 games. Because of the vast range of games, some of which will not be suitable for children, it's

important that parents understand the controls that are available to them on the Steam platform. Internet Matters have a 1-minute video on YouTube which will help with this.

Link - [Parents video guide to Steam parental controls.](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 1st June – Year 2 trip to Hindu Temple

Friday 5th June – Kedleston Class Assembly

Friday 5th June – Little Learners Teddy Bear Picnic

Thursday 11th June – Early Years trip to Manor Farm

Saturday 13th June – Alumni Summer Get-Together

Monday 15th June – Primary Class photos

Tuesday 16th June – Senior School experience day for Year 5

Thursday 18th June – Accelerando Concert

Friday 19th June – Primary Sports Day