



Primary High Notes Friday 2nd May 2025

Dear Parents

This week has been filled with those special moments that remind us just how meaningful school life is — and none more so than our Leavers' Evening on Thursday. It was, quite simply, a beautiful occasion. A true celebration of all that our Year 13 students have achieved during their time with us, academically, creatively, personally and as a community.

The evening was filled with laughter, heartfelt memories and the unmistakable sense of a chapter closing, but also of exciting new beginnings ahead. These remarkable young people have grown and flourished through their time at Derby High. They have been shaped by every lesson learned, every friendship made, and every challenge faced. It has been a joy and a privilege to walk alongside them on that journey.

As part of the evening, I had the great pleasure of sharing a few words with our leavers, a personal reflection on their journey, their achievements, and the bright futures that lie ahead. It feels only right to share that speech here too, as a lasting tribute to an exceptional group of young people:

It's a true privilege to stand before you today, on this very special occasion, to celebrate our wonderful Year 13 students. This is a moment we've anticipated for some time—but now that it's here, I find it incredibly hard to put into words just how proud I am of each and every one of you.

Some of you joined Derby High when you were just three years old—wide-eyed and full of curiosity. Others joined along the way, bringing your own unique spark, talents, and stories. But wherever your starting point, today marks a shared moment: the end of your school journey and the beginning of something new.

You have grown into kind, capable, and courageous young adults. You've navigated exams, projects, friendships, and, let's not forget, a global pandemic. You have shown resilience in the face of challenge, grace in moments of pressure, and an extraordinary sense of community throughout.

*You are a very special year group to me. When you started in Year 7, I began my journey as Head. We've grown together in many ways, learning, adapting, and finding our way through the ever-changing landscape of education and life. I've watched you support one another, lead younger pupils with quiet confidence, and give back to the school in ways that have left a lasting impact. For that, and so much more, **I thank you.***

In the words of Dr Seuss:

"You're off to Great Places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting, so... get on your way!"

It's easy to think of today as an end, and in many ways, it is. But it's also a beginning. You are stepping into the world with all the tools, wisdom, and values Derby High has helped you to shape. Your paths will take you in many directions - universities, apprenticeships, gap years, careers still undecided - but wherever you go, you take a piece of this place with you.

*To the parents: **thank you.** Thank you for entrusting us with your children, your most precious people. Thank you for working with us in partnership, through every stage of their journey. We have stood together to support, guide and nurture them, helping them to grow into the incredible young adults we see before us today. It has been a privilege to walk alongside you, sharing the hopes and dreams you hold for your children, and doing everything we can to help those dreams take shape.*

And to you, Year 13, I want to leave you with one more line from Dr Seuss:

"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory."

Hold tight to your memories of Derby High, the friendships, the laughter, the lessons that weren't just about the curriculum. And know that this school will always be part of your story.

Go forward with courage. Stay curious. Be kind. Keep your minds open and your hearts even more so. Because the world needs people like you - thoughtful, principled, full of promise.

Thank you, and congratulations Year 13, we are so proud of you.

To the Class of 2025 - thank you for the joy, the energy and the heart you have brought to our school. As you enter your final week before examinations begin, know that we are right behind you, cheering you on every step of the way. You have already achieved so much - now is your moment to shine.

Wishing everyone a relaxing and joyful Bank Holiday weekend.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 6 France Residential – A Memorable Experience

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 highlight of the trip was the visit to the historic town of Montdidier, where the pupils explored the fascinating history of the Knights Templar and gained a deeper understanding of the region's rich heritage. Another memorable visit was to the city of Amiens. Here, pupils demonstrated their growing confidence in French by reading, writing, and speaking at a local supermarket, engaging with the language in real-life situations.

A particularly special moment was our visit to the Cathédrale Notre-Dame d'Amiens. As the largest Gothic cathedral in France, it provided a peaceful and awe-inspiring setting for reflection and learning.

We also spent time at the Albert Museum and explored the battlegrounds of the Somme region. These experiences powerfully complemented our classroom learning, linking closely with our World War I and II topic. Pupils had the opportunity to investigate the effects of war first hand and gained a deeper appreciation of the sacrifices made during these historical conflicts.

In addition to the cultural and historical aspects of the trip, pupils enjoyed a variety of outdoor activities throughout the week, contributing to a well-rounded and enriching experience.

We are incredibly proud of the maturity and enthusiasm shown by our pupils during the residential. Thank you to our parents for their continued support in making such valuable learning opportunities possible for our children. We would also like to extend our thanks to the dedicated teaching staff for their support and care for the children throughout the trip.

For more photographs please visit the website gallery. Year 6 parents have been sent a HighPost with the password to view the photographs. [Year 6 Residential April 2025 - Derby High School](#)





DCCT Gymnastics Competition

On Thursday, 10 children from Year 1 and 2 took part in the DCCT Gymnastics event, which was hosted here at Derby High School. The children had to display their gymnastic abilities in 3 different areas - Core Skills, Ribbon and Vault. All the children performed brilliantly and were awarded with either a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate. James was awarded a Bronze certificate, Clara, Alba, Charlotte, Dottie, Grace, Sophie and Sophia were awarded Silver certificates and Annabelle and Alice were awarded Gold certificates. Well done gymnasts, you were fantastic!



Year 5 DT - Mexican Cooking

In our DT lessons we have been looking at the origins of Mexican food, their ingredients and how to prepare food hygienically and safely. Over the Easter holidays, our future chefs have been busy in the kitchen, following their design to create a tasty Mexican meal for the family, with great success! Thank you to everyone who supported the children to create their culinary masterpieces.



