



High Notes

Dear Parents

It has been a wonderful week in the Primary School, with the beautiful weather providing the perfect backdrop for pupils to enjoy their learning beyond the classroom. There has been a real sense of energy and joy as children have taken their lessons and play outside, making the most of our grounds, embracing fresh air and sunshine, and engaging with their learning in creative and active ways. These moments matter; they spark curiosity, encourage collaboration and remind us that some of the richest learning happens when children are given space to explore.

Today, we are delighted to welcome back our Year 6 pupils from their week in France. They return with a wealth of experiences, new confidence and, I am sure, many stories to tell. Trips such as this are such an important part of a Derby High education, broadening horizons, building independence and creating memories that will stay with them for years to come. My thanks go to the staff who made the residential possible. Residential trips require a great deal of planning, care and energy, and we are very grateful for their commitment in providing such a valuable experience for our pupils.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 6 Residential

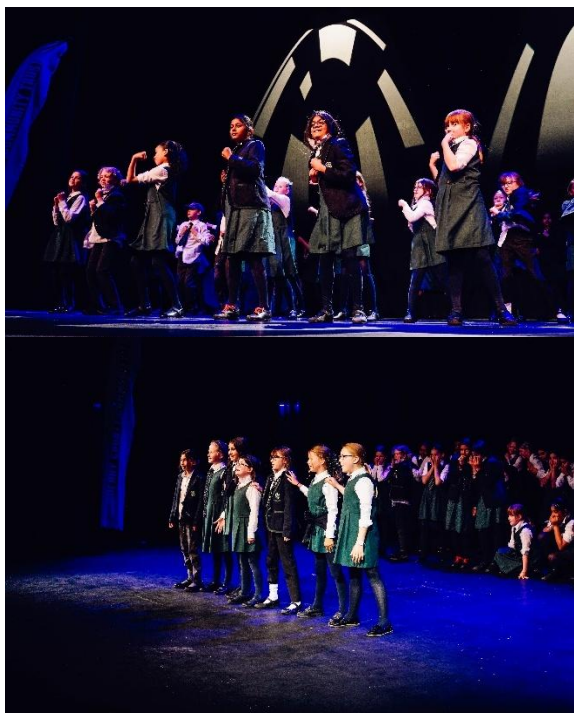
Our Year 6 pupils and accompanying staff are on their way home from their much-anticipated France Residential, and what a fantastic week it has been. The children embraced every opportunity to speak French and immerse themselves in the customs and traditions of French culture.

A full report will feature in next week's High Notes.



DCCT Celebration of Dance

On Tuesday 21st April, pupils from the Year 5 and 6 dance club had the exciting opportunity to perform at the DCCT Celebration of Dance at Derby Theatre. The theme, 'Once Upon a Time,' inspired our talented dancers to present a fantastic routine based on Roald Dahl's *Matilda*. They showcased impressive confidence, enthusiasm, and professionalism, delivering an outstanding performance.



To view more photographs from this event please visit our website gallery; [Celebration of Dance, April 2026 - Derby High School](#)

The password for the gallery is: DanceFestival2026

DCCT Tri-Golf

On Wednesday 29th April, a group of 14 enthusiastic Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in the DCCT Tri-Golf event, which was proudly hosted at Derby High School. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for the children to develop their golf skills in a fun and supportive environment. Throughout the morning, participants rotated through several engaging activities, each designed to challenge different aspects of their technique, including accuracy, control, and coordination.

The children demonstrated great teamwork, focus, and determination as they encouraged one another and celebrated each other's successes. The event not only helped to build their confidence in a new sport but also promoted important values such as sportsmanship and perseverance. It was clear to see how much the pupils enjoyed the experience, with smiles and laughter throughout the session. Overall, it was a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding morning for everyone involved.



Year 1 Battles, Balls and Banquets

Year 1 pupils had a truly wonderful dressing-up day on Monday 27th April to launch their new history topic on monarchs.

The children came to school looking fantastic, dressed as kings, queens, princesses, knights, and even a few fierce (but friendly!) dragons. The effort put into the costumes was incredible, and it created a magical atmosphere throughout the day.

We began with an exciting phonics "battle," which the children thoroughly enjoyed, before moving on to learn about medieval banquets. Later, the pupils performed a special dance for a royal ball, celebrating in true regal style.

It was a joy to see how engaged and enthusiastic everyone was. The children showed great imagination and curiosity, making it a memorable start to our new topic.



A Taste of France in Hardwick!

On Wednesday morning, Year 5 class Hardwick transformed the Refectory into a French café, putting their language skills to the test in the most delicious way! Using the French they have learned this term, the children proudly took on the roles of waiters and hosts, welcoming parents and family members as special guests. The children brought the café to life with their French, as guests enjoyed a delightful French-style breakfast. It was a joy to see the children's enthusiasm—and to hear their impressive French in action, thanks to their brilliant lessons with Mrs. Grosberg!



Book Donations

Following the success of last year's book donation drive for OwnBooks we have chosen this year to support the Derby Book Festival Children's Book appeal. Please donate your lightly used children's books to this appeal from the 11th May. You can give these straight to Miss Ridley in the library or drop them off at reception.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity to these good local causes. By sharing a love of reading with our community, you make a huge difference.



Rubik's Cube Competition

Angad, Year 6, was excited to share his experience of his first Rubik's Cube competition, and it turned out to be a great success. Despite it being his very first time competing, he performed impressively well and showed both skill and determination throughout the event.



Kickboxing Success

Congratulations to Asees (Year 1) and Evelyn (Year 1) who have received their Orange Kickboxing belt. Well done to both girls, you have both worked very hard, keep up the hard work!



Reminder: Bank Holiday Monday

Please be reminded that school is closed on Monday 4 May for the bank holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone back on Tuesday 5 May.

Activate Camps at Derby High School

Activate Camps are back for the summer holidays! Full details below.

For more information and to book [please click here.](#)

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Safeguarding Corner

Derby High School Safeguarding Podcast Episode 66 - In 2: Trusted Adults

In this week's podcast Mrs McBride (Assistant Head - Primary, DSL) talks with two primary pupils, Georgia and Claire. This week's conversation is about Trusted Adults - building trusted adults' networks and they discuss who children can talk to if they are worried or upset.

To listen to this week's podcast on Spotify please [click here](#).



For more information on this topic please click the following links:

<https://www.speakupreachout.org/news/becoming-a-trusted-adult>

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/blogs/a-trusted-adult-to-quiet-the-noise-for-young-people>

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/why-language-matters/safe-adults>

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 4th May – May Bank Holiday (school closed)

Wednesday 6th May – Year 4 Residential Trip departs

Wednesday 6th May – Year 5 Calke French Café

Friday 8th May – Year 4 Residential trip returns

Friday 8th May – Year 2 Herons Class Assembly

Wednesday 13th May – Year 5 Residential trip departs

Wednesday 13th May – Senior School Open Evening 5pm to 7pm

Friday 15th May – Year 5 Residential trip returns

Friday 15th May – Year 3 Open Centre Visit

Friday 15th May – Year 2 Kingfishers Assembly

Useful Links