

This Week at Derby Cathedral School

wc 12 December 2022



For nothing will be impossible with God. Luke 1:37

Dear Parent(s) and Carer(s),

It was lovely to hear the change to our musical 'bell' this week in school that marked the last full week of term. You may be aware that we don't have a traditional school bell to mark the start and end of lessons but instead play a musical clip. This helps to add a calming change between lessons and is lovely way to introducing different pieces of music to our students.

Last year we enjoyed Four Seasons – Autumn by Vivaldi

This term is a piece by Mozart called Eine Kleine Nachtmusik. It translates as 'A little night music'.

Students were able to vote for a change towards the end of term and from Monday we have been listening to the tune of the carol 'Ding Dong Merrily on High'.

It has been lovely to hear students humming along and occasionally singing: Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

This translates from Latin as: Glory! Hosanna in the highest!)

We all really enjoyed the first Christmas concert that we've been able to hold since 2018 this week! Please take a moment to read about it below. An email has gone out to all parents/carers about the different activities in the last week in school – please let the school office know using info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk if you haven't yet received this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over this term and to wish all of you a very happy Christmas and New Year when we get there.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Brown
Headteacher

Notices

New Staff in January

We are delighted to welcome some new staff in January.

The following staff will be joining the team on 9 January and I'm sure will feature in a 'Meet the Team' at some point in the new term!

Mr Sakaria – Second in Maths department

Mr Thompson – Teacher of maths

Ms Edwards – Teacher of Computing

Ms Karim - Lunchtime Supervisor

Mrs Boyer - School Business Officer

Mrs Barstow – ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)

Ms Walmsley – PA to the Head / Office Manager

Ms Floyd – Creative Tech technician (maternity cover)

Ms Jones – Clerk to Governor

We have also been delighted with the response to our advert for exam invigilators. A number of them will be joining us over the next two terms and will be in place for the summer exam season.

Christmas Concert

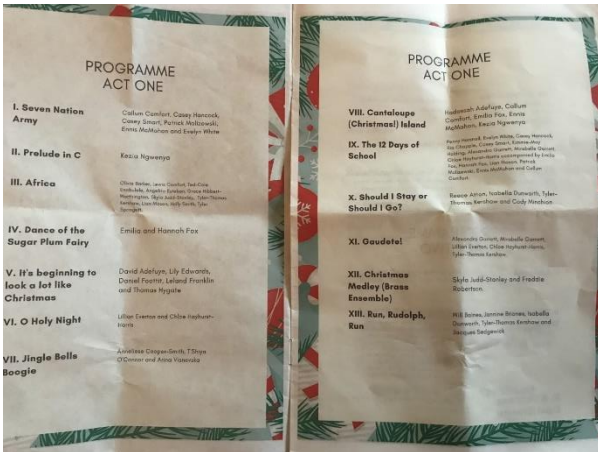
Our first Christmas concert in our new building was held on Thursday 15 December and was a great success!

The main hall looked fantastic thanks to the artistic talents of Mrs Boyle and the tech support from Mr Price.

It featured musical and drama acts from a wide range of styles, many that followed a Christmas theme.

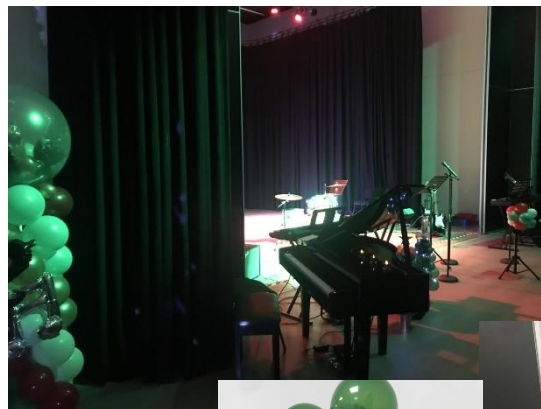
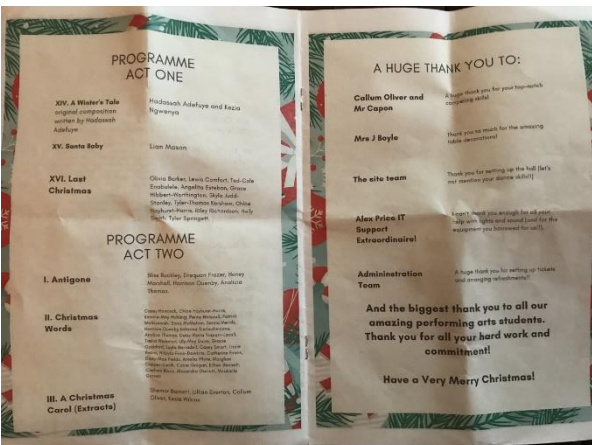
It was fantastic to see so many students from all year groups perform together. They had obviously worked really hard practising their parts and it's always incredibly impressive to see so much talent, passion and enthusiasm on stage.

The acts ranged from a drama medley where only Christmas/winter words were used that ended with Santa being pelted by snowballs to the choir singing 'The 12 days of school' that included some very familiar phrases such as 'tuck in your shirt' and 'the dog ate my homework'. Our rock band and music GCSE groups covered some classics such as Seven Nation Army by the White Stripes and Africa by Toto and we all thoroughly enjoyed a beautiful rendition of 'O Holy Night'.



There were so many other fantastic pieces, each of them showcasing some impressive talent from our musicians, singers and budding actors. The evening was held together by the combined talent of Callum in year 11 and Mr Capon as comperes.

It was fantastic to have so many families and friends of the performers come and support; the hall was packed! A huge thank you to Miss Eaton and Miss Wrampling for all of their hard work in putting this together, and the support from Mr Emberley and Mr Goodhead with some of the musical pieces.



Staying safe over the holidays

Staying Safe online

If you are thinking about treating your children to the latest gaming consoles this Christmas, or have already snatched one up in the Black Friday/Cyber Monday deals, learn the latest features and parental controls now available on gaming consoles to ensure your children play safe online.

Check out the posts from National Online Safety at :

<https://blog.nationalcollege.com/news/gaming-consoles-play-safe-this-christmas>

Parental Locks and controls for PlayStation:

<https://www.playstation.com/en-gb/support/account/ps5-parental-controls-spending-limits/>

Parental Locks and controls for Xbox:

<https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/community/for-everyone/responsible-gaming#:~:text=You%20can%20personalise%20each%20child's,microsoft.com%2Ffamily>.

More information of the development of cyber threats in the next 8 years have a look at this interesting article:

<https://www.enisa.europa.eu/news/cybersecurity-threats-fast-forward-2030>

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have any concerns related to safeguarding please note that our safeguarding staff will not be checking emails over the break.

If you have any worries about your own child/children or others, then please call Derby City Council Childrens' Social Care directly on:

01332 641172 between 9am – 5pm, Monday – Friday

01332 956606 for out of hours.

In an emergency situation, if a child is at immediate risk of harm call the police on 999

For any non-emergency concerns, including concerns related to social media, please call the police on 101.

Getting Support

The following websites offer mental health/wellbeing support online or on the phone for young people:

- ChildLine – 0800 1111, <https://www.childline.org.uk/>
- Samaritans – 116 123, [samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org), email: jo@samaritans.org.uk
- NSPCC – <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- Harmless (self harm/suicide prevention) – <https://harmless.org.uk/>
- Kooth (wellbeing support): <https://www.kooth.com/>
- Cruse (bereavement support): <https://www.cruse.org.uk/>

Sixth Form Update

Don't forget that the deadline for applications is 31 January!

A huge thank you to all students who have already applied and to those who are part of our Sixth Form committee.

Christmas Holiday Support

Derby City Council have launched the Winter Holiday Activity and Food Programme to give a little extra to those in need over the festive period. For more information, please visit their website:

<https://derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/extra-curricular-activities/derby-haf/>

Please see below for some key information and places of support:

Derby Cathedral School - Pupil Premium and free school meals information and contacts

- <https://www.derbycathedralschool.org.uk/information/pupil-premium>

Donate it or Take it! - New eco uniform swap shop at Derby Cathedral School - Run by our Y11 students in 0.32 every Monday and Wednesday morning from 08:15 until 08:35

Derby City Council Free School Meals applications and information - <https://www.derby.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

City wide food bank information - <https://derbycitylifelinks.org.uk/food-banks-derby/>

Food vouchers and activities - school holiday support - <https://www.derby.gov.uk/news/2022/july/supporting-derby-children-with-free-meals-and-activities/>

Derby City Warm Hubs - free hot drinks and warm spaces - <https://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/full-list-derby-warm-spaces-7879242>

Dates Ahead

For all key dates please see the calendar on the school website under the information tab:

<https://www.derbycathedralschool.org.uk/calendar>

Last week of term: Christmas at DCS

Monday 19 December: Cathedral service for years 8 and 10

Tuesday 20 December: Achievement assemblies for each year group

Wednesday 21 December: Christmas Dinner Day (only hot food available). Students will also spend time with their tutors completing their reverse advent calendars. It is also Christmas/winter jumper day – wear a Christmas/winter jumper along with your normal school uniform – voluntary contribution of £1 with money going to Save the Children

Thursday 22 December: A variety of lessons and tutor activities including a final Collective Worship and big tutor quiz. School closes at 12pm for students.

w/c 19 December: Year 11 reports out to parents/carers

Last day of term: School will close at 12pm on Thursday 22 December

School re-opens: Monday 9 January

Parents' Evenings and INSET days:

Tuesday 17 January: Year 11 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 24 January: Year 7 Parents' Evening

Monday 6 February: INSET day – school closed for all students

Tuesday 7 February: Year 9 Options Evening

Tuesday 7 March: Year 10 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 26 June: Year 8 Parents' Evening

Friday 30 June: INSET day – school closed for all students