# This Week at Derby Cathedral School



## w/c 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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 wonderful examples of how humility and wisdom work together in educational experiences. Our Year 12 students embarked on two excellent field trips—geographers to Blackpool and biologists to Darley Abbey nature reserve. Blessed with perfect weather, these excursions offered invaluable opportunities to develop the practical skills that form crucial components of their course assessments. My sincere thanks go to all subject staff who organised these enriching experiences.

The connection between humility and wisdom becomes particularly evident in how we present ourselves and prepare for learning. As I've mentioned in recent newsletters, we continue to focus on uniform standards during these remaining weeks. To support this effort, we're hosting a pop-up shop on 28th and 29th July at school. Please refer to the notice from Morleys Schoolwear, our uniform supplier, later in this newsletter. Maintaining high standards in our appearance reflects the kind of disciplined approach to detail that Solomon would recognise as essential for success—it demonstrates respect for our learning environment and consideration for our community.

We're delighted to be welcoming some of our incoming Year 6 students for additional transition days, and it's wonderful to see them beginning to feel part of our community. We're putting the finishing touches to our comprehensive programme for the three main transition days on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd July. On 3rd July, we'll also host our 'Meet the Tutor' event for all parents and carers of our new year group. These transition experiences reflect our commitment to ensuring that new students feel genuinely welcomed and supported as they take this significant step in their educational journey.

Meeting new students, however, also means saying goodbye to others. Next week we have our leavers' day on Tuesday for all Year 11 and 13 students, followed by the Year 11 prom on Thursday. We are so privileged to have had our wonderful students with us for five or seven years respectively, and we wish them a very happy leavers' day where they can look back on many cherished memories. These celebrations represent bittersweet moments that require both humility and wisdom—humility to acknowledge how much we've learned from one another, and wisdom to recognise that saying goodbye is part of life's natural rhythm of growth and new beginnings. The wisdom in Proverbs reminds us that true growth occurs when we approach new challenges with humility rather than assumptions about what we already know. Whether our Year 12 students were exploring coastal geography in Blackpool, practising survey techniques at Darley Abbey, or our incoming Year 6 students discovering their new school environment, learning flourishes when we remain open to new perspectives and experiences.

I wish you all a wonderful week Mrs Brown



### **Morleys Uniform Price List**

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# 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 <u>info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk</u> This inbox is regularly monitored and your email will be passed to the relevant member of staff for them to respond directly.

### Word of the Week - Salve

### <u>Salve</u>

Definition: A soothing balm

In Spanish: Balsamo

Synonyms (words with a similar meaning): balm, cream, ointment, liniment

Antonyms (words with the opposite meaning):

Sentences:

She applied a salve to the burn.

The herbal salve eased his pain.

He made a salve from natural oils.

The nurse rubbed salve on the wound.

## **Derbyshire Constabulary Youth Survey – 'Your Voice Matters'**

Derbyshire Constabulary are running their annual youth survey, 'Your Voice Matters' and are encouraging young people from ages 11-25 to take part. The survey is anonymous and will help to ensure the voice of young people is heard.

We understand that parents/carers may wish to view the questions before allowing their child to take part so we are asking schools if they would be willing to share this information with parents/carers in their school newsletters and also promote across their school setting.



Questions include topics such as whether they think we use 'use of force/stop search etc.' appropriately, it also asks them to list their top three crime concerns and has an open text box for what topics they think we should cover in schools. The data will be collated so that we can have a better understanding of what matters most to young people and then look to address those problems.

The survey closes on the 27th June and can be completed via this link:

https://forms.office.com/e/fx3PMZKj1H

Thank you for your support!

For more information contact Julie Berry at Julie.berry@derbyshire.police.uk

## **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 <u>www.nhs.uk/servicesearch/other-health-</u> services/healthy-start-vitamins

If you're pregnant or have children under the age of four, you could get help to buy food and milk.

Apply online for NHS Healthy Start.



On behalf of Derby City Council



### What parents and educators need to know about YouTube Kids

YouTube Kids promises a safe, child-centric experience with colourful visuals, age-filtered content, and robust parental controls. Designed to appeal to younger viewers, the app has grown rapidly, being used by tens of millions of children worldwide. But is it as safe as it seems?

Despite YouTube Kids' safeguards, reports have highlighted worrying issues, such as inappropriate content slipping through filters, subtle advertising, and the use of manipulative design to keep children engaged. <u>This guide from The National College</u> explores how to navigate these pitfalls, offering practical advice for making sure children get the most from the platform – without the risks.



