



Senior High Notes Friday 30th January

Dear Parents

This week has reminded us just how special the House system is at Derby High. From the heats of House Music to today's House Football matches, students from every year group have been fully engaged, not just competing, but cheering, encouraging, and celebrating each other's efforts.

The House system is about so much more than winning trophies. It is about creating a sense of belonging and pride, where every student knows they are part of something bigger than themselves. Our Sixth Form students' step into leadership roles, guiding their teams, supporting others and modelling sportsmanship and confidence. At the same time students have shown courage, teamwork, and determination, contributing fully to their Houses. And let's not forget the supporters on the sidelines, their cheers, encouragement and pride make every match and performance feel like a real community celebration. Moments like this show why our House system is at the heart of Derby High. It nurtures friendship, resilience, collaboration, and shared joy, and it strengthens the bonds across our school community.

Music and sport are just two of the ways our students learn to lead, follow, celebrate others, and take pride in collective achievement. It is a reminder that school is not just about lessons and exams, it is about growth, confidence, and the relationships that make every day meaningful.

Best wishes,

Amy Chapman

Head

Indoor Athletics competition

On Tuesday the Year 7 boys and girls competed at an Indoor Athletics competition. This saw pupils compete against seven other schools, demonstrating their speed, power and stamina through running, throwing and jumping events. All Derby High pupils demonstrated superb effort with fantastic performances in the individual and relay events. The performance of the afternoon came from Tabitha with a superb run in the individual 6 lap race, whilst other pupils sprinted out the

blocks, Tabitha demonstrated superb calmness in pacing herself to overtake each runner and finish the event in first.



Year 7 and 8 Netball

On Wednesday afternoon, our Year 7 and Year 8 netball teams travelled to Twycross to take part in a friendly fixture.

The Year 8 team played a tightly contested match, with the scoreline never more than one or two goals apart throughout. The girls showed excellent teamwork and focus, driving into helpful spaces to support one another. Their determination paid off, securing a hard-fought 13–12 win by the final whistle.

The Year 7 team faced a challenging game but showed great resilience and positivity throughout. Despite the scoreline finishing 23–1, the girls never gave up and continued to show enthusiasm and effort. They worked hard to improve their marking, staying closer to their players, and focused on adding more power and accuracy to their passing.

Well done to both teams for representing the school with such commitment and sportsmanship.



Year 7 Basketball

Derby High's Year 7 basketball team put in an excellent performance at the tournament on Wednesday, finishing second out of nine schools after a series of competitive matches.

The group stage began strongly with a 14–6 victory over Landau Forte. The team showed great teamwork and composure, with Noah impressing through his accurate shooting and Benjamin controlling the tempo of the game. Both players were deservedly named Players of the Match.

The second group game was a closely fought contest against Noel Baker, ending in a narrow 12–11 win for Derby High. Benjamin once again dictated play with his calm decision-making, while Connor contributed crucial points with clinical shooting. Their combined influence earned them Players of the Match.

The boys then faced a strong West Park Boys' side and were beaten 21–6 in a tough and physical encounter. Despite the result, the team showed resilience and determination throughout.

Derby High bounced back well in the second-place play-off, securing a confident 10–6 win against West Park Girls. Raayan delivered an outstanding all-round performance, earning Player of the Match for his tireless work rate in both attack and defence.

Overall, the tournament was a great success for the team, who demonstrated skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship to finish second overall. A fantastic effort from all involved.



U13 Indoor Cricket

On Monday the U13 Indoor cricket team played against Repton Prep in the first round of the county cup. After weeks of practice both inside the Sports Hall and on the courts during break, the team was ready to play against a strong opposition.

Autumn won the coin toss and decided to bowl first. Repton made 65 in their 8 overs and found it tough to hit boundaries thanks to some very accurate bowling from all of the players and some great fielding (including a fantastic one-handed catch from Mohammad).

It was then our turn to bat and despite an excellent start to our innings (30 off the first 3 overs) we ended up 7 runs short on 58.

Special mention should go to Autumn and Arnav who top scored with the bat. It was a very tight game of cricket that could have gone either way, but everyone should be proud of the skills and effort that they showed.



