



Senior High Notes Friday 28th March 2025

Dear Parents

As we bring this term to a close, it is impossible not to reflect on the truly spectacular production of *The Wizard of Oz* last week. The performance was nothing short of magical, an explosion of talent and energy that captivated the audiences from start to finish. The cast delivered outstanding performances, bringing each character to life beautifully. A huge congratulations to everyone involved!

This week, some of our Year 12 students embarked on their Gold Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition, demonstrating resilience, teamwork, and determination as they tackled the challenges of the great outdoors. Their perseverance and positivity were outstanding, and they are now well on their way to their final expedition in June. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is an exceptional programme, helping students develop key life skills such as leadership, problem-solving, and independence. This is just the beginning of the expedition season for Derby High students, with our Silver and Bronze participants heading out on their own adventures early next term. I have no doubt they will rise to the challenge just as impressively as the Gold students.

Meanwhile, our A level Physics students have had an incredible opportunity this week, travelling to CERN to witness first-hand some of the most cutting-edge scientific research. This is an experience that will surely inspire and deepen their passion for the subject.



As we enter the Easter break, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the dedication of our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they prepare for their external examinations, which begin early next term. This is a crucial time for revision, and I encourage all students to plan their study schedules carefully, balancing focused, active revision with regular breaks to maintain well-being. Techniques such as practising past papers, summarising key concepts, and using recall strategies will be invaluable. Please remember that our staff are here to support you.

Finally, I would like to wish all of our students, staff, and families a restful and enjoyable Easter break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday, 22nd April.

Happy Easter!

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Practice Expedition

Huge congratulations to the eleven Year 12 students who participated in their Gold D of E practice this weekend in Edale! Climbing three large hills and completing 50 km of walking in just three days is an impressive achievement—especially at record speed! It sounds like they truly challenged themselves and gained valuable experience.

This weekend was perfect preparation for the qualifying expedition in June, providing a mix of weather conditions from wind and rain to sunshine, which will surely help them be fully prepared for whatever comes their way.

A big thank you to Mr King, Mr Maddox, and Mrs Davies for their invaluable support in helping the students get ready for this challenge. Best of luck to everyone in the upcoming qualifying expedition.



The Wizard of Oz

What an incredible achievement for Derby High School's senior production team! A huge congratulations to everyone involved in The Wizard of Oz. The dedication and hard work that went into this production is evident in every aspect of the show. Performing in front of families, friends, and staff must have been such a special experience. The performance was brought to life with the orchestra accompanying the vocals as well as showcasing their pieces. The whole performance was clearly a memorable one. You all should be so proud of the fantastic job you did!

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the production with their generous donations, it is clear the show wouldn't have been the same without that support. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as the cast and crew did! What an amazing experience all around!

For more photographs please visit our website gallery. Parents have been sent a Highpost with the password to access the gallery.



French movie night

On Tuesday 25th March, Year 11, 12 & 13 spent the evening at school, in the Sixth Form common room, to watch a French movie.

Students enjoyed freshly baked pizzas and chips while watching the movie.

The movie, Mr Klein, was set in France during the Second World War and the German occupation. Not only interesting for general knowledge, it was also very informative as this topic is covered during French A-Level studies.

A great way to start the eater break and coming to an end of the GCSE and A-Level courses as the exams will soon start.



Articulation Grand Final at The British Library

On Tuesday, Zainab (Year 12) took part in The Grand Final of the Articulation national public speaking competition at The British Library, adjudicated by Yomi Şode, Nigerian writer and performer.

Having been successful in the school and regional finals, Zainab won a place amongst the top ten speakers, beating over a 1000 students from 150 other schools to reach the final.

Zainab's speech on the Imam Reza shrine resonated deeply with the audience, bringing some to tears; she was praised for her accomplished and passionate delivery and her assured, skilfully structured argument as she took her audience with her on a tour of the Shrine.

The day offered an opportunity to view the collection at The British Library and to make new friends.



YMCA Easter egg Collection

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who generously donated Easter eggs to support YMCA Derby's Easter appeal. Thanks to the kindness and support of Derby High families and pupils, we are thrilled to announce that Paul from YMCA Derby collected of almost 200 Easter eggs!

These eggs will go a long way in bringing joy to local families who might otherwise not have the opportunity to celebrate Easter in this special way. It is wonderful to see our school community come together to help those in need.

A special thank you goes to our Year 6 charity representatives and to our Year 9 helpers who went above and beyond to assist in transporting the eggs to the van on Tuesday. Your hard work and dedication made this possible, and we are incredibly proud of you all.

Your support will truly make a difference, and we again thank you for your kindness and generosity.





Year 8 Netball

On Tuesday, the Year 8 Netball team travelled over to West Park to play in their next round of the City Tournament, where they faced two strong sides in West Park and Littleover Community School. Although the final scores weren't in our favour (12-0 against West Park and 19-1 against LCS), there were plenty of positives to take away. Against West Park, our defensive unit worked hard under constant pressure, making some great interceptions and never giving up.

