



Primary High Notes Friday 13th June 2025

Dear Parents

The beginning of any journey often brings a wonderful mix of excitement, curiosity, and a touch of nervous anticipation, and this week, we had the joy of witnessing many such beginnings as a number of our Year 3 pupils took to the stage for their very first Accelerando Concert on Thursday evening.

As part of the in-school Accelerando programme, a number of our Year 3 pupils have spent the year learning a musical instrument - from violin and cello to saxophone, flute, clarinet and trombone. Thursday's concert was a true celebration of their musical journeys so far. It was a delight to witness their emerging talent, growing confidence and clear enjoyment. The results of regular practice were evident, and it was heartening to see the pride on each young musician's face as they performed. Learning to play an instrument is a powerful and enriching experience. It nurtures resilience, discipline, creativity and self-expression, but equally important are the opportunities to perform, to share music with an audience, and to feel the joy and achievement that comes from doing so. Thank you to Mrs Cooke, our Head of Music, and our team of peripatetic music teachers, whose guidance and encouragement have inspired our pupils throughout the year. It was a wonderful evening, and a memorable first step in what we hope will be long and joyful musical journeys for many of our pupils.

Today brought a very different but equally joyful occasion with our Infant and Junior Sports Day. There was a wonderful sense of community spirit throughout the day, with pupils of all ages giving their best, supporting one another, and taking huge pride in representing their House.

The House system is an important and much-loved part of life at Derby High. It gives pupils a strong sense of belonging and encourages teamwork, healthy competition and mutual encouragement. Whether sprinting for the finish line, cheering from the sidelines, or taking part in the fun races, it was clear that every pupil was proud to play their part for their House.

A huge thank you to Mrs Watkins, our Director of Sport, and to all the staff who made the day such a success - and well done to every pupil for contributing to a truly memorable event.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

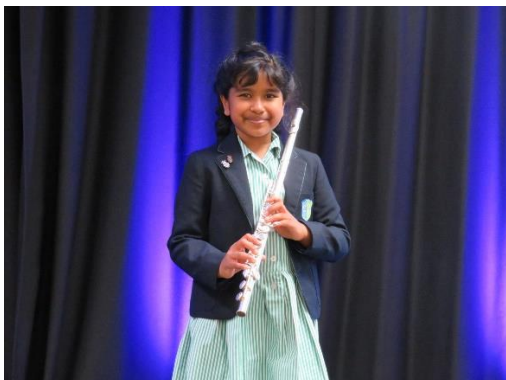
Primary Sports Day

Photos from the day will be available in the school website's gallery next week. Be sure to stay tuned to our Facebook and Instagram pages for more photos and videos from today's events.



Accelerando Concert

Well done to all our Year 3 performers last night. A website gallery of photographs will be published next week.





The Great Grid Upgrade, Year 6

This week, Chatsworth and Eyam were lucky enough to have very special visitors from the National Grid as part of this term's unit: Sustainability & Greener Futures. A team of four staff visited us from the national electricity utility provider. They brought along lots of artefacts for the children to handle and specialists from different fields within the company. To handle the actual wires you can see suspended from the alien-like pylons, the huge glass and plastic insulators and to put on safety goggles, hard hats and high visibility vests was a particular highlight of the experience.

During the course of the afternoon, the children learnt all about the proposed Chesterfield to Willington 'great grid upgrade' a huge upgrade of a 60Km stretch of the power network in Derbyshire. We learned of how this distance is the same as that from Derby High School to the outskirts of Leicester! The experts also used lots of maths to help the children understand the improved power capacity and the cost of such a scheme. One figure which stuck in our minds was that the 65GW of power the new network will carry is equivalent to 1.8 million horsepower and that the scheme is forecast to cost £1.3 billion (Taylor Swift's net worth)! All the children were excellent throughout-showing glorious curiosity, listening intently and enthusiastically answering questions. They made Miss Wright and Dr. E. B. enormously proud.

