



High Notes

Primary High Notes Friday 29th November 2024

Dear Parents

This week, Australia made headlines by passing a law to ban social media use for children under 16. It is a decision that highlights the growing concern globally about the impact of social media on young people. While social media can be a powerful tool for creativity, learning, and connection, it also comes with risks, particularly for children who may not yet have the maturity to navigate it safely.

At Derby High, we see how the digital world can impact young people's wellbeing, even at a primary level. While many of our younger pupils are not yet using social media, we know that devices often feature on Christmas wish lists, and the conversations about online safety and appropriate use need to begin early. We encourage parents to carefully consider age-appropriate devices for their children, as well as the apps or platforms they might access. Many social media platforms have a minimum age of 13 or even 16 for good reason. Teaching children how to use technology responsibly starts at home, and we are here to support you in having those important discussions.

In school, we take a proactive approach to promoting healthy habits around technology. For lessons that require technology, we provide access to computers. This ensures pupils can engage with technology meaningfully in a supervised, educational setting. Internet safety is a key part of our PSHE curriculum, where we teach children about responsible online behaviour, understanding risks, and how to stay safe in the digital world.

Introducing technology into children's lives is not just about access, but about ensuring it is appropriate for their age and stage of development. Whether it is the type of device, the apps they use, or the time spent online, making thoughtful decisions now will help them build healthy habits and grow into confident, responsible users of technology in the future.

Thank you for your support as we work together to guide our children in developing these essential life skills.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 1 and 2 Production

On Thursday 28th November our Year 1 and 2 performed Higgledy, Piggledy Nativity. A wonderful Christmas production. It was a charming nativity with a colourful array of characters, lovely songs and expressive acting. Well done to all our Year 1 and 2 for such a memorable performance to start of our Christmas celebrations.

To view more photographs please visit our website gallery by [clicking here](#). A recording of the nativity will be sent to parents via HighPost.



U9 Football Tournament

On Tuesday, an U9 mixed football team travelled to Willows Sports Centre to play in the Old Vicarage U9 Football Festival. This was a friendly 7-a-side tournament played across two pools, with four teams in each and with games being played inside in the nets - so continuous football where the ball never went out!

Our first game was against OVS Athletic, and the team worked excellently together. There were bits of individual brilliance also, but generally some fabulous football on show. Derby High managed to score a total of 7 goals in this game and, generally, piled on the pressure throughout. Our next game against OVS United was a much tighter game and very much end to end. OVS scored quite early on, but Derby High worked hard to soak up the pressure and progress up the pitch, where we managed to sneak an equaliser past them. Sadly, OVS managed to score a second goal in the closing seconds. After a couple of games off, and watching the other teams play, Derby High's final pool game was against Dixie Grammar. Another tight game, very end to end, but with some terrific attempts and saves - the entire team worked tirelessly and were successful with a 2-1 win.

This meant that we finished 2nd in our pool, and played in a final match against St Wystan's for overall 3rd place. The team were very excited and keen to win, but it was a tense game - balls hitting the cross bar, fantastic goalkeeper saves, end to end play! At the end of regular time the score was 0-0, which meant it went to penalties! Harry, Sofia and Sidhant were our three players to take the penalties, with

Advith in goal for us. Harry was successful with his, and Advith managed to save two of their penalties - which meant it was 1-1. Knock out penalties was next! Hayaan lined up for Derby High and scored a screamer! Next up was Sofia in goal against St Wystans - and she made an incredible save - which meant we finished as the winners, and therefore finished the festival in 3rd place!

The entire team did excellently! They worked together brilliantly, supported each other and were kind and fair throughout all of their games. Sofia and Harry got special mentions as Players of the Festival for Derby High, too! Well done, everyone!



Book Buddies

Last Friday, we held our first Book Buddies session of the year from Pre-School to Year 6. The younger children beamed with excitement as they sat alongside their older buddies, sharing stories and laughter. The room buzzed with the joy of storytelling, as the older children read aloud with enthusiasm while the younger children listened intently. It was a wonderful afternoon, bringing together different ages through their love of reading. We look forward to the next one in the spring term!



Polite Notice; Collecting Your Child from PET

Please may we remind parents collecting their child from Primary Extra Time to park in the Hillsway car park (at the back of school) rather than coming through the main gates on Pastures Hill. Thank you for your support in keeping our school site a safe place.

Derby County Community Trust- Christmas & New Year Holiday Coaching Opportunities

(Please note – these session are not ran by Derby High School)

Derby County Community Trust's popular Holiday Coaching courses run across Derbyshire venues during all school holidays for primary aged children. For more information on their courses over the holiday period please visit; [Holiday Coaching | Derby County Community Trust](#)



HOLIDAY COACHING
FOOTBALL

Racecourse Playing Fields,
St Mark's Road, Derby,
DE21 6AL

Monday 23rd December 2024
Thursday 2nd January 2025
Friday 3rd January 2025

9:00am - 3:00pm
Drop off from: 8:45am
Pick up until: 3:15pm

Price: £15.00 per day

SCAN TO BOOK HOLIDAY COACHING

or visit www.dccct.co.uk

LU LEISURE UNITED **DERBY COUNTY COMMUNITY TRUST**

The poster also includes a photograph of a young boy in a yellow football kit dribbling a ball on a green field, with another child in the background. The top of the poster is decorated with a string of colorful Christmas lights.

Safeguarding Corner

Episode 24– So Called “Casual Racism”

In this week's podcast Mrs Bellman and Mr Thornton discuss “so called, Casual Racism”. To listen to the two minute please [click here](#).

For further information on this topic please visit the following links:

[Talking to children about racism | NSPCC](#)

[Racism and mental health | How To Deal With Racism | YoungMinds](#)



For Parents - Second-Hand Devices Guide

Often when children get their first or subsequent devices, particularly mobile phones, it's a hand-me-down, for example when a parent gets a new device on contract. This can be a real positive, mobile devices are very expensive and the latest/greatest devices often have very limited additional functionality over older devices.

But it's really important these devices are configured correctly for younger users. Thankfully Internet Matters have a full guide to help parents navigate all the different features and settings, plus how to choose the right second-hand device, safety concerns and much more.

All information and guidance can be found [HERE](#).

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 3rd December – Primary Christmas Concert, 4pm refreshments in the Refectory, 4:30pm, Senior Hall

Thursday 5th December – Primary Learning Reviews

Monday 9th December – Christmas Carol Service at Derby Cathedral, 7pm

Tuesday 10th December – Primary Learning Reviews

Wednesday 11th December – EYFS parent breakfast and nativity, 8:30am in The Refectory, 9:15am, Junior Hall

Wednesday 11th December – EYFS theatre trip

Thursday 12th December – Christmas lunch and Christmas Jumper day

Friday 13th December – End of term, 3:30pm. No after school clubs or PET

Useful Links

School menu week commencing 2nd December - [click here](#).

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