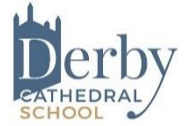


This Week at Derby Cathedral School

w/c 6th January 2025



In Psalm 104:24-25 it says:

“What a wildly wonderful world, God! You made it all, with Wisdom at your side, made earth overflow with your wonderful creations. Oh, look—the deep, wide sea, brimming with fish past counting, sardines and sharks and salmon.”

For us at DCS, this is a beautiful reminder that the wonderful world we have and all the creatures in it are a gift from God. Our way of saying thank you for all we have is to become more aware of local habitats and how we can support the wildlife within them.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all! I trust you and your families enjoyed a peaceful Christmas break and a wonderful start to 2025. It has been lovely to see our students return to school this week, refreshed and ready to learn. The calm, purposeful atmosphere across our classrooms and corridors speaks volumes about their readiness to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and reflect their adoption of our FAITH values.

I would like to commend our Year 12 and 13 students who faced external examinations this week. Taking these assessments immediately after the holiday period presents a unique challenge, and their dedication and aspirational approach have been exemplary.

This week's Bible verse reminds us of the magnificent world we inhabit. Just before the Christmas break, we introduced our students to three key elements of spirituality - windows, mirrors, and doors - designed to help them structure their spiritual thinking and development. As a Church of England school, we deeply value this aspect of education and are committed to providing our students with opportunities for spiritual growth and reflection.

This week's Bible verse serves as a perfect example of a 'window' - an opportunity to look out into God's creation with awe and wonder. However, some windows also reveal more challenging aspects of our world that require thoughtful reflection. Later this month, our school community will commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day, offering another kind of window through which we must look, however difficult the view. I encourage you to read the article in this newsletter about our tutor reading programme related to this important day of remembrance.

Throughout this newsletter, you'll find numerous articles highlighting our vibrant school life, upcoming activities, and community updates. Please do take the time to read through them and stay connected with our school and the wider community.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Brown

Flags

Over the last couple of months, students across school were involved in creating flags in the form of jigsaw pieces to represent 56 different ethnicities within Derby Cathedral School. The flags were pieced together to form crosses to reflect the school's heritage as a Church of England Academy and to highlight our school's inclusive values.

The article below featured in the derby Telegraph at the end of December 2024.

6 DERBY TELEGRAPH MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2024

@derbyshire_live

News

United nations of Derby as pupils have fun with flags!

A DERBY school with pupils from 56 different ethnic backgrounds is celebrating its rich cultural diversity by creating an art installation that spans across three floors.

The display at Derby Cathedral School, in Great Northern Road, features 30 jigsaw-style squares which fit together to highlight the school's inclusive values and its role within the Derby community.

The school, which is part of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust, has a vibrant mix of students from 56 ethnicities who speak 45 different languages, including pupils from countries as far afield as China, the Philippines, Mexico and Russia.

The artwork is arranged into three crosses to reflect the school's heritage as a Church of England academy with a strong Christian foundation. While rooted in these values, the school remains inclusive, welcoming students of all faiths, backgrounds and identities.

Year 8 student Keyri Beltram, who moved to Derby four years ago from Salvador, said: "I was so pleased to be picked to take part in this project, I've worked really hard in art so it was great to see that pay off and be selected."

"I'm proud to be a part of this school which embraces everybody individually and this artwork is a great reminder of that."

"The project connected us together and opened up conversations about the traditions of all our backgrounds."

Pupils from diverse backgrounds were taken off timetable for two days to complete the pieces, with each square created by a student representing various parts of the world, including Wales, Poland, and France, highlighting the school's rich cultural diversity.

The artwork also features notable local landmarks and symbols representing Derby's history and

Derby Cathedral School pupils seen in front of the art installation which celebrates its cultural diversity, and (inset) working on the project



culture, including four squares dedicated to the Derby Cathedral, as well as representations of the city's aerospace engineer Rolls-Royce and famous mascot, the Derby Ram.

The artwork installation has been strategically placed in a central area of the school, spanning three floors to ensure it is visible to all pupils,

staff and visitors and also features five core values - Fellowship, Aspiration, Integrity, Tenacity, and Humility - which together spell out FAITH.

