This Week at Derby Cathedral School





In our final half term, we are reflecting on a verse from the Book of Proverbs. Thought to have been written by King Solomon, this collection of wise sayings was compiled around 3,000 years ago to guide God's people in practical, everyday living. These ancient principles remain remarkably relevant today, offering enduring wisdom for navigating relationships, character development, and moral decision-making.

Proverbs 11:2 teaches us that "When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom." This principle speaks directly to how we raise our children and model behaviour in both our homes and school community.

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has provided some great examples of how humility and openness to learning lead to wisdom. I extend huge thanks to the dedicated staff who accompanied students on residential visits abroad this week. Both Year 10 and Year 12 groups travelled to Belgium, but for distinctly different yet equally valuable purposes. Our Year 10 students visited the Battlefields and war memorials as part of their History trip—an experience that is rapidly becoming an appreciated DCS tradition. These visits cultivate the kind of humble reflection that Solomon would recognise as essential wisdom, helping students understand the sacrifices made by previous generations and their own responsibilities as global citizens.

Meanwhile, our Year 12 students enjoyed a social sciences visit to Europe, beginning with the European Parliament in Brussels before extending their learning to The Hague's International Criminal Court. They also embraced cultural visits to Amsterdam and Luxembourg. This breadth of experience exemplifies how approaching new environments with curiosity and humility opens doors to understanding that extends far beyond the classroom. We look forward t hearing more details from both trips.

Please take time to celebrate the fabulous achievements of our students across various sporting events, both at DCS and throughout the city. We are immensely proud of their dedication and sportsmanship. Thanks also go to our PE department for organising a well-deserved rewards trip to Alton Towers for students who have demonstrated strong achievement and progress in their lessons and extracurricular activities.

As the summer holiday approaches, I encourage you to explore the numerous activities available across the city, many of which are highlighted in our newsletter. These opportunities continue the learning journey beyond our school walls and offer fresh perspectives on the world around us.

I must acknowledge that we have several staff members leaving at the end of this term, and I want to express profound gratitude for all they have contributed to DCS. While it's always bittersweet when valued colleagues depart, we wish them well in their next adventures and continued service in education or for some, a very happy retirement. Please read the accompanying article which provides details about departing staff and introduces the new team members we'll be welcoming in September.

With less than a week remaining, please note that school finishes on Thursday, 24th July at 12pm for all students.

Finally a reminder that the summer concert in on Wednesday 23rd July at 6pm

I wish you all a wonderful week Mrs Brown

Staff Changes

At the end of this term we'll be saying a sad farewell to a number of staff. We thank them immensely for their time at DCS and we'll miss them all. We wish them well in their next places of work:

Mr Ali - Year 9 Pastoral Year Lead

Mrs Allen – Exams and Data Assistant

Mrs Brown – Headteacher

Mr Drijfhout – Teacher of Science

Mr Goodhead – Deputy Headteacher

Miss Iqbal - Teacher of English

Ms Maddocks - HLTA

Mrs Murray - Nurture Teacher

Miss Noble - Assistant Headteacher

Mr O. Omoyemi - Teacher of IT

Mr B.Robinson - Teacher of PE

Mr Shabir - Teacher of Science

Mr Williamson - Head of Business

We also wish the following staff a very happy retirement. We thank them, not only for their time at DCS, but for their service to education over many years. We hope that they enjoy the next phase in life!

Mr Acquah – Lead Teacher of Criminology Mrs Ridley – Exams and Data Manager

Mrs Smith - Science Technician

We also extend a very warm welcome to the new staff who have either very recently joined us or who will be in September:

Ms M. Bird Head of Year 10 (PE)

Mr A. Brown Headteacher

Deputy Headteacher Ms J. Hay Ms D. Jeffery Teacher of English Mr C. Johnson Teacher of Science Mr I. Khan **Teacher of Computing** Ms T. Khan Teacher of Science Ms H. Maskalick Teacher of English Ms. N. Palmer-Wilson Teacher of English Mr M. Rashid Pastoral Year Lead Ms L. Roe Pastoral Year Lead

Mr J. Tshienda Teacher of Creative Technology

Mr C. Walker Second in Social Sciences
Mr D. Willmer Teacher of Business Studies

PE Department Sporting Success

This term has been very busy in the DCS Physical Education department, in PE lessons during the first half of the term students have been working towards personal targets in all the Athletics track and field events, the girls have been developing skill and tactics in Rounders and the boys have been developing and applying skills in Softball.