In the second match against LCS, it was fantastic to get a goal on the scoreboard from Lily against LCS, showing the team's determination to keep pushing until the final whistle. Both games were great learning experiences, giving the team the chance to test their resilience and teamwork under challenging conditions. Well done to everyone who took part!



U13 Indoor Cricket

This week saw our U13 indoor cricket team take part in the county finals day at Derbyshire County Cricket Club. We were drawn to play Chapel School in the semi-final and what a performance the team demonstrated!

We batted first and made 71 with Jack and Imran both retiring on 15. But the best part of our game was our fielding and bowling. We had two direct hit run outs from Zach and Jack, two great catches from Arnav and Jack, and Sufyaan bowled 3 batters in 4 balls. Chapel ended up 26 all out.

Luckily, Derbyshire were playing a game against Oxford University and so the team was able to watch some top quality cricket whilst having lunch.

On to the final against Trent College. We bowled first and had Trent in trouble at 25 for 4. Unfortunately, the momentum swung Trent's way and they made 107 with some powerful hitting at the end. Despite a fully wholehearted performance with the bat with Jack again retiring, we ended up some 40 runs short.

All the team played with a great deal of heart. It was fantastic to see all of their hard work pay off with some strong performances.



Midlands Theatre Ballet

A huge congratulations to Eva (Year 7) for being selected to perform in the Midlands Theatre Ballet Production of *Beauty and the Beast*! She has truly earned this incredible opportunity through her hard work and dedication. Eva should be extremely proud of herself, and we wish her the best of luck for the final shows!

In addition to her amazing achievement with the ballet production, Eva has also had remarkable success with HA Dance Company. Competing in the England regional of the Global Dance Open in January and winning a silver medal for her tap duet is a fantastic accomplishment. And now, securing a spot for Team England at the Global Finals international competition in the summer—what a fantastic next step for her! Eva's talent and determination are truly inspiring. Keep up the hard work Eva!



Congratulations, Peter

Peter (Year 7), is celebrating with his rugby team after their victory at the Bromsgrove Rugby Tournament. As a player for the Burton RFC U12s, Peter was thrilled to have won every match and secured the overall tournament win last Sunday. What an outstanding achievement—congratulations, Peter!



House Art 2025

We are delighted to launch this year's House Art competition.

The brief this year is **Mythology**. You can create a piece of art that explores this theme in any way.

You can use any media, 2D or 3D, from sculpture, to painting, drawing, mixed media, digital illustration, textiles, and photography ... Anything you like!

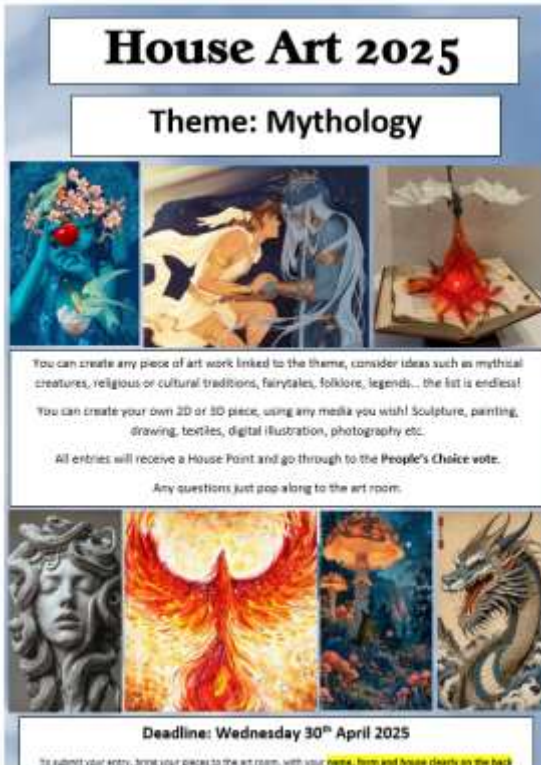
The Deadline is Wednesday 30th April 2025

To submit your entry, bring your pieces to the art room, with your **name, form and house clearly written on the back**. **Every single entry will receive a House point that will go towards the winning House Art trophy. Staff entries welcome.**

KS3 will receive more information about the competition in lessons and Kate the Art Prefect will be popping into form rooms.

If you have any questions feel free to come and talk to your new Art prefect Kate McKay, in the art gallery / sixth form common room, or speak to Mrs. Martin-Smith or Mr Stokes... you will always find us in the art room.

Look forward to seeing your entries



House Art 2025

Theme: Mythology



You can create any piece of art work linked to the theme, consider ideas such as mythical creatures, religious or cultural traditions, fairytales, folklore, legends... the list is endless!

You can create your own 2D or 3D piece, using any media you wish! Sculpture, painting, drawing, textiles, digital illustration, photography etc.

All entries will receive a House Point and go through to the **People's Choice vote**.

Any questions just pop along to the art room.



Deadline: Wednesday 30th April 2025

To submit your entry, bring your pieces to the art room, with your **name, form and house clearly on the back**

Bookmark Competition Winners

Since world book day the library has been running a bookmark illustrating competition. There was no theme, students were just asked to make it appealing to all years. We have had some amazing entries, which made it very difficult for the Heads of Years (HOYs) to judge. All of the entries were given a letter and judged anonymously. In a happy coincidence, each HOY chose a bookmark from the year group they oversee!

