



Primary/Senior High Notes date 2025

Dear Parents

With the Winter Olympics beginning this week, many of us will be looking forward to watching athletes from around the world compete in some truly spectacular events. There is something about the Olympics that captures the imagination, the snowy settings, the excitement of the competition, and the stories behind the athletes themselves.

One Olympic story that is always worth returning to is that of Eddie the Eagle. Eddie Edwards represented Great Britain in ski jumping at the 1988 Winter Olympics. He did not have the best equipment, the best training, or the expectation of winning, in fact, he finished last. Yet he became one of the most loved Olympians of all time because of his determination, courage, and willingness to give it a go.

Eddie's story is a lovely reminder for children that success is not only about coming first. Trying something new, keeping going when things feel tricky, and being brave enough to have a go all matter enormously, values we encourage every day at school.

As the Winter Olympics unfold over the coming weeks, there will be many inspiring moments to enjoy together as families. If you are looking for a feel-good family film to watch, Eddie the Eagle is a firm favourite and a wonderful starting point for conversations about perseverance and resilience.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Year 5 Textiles Topic Work

Our Year 5 pupils are loving their textiles project! As part of their topic work on Mexico, they're designing and making vibrant, Mexican-themed cushions. They've explored colour, pattern, and texture, created mood boards, and now have a final design to follow. Here, they're busy making patterns for each element before adding their favourite decorative stitches.

The excitement is building too, as pupils are really looking forward to our Mexican-themed day next week. They'll enjoy a full itinerary of specialist lessons, including a Spanish lesson, a mariachi music workshop, and a delicious Mexican-themed lunch.

A wonderful way to bring their learning to life!



Please Support Mrs E - Public Voting Now Open!

You may recall that last term we asked for your support in voting for Mrs E in the Lots for Tots Awards. We are delighted to share that she has now been shortlisted as a finalist in the category Early Years Educator of the Year.

Public voting has reopened, and every vote truly counts. If you previously voted to help Mrs E reach the shortlist, we would be very grateful for your continued support as we now aim for the final stage — winning the award.

You can view a short video explaining what this recognition would mean to Mrs E here: [CLICK HERE](#)

To vote, please select Dora Eleftheriou under Early Years Educator of the Year at the following link: [Vote - Lots for Tots](#)



Early Years Educator of the Year

Dora Eleftheriou (Mrs E)



Thank you for taking a moment to support Mrs E and her outstanding contribution to early years education.

Dance Award for Freya

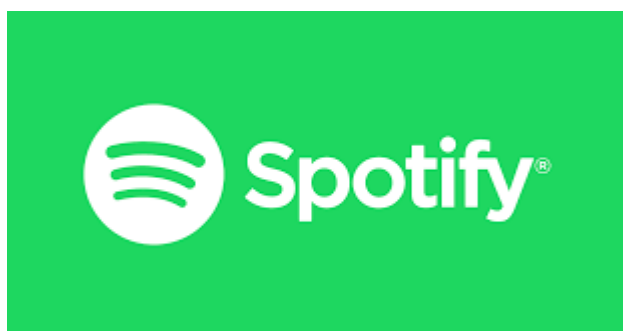
Congratulations to Freya, Year 6, who was presented with the Presentation Award at her dance school's annual award ceremony. Freya was recognised for always attending her ballet and tap classes in full uniform, with her hair styled correctly, and for being attentive and ready to learn. Congratulations Freya! We are very proud of you.



Follow us on Spotify for Our Weekly Safeguarding Podcasts

We are delighted to announce that all our previous safeguarding podcasts are now on Spotify. We launched our safeguarding podcast in Summer 2024 and since then we have recorded almost 60 episodes. We will now be posting our weekly podcasts on Spotify so please do follow for regular new updates on a variety of safeguarding topics.

To follow Derby High School on Spotify please [click here](#).



Activate Camps at Derby High School - Easter and Summer Holidays

Activate camps are returning to Derby High School during the Easter and Summer holidays.

Easter Multi Sport Camp 30th March to 2nd April (5 years to 14 years 11 months)

Summer Multi Sport Camp 27th July to 21st August (5 years to 14 years 11 months)

For more information and to book click the following link [Derby High School - Activate Camps](#)

Parents and guardians can now access our 10% Earlybird Discount when they book at least 4 weeks before the start of each camp, using code EARLY10.

The poster is a vertical layout with a blue background. At the top, it features the Activate Camps logo (a stylized 'A' with a red arrow) and the Derby High School crest. Below the logo, there are icons for various sports: a basketball, a tennis racket, a soccer ball, a netball, and a badminton shuttlecock. A red banner on the right side says "ACTIVATE YOUR 2026 CAMPS!". The middle section is divided into two horizontal bands. The top band is blue and contains the text "MULTI SPORT CAMP" with a person icon, followed by the dates "30 MAR-2 APR & 27-31 JUL & 3-7 AUG & 10-14 AUG & 17-21 AUG". The bottom band is also blue and contains the text "NETBALL FEVER" with a netball icon, followed by the dates "4-6 AUG". Below these bands, there are two small photographs: one of a child in a red shirt and another of two children in pink shirts. The bottom section of the poster is a dark blue band with the text "SPORT AND ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CAMPS AT DERBY HIGH SCHOOL, DE23 3DT". At the very bottom, there is a white band containing the Activate Camps logo, contact information (website, phone, email), safety and approval logos (PROACTIVE, Ofsted), and a QR code with the text "FIND OUT MORE".