## **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



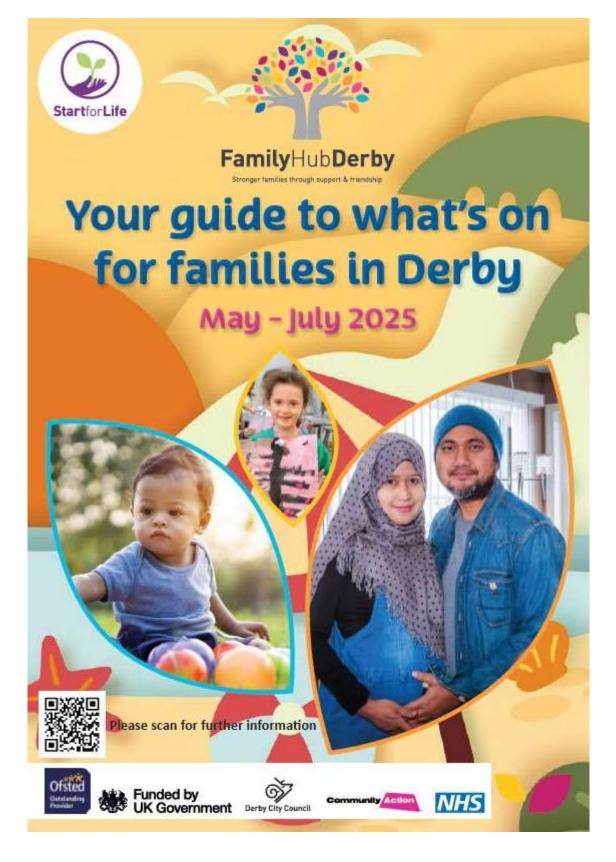
Derby Cathedral School are proud to be supporting Derby City Mission by collecting food donations for those in need in the local community.

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 😊

### Family Hubs – what's on during May to July 2025

Derby City Council's Family Hubs have lots going on from May to July 2025. To discover what's happening in your area for your child's age group please visit <u>https://www.derby.gov.uk/community-and-living/family-hub-</u> <u>childcare/family-hub/</u> or scan the QR code below.



## **Medical Illness within School**

As the spring and summer months approach, 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**

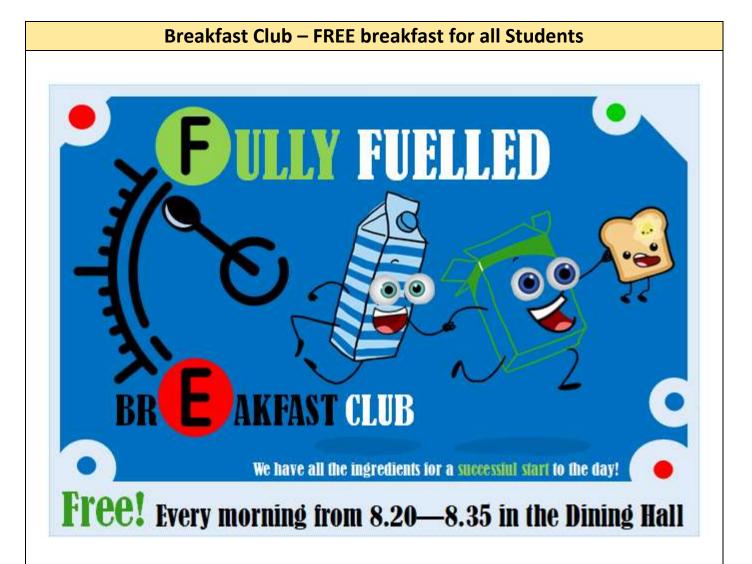
Our phone lines are extremely busy for the majority of the school day. If you have a query for a member of teaching staff or Head of Year, the easiest and quickest way to obtain a response is to email <u>info@derbycathedralschool.org.uk</u>. Please include in your email who you wish to speak to/meet 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 <u>safeguarding@derbycathedralschool.org.uk</u>. If a child is at immediate risk of harm, please call reception and your concern will be raised with the safeguarding team.

### Speeding – Please keep our children safe

We have received reports of vehicles speeding around or nearby the school site. Can we please remind parents, staff, sixth formers and anyone else who brings a car to school to drive carefully and be considerate of pedestrians. The beginning and end of the school day are especially busy times, and keeping children safe is our priority.



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.

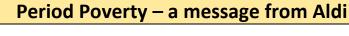
We would ask that all families ensure students have sufficient funds on their ParentPay account to pay for these items. This will allow your child sufficient time to purchase food and consume it without having to queue at Student Services and wait for a phone call home beforehand; therefore reducing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







#### 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

24<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of term – early finish

#### **INSET Days 2024-2025** – School closed to all students

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025

#### Parents Evenings / Opening Evenings 2024-25

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Y9 Parents Evening, 3 pm – 6 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm

#### Please Note:

For any students sitting exams on the above dates, they will be required to stay in school until the exam has ended.

# \*\*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**

• Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – Y11 Prom 2025

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

https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/