High Notes

Primary High Notes 24th November 2023

Dear Parents

As I reflect on the past week, it is with an immense sense of joy and pride. Last night the Senior Hall was full with parents, grandparents and siblings for our Years 3 and 4 production of Wiz Wham Alakazam! The confidence displayed by our pupils was truly remarkable, and their performances were nothing short of extraordinary. From beautiful singing, to the excellence in acting, the level of talent on display was awe-inspiring.

For more photographs from last night's production please visit our website gallery: Year 3 and 4 Production, Whiz, Wham Alakazam - Derby High School

This is just the first event in a busy few weeks of productions and concerts for our Primary pupils and staff. Everyone has been working incredibly hard, rehearsing, learning lines and preparing. I look forward to welcoming you into School in the coming weeks, for what will be spectacular events.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 6 'Mini Leaders'

In Year 6, we have launched our Mini-Leaders programme. Mini-Leaders is a programme where our Year 6 students plan daily activities to deliver to the infants and juniors during lunch time breaks. Our objectives are to practice our communication skills, be confident, be responsible and set a positive example to all the students in Primary. It is an absolute pleasure to see our younger students joining in the fun activities, making the playground a colourful and vibrant place to be. We are very proud of all the Year 6 students for what they have delivered thus far. We will continue with Mini-Leaders for the remainder of the year.

New arrival!

I am delighted to share with you, the happy news that our Director of Sport, Mrs Watkins, safely delivered a little boy, Jude, on Monday, weighing 7lbs 14oz. Mother and baby are doing well.

'Adventures in the Molar System' in Early Years

The children in Early Years were very kindly sent some toothpaste and leaflets on the 'Adventures in the Molar System' from Dr Rehal this week. They were very excited to receive this and discussed the importance of looking after our teeth. Thank you to Dr Rehal!

U9 Mixed Football Competition

Well done to the U9 mixed football team who lost in the final of an indoor football competition at Willows Sports Centre. Having remained undefeated throughout the group stages with some impressive performances against St Wystan's and Old Vicarage, they unfortunately lost 3-1 in the final to secure second place. A special mention to Georgia who was nominated player of the afternoon and who scored a fantastic goal in the final. Well done to all the students involved.

Well done, Mrs Robertson!

Mrs Robertson has volunteered at Swarkestone Sailing Club for over 12 years and as Chief Instructor now runs adult and junior training. She has also been Team Manager for Derbyshire Youth Sailing since 2015 and is now their Chair. To acknowledge this outstanding commitment, HRH The Princess Royal, presented Mrs Robertson with an award from the Royal Yachting Association. Congratulations!

Year 6 Denstone Hockey

The Year 6 girls played in a friendly hockey fixture at Denstone this week. The girls were split into two different teams, with each team playing in a 7 a side fixture, of four quarters of ten minutes. It was wonderful to see the students put some of their hockey skills they have been working on in their PE lessons this term and from previous years into action, and with a lot of effort and some success. There was certainly an improvement in their understanding of the need for space and spreading out from one another, and how to put pressure on their opponents by closing them down. Passing began to become more accurate, dribbling appeared a little more confident at times and their understanding and awareness of the rules of the game certainly became more apparent.

Every student should be proud of their efforts and contributions to their team's game - they all appeared to have a great time. A huge well done!

New Books for our Reading School

In continuing to excel as a 'reading school', we proudly invest in new books year-on-year. Year three have been the lucky recipients of a most wonderful delivery of over 100 books this week! The children themselves selected these, and, as you can see from the photographs, were thrilled when they arrived. There was a palpable buzz as the pupils unpacked their prized books. Nothing quite beats the smell of a brand new book, they discovered.

Tag Rugby

Our Year 6 boys and girls took part in a Tag Rugby and Hockey fixture at Denstone College on Tuesday.

Our team members, Eesher, Ollie, Jamie, Muhammad, Alexander, Ben, Thomas and Zinoviy played some remarkable and entertaining rugby. They ran forward, continuously looking for support and communicated excellently, eventually getting a positive result from the fixture. Well done, gentlemen and thank you for showing good sportsmanship.

U11 Touch Rugby

Year 6 enjoyed a fixture festival at Denstone on Tuesday, playing touch rugby and hockey. Derby High's rugby teams played very well, making every effort in defence to make 6 tackles in a row and force turnovers. In possession the players made direct attacking runs to gain territory and exploit space. The half time team talk was all about taking the allowed three steps to break the defensive

line and force the tacklers back. This was followed very successfully in the second half resulting in a try for Sufyaan after a 5 phase play. Although Denstone scored late tries to win the game, the Derby High players should be rightly proud of all their efforts and progress.

Well done to:

Layth, Jasdev, Edward, Sufyaan, Pranshu, Vedant, Carter, Izaan and Haaris.

U11 Football

On Wednesday, Derby High entered an U11 football team (consisting of Y5 and Y6 children) into the OVS football tournament at Willows Sports Centre. Derby High, drawn in group 2 faced, OVS, St Wystan's and Pennine. In the first game against OVS, a freak goal 2 seconds in put Derby High behind but once nerves had calmed and we started to play, the ball was moved around well and we created lots of chances. Goals came from Noah (a hat-trick) and Muhammad in a 4-1 win. In game two, against St Wystan's, Derby High did everything but score. The St Wystan's goal keeper had an inspired game and nothing could break his resistance despite Racil, Muhammad, Noah and Georgia's best efforts. Defensively, Derby High were excellent, stifling chances and making strong tackles by Ollie, Zinoviy, Masha and Racil. Jamie was resolute in goal and made key saves of his own to ensure we kept a clean sheet. In the third game against a very strong and skilful Pennine side, Derby High were excellent defensively, making multiple blocks, saves, tackles and interceptions. Expert finishing meant Pennine won the game and finished top of the group. Derby High's excellent defensive display meant they finished second in the group on goal difference and qualified for the 3rd and 4th place play off. In the final game Derby High could not break down the Dixie Grammar defence who managed to score and win the game

Every player gave their all in a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon of football. Well done to Jamie, Masha, Zinoviy, Georgia, Muhammad, Noah, Ollie and Racil, who was voted player of the tournament for Derby High. Congratulations, Racil!

Calling all swimmers!

Safeguarding Corner

SWGfl have updated their Roblox checklist. If your child uses this platform, I very much recommend you have a look at the link here:

New Roblox Checklist Available | SWGfL

From Safety Net: Online Safety

There is a real and growing concern of how many young people find it ok to share inappropriate images online. It is leading to so many becoming vulnerable to potential exploitation, blackmail and harm from a young age, leaving a lasting digital footprint. If you share it, you are involved.

On this page: Parent Guides | Skips Safety Net (skipseducational.org) you will find lots of useful guides for reinforcing online safety practices. If you scroll down you'll find a Parent's Guide to Social media and a Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures.

Dates For Your Diary

Primary Assessment Week

Friday 1st December – KS1 Christmas Production - Woolly