



High Notes

Senior High Notes Friday 13th September 2024

Dear Parents

It was a pleasure to welcome our Year 10 and Year 12 parents and students on Wednesday evening for an insightful series of talks by our staff, focused on how best to support your child through the crucial exam years. As your children transition into GCSEs and A-levels, these moments mark key turning points in their educational journey. The partnership between school and home becomes more important than ever, ensuring that every student is equipped with the support, guidance, and encouragement needed to thrive.

On Thursday morning, the entire school came together for our whole school photo, a cherished tradition that embodies the unity of our community. This occasion is not only a wonderful visual record of the diverse and vibrant life at our school, but also a reminder of the collective spirit that defines us. It is a powerful symbol of our shared journey, with every student and staff member contributing to the fabric of our school.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

House Netball Year 7 to 9

Today, the much-anticipated House Netball Tournament took place, marking the first event of the year on our brand-new outdoor netball courts. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as St George, St Patrick, St David and St Andrew competed for the house trophy.

It was a fantastic lunchtime of netball, filled with teamwork, competitive spirit, and great sportsmanship from all houses. Congratulations to Year 7 St Andrew and Year 8/9 St Patrick on their victory. A big round of applause must go to all the players who made this tournament such a memorable event. With the new courts proving to be a perfect setting, we look forward to many more exciting house competitions to come over this academic year!



Oxbridge Talk

Yesterday, Rose, a former pupil, came in to speak to Y12 about the process of applying to Oxbridge and life at a collegiate university. Rose is currently reading Economics and Management at Balliol College, Oxford. It was really informative to learn about aspects of study such as the tutorial system and she was able to provide answers for all of the curious questions that Y12 had. Thanks Rose!



Congratulations, Jack

Jack, Year 8, had some great successes with his cricket this season. Jack plays for his local cricket club, Rolleston. His U12 team won the South Derbyshire Cup and he received the manager's award for his under 15 performances last Friday night at a presentation evening. In addition, he was part of the squad that won the under 15 Burton Cup earlier in the season. Well done, Jack!



Football Success For Isla

Congratulations to Isla, Year 11, for her football success. Over the summer break Isla signed for Burton Albion U16's, the pathway for the Women's team. Last weekend Isla played her first league game, scored the first goal of the season and was also awarded player of the match. Well done, Isla.



Congratulations, May

Over the summer break, May in Year 8, auditioned for a Rare Productions show of Annie that is being shown at Melton Theatre throughout October. May competed against a large number of people and was delighted to be offered a lead role of Grace Farrell. The production is for under 21s, so May was thrilled about getting a lead role at 12 years old, after competing against lots of young adults. Well done, May.



Harvest Festival

This Autumn, we will be continuing to support the Padley Centre. Many food banks are facing challenges, especially with increased demand. As part of our Harvest Festival, we will be collecting non-monetary donations such as food and household items to assist the Padley Centre in their vital work in Derby and

the surrounding areas. We will be welcoming donations to our Senior School main reception until the 16th October. Please check your HighPost for more details.

POLITE NOTICE; Parents of Children in Late Waiting After 3.45pm

Please note that Reception is closed after 4.30pm, and therefore there is no vehicular access to the Pastures Hill entrance. If you are collecting a child from Late Waiting, please use the car park on Hillsway only and telephone school on 01332 514267. Your child will then be released from Late Waiting and will meet you on the Hillsway car park. Thank you.

Safeguarding Corner

In2 Podcast, Episode 17 – Pressure

Welcome to our 17th episode, discussing the topic of pressure and young people. Our discussion is led by our Assistant Head – Pastoral (Seniors), Jonathan Thornton and our Assistant Head – Pastoral (Primary), Charlotte McBride.

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



For further information on this topic you may wish to follow this link: [How to support 11-18 year olds with mental their health - Mind](#)

Mobile Phone Options for Parents

Mrs Bellman has talked a lot about online safety at the various parent meetings this term already. For parents considering a first phone for your child, or perhaps struggling with conflict surrounding it, you may be interested to hear about the different options available. Some are linked below.

[How to get your child set up safely on their first device | EE Learn](#) - advice for setting up the device safely

[Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#) - a guide for parental controls

[Smartphone Free Childhood](#) - for those of you who want advice for staying smartphone free!

[ParentShield Child Safe SIM and Mobile Network for Children](#) - a slightly different option for a SIM card that switches between a 'dumb' phone and a 'smart' phone when parents wish.

Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 19th September – Year 7 trip

Wednesday 25th September – Sixth Form Open Evening (for year 11)

Thursday 26th September – Year 9 parents online meeting regarding residential trip

Useful Links

School menu week commencing 16th September - [click here](#).

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