Derby City School Sports Mini Marathon at Markeaton Park

Last Friday, a group of Primary Students took part in a Mini-Marathon at Markeaton Park to get them motivated and hyped up for the London Marathon which took place last weekend. A team from Derby City School Sports Partnership led them in a warm up to music and then set them off on a mini-marathon - a 2 lap route of Markeaton Park. All students who took part did a fantastic job and seemed enthusiastic about their running; with some demonstrating some fantastic determination and resilience! It was lovely to see everyone take part with a smile and, hopefully, be enthused about running! Well done everyone!



Derby Arts Festival 2025

Last weekend, Anaisha (Year 1) took part in the Vocal Competition at the Derby Arts Festival and proudly secured 3rd Place in the Pop and Contemporary Junior category! She competed against talented students all the way up to Year 13! Well done Anaisha!



Karate Success

A huge congratulations to Ryan (Year 1) and Rosie (Year 3) on their fantastic achievements at their Karate grading last Saturday! Ryan earned his yellow belt, and Rosie was awarded her orange belt. You both should be incredibly proud of yourselves.



Swimming Achievement

Congratulations to Trinity (Year 4) who achieved her 100m swimming certificate last weekend. Well done and keep up the hard work!



Allenton United - U8 and U9 Girls Football Team Opportunity

Allenton United are looking for players for their girls U8 and U9 football teams. Please note that this is not ran by Derby High School.



Woodlands Tennis – May Half Term Camp

Join the fun this May Half Term at Woodlands Tennis Club's exciting tennis camp — a great opportunity for young players to develop their skills, stay active, and enjoy the game.

Please note that this is not ran by Derby High School.

WOODLANDS TENNIS CLUB
WOODLANDS TENNIS
 MAY HALF TERM CAMP 2025

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

Woodlands Tennis Club is proud to announce that our May Half Term Holiday Camp will take place on the following week
 Tuesday 27th May - Friday 30th May

Leighton Lee (Head Coach), and his team of experienced, DBS checked, Sports Coaches will deliver a quality programme in a fun and safe learning environment.

- Children will be encouraged to develop technical & tactical skills;
- Games & drills will be specifically aimed at improving all round tennis ability;
- Team games & individual matches will be arranged to encourage fun & competition

VENUE - WOODLANDS TENNIS CLUB, REDINGTON ROAD, ALLSTREE, B83 2TB

Each day will run from 09:00 to 14:00

For more details please contact Leighton Lee on 07771 637 410

Email: leightonlee@hotmail.co.uk
 Cost: £23 members - £28 non members per day

NB: Places must be given for attendance at the camp to ensure the coach/player ratio is of the required standard (a max. of 10 places are available per day)

5-8 YEARS
 RED

8-9 YEARS
 ORANGE

10+ YEARS
 GREEN



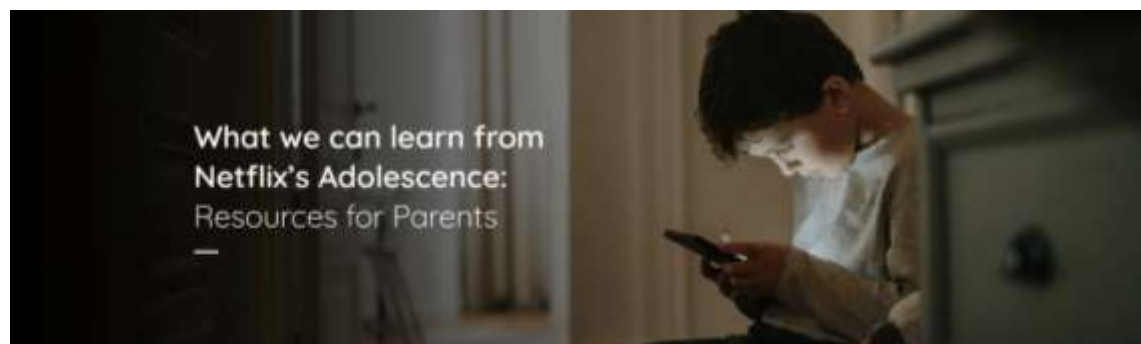
Safeguarding Corner

Parents Resources inspired by Netflix's Adolescence

The Netflix show adolescence is opening parents' eyes to the digital pressures young people face every day, with this many wondering how to make sense of it all

To help provide information to parents, Smoothwall have created a resource page. [Navigating Child Digital Safety | Insights From Netflix's Adolescence](#)

It is packed with practical advice, conversation starters and useful insights to help parents navigate the various challenges the series brings to light.



In2 Podcast, Episode 7, Sextortion

This week our Safeguarding podcast revisits a podcast from this time last year. Mrs Bellman and Mr Thornton discuss the issue of sextortion. Please take the time to listen to this two minute discussion. Please [click here](#) to listen to our podcast.

For more information on sextortion please click this link:

[nca financially motivated sexual extortion alert education eng.pdf\(ceopeducation.co.uk\)](http://nca.financially.motivated.sexual.extortion.alert.education.eng.pdf(ceopeducation.co.uk))



Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 7th May - Year 4 Residential Departs

Wednesday 7th May – Hardwick French Café

Thursday 8th May – Year 1 Trip to Tamworth Castle

Thursday 8th May – Year 2, 5 and 6 NSPCC 'Speak out Safe' Workshops

Friday 9th May – Year 4 Residential trip returns

Friday 9th May – Year 3 Tissington class assembly