ACTIVATE YOUR 2026 CAMPS!

MULTI SPORT CAMP
30 MAR-2 APR
& 27-31 JUL & 3-7 AUG
& 10-14 AUG & 17-21 AUG

NETBALL FEVER
4-6 AUG

**SPORT AND ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CAMPS AT
DERBY HIGH SCHOOL, DE23 3DT**

Activate Camps
www.activatecamps.co.uk
0121 227 4385
info@activatecamps.co.uk

SAFE AND APPROVED
PROACTIVE
Ofsted

FIND OUT MORE
QR CODE

Second Hand Uniform Shop

Second Hand Uniform Shop Appointments can now be made for during the February Half Term. Please note that the uniform shop will only be open on Monday and Tuesday of the Half Term

Holiday. If you would like to book an appointment, please email Mrs Holland on, uniform@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk or call main reception on 01332 514267. Thank you

School Blazer Sale

School Blazer will be running a Spring sale from 9th to 13th February 2026. There will be up to 1/3rd off selected in-stock items online at schoolblazer.com during the sale period, while stocks last.



Primary Open Morning – Saturday 14th March 9am to 11:30am

We are very excited to be holding a Primary Open Morning on Saturday 14th March. All primary parents will have received a High Post with information on this event.

If any parents know of any friends and family who may be interested in looking around our Primary school for their children please do spread the word! Please ask them to contact our Admissions Team so we know they are joining us for this event, either via email – admissions@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk or via the form on our website by [clicking here](#).

A blue rectangular poster for a 'Primary Open Morning'. On the left, there is a white box containing the Derby High School logo (a shield with a cross and four quadrants) and the text 'DERBY HIGH SCHOOL'. Below the logo, it says 'Derby High School is a thriving independent day school, inspiring and supporting girls and boys from 3 to 18.' and 'Visit us and learn about life in our Primary School, from Pre-School to Year 6.' with a green arrow pointing right. To the right of the white box are two photographs: the top one shows a teacher and two children sitting at a table, and the bottom one shows two children sitting on stone steps outside. At the bottom of the poster, in large white letters, it says 'Primary Open Morning'. Below that, in white letters, it says 'SATURDAY 14TH MARCH 2026' and '9:00am to 11:30am'.

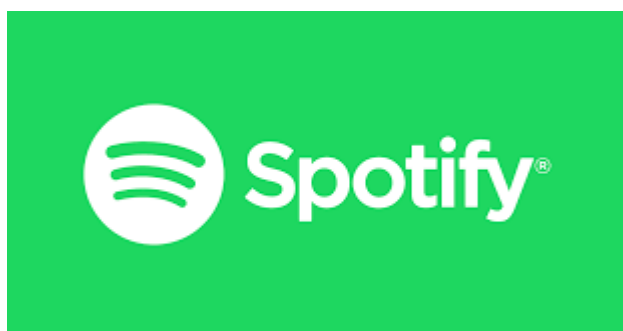
Safeguarding Corner

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Episode 58 – Children's Mental Health Week

This week in our podcast Mrs McBride is joined by two Year 6 pupils to discuss Children's Mental Health Week. The discussion includes the importance of sleep and what we will be doing in the Primary next Friday to mark this important week. To listen to the podcast please [click here](#).

For more information on Children's Mental Health Week please click here. [Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week - Official site](#)



Parent Webinars on County Lines and Criminal Exploitation (Iverson Trust)

The Iverson Trust (formerly Pace) is a national charity working to keep children safe from exploitation by supporting parents, disrupting exploiters, and working in partnership with police and family services. Their work is grounded in a trauma-informed, family-centred approach.

During March 2026, the Iverson Trust is delivering a series of live webinars for parents and carers focused on county lines and criminal exploitation. The sessions help parents understand how

exploitation happens, how children are groomed, what warning signs to look out for, and where to access advice and support. Each webinar includes local context, time for questions, and input from a parent with lived experience.

More information and booking details are available at:

<https://ivisontrust.org.uk/webinars/>

A note on Whatsapp (age rating of 13+)

Unkind and harmful participation in Whatsapp groups continues to be a problem for young people across the world. Often these young people are under the minimum age allowed to use the app worldwide, which is 13.

We continue to reinforce messages of digital etiquette in school, and we would appreciate if you took the time as parents to have a conversation with your child about their use of Whatsapp in particular (if indeed they have it) and to talk through some of the conversations they are having in these groups, especially those that are 'locked'. Online disinhibition means that young people can be tempted to say and post things that they would not do 'in real life' and this can then cause harm to others in their communities. This is particularly important if the messages sent break the Equalities Act or Malicious Communications Act.

There are two key messages to reinforce:

1. Once you've posted it, you have lost control of it.
2. If you wouldn't want your family or teachers to see it, don't post it.

More information can be found here: [What is WhatsApp? A safety guide for parents | Internet Matters](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 10th February – Year 7 Scholarship award letters sent out

Tuesday 10th February – Safer internet Day

Thursday 12th February – Year 5 Mexico Day

Friday 13th February – Non School uniform to mark Children's Mental Health Week

Friday 13th February – Last Day of Half Term – February Half term break begins

Monday 26th February – Start of term

Thursday 26th February – Primary Teatime Concert

Friday 27th February – Primary Parent Showcase

Useful Links