Sports days

We have hosted 5 sports days this year for year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12. Each year group have competed in inter-house rounders, football and athletics events, the winning house for each year group were as follows:

Year 7	Nightingale
Year 8	Bakewell
Year 9	Derwent
Year 10	Nightingale
Year 12	Nightingale

School records

Every year we hope our athletes aspire to beat the standing school athletics records this year we were not disappointed with so many of our DCS athletes breaking existing school records. Well done to the following students:

Year	Name	Event	
7	Holly J	Girls 300m	
8	Joshua U	Boys 100m	
8	Sinachi U	Girls 100m	
8	Ava C	Girls 200m	
8	Kevin A	Boys 200m	
8	Ava F	Girls 800m	
10	Helen H	Girls 100m	
10	Lucy R	Girls 200m	
10	Artin S	Boys 200m	
10	Obianuiu N	Girls 800m	
10	Ennis M	Boys 800m	
10	Hadassah A	Girls 1500m	
10	Artin S	Boys 1500m	
10	Lucy R	Girls Javelin	
10	Aleksandrs T	Boys Javelin	

City Sports

Every year DCS enter the city sports event at Moorways, students have been selected to represent the school from participation and success in lessons and their outstanding performances on sports day. We took 70 students from DCS our athletes performed brilliantly and secured 10 podium places, the whole team were impeccable both on and off the track/field. (photos of podium placed athletes attached)

Name	Event	Position
Daniel S	Year 9 Boys 300m	1 st
Conrad D	Year 9 Boys Triple Jump	1 st
Archie H	Year 7 Boys Javelin	2 nd
Nicholas T	Year 9 Boys Discus	2 nd
Thursday L	Year 9 Boys Shot Putt	2 nd
Momo E	Year 9 Girls 200m	2 nd
Chibuike N	Year 9 Boys Javelin	2 nd
Reuben E	Year 8 Boys 100m	3 rd
Ifeoluwanimi O	Year 7 Girls 100m	3 rd
Viola C	Year 10 Girls 1500m	3 rd









Year 7 Cathedral Performance





Students in year 7 have had one vocal lesson each fortnight, led by Dr Jones, our choral director from Derby Cathedral. Students have been learning musical elements, such as dynamics, tempo and intervals through this 'music in schools' project, demonstrating their understanding through vocal performances.

Each form in year 7 sang one song from the Jonah-Man Jazz (a cantata-musical) as a 'competition'! The prize for the winning form was a box full of chocolate milk, Freddos and Haribo's! Our three judges were Mr Dean (Derby Cathedral), Mr Binns (Director of Music; Derby Cathedral) and Mr Thompson (Head of Year 7 Derby Cathedral School). Whilst the judges were deciding on the winning form, our students sang the Derbyshire Song 'The Best that You Can Be'.

We were very proud of the fellowship and tenacity shown by all students who took part. A huge congratulations to 7 Peak; the winners of the box of treats for their confident and tuneful singing.

Craft Club

Modroc bowls

Students enjoyed getting messy using 'modroc' [fabric bandage impregnated with plaster of Paris] They used balloons as a form to make their bowls. Once dry they cut away the plaster to a shape they liked, and decorated with tissue paper and pva glue.







Tote bags

Students used a variety of stencils, fabric paints and applique to decorate their Tote bags. They all really enjoyed this project and made some beautiful individual designs ready for their holidays.







Theatre Arts Masters Performance & Workshop

On Tuesday 15th July a student in their final year of their Masters in Theatre Arts and Education, came in to work with our Year 10 GCSE drama students (well, those that were here anyway, as many Year 10s were away on the History Battlefields trip).

The themes explored included identity, culture, race and belonging, which really got our students thinking about how they, and others, are seen and how they feel about it. The performance our students watched was extremely powerful, and allowed the Year 10s to have thoughtful discussions, and share a range of stereotypes they felt needed challenging.