Art & Design Photography Competition

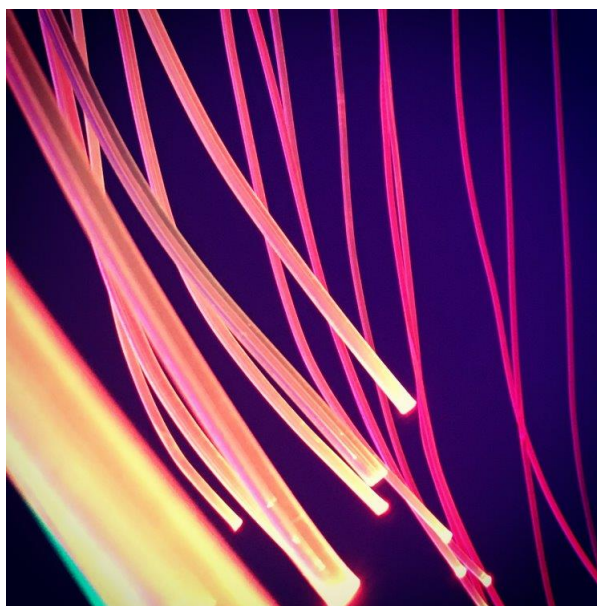
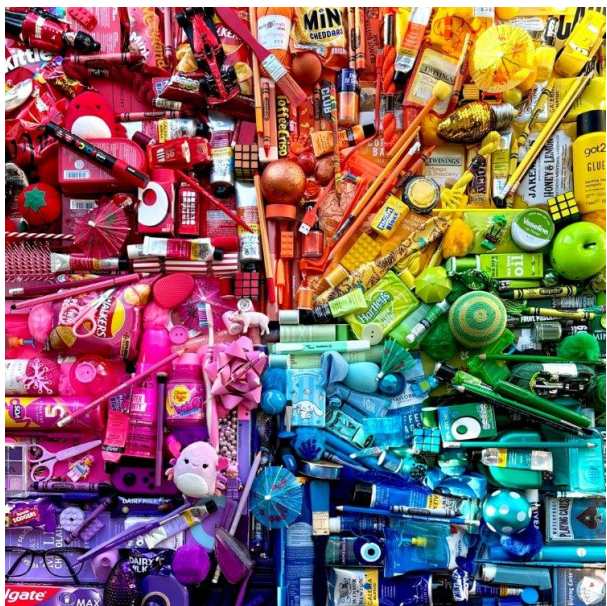
Mrs. Martin-Smith announced the winners of this year's Art & Design Photography Competition this week. The theme, Colour, was thoughtfully interpreted by both students and staff, and the standard of work was extremely high.

The panel of judges had a difficult task selecting the winners and highly commended entries, as the quality and creativity across all submissions was impressive.

Well done to everyone who entered. [Here are the winners and runners-up](#), which will be displayed around our school.

Events like our Photography Competition play an important role in school life. It encourages students and staff to observe the world more carefully and to think creatively about how ideas and stories can be communicated visually. It helps develop technical and artistic skills, from composition and lighting to editing and presentation. Sharing and displaying the entries strengthens our sense of community, celebrates diverse perspectives, and highlights the value of the arts within Derby High School.

Thank you to our panel of judges, Kate (Art Prefect & Fine Art Scholar), Jasmine (Sixth Form Textile Design Scholar & Student Art & Design Mentor) and Sophie (Sixth Form Art & Design Mentor) and to Mrs. Martin-Smith for coordinating this annual competition.



House Football

Last Friday marked the start of our Senior House Football Competition. Due to the weather, the matches were moved indoors from the sports field to the Sports Hall, but that did nothing to dampen the spirit. Friendly yet competitive rivalry was on full display as the teams battled it out for the annual trophy.

Last Friday saw the girls take to the court, with the boys' competition taking place this lunch time. Teams were split into Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4/5 groups, ensuring exciting and evenly matched games throughout.

It was fantastic to see our House Captains on the sidelines, supporting and cheering on their houses with real enthusiasm.

Results will be announced next week.



Derby High Charity Fundraising

We are delighted to have donated £866.17 to the Little Princess Trust, thanks to the incredible generosity of our school community. These funds were raised through donations at our Carol Service in December. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously.



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. 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

Safeguarding Corner

Safeguarding Podcast; Episode 57. Financial Exploitation

This week Mrs. Bellman and Miss. Jordan discuss the topic of financially motivated sexual extortion and protecting children from child criminal exploitation.

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



For more information on this topic please click on the following links.

[Protecting children from child criminal exploitation | NSPCC Learning](#)
[nca_financially_motivated_sexual_extortion_alert_education_eng.pdf](#)
[CFE-workbook-DIGITAL-compressed.pdf](#)

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 2nd February – Week B

Monday 2nd February – Year 10 Oxford School's Debating Competition

Monday 2nd February – GCSE Drama Rehearsals commence

Tuesday 3rd February – Year 11 Learning Review (Online)

Wednesday 4th February – Year 11 Learning Review (Online)

Wednesday 4th February – Drama Scholars Lunchtime performance

Thursday 5th February – Senior Music Recital, 5:30pm

Monday 9th February – Week A

Monday 9th February – A Level Options application form sent out to Year 11

Monday 9th February – Year 8 trip to the Open Centre

Tuesday 10th February – Year 9 West Midlands Train Project

Wednesday 11th February – Year 9 Learning Reviews (Online)

Wednesday 11th February – Year 12 University of Derby Degree Apprenticeship Fair

Wednesday 11th February – Year 8 Symphony Hall trip

Thursday 12th February – Year 9 Learning reviews (Online)

Thursday 12th February – Year 11 Drama GCSE Performance

Thursday 12th February – Franklins Accountants Career Talk, lunchtime

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

Friday 13th February – End of half term

Useful Links