Year 10 student Yedukrishna Rajesh, originally from India, said: "This was a great project to work on. We all helped each other to

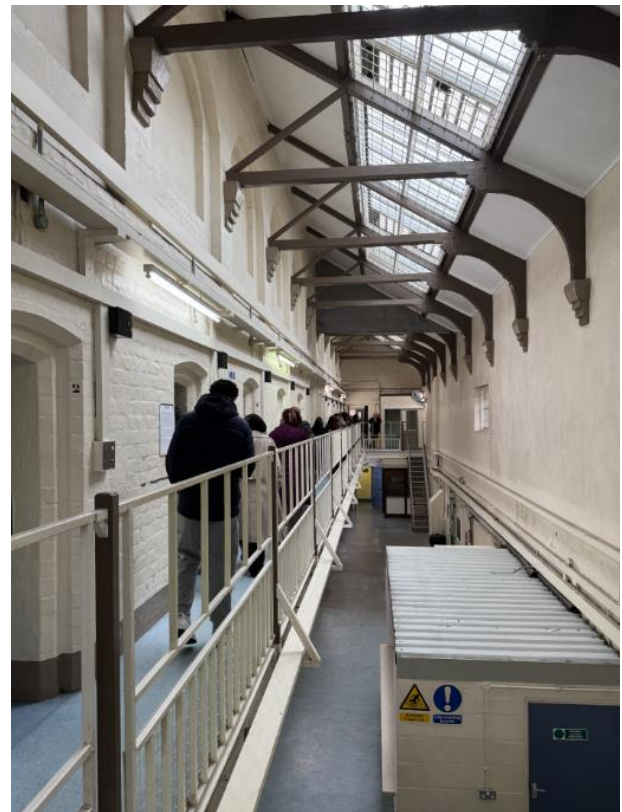
create the pieces and it was more about unity than individual work." Head of art Amanda Gibson, who designed and created the project with the students, said: "We hope this installation inspires a sense of pride and belonging in every student while reinforcing our commitment to inclusivity."



Year 12 Social Sciences visit to Shrewsbury Prison

Our recent trip to Shrewsbury Prison was an unforgettable experience for our Year 12 Social Sciences students! The visit offered them the opportunity to explore the fascinating history of this 18th-century prison while diving deep into the story of the infamous Kray twins. Students reflected on how crime is often glamorized in the media, with engaging discussions about the contrast between reality and what we see on screen.

The day was packed with hands-on activities, including stepping inside real prison cells and hearing about the day-to-day life of inmates from expert guides. The highlight for many was the "in-cell experience," where students got a taste of what it would have been like to live behind bars. There was also an interactive educational session tailored to their studies, covering topics like the role of media in shaping perceptions of justice and the impact of these portrayals on society



Tutor Reading to Commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day

'Every year on 27 January, the UK marks Holocaust Memorial Day. Coinciding with the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the biggest Nazi death camp, this day promotes remembrance of the six million Jewish people murdered during the Holocaust, as well as millions of other people who were persecuted and killed by the Nazis. On this day we also remember people who were killed in the genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.'

This month's class readers highlight different examples of genocides that have taken place across the world in the form of an informational poster. Some of the information each year groups will be reading about is shown below:

Year 7

Additional Information:
In July 1995, with the back drop of the ongoing war, Bosnian Serb troops and paramilitaries led by Ratko Mladić descended on the town of Srebrenica and began shelling it. Around 8,000 Muslim men, and boys over 12 years old, were murdered in Srebrenica.




Days to Remember:
**11 July 1995 –
the start of the
genocide in Srebrenica**




Srebrenica Memorial © Julian Bujari, Flickr

Year 8

Additional Information:
The Nazis targeted anyone they believed threatened their ideal of a 'pure Aryan race', including Roma and Sinti people, disabled people, gay people, political opponents and others.




Days to Remember:
**13 June 1938 - the start of 'Gypsy
Clean-up Week'**




Roma and Sinti people held at a camp in central Poland © IWM HU 10091

Year 9

Additional Information:
From 1975 to 1979, the Khmer Rouge, led by Pol Pot, imposed an extremist programme to reconstruct Cambodia. Millions of people died through starvation, disease and exhaustion, and thousands were executed.