The collaboration and performance the Year 10s were able to take part in was seriously impressive for the short amount of time they had. It was a joy to witness how our students want the world (not just our community) to be more inclusive, and they are able to use their creativity to express this.

How great to end Year 10 with one last enjoyable, powerful and valuable experience for our drama students.









DCS Summer Concert

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

£3.50 PER TICKET, PAYABLE VIA PARENTPAY BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT



Staying safe around water - 10 top tips

Whether it's sunny days at the beach or fun in the paddling pool, children are naturally drawn to water. But with excitement comes risk. This guide from The National College brings together 10 clear, practical tips to help parents and educators protect children around water – whether that's at home, on school trips or on holiday.

Backed by the Royal Life Saving Society UK, the advice includes knowing what beach flags mean, avoiding inflatables in open water, and learning to 'float and call' in an emergency. With a focus on prevention and supervision, this guide is a must-read for summer safety and beyond.



ROLLER WORLD WEDNESDAY 6th AUGUST 2025 10.30-11.30

This is a TICKET ONLY event,

Exclusively for 8-18 year olds within Derby City.

Tickets are free, but a parent or carer will need to register for the event and complete a waiver form in person on one of the following dates by attending a Family Hub:

- Austin Wednesday 16th July 1pm-2pm
- Austin Wednesday 23rd July 5pm-6pm
- Rosehill Wednesday 16th July 4-5pm
- Rosehill Monday 28th July 2pm-3pm
- Becket Tuesday 22nd July 10am-11am
- Becket Thursday 31st July 10am-11am



Scan the QR code for Family HUB info and



'FIRST COME FIRST SERVED'

NO TICKET, NO ENTRY ON DAY OF THE EVENT



IMPORTANT UPDATE: Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF)





Did you know that if your child receives benefits-related free school meals, they are entitled to FREE holiday activities over the summer holidays? Holiday clubs are available across Derby where your child can make new friends and take part in a wide range of activities including sport, dance, drama, arts and crafts, as well as enjoying a meal each day. If your child is eligible, you will receive an email from **HolidayActivities.com**. Please keep a look out for the email and familiarise yourself with the logo above. Just follow the instructions in this email to book. Bookings for summer clubs will open at the end of June. Further details can be found at: www.derby.gov.uk/derbyHAF.

Holiday FSM Vouchers

Just a reminder that the expiry date for the May Half Term FSM vouchers is 12th August 2025, so ensure that you redeem your voucher code well before this date. Please choose the supermarket you wish to use your voucher at and then your supermarket voucher will have a much longer expiry date once registered.



Morleys Pop-Up Uniform Shop





Derby Cathedral School

Pop Up Shop 28th/29th July 10am - 4pm

Try on & Buy on the day! FREE PARKING

CASH AND CARDS ACCPETED

On Site at the School!



www.schoolwearsolutions.com

Unit 2 St Mary's Retail Park, 446 Nottingham Road, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6PE

T: (01332) 281 311 E: chaddesdenmorleys@gmail.com

Morleys Pop-Up Uniform Shop



Morleys Schoolwear

Derby Cathedral School
Uniform Price List 2025

PLEASE
DON'T DELAY
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Uniform items	From
Navy Blazer with Logo *	£27.99
Navy/Gold School Tie *	£6.50
Shirts and Blouses	Available
Black Trousers Boys	£16.95
Black Trousers Girls	£16.95
Black A Line Skirt	£16.99
Navy Pullover with Logo	£19.99
Unisex Day Shorts	£15.99
Games Uniform	
Games Top Royal/Black with Logo *	£13.49
¼ Zip Black/White Top with Logo	£19.95
ZR50 Black/White Shorts	£8.99
Black Tracksuit Pants with Logo	£18.00
Black Games Leggings with Logo	£18.00
White PE Socks 2 Pack	£5.99
*Compulsory items	

Pre Loved: Available in store

Online Shopping: Available address below.

Free Click and Collect from store...

Home delivery also available...

Appointments Available: Book online, address below.





