



Primary High Notes Friday 14th March 2025

Dear Parents

This week, our Thursday assembly was a truly inspiring one. We began by listening to a mesmerising piano performance by Year 10 student, Denny, who is currently preparing for his Grade 8 piano exam in a few weeks' time. His performance captivated the audience, demonstrating not only his talent but also his dedication to excellence.

Following his performance, Denny took questions from the pupils, sharing insights into his musical journey. He spoke about starting piano at the age of 8 and how, through consistent practise and commitment, he now dedicates around 20 hours a week to honing his craft. His story was the perfect example of the message at the heart of our assembly: We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.

Excellence is not about a single moment of brilliance but about the small, repeated efforts we make every day. Denny's journey highlights the power of habit, his dedication over the years has shaped him into the musician he is today. This principle extends beyond music; whether in academics, sports, or even kindness, what we do consistently defines who we become.

I encouraged our pupils to think about how they can apply this mindset to their own goals. Whether it is improving in a subject, developing a new skill, or being a consistently kind and respectful person, excellence is built through daily habits. Small efforts, repeated over time, lead to incredible achievements.

As we head into the rest of the term, I hope our pupils take inspiration from Denny's story and embrace the idea that excellence is something they can create for themselves—one habit at a time.



Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

House Music

It was wonderful to unite the whole of Primary last Friday, to participate in the House Music competition.

136 pupils had entered the preliminary rounds and performed on their instruments to gain points for their house. Before half term, one pupil from each house and age group section were then awarded silver highly commended pin badges and one pupil from each house and age group section were awarded gold badges and chosen to go through to the Final competition.

All Primary pupils and staff gathered in the Senior Hall last Friday and we listened to twelve polished performances from our instrumental finalists and after long deliberation from our panel of judges, Mrs Robertson and Mrs Lesley; a winner was chosen from each age range. Well done to Kharim, Nourah, Grace, Annabelle, Aaliyah, Aurelie, Naomi, Aashwini, Lyla, Lara, Aisha and Connor.

Congratulations to Nourah, who won the Year 1 and 2 section with her fantastic performance of 'Gavotte' on the piano; to Naomi who won the Year 3 and 4 section who played beautifully on the piano with her rendition of 'Mamma Mia' and to Lara in the Year 5 and 6 section who dazzled us with her spectacular performance of 'Prelude' on the violin.

We then watched each house singing their Shrek! Song. St. Andrew started with an upbeat version of 'All star'. We then heard St. David, who wowed us with 'I'm a Believer'. St. George were next to perform their super version of 'Living la Vida Loca' and finally we listened to St. Patrick who closed the event with their dramatic performance of 'Holding Out for a Hero'. The judges again, deliberated as to who should win the trophy – such a difficult decision as all houses produced such polished performances with strong singing throughout. St David won the House Song competition and the overall House winner was St Patrick.

Congratulations to the following children, who were awarded a certificate for their outfit – Evie, Avneet, Georgia, Lara, Lincoln, Georgie, Henry, Annabelle and Mrs Dowell.

Many thanks to parents for supporting their children with their singing and also providing superb costumes. Thank you to the Primary Team for their amazing input with rehearsals and choreography and encouraging the children to 'Be the best that they could be!'

Parents were sent a HighPost yesterday with links to watch the videos and link to see photographs on the website gallery. Please note the password to view the gallery is included in the HighPost email.



Chartwells Workshop

Year one had an exciting surprise food workshop with Chartwells, where we explored how our five senses impact the way we experience food. The children participated in a variety of hands-on activities, including:

Taste Test – Trying different foods such as lime, cheese, spinach, carrot, and apple to explore various flavours and textures.

Smell Test – Identifying scents like cinnamon and garlic.

Touch Test – Feeling and describing the textures of dried banana and pasta.

This interactive session encouraged the children to think about food in a new way and sparked lots of curiosity and conversation!



Slipper Week for Save the Children

Today we have been celebrating 'Slipper Day' in Primary in support of the wonderful charity, Save the Children. Our Charity Representatives have carefully selected this organisation, which works tirelessly to ensure every child has the chance to live a healthy, safe, and fulfilling life, no matter where they are growing up. Thank you to everyone for getting involved and for all the kind donations.



Broadway Magic – Congratulations, Dr Evans-Bolger and Miss Liddle

This week, the Cabaret Theatre Company brings the iconic 42nd Street to life at the Brewhouse Art Centre in Burton on Trent. From Wednesday to tomorrow night, Dr. Evans-Bolger and Miss Liddle have been on the stage with their incredible performances in this dazzling musical. A huge round of applause for their phenomenal talent. Click here for more details; [42nd Street - Brewhouse Arts Centre and Café Bar](#)



Tickets Still Available – The Wizard of Oz

Don't miss out – tickets are still available for next Thursday and Friday night's spectacular performance! Grab yours now at Student Reception and get ready for an unforgettable evening! Our talented senior students can't wait to dazzle you with an extraordinary show that promises to be full of excitement and unforgettable moments. We can't wait to see you there!



Easter Egg Collection

A reminder that we are collecting Easter eggs for YMCA Derby, to support those in need across Derbyshire. If you would like to contribute, please bring an Easter egg into school by Monday, 24th March. Last year, YMCA Derby were over the moon with the generosity of our community!

Thank you in advance for your donations.



Safeguarding Corner

This week's podcast is brought to us by Mrs. McBride, Assistant Head (Primary) – Pastoral, DSL and Dr Evans-Bolger PSHE Lead, Year 6 Teacher. Mrs. McBride and Dr E B discuss talking to children about difficult topics.

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



For further information and advice please follow these links:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/talking-about-difficult-topics/>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/how-to-have-difficult-conversations-with-children>

<https://www.explorelearning.co.uk/free-resources/having-difficult-conversations-with-children/>

<http://www.hethersettwoodside.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Top-Tips-for-Talking-to-your-Child-about-Tricky-Things.pdf>

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/what-we-do/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-hard-things>

Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 20th March Primary Learning Review

Saturday 22nd March Primary Open Morning 9:30am to 11:30am

Thursday 27th March Primary Spring Concert

Friday 28th March End of Term 3.30pm no PET or afterschool clubs