High Notes

Primary High Notes 26th January 2024

Dear Parents

Education is a remarkable journey, a path of self-discovery where our students uncover not only what they enjoy but also where their true talents lie. It is a journey that transcends the classroom, guiding our students towards their passions and preparing them for the boundless opportunities that await.

For our Year 13 cohort, this voyage is reaching its zenith. They stand at the crossroads of decisions, shaping their futures as they make choices about what comes next. It's a pivotal moment as they prepare to step beyond the familiar corridors of our school and venture into the broader landscape of life. They are already reaping the rewards of their hard work and dedication. The incredible offers pouring in from prestigious universities and competitive degree apprenticeships are a testament to their exceptional capabilities. Each offer signifies not just an academic achievement but a recognition of their potential to make a meaningful impact in their chosen fields.

While it's true that some of our exceptional students have secured offers from Cambridge, we want to emphasise that our pride extends far beyond these prestigious institutions. Every student's journey is unique, and we are equally proud of each one who has meticulously chosen the university and course that resonates with their individual aspirations. Our commitment to celebrating diverse paths and recognising the value in each student's choice underscores our belief in the limitless potential that education unlocks for everyone. It is a testament to the depth of our educational philosophy, where success is measured not by a singular destination but by the fulfilment each student finds in their chosen pursuit.

Today marks a bittersweet moment as we bid farewell and extend our warmest bon voyage to Mrs Tudor, a cherished member of our Derby High School family for the past 20 years. Mrs Tudor has left an indelible mark on our school. At today's assembly, we had the privilege of sharing some of those special memories and expressing our deepest thanks for Mrs Tudor's exceptional service.

While Mrs Tudor will be greatly missed, a new adventure beckon, and we wholeheartedly wish her the very best as she embarks on this exciting journey to France. May this next chapter be filled with joy, fulfilment, and new discoveries.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Bon Voyage Mrs Tudor

After 20 years of dedicated service our pupils and staff said thank you and farewell to Mrs Tudor in today's assembly. It was a wonderful celebration of Mr Tudor's time at Derby High, with some special visitors and surprises. The children marked the occasion with a comical musical performance, we shared photos and messages from former parents and staff, and the finale was an emotional video from the whole school to say bon voyage!

Thank you to everyone who sent in messages of appreciation and contributions towards a gift for Mrs Tudor for her new home in France. Mrs Tudor was overwhelmed with all the best wishes and gifts.

We will all miss her dearly as she embarks on her exciting retirement journey to France.

Thank you to Mrs Ireland who made Mrs Tudor a very special Derby High School Memory Bear made from recycled school uniform.

Primary Teatime Concert

Well done and thank you to all our performers who contributed to last night's wonderful Primary Tea Time Concert. Our series of Primary Tea Time Concerts provide an opportunity for our Primary pupils to showcase all the hard work they are doing in lessons and at home. It was fantastic to see so many pupils perform for the first time and how our older pupils are flourishing with their chosen instrument. To view more photographs on the school's Primary Gallery please visit: Primary Teatime Concert 25th January 2024 - Derby High School

Year 5 and 6 Football Club

On Monday, the Year 5 and Year 6 Football Club resumed its lunchtime sessions following the festive break. The children had a great time getting back into the swing of things on the field. It was wonderful to see them enjoying themselves and rekindling their interest in the sport. The vibrant atmosphere allowed the children to have fun while engaging in physical activity. We look forward to more enjoyable sessions as the football club continues throughout the term.

Year 6 Netball

On Monday 22nd January, the Year 6 girls played an A and B Netball fixture against Twycross House School. Captained by Connie (A team) and Lara (B Team), both matches got off to a quick start. The matches consisted of four 8 minute quarters with small breaks to substitute players in and have team talks. The girls demonstrated some excellent attacking and defending skills but Twycross won the A match 14-0 and the B match finished with 7-1 to Twycross. There were lots of opportunities to learn new rules and skills too. The girls conducted themselves brilliantly and were excellent hosts for Twycross - all of them were a credit to themselves and the school. Players of the match - nominated by Twycross - were Lara and Marsha. Well done girls!

Winter Wonderland in the Wrens

Last week the pre-school children, along with the Little Learners, enjoyed the theme 'Winter Wonderland'. The children had lots of themed activities, such as a 'catch the snowball' which helped develop their fine motor skills. We also had a sensory small world tray and an ice breaker challenge where they had to free the frozen animals.

DCCT Gymnastics

On Tuesday, 10 children from year 3 and 4 took part in the DCCT Gymnastics event, which was hosted here at Derby High School. The children had to display their gymnastic abilities in 3 different areas - Core Skills, Ribbon and Vault. All the children performed brilliantly and were awarded with either a bronze, silver or gold certificate.

Primary House Music

Our annual house music competition takes place this term and already, preparations are being made.

Preliminary heats will take place in curriculum music lessons on the following dates:

- Y2, Y4 & Y6 - Monday 29th January
- Y1 & Y5 - Tuesday 30th January
- Y3 - Wednesday 31st January

As the finals will be held on Thursday 7th March - World Book Day, the children will be expected to dress up. More details will follow, once we have announced the theme at the end of January. All pupils will be working on their House Songs with their House staff after half term. The children will have access to the House song backing tracks through Microsoft Teams.

Mrs Cooke will send a Highpost at the end of this half term, with more details about the theme and costume ideas.

Oliver – Central Musical Theatre Co.

Well done to Josh (Year 3) for his part in Fagin's gang in Oliver, presented by the Central Musical Theatre Co. The performance will be over Feb half term, from 20th to 24th February at the Duchess Theatre, Long Eaton. For more information please follow this link: OLIVER - Central Musical Theatre Co. at Duchess Theatre event tickets from TicketSource

Safeguarding Corner

Supporting Your Child With Their Friendships

Friendships can be a tricky thing to navigate when you are growing up. Here are 6 tips in 60 seconds from Dr Pooky Knightsmith on how to best support your child through the ups and downs!

Click here to watch the 60 second video on YouTube.

Assertiveness, Podcast from Dr Pooky Knightsmith

Here is a podcast from Dr Pooky Knightsmith, exploring practical activities to encourage your child to be more assertive. Some students find the increased independence of growing up tricky; here we find out how to support them in finding their voice.

What Practical Tools Can Help Children Master Assertiveness? (buzzsprout.com)

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 29th January – Primary House Music Prelims begin this week

Friday 2nd February – House Maths and Number Day