Summer Opening Hours

Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Sunday Closed

Winter Opening Hours

Mon to Wed - Fri - Sat 9:00am - 5.00pm

Thu & Sun Closed

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES





www.schoolwearsolutions.com

Unit 2 St Mary's Retail Park, 446 Nottingham Road, Chaddesden, Derby, DE21 6PE T: (01332) 281 311 E: chaddesdenmorleys@gmail.com

New Telephone Options for DCS

As of Monday 9th June 2025, a number of telephone options will be offered to you when calling DCS. We are hoping that by giving callers the opportunity to be transferred directly to the relevant team, rather than holding in a long queue for the Reception staff to transfer you, it will help to ensure your query will be answered and dealt with more efficiently, and will reduce your wait time to speak to the relevant member of staff.

Please note the updated options below:

- To report a Year 7-11 student absence Option 1
- To report a Sixth Form student absence Option 2
- Staff absence Option 3
- Attendance Team Option 4
- Admission queries relating to years 7-11 Option 5
- Sixth Form admission queries Option 6

If none of the above options are applicable, you will be put through to the reception team who will aim to help with your query.

If you unable to reach the team you wish to speak to, please leave a voicemail providing your name, the student's name, a contact telephone number and a short message and you will be called back by a staff member who should be able to help.

Alternatively, you may find it much easier and quicker to email in your query to info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk This inbox is regularly monitored and your email will be passed to the relevant member of staff for them to respond directly.

Derby City Council – Cost of Living Support

Other Cost of Living support

Local Assistance Award Scheme:

Families can apply for support under this scheme for help with discretionary housing payments, utilities/food, goods for the home and Council Tax Hardship payments.

Further information can be found here: Local Assistance Award Scheme - Derby City Council

Support with water costs:

Severn Trent runs the Big Difference Scheme aimed at helping people who might struggle with paying their water bills. To find out if you are eligible for this help, please see their website for more information:

https://www.stwater.co.uk/my-account/help-when-you-need-it

Cost of Living Support

Community Action Derby has a list of help that may be available to you for support with money, food or mental health and wellbeing:

https://www.communityactionderby.org.uk/crisis-support

Healthy Start Scheme

If you're receiving a qualifying benefit and are pregnant or have children under the age of 4, you could get help to buy food and milk via the NHS Healthy Start Scheme. You can find more information and how to sign up here: www.healthystart.nhs.uk

Eligible families will receive a prepaid Healthy Start card which is topped up every four weeks with the following amounts:

- £4.25 per week from the 10th week of pregnancy
- £8.50 per week for each child from birth to 1 years old
- £4.25 per week for each child aged 1 to 4 years

In addition, the card can be used to collect free Healthy Start vitamins, which support individuals during pregnancy and breastfeeding, as well as vitamin drops for babies and young children. You can find your nearest vitamin collection point here www.nhs.uk/service-search/other-health-services/healthy-start-vitamins



On behalf of Derby City Council



Derby City Mission



Community Café and Community Shop (foodbank)

Please consider donating to Derby City Missions Community Café and Community Shop.

We are grateful for all donations but please no chilled or frozen goods.

Thank you for your support



Derby City Mission Charity Number 1140235 Previously 702027 01332 460346 - https://www.derbycitymission.org.uk







Derby Cathedral School are proud to be supporting Derby City Mission by collecting food donations for those in need in the local community.

We will be accepting donations at Main Reception every weekday from 8 am – 4 pm. Please hand all suitable donations to our Reception Team so they can be placed in the box for collection.

Thank you for your generosity &

Festival of Sport at Derby Arena 4th - 8th August

Take a look at this fantastic FREE activity for 8-14 year-olds which is happening during the school holidays.



Please be considerate in the school car park

This is a polite reminder to everyone who uses the visitor car park at school to please be considerate of the following:

- Smoking/vaping is not permitted anywhere on school grounds, including the car park
- It is illegal to smoke/vape inside a vehicle when someone under the age of 18 is present
- The beginning and end of the school day are very busy times, please park considerately in the spaces or drop-off bay
- Disabled parking spaces are only to be used by those with a valid Blue Badge

Thank you for your co-operation and for helping to make the school site safe and accessible to everyone who needs to use it.

Medical Illness within School

Now the summer months are here, we see more students visiting us with hay fever symptoms. We cannot provide any medication in school unless prior arrangements have been made between parent/carer and the Medical Officer, Miss Smith. If you wish for your child to keep medication at school, please collect a medication consent form from reception and hand the medication in to Miss Smith in its original packaging. If your child suffers from hay fever, please ensure they take their medication before school in a morning where possible.