Highly commended/ Librarian's pick is **Aarav, Year 8**.

Our two runners up chosen by the HOYs are **Madeleine, Year 9** and **Emily, Year 8**.

And our winner chosen by the HOYs is **Lilah, Year 7**.

Lilah and Aarav will be able to each choose a book for the library to buy on their behalf. The books will be dedicated in their honour, so students for years to come can read their favourite books.

Miss Ridley will put all of the magnificent entries on display in the library, so everyone's work can be enjoyed! And copies of all of the bookmarks will be available to use. Thank you so much for entering.



Second Hand Uniform Shop – Open during Easter Holiday

Appointments for the Second Hand Uniform Shop can now been made for during the Easter holiday. If you would like to book an appointment please email Mrs Holland on sholland@derbyhigh.derby.sch.uk or call main reception on 01332 514267. Thank you.

A Polite Reminder – Conservation Area

A polite reminder to everyone: On the conservation area, there are some wild flower seeds that are still growing. To give them the best chance to thrive, please stay on the designated paths when walking on the school grounds. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated—thank you for helping us protect the flowers!

Derbyshire Institute of Sport

The Easter Camp, hosted by the Derbyshire Institute of Sport, will be running a week long camp, between 7th-11th April, for young aspiring athletes aged between 8-12 to come and experience what it is like to train like an elite athlete.

During the week, camp attendees will experience training in a high-performance environment learning the fundamental principles of Strength and Conditioning, Performance Nutrition and Psychology, and get to try out a new sport each day. Attendees will also receive inspirational talks from elite athletes and learn about their careers in sport.

The sports that will be taking place on each day are:

Monday – Futsal

Tuesday – Wheelchair Basketball

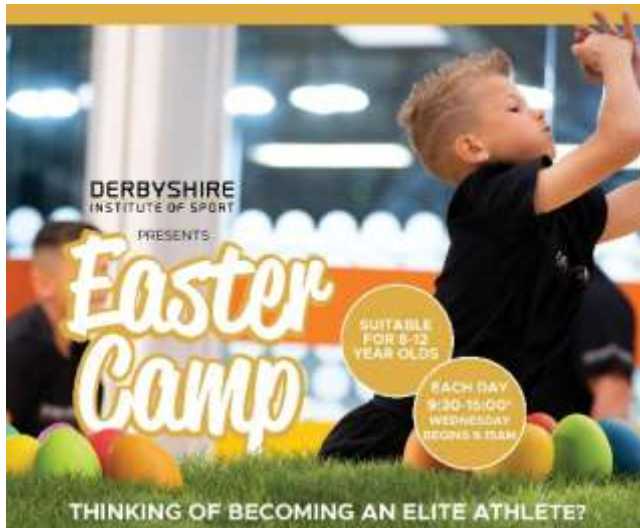
Wednesday – Track Cycling

Thursday – Judo

Friday – Padel

The digital flyer and the sign-up link below:

<https://derbyshireis.ac-page.com/easter-camp>



DERBYSHIRE
INSTITUTE OF SPORT
PRESENTS:

Easter Camp

SUITABLE FOR 8-12 YEAR OLDS

EACH DAY 9:30-10:00*
WEDNESDAY 10:00-10:30*
BOOKS & ISAK

THINKING OF BECOMING AN ELITE ATHLETE?

This is your place to start! Train like an athlete for the day, learning the fundamental principles of **Strength and Conditioning**, **Performance Nutrition and Psychology**, try a new sport and hear from **elite athletes** about their career in sport.

WHEN?	HOW MUCH?
Monday 7th April – Futsal	1 day = £40 per day
Tuesday 8th April – Wheelchair Basketball	2 days = £35 per day
Wednesday 9th April – Track Cycling	3 days = £35 per day
Thursday 10th April – Judo	4 days = £35 per day
Friday 11th April – Padel	5 days = £30 per day

 **Register your interest now!**
Scan the code, call **07522 566940** or email aaronanderson@derbyshireis.co.uk

Derby Arena, Royal Way, Pride Park, Derby DE24 8JB

Safeguarding Corner

Safeguarding Podcast – In2 - Attendance

This week's podcast is brought to us by Mrs. Bellman and Mr. Thornton. This week's topic is about school attendance and why it's important for children to attend school as much as possible.

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



 **Safeguarding Corner Podcast**

Episode 37
In 2
Attendance - Seniors




Ulrika Bellman
Deputy Head – Pastoral

Jonathan Thornton
Deputy Head – Pastoral

For further information and advice please follow the following link: [Why is school attendance important and what support is available? – The Education Hub](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 22nd April – Term Begins

Wednesday 23rd April - Year 11 and 13 Individual Portrait photos

Friday 25th April – Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice

Monday 28th April – Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 Individual Portraits photos

Wednesday 30th April – Senior School Recital

Thursday 1st May – Year 13 Leavers Night

Friday 2nd May – Year 11 Study Leave

Useful Links