Days to Remember:
**17 April 1975 - Khmer Rouge forces
invade the capital of Cambodia**




S-21 prison, Phnom Penh © Adam Jones, Ph.D. - Global Photo Archive (CC BY-SA 2.0)

Year 10

Additional Information:
In a violent outpouring in 1994, approximately one million Tutsis and moderate Hutus were murdered in just 100 days in the Genocide in Rwanda.




Days to Remember:
**6 April 1994 - the Rwandan
President's plane is shot down**




Photos of victims inside Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre © Chip Somodevilla / Staff / Getty

Year 11

Additional Information:
In 2003 a civil war began in the region of Darfur. Arab militia, known as the Janjaweed attacked black African people, destroying entire villages, murdering civilians and displacing many more.



Days to Remember:
**4 March 2009 - the International Criminal Court
indict Omar al-Bashir for atrocities in Darfur**



A camp for internally displaced people in Darfur, after it was attacked © UNAMID (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0)

Bridge the Gap – Anxiety Workshop



Mental Health Starts Here. Support Bridge the Gap!

Starting from just £7.50, you can access webinars on topics like anger, behaviour, growing confidence, boundaries and anxiety.

Your donation supports Bridge the Gap, a vital community resource. Share, sign up, and help us keep helping families! 📣

Webinar
ADULT & CHILD
ANXIETY WORKSHOP
Pitched at children aged 7-12
Join us for an empowering two-week online Anxiety Support Workshop, where we'll explore anxiety management techniques for children.
Saturday 18th & 25th January 2025
10am - 10:45am
RECORDING AVAILABLE AFTERWARDS
£9.50 FOR BOTH
Book via eventbrite

Adult & Child Two-Week Anxiety Webinar

Saturday 18th & 25th January
10-10:45am
£9.50 for both
🔑 ONLINE

👤 Together, Let's Understand Anxiety

This adult and child online workshop is the perfect opportunity to:

- Explore what anxiety feels like.
- Discover practical tools to calm the mind and body.
- Work together as a family to nurture resilience.

🕒 2 Weeks | Access Recordings for 30 Days

💡 Just £9.50 for both webinars

🎁 Give your child the gift of understanding and empower yourself to support them better.

[Book Anxiety Webinar](#)

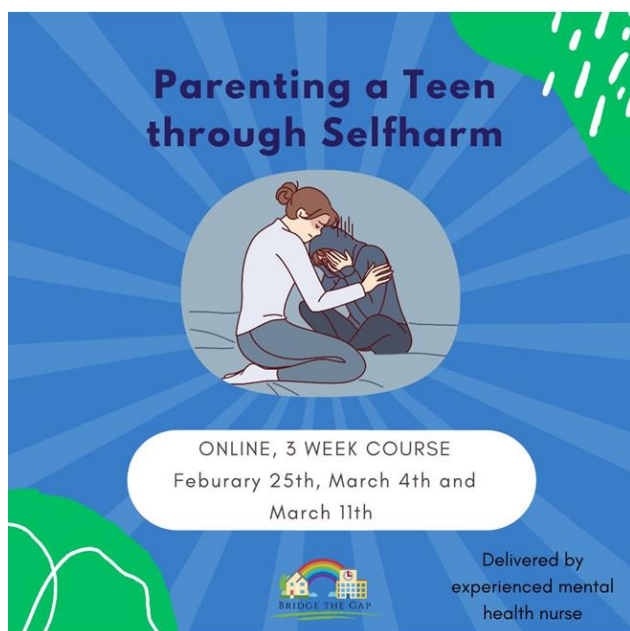
Bridge the Gap – Parenting a Teen through Self-harm



***NEW* Parenting a Teen through Self-harm**

Be the first to know about our new three-week online course with our Specialist Mental Health Nurse Therapist, Nikki Webster.

Dates:
25th February, 4th March & 11th March
8pm
£10 for all three sessions



Nikki has a vast amount of experience and expertise around the topic of self-harm, having worked intensely with teens and adults both within the public and private sector for a number of years.

