



**Primary High Notes Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

*Dear Parents*

This week has been a wonderful conclusion to what has been a busy and successful term. We started on a high note with our Carol Service at Derby Cathedral, an unforgettable evening of music, reflection, and celebration. Our performers and readers were outstanding, showcasing their talents and confidence in the stunning setting of the cathedral. It was particularly special to welcome so many parents, grandparents, siblings, and family members to share in this special event.

On Wednesday, our Wrens, Sparrows, and Robins classes delighted us with their wonderful Nativity performance. It was truly amazing to see our youngest children take to the stage with such confidence, delivering their lines so clearly and singing beautifully. The joy and enthusiasm they brought to their performance were infectious, and it was a reminder of the incredible talents and potential within even the youngest members of our school.

Thursday was filled with festive cheer, with Christmas jumpers, a delicious Christmas lunch, and an atmosphere of joy and togetherness.

Finally, I want to take a moment to thank our staff for their unwavering commitment and hard work this term. Their dedication to our pupils has been extraordinary.

Wishing everyone a restful and joyous festive season. May this Christmas bring peace, happiness, and precious time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming students back on Tuesday 7th January, ready for an exciting new year ahead.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Best wishes,

*Amy Chapman*

*Head*

## Christmas Carol Service

Monday night's Carol Service at Derby Cathedral was a truly special evening that brought together our school community in a festive celebration. The Cathedral echoed with the harmonious sounds of our students' musical talents, marking the perfect culmination for our exceptional music department. The performances were nothing short of incredible, showcasing the dedication and hard work that our students have put into their musical pursuits throughout the term. Thank you to all of our young musicians, readers and the congregation for such a magical event.

For more photographs from our Carol Service [please click here](#) to visit our website gallery.



## Early Years Nativity – Fishing for Stars

On Wednesday morning our Pre-School and Reception pupils joined together to perform a delightful nativity called 'Fishing for Stars'. The children amazed their families, performing with great confidence, retelling the story through narration, acting and beautiful singing.

For more photos please visit our website gallery by [clicking here](#).

A recorded copy of the performance has been sent to Pre-School and Reception parents via Highpost.



### Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Yesterday was our annual Christmas Jumper Day and Derby High Primary raised money for Save the Children. It's great to see everyone in their festive jumpers and hats. Thank you for all the kind donations.

We also enjoyed our first Christmas lunch in our new refectory. The whole school came together to enjoy a delicious, traditional lunch. Thank you to our wonderful catering team.







### EYFS Theatre Trip

On Wednesday, the Early Years children had a fantastic trip to the theatre to see 'Chicken Licken'. They thoroughly enjoyed the performance, with lots of laughter throughout! Their behaviour was excellent and the staff were very proud of all of the children.



### Gingerbread Men

The children in the Swallows and Thrushes had a wonderful time making gingerbread puppets this week by sticking fabric together with white wool and then adding accessories such as hats, bows, eyes and mouths. They look fantastic! Well done, Year one!





### Highlights Yearbook 2023 – 2024

Our annual yearbook, Highlights, is now available. Your child should have brought a printed copy home last week as a keepsake of last academic year at Derby High. A digital copy is also available to read on our website. To read online please click the following link: [Highlights 2023/2024 - Derby High School](#).

We hope you enjoy reading our latest edition. Thanks to all our students and staff for their contributions.



### Congratulations Kulvir

Well done to Kulvir (Year 4) for passing his karate orange belt. A fantastic achievement!



### **Swimming Reminder – Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

Please note, our first day back from the Christmas break is Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and this will be a swimming day for Years 1 to 6. Please remember to send your child to school with their kit ((black swimming costume / swim shorts, house coloured hat, goggles and towel). Thank you.

### **Aikido Classes – Year 3 to Year6**

There are still some places available for the Aikido class on a Wednesday for pupils in Year 3-6. For further information please contact [tad@aikidoshoshinkan.com](mailto:tad@aikidoshoshinkan.com).

### **Derby Excel Swimming Club – Junior Academy Squad**

A recruitment poster for the Derby Excel Swimming Club Junior Academy Squad. The poster has a dark blue background with a large, white, jagged-edged speech bubble in the center. Inside the bubble, the text "DERBY EXCEL SWIMMING CLUB" is written in bold, dark blue capital letters, and "Junior Academy Squad" is written in a smaller, orange font below it. Below the speech bubble, on a light blue background, there are two sections. The left section is titled "We are looking for:" and lists three bullet points: "Swimmers aged 9 and under", "Completed SE Stage 6 or equivalent in lessons", and "Have an interest in learning more about competitive swimming". The right section is titled "Sign up for a trial here:" and features a QR code inside a gold-colored rounded square frame. At the bottom left of the poster is a logo consisting of a stylized 'X' inside a square frame.

**DERBY EXCEL  
SWIMMING CLUB**

*Junior Academy Squad*

**We are looking for:**

- Swimmers aged 9 and under
- Completed SE Stage 6 or equivalent in lessons
- Have an interest in learning more about competitive swimming

**Sign up for a trial here:**





# Safeguarding Corner

## Safeguarding Podcast, Episode 26 – Winter Wellbeing

In this week's podcast Mrs. Bellman and Mr. Thornton discuss Winter Wellbeing. To listen to the podcast [please click here.](#)



Beacon House have published a brilliant collection of resources specially designed by their therapists to support regulation, connection and rest during December. Take a look here: [Winter Resources](#)

## The Impact of Smartphones on our Young People

For those of you interested in the impact of smartphones on our young people, please do check out this new series on C4:

[Watch Swiped: The School That Banned Smartphones | Stream free on Channel 4](#)

# Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – return to school, first day of Spring Term. Year 1 to 6 Swimming.

## Useful Links

Calendar (via the Parent Portal) - <https://derbyhigh.parents.isams.cloud/>