



Primary High Notes Friday 12th December 2025

Dear Parents

As we come to the end of the Autumn Term, I want to reflect on one of the standout moments of the year so far, our Carol Service at Derby Cathedral on Wednesday evening.

It was a genuine privilege to see our whole school community, pupils, staff, families, come together in such a historic and atmospheric setting. The service opened with a beautifully played trumpet duo, setting the tone for what followed, thoughtful readings, confident performances, and music that showcased the full breadth of talent across the school. From our youngest performers through to our Year 13 soloist leading Once in Royal David's City, it was an occasion that captured the strength, spirit, and cohesion of Derby High.

As we step back and look at the term, it has been both busy and immensely rewarding. Pupils and staff alike have given their all, whether in the classroom, on the sports field, in rehearsals, or through the many events and opportunities that shape our school life.

For our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils, the Christmas break marks an important point in their academic journey, with mock examinations awaiting them in January. These assessments are not about the grades, their real value lies in the revision process, working out what they know, identifying the areas they need to strengthen, and learning how to prepare effectively. This reflection and refinement are essential steps towards achieving their potential in the summer, and we will be supporting them closely through the months ahead.

This week we have been delighted to share our annual yearbook, Highlights, with our students, parents and staff. We hope you enjoy reflecting on the last year and sense the heart of Derby High in each event and story.

As we head into the holiday, I hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved and restful Christmas break. Thank you for your ongoing support this term, it is felt and appreciated. We look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school on Tuesday 6th January.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Carol Service

Wednesday 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 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. The password to view the gallery is: CarolBells



Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

Yesterday was Christmas Jumper Day, and our school was teeming with festive spirit as we raised money for Save the Children. From bright knits to sparkling hats, it was fantastic to see our community celebrating for a great cause. Thank you to everyone who donated so generously.

We also came together for a traditional Christmas lunch in our refectory, where students and staff enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by our wonderful catering team. Thank you to all our catering team for a fantastic lunch.



Highlights Yearbook 2024 – 2025

Our annual yearbook, Highlights, is now available. Your child should have brought a printed copy home today 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 2024/2025 - Derby High School](#)

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



Activate Camps 2026 is live!

We're thrilled to host the return of Activate Camps to Derby High School next year.

Book now to secure your child's place with their launch offer!

Multi Sport Camp, for 5 to 14 year olds, Easter 30th March to 2nd April

Multi Sport Camp, for 5 to 14 year olds, Summer 27th July to 21st August

Netball Fever, for 7 to 14 year olds, Summer 4th August to 6th August

- 25% OFF until 31st December 2025 using the code **SAVE25**
- 20% OFF until 31st January 2026 using the code **EXTRA20**

[Click here to visit the booking webpage.](#)



Kick Boxing Success for Mackey

Congratulations to Mackey, Year 1, who has recently received his Yellow Stripe Belt. What a fantastic achievement Mackey, keep up the hard work.



Swimming Success for Sophie

Congratulations to Sophie, Year 2, who has achieved her 50m Swimming badge and certificate. Congratulations, Sophie!



Well Done Asees - Red Belt Kickboxing

Well Done to Asees, Year 1, for achieving her red belt in kickboxing. This is an incredible achievement. Congratulations, Asees.



Piano and Gymnastics Achievements for Trinity

Congratulations Trinity, Year 5, for achieving her Grade 1 Piano Exam with Merit. This is a fantastic result. Keep up the hard work Trinity.

Trinity has also achieved her Explore Apparatus 2 Award in gymnastics. Well done, Trinity!



Black Belt Award for Isaac

Congratulations to Isaac, Year 2, who has achieved his black belt in Martial Arts, What an incredible achievement Isaac. You should be very proud of yourself!



Safeguarding Corner

Safeguarding Podcast – Winter Wellbeing

This week we are revisiting last year's podcast with Mrs. Bellman and Mr. Thornton. This week we hear how we can boost our Winter Wellbeing during the festive break from school. 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](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 5th January – Staff training, no Pupils

Tuesday 6th January – Start of term for all pupils

Thursday 22nd January – Primary Tea Time Concert