



Primary High Notes Friday 14th February 2025

Dear Parents

As we reach the end of this half term, I can hardly believe how quickly the past six weeks have flown by! It has been an incredibly busy and exciting time at Derby High, filled with so many moments of success, achievement, and joy across all areas of school life. From the classroom to the sports field, the stage to the playground, our pupils have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and determination. It has been wonderful to see their hard work, creativity, and kindness shine through in everything they do.

As we head into a well-earned break, I want to take a moment to celebrate all that has been accomplished and to thank our pupils, staff, and parents for their support and commitment. Enjoy a restful and refreshing half term, I look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 24th February.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 6 Special Guest Visit

Year 6 were lucky enough to have some incredibly special visitors (of a special winged variety). On Wednesday afternoon, the children were introduced to six wonderful birds of prey when Alistair Lees from Hawkeye Falconry visited the Primary building.

His greatly-anticipated visit did not disappoint as every member of the year group had the rare opportunity to get up close to these stunningly beautiful birds, hold one and even fly them too. It was an amazing experience!

At one (slightly) hair raising point, each class was laid on the ground gazing up at the hall ceiling when an owl expertly flew within a mere centimetres of their faces. The children talked of a gentle breeze which tickled their noses as the majestic bird's wings beat gracefully above them! It was wonderful to witness and, I we were reliably informed, even better to experience in person!

As well as being able to see the intricate details of these beautiful specimens up close, the children were treated to Alistair's tremendously detailed knowledge of the six winged characters he brought along to join us for the afternoon. (The 'talkative' owl stole most of our hearts though.)

Thank you to all the parents for their support of this very special visit.



Year 5 Mexican Day

Yesterday we had an incredible day celebrating Mexican Day in Year 5! The children immersed themselves in the vibrant culture of Mexico. Everyone was eager to participate in a range of enriching experiences that not only broadened their cultural understanding but also sparked their creativity and culinary skills. It was fantastic to see how much effort they had put into dressing up in their dazzling Mexican attire – they all looked amazing!

We started the day with a brilliant Spanish lesson led by Mrs. Martinez, our senior school Spanish teacher. She engaged the children in learning colours and numbers in Spanish and they were completely engrossed in the exciting activities.



Next, we explored the Mexican celebration "Day of the Dead", where the children designed and painted their very own Día de los Muertos masks, showcasing their creativity and artistic flair.

Lunchtime was a real treat, thanks to our incredible catering team! The menu featured deconstructed tacos, where children had to put their culinary skills to the test by creating their own tacos. Alongside this we had potato wedges, guacamole, salsa and Mexican punch, followed by delicious churros with hot chocolate - a real feast enjoyed by all!



To finish off the day, we got moving with a Mexican dance session led by our wonderful Miss Liddle. The children had so much fun learning the steps and dancing to traditional music.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making this day so special and memorable!

Primary House Music Update

We have enjoyed a super week of music making in our Primary school. All pupils in Years 1 – 6 have been learning the four songs from Shrek! In their music lessons.

In an exciting assembly this afternoon, pupils performed the four songs to all primary staff. The House Captains then took the draw to see which House will sing which song in the Finals on House Music Day on Friday 7th March 2025.

St Andrew	All Star
St David	I'm a Believer
St George	Livin la Vida Loca
St Patrick	Holding Out for a Hero

All pupils have access to the House song backing tracks on Microsoft teams. They need to enter their school email address and password to access this.

Costumes - Reminder

As the theme for our House song is Shrek!, we would like all pupils in Primary to come to school dressed as a character from the film on Friday March 7th. We will be recording the event so that families can watch this event together at home.

Charity Reps Visit the Bursary

Our Charity Reps visited the Bursary office on Tuesday with the money raised from last week's non uniform day. Mrs Sharp was amazed at the amount raised by Primary and was keen to learn about our chosen charity.

The children were shown how the banking process works and how the monies raised would be sent to Bridge the Gap. At the end of the visit Mrs Sharp presented the children with a personalised charity collection receipt for them to keep. Zayn, Zainab, Jibreel and Safah were an absolute credit to Primary.

In total an amount of £254.30 was raised. Thank you everyone who donated.



Congratulations, James

Well done to James, Year 3, on completing his 200m distance swim earlier this week.



Well Done, Maximus

Maximus, Year 1, has been attending tennis for the last year and was delighted to receive “Star of the Month” for ‘brilliant listening and concentration, always trying his best’.



Second Hand Uniform Shop – Open During February Half Term

Appointments for the Second Hand Uniform Shop can now be 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.

Wizard of Oz – Tickets on Sale

Tickets are now on sale for the Senior School Musical production of *The Wizard of Oz* on Thursday, March 20th and Friday, March 21st! Our talented students have been working incredibly hard during rehearsals, and they are eager to showcase their performances in this magical musical. Don't miss out on the chance to support them and enjoy a fantastic show. Get your tickets now and join us for a memorable evening of adventure down the yellow brick road!

Tickets are available from student reception, cash only please. Adults are £10, 18 years and under, plus concessions are £5. Tickets include a programme and refreshments.



Safeguarding Corner

Safeguarding Podcast: In2 Episode 31, The Impact of Online Pornography on Young People Today

This week Mrs Bellman (Deputy Head – Pastoral) and Mr Wood (Head of PSHE – Seniors) discuss the Impact of pornography on young people today. This is a follow up to the High Post sent to parents earlier this week titled, Raising Awareness of Young People and the Dangers of Online Activity.

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



For further information please refer to the HighPost sent on Monday 10th February. The HighPost contained further information on this topic and links to three 20 minute webinars from Dr Burke, a clinician working to support children and healthy sexual development.

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 24th February – return from February half term break

Thursday 27th February – Primary Teatime Concert

Friday 28th February – Primary Parent Showcase

Useful Links

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