



Senior High Notes Friday 22nd May

Dear Parents

As we reach the end of another busy half term, there is a real sense of accomplishment across the Senior School. Year 7, 8 and 9 students have now completed their exam week and should feel proud of the way they approached the challenge. For many, this will have been an important opportunity not only to demonstrate what they have learned, but also to develop the routines, resilience and revision habits that will support them throughout their school journey. For Year 10, the exam season continues in the week after half term, whilst our Year 11 and Year 13 students are now well into their GCSE and A Level examinations. I have been incredibly impressed by the calm, mature and purposeful atmosphere around school in recent weeks. Examinations are, of course, important, but so too is learning how to manage pressure, remain balanced and keep perspective, and our students continue to show great character in the way they are approaching this period.

As half term begins, I would also encourage families to keep the conversation going around social media and mobile phone use following my letter last week. Holidays naturally bring more free time and, with that, often more time spent online and on devices. One of the things I reflected on in my letter was the idea of children being truly ready for social media, not simply in terms of age, but emotionally too. Many parts of the online world are designed for adults and can expose young people to pressures, content and expectations that they are still learning how to navigate. As parents and schools, we are all trying to work this out together and there is rarely a perfect answer. What matters most is that children continue to feel able to talk openly with trusted adults and that we keep reflecting carefully on what is right for each child at each stage of their development. This week's podcast from Mrs Bellman and Miss Jordan links closely to this theme, reflecting on our recent online safety and use survey and what it tells us about our students' attitudes towards, and use of, social media and mobile phones. It is a really interesting and thought-provoking discussion and I would encourage parents to take some time to listen over the half term break.

I hope that the break provides an opportunity for students and families to rest, recharge and spend quality time together. We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Monday 1st June for the final half term of the academic year.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Portrait Photos

You may recall that Alethea Simpson visited the school to take individual portrait photographs.

The deadline for online orders is Wednesday 27th May at midnight. Orders placed by this deadline will be delivered to the school within 10 working days. Once the photographs arrive, they will be distributed to students to take home.

Year 11 and Year 13 students may collect their photographs from Student Reception when attending school for revision sessions or examinations.

Orders can still be placed after the deadline; however, a £5 postage and packaging charge will automatically apply, and the photographs will be sent directly to the home address provided.

Summer Uniform Reminder

In preparation for Sports Day on Friday 26th June, please note that it is a uniform requirement for students to have a PE house top.

If you need to purchase any uniform items, these are available via the [Schoolblazer](#) website or through the Second Hand Uniform Shop at uniform@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk.

Safeguarding Corner

Episode 70 - Supporting Healthy Media Use at Home

We recently asked our students in the Senior School about how they use social media and their devices in the form of an anonymous survey. In this week's podcast Mrs Bellman (Deputy Head - Pastoral) and Miss Jordan (Senior Deputy Head) discuss the findings of the survey and how parents can support their child, [Click here](#) to listen.

Further support and information can be found here:

Internet Matters: <https://www.internetmatters.org>

NSPCC Net Aware: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk>

National Online Safety: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com>



Episode 70 - Supporting Healthy Media Use at Home

Derby High School Podcasts



Episode • 3m 21s

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 1st June – Students return to school

Monday 1st June – Year 10 Summer Examinations (Week 2)

Monday 1st June – Year 12 Summer Examinations

Thursday 4th June – Madrid trip meeting for parents (Online)

Monday 8th June – Year 10 Sixth Form Taster Day

Wednesday 10th June – Year 12 JCB Presentation trip to JCB HQ

Friday 12th June- Year 7 trip to Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Saturday 13th June – Alumni Summer Get-Together

Useful Links