She will be regularly delivering this online program for parents/carers of teens who are engaging in self-harming behaviours.

The course will provide a space to reflect on parenting styles, learn about CBT informed skills and discover techniques to help guide your teen through this difficult time.

The course also will aim to provide a supportive network for parents/carers at what is a challenging and often very lonely time.

Please note this course is for parents/carers only and not for children.

Each session will be 30 minutes long and held on Microsoft Teams (you will receive a link when you book).

Click the link below for more information and to download a copy of 'A Parent's guide to supporting a child who is self-harming'

<https://jwbridgethegap.com/so/71PGxxaWw?languageTag=en&cid=b21d2a86-4eb0-4bee-9f9e-c9974077b960>



Bridge the Gap – One-to-One Support



One-to-One Support at Bridge the Gap

Are you interested in private one-to-one (1:1) support at Bridge the Gap for yourself or your child?

We currently have spaces for children available in the daytime.

Click the link below for further information:

<https://jwbridgethegap.com/so/2aPFKkPZy?languageTag=en&cid=b21d2a86-4eb0-4bee-9f9e-c9974077b960>

National Saturday Club



The National Saturday Club is an established UK-wide network, that gives 13—16-year-olds of all abilities the unique opportunity to study subjects they love for FREE, on a Saturday at their local university, college or cultural institution. The Club provides a welcoming space for young people to build their skills, develop their confidence, and discover pathways to further study and future creative careers.

For more information, please click on the link below:

<https://schoolsportal.derby.gov.uk/schools-circular/otherarticles/national-saturday-club/>

Guiding Your Child Through GCSE Choices & Exams

Derby Adult Learning Service

Learning Opportunities for Adults

Guiding Your Child Through GCSE Choices

Do you want to help your child make informed GCSE choices? Understand how GCSE options influence further education and career paths and how to support your child in making balanced decisions.



What you can expect to learn:

- How GCSEs impact future education and career pathways.
- Strategies to guide your child in making balanced and informed subject decisions.
- Practical tools and resources to support the decision-making process.
- Techniques to communicate effectively with your child about their choices.

When: Monday 24th February 2025

Time: 11:00am-1:00pm

Where: Online

Apply today, via the options overleaf.



Supporting Your Child Through GCSE Exams

- **Further information and to apply, click here - [Course details - Derby Adult Learning Service](#)**

Guiding for Child Through GCSE Choices

- **Further information and to apply, click here - [Course details - Derby Adult Learning Service](#)**

Derby Adult Learning Service

Learning Opportunities for Adults

Supporting Your Child Through GCSE Exams

Do you want to help your child prepare effectively for the GCSE exams, and support them in staying organised and motivated?



What You Can Expect to Learn:

- How to create a productive and supportive study environment.
- Stress-management strategies.
- Tips for preparing your child for exam days, including routines and confidence-building.

When: Monday 17th February 2025

Time: 11.00-1.00pm

Where: Online

Apply today, via the options overleaf.



Reach Community Grocers



REACH COMMUNITY GROCERS

NEWLY OPENED!
OPEN 10:00AM - 4:00PM MONDAY - FRIDAY

You are invited to visit our newly opened community grocers.

Reach Community Grocers,
Riverside Court, Derby,
DE24 8HY

www.reachcommunitygrocers.org
hello@reachcommunitygrocers.org
01332 332044 (option 4)




REACH COMMUNITY GROCERS

Are you struggling with the cost of living crisis and finding it difficult to put food on your table? If so, the community grocers is for you.

You can become a member for £5 per year. This will allow you to make up to three visits per week. For a contribution of only £6 each time, you can choose a range of good wholesome food valued up to £25.

Our friendly volunteers will be here to help you with your shop and any further information.



Reach Community Grocers,
Riverside Court,
Derby,
DE24 8HY.

Bring this flyer along for an extra free shelf item when you join as a member.

© 2024 Reach Trust (formerly East Midlands Christian Fellowship)
Registered Charity No. 1090034
Reach Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales no. 367667.
The Reach Centre, Riverside Court