High Notes

Primary High Notes Friday 31st January 2025

Dear Parents

At Derby High, we believe that a child's education is most successful when school and home work in partnership. Supporting children in achieving their best is not just about academic progress, although developing strong skills in literacy, numeracy, and a love of learning lays vital foundations for their future, just as important, is the journey they take along the way.

Learning is rarely a straightforward, linear path. Daily lessons, homework, practical activities, and experiences both inside and outside the classroom all contribute to a much broader learning experience, helping children to build resilience, independence, and curiosity about the world around them.

As part of this journey, later this term we will hold our Spring Term Learning Review Meetings, where class teachers will discuss each pupil's progress and next steps. These meetings provide valuable insights into each child's learning journey, celebrating their achievements while also setting key targets for continued improvement. By recognising strengths and identifying areas for development, we ensure that every pupil is supported in making steady and meaningful progress.

For this partnership to be truly effective, trust is key. Parents must trust us as educators, and equally, we encourage open conversations at home about learning. Children thrive when they feel supported, encouraged, and celebrated for their efforts as well as their achievements. By working together, we ensure that every child is at the centre of their own learning journey, developing the confidence and skills to reach their full potential.

As we move through this important time of reflection and progress, I encourage all our pupils to take pride in their learning and embrace each challenge as an opportunity to grow. With the support of both school and home, they can develop a love of learning that will stay with them for life.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Chinese New Year

Our Reception children had a great time learning about the traditions and customs of the celebration of Chinese New Year.

We enjoyed a special themed lunch on Monday, thank you to our catering team.

National Storytelling Week, 1st -9th February, 2025

In Primary, we are thrilled to be hosting a variety of activities to celebrate this truly wonderful national event.

There will be two special assemblies, book hunts, a guess the staff member quiz and an afternoon of storytelling for the whole school community.

We cannot wait to share some of the photographs from this with you in next week's High Notes.

Why not share you enjoying a much-loved story with your child? We love seeing your photographs in whole school assemblies. Please send your photos to Miss Wright, kwright@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk

Year 3 & Year 4 Netball Tournament vs. Nottingham High School

This week, we were thrilled to host Nottingham High School for a netball fixture, featuring our Year 3 and Year 4 students. The event was centred around a version of netball called Stingers, which is part of England Netball's pathway to introduce younger players to the sport.

Stingers is a fast-paced, 5-a-side format that is specifically designed for younger players, with no wings on the court. The game allows players to take one step and hold the ball for up to 4 seconds, providing an easier introduction to the rules of netball. For many of our Year 3 students, this was their first netball fixture, and it was fantastic to see them take part in such an exciting and supportive event.

Throughout the tournament, we saw impressive effort and enthusiasm from all players involved. The Year 3 and 4 students demonstrated great teamwork, skill, and sportsmanship, with lots of learning taking place on and off the court. It was particularly inspiring to witness how the students embraced the game and supported each other, making the fixture an excellent learning experience for everyone.

A huge thank you to Nottingham High School for participating, and congratulations to all the students for their hard work and dedication. We look forward to more opportunities like this in the future to continue developing our young netball players!

Green Belt Achievement for Rianne

A massive congratulations to Rianne (Year 6) who achieved her green belt in Karate over the weekend. You should be very proud of yourself!

Karate Success for Yusuf

Congratulations to Yusuf (Year 4) who was awarded ‘Student of the year’ within his Karate sessions this is a fantastic achievement, Well Done Yusuf!

Swimming Success for Hadley

Well done to Hadley (Year 5) for his squad promotion at his swimming club, Derby Excel. In December he was promoted to Academy 2 and he was delighted this week to discover he is being promoted to Academy 1 at the end of February. Congratulations, Hadley.

DERBY EXCEL

Congratulations, Maya

Well done to Maya (Year 3) on her swimming success. Maya was recently awarded her Swim England Swimming Challenge Bronze certificate and achieved her 400 metres distance swim. Congratulations, Maya.

Music Achievement

Well done to Kulvir in year 4 who gained his Grade 1 Trombone. What a fantastic achievement, Congratulations!

Second Hand Uniform Shop – Open During Feb Half Term

Appointments for the Second Hand Uniform Shop can now been made for during February Half Term holiday. If you would like to book an appointment please email Mrs Holland on sholland@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk or call main reception on 01332 514267. Thank you.

Half Term Soccerstars UK Courses

This February, Soccerstars will be running Holiday Courses locally at Derby Rugby Club. Their courses are designed to keep children active, outdoors, and enjoying football while developing their skills.

The course is open to all boys and girls, and they are also offering a girls-only football session on Thursday, 20th February, coached by female FA-qualified coaches.

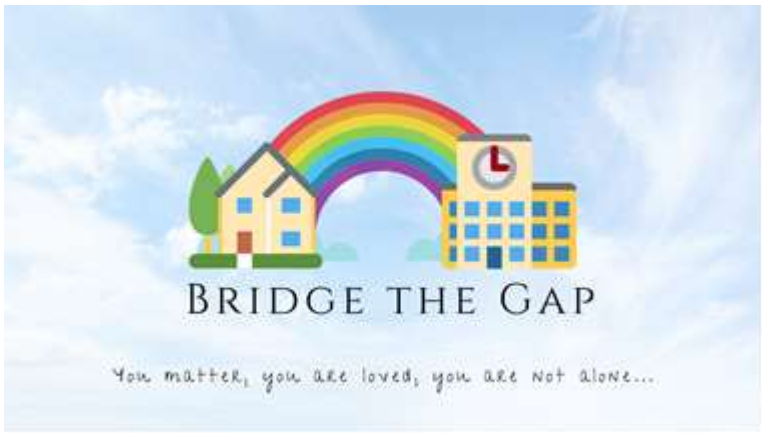
The course is open to children in School Year 1 up to School Year 6. Please note, this is not run by Derby High School.

For more information and to book, please click here; Event Search | SoccerstarsUK

Reminder: Non-Uniform Day Friday 7th February

As part of Children's Mental Health Week we will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 7th February, with all proceeds going towards Bridge the Gap. This incredible local charity works tirelessly to support children's emotional and mental wellbeing. If you would like to donate, we will be collecting donations (suggested £1) in both the infant and junior playgrounds during morning drop off.

Pupils who have PE or other activities will need to ensure that they bear these in mind when choosing their outfit or bring kit to change into.



Safeguarding Corner

Safeguarding Podcast In2: Personal Safety

In this week's podcast Mr. Thornton is joined by a guest speaker, Andy Privett from Streetwise365. This week's discussion is on personal safety following Andy's workshops with our Key Stage 3 students. We will be welcoming Andy to our Primary school soon to carry out a workshop with our Year 5 and 6 in the near future. These workshops are designed to develop key skills to help pupils stay safe in the real world.

To listen to the podcast please click here.

For more information on Streetwise365 please click the following link; Home | Streetwise 365

Free Online Safety Virtual Workshop from NCPCC

As we approach Safer Internet Day on February 9th, we would like to share with you the free workshop produced by the NSPCC on Online Safety. It is an informative watch with lots of practical tips and advice around keeping your children safe online.

Click here: Free online safety virtual workshop | NSPCC

NSPCC

Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 6th February – Year 5 Mexican Themed Day

Friday 7th February – Non-Uniform Day for Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day

Friday 14th February – Haddon Class Assembly

Friday 14th February – 3.30pm, end of half term (PET still available)

Useful Links