Such experiences are invaluable in facilitating deep and meaningful learning and we are so lucky that we were able to make this happen. From a newsletter through a door to a whole afternoon of visitors in school. Wonderful! Teachers and children alike loved the whole experience and gained so much new knowledge. Our thanks must go to the four staff of National Grid who kindly gave up their time during the afternoon and in the not inconsiderable preparation time involved. This visit would not have been possible without their hard work and generosity, so we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to them.



U11 Girls Cricket

Our U11 Girls cricket team put on a fantastic display of skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship at the Derby City Dynamo Cricket Tournament, held at Darley Abbey on Thursday morning. The tournament saw our team play three exciting matches, with every player bowling an over and each pair facing two overs while batting in the Dynamo Cricket format - this ensured that everyone played a vital part in the team's performance.

The first game against Ravensdale Primary School was a confident start, with our girls putting in a dominant performance. Tight bowling and strong fielding limited the opposition to just 52 runs, while our batters stormed to an impressive 121, securing a comfortable win.

The second game, against Walter Evans, proved to be a much closer contest. Both sides played with great intensity, but our team held their nerve and came out on top with a 90–58 victory, thanks to some clever bowling and well-timed boundaries. Some impressive wickets taken by Tabby and Bea, along with a safe catch by Tabby as well.

Going into the final match, both our team and St Werburghs had already qualified for the County Finals, but this last game would decide the tournament winner. It was a thrilling match full of energy, boundaries, and wickets. When fielding, we limited our number of no balls and significantly improved the accuracy of our bowling, with Maddie securing a fantastic wicket, and Bea catching a high ball heading towards the boundary. In a closely fought contest, it was St Werburghs who edged ahead with 87 runs to our 69, claiming the tournament win by 18 runs.

A huge well done to all the girls for their efforts and enthusiasm throughout the day; they played with great tenacity and support of one another which was wonderful to see, and their cricket significantly improved with every over - a big well done! We now look ahead to the County Finals in the last week of term with confidence and excitement!

Well done to the team: Madeleine, Sargunpreet, Bea, Tabitha, Sofia, Claire, Raya and Avneet

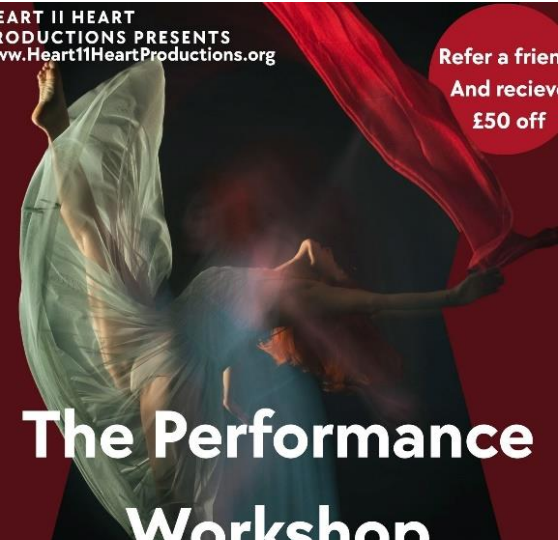


The Performance Workshop

Please see details below for a drama workshop during the summer holidays. Please note this is not ran by Derby High School.

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The Performance Workshop

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 Contact: GD@heart11heartproductions.org

Safeguarding Corner

In2 Podcast, Episode 14 – The Language of Social Media

This week we look back to one of our most popular podcasts - The Language of Social Media. Our discussion is led by our Deputy Head - Pastoral, Claire Bellman and our Assistant Head - Pastoral, Jonathan Thornton.

To listen to the podcast please [click here](#).



Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 17th June – Senior School Experience Day for Year 5 (non-uniform)

Thursday 19th June – Reception Assembly

Friday 20th June – Dance Show

Monday 23rd June – Year 7 Induction Day

Monday 23rd June – Primary Transition Day

Monday 23rd June – Reception - Year 2 Parents information Meetings for 2025/26

Monday 23rd June – Year 3 – Year 6 Parents information Meetings for 2025/26

Tuesday 24th June – Year 6 Dinner and Dance

Useful Links