It is also essential that all student have a water bottle to ensure they stay hydrated during the school day. Students can purchase a reusable water bottle from the reward shop if they do not already have one.

Contact/Meeting Requests

Our phone lines are extremely busy for the majority of the school day. If you have a query for a member of teaching staff or Head of Year, the easiest and quickest way to obtain a response is to email info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk. Please include in your email who you wish to speak to/meet with, along with a brief message. Your email will then be forwarded on to the relevant member of staff who will aim to respond to your request within 48 hours.

Teaching staff, Head of Years and Pastoral Year Leads will not be available to meet with parents/carers at any time during the school day without a prior appointment being arranged. Any requests of this kind will be declined by the Reception Team.

If you have an urgent safeguarding issue to report, please contact our Safeguarding Team on safeguarding@derbycathedralschool.org.uk. If a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call reception and your concern will be raised with the safeguarding team.

Breakfast Club - FREE breakfast for all Students



Our Breakfast Club is open Monday to Friday from 8:20 – 8:35 am

During the above times, all students are entitled to have breakfast items totally free of charge from the Dining Hall. Items available are:

- Toast
- A variety of cereals (subject to availability)
- Porridge

To request Gluten free toast or to discuss any other special dietary requirements, students should liaise directly with the catering staff who will aim to source the necessary items however, advance notice should be given.

PLEASE NOTE THAT NO DRINKS OR OTHER FOOD ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE DURING BREAKFAST CLUB

ParentPay Credit/Top ups

Thank you for your support with our parent pay system. The vast majority of families are ensuring there are sufficient funds on their child's accounts to purchase food in school. We are very grateful for this.

Unfortunately, there are an increasing number of requests from students to call home to have ParentPay accounts topped up so meals can be purchased. This is adding significant pressure to reception staff who have limited capacity to deal with the multiple requests.

We would ask that all families ensure students have sufficient funds on their ParentPay account to pay for these items. This will allow your child sufficient time to purchase food and consume it without having to queue at Student Services and wait for a phone call home beforehand; therefore reducing their break/lunch time considerably.

Please also note that students can purchase a 'main meal deal' at <u>lunch time only</u>, for the great price of £2.50, which is by far the best value for money on our menu. A meal deal includes a Hot or Cold Main Course, Dessert and Cuplet drink, whereas a sausage roll alone is currently £1.45.

For those who quality for Free School Meals, the allowance does enable students to purchase items at break time if they wish, however this will leave them unable to take advantage of the meal deal option at lunch time. If you wish for your child to purchase additional snacks at break time, please add extra credit each day/week to their ParentPay account to cover the cost of these items. Alternatively, students are welcome to bring in snacks from home to consume at break time.

Full details of our Catering Menus and Price Lists can be found on the Derby Cathedral School Website or by scanning the QR code



Period Poverty - a message from Aldi



Breaking the cycle of Period Poverty

At Aldi, we believe that access to period products is a basic right, not a privilege. That's why from March 2025, we'll be providing free pads and tampons in our stores and office toilets. Customers and colleagues will be able to take what they need, when they need it—no questions asked.

Why Access to Period Products Matters

Period poverty is a reality for far too many. Research shows that 41% of Brits struggle to afford period products with 30% forced to choose between buying them or other essential items like food or clothing. Without access to these products, some rely on

substitutes like toilet paper, kitchen roll or old clothing, leaving them feeling embarrassed, stressed and excluded from everyday activities such as work, school and social events.

By taking this step, we hope to support those who menstruate while encouraging others to join the effort to end period poverty for good.

Dates Ahead

School Holidays 2024-25

24th July – Last day of term – 12 pm finish for all students

NEW - School Term Dates and INSET days 2025-26

Please click on the link below to view the Term Date calendar and INSET days for 2025-26:

DCS Term Dates 2025-26 with INSET.pdf

INSET Days 2025-26 – School closed to all students

Thursday 4 Sept 2025 Friday 5 Sept 2025 Friday 5 Dec 2025 Monday 2 Feb 2026 Friday 26 June 2026

Other Key Dates

Term and key dates can also be found on our calendar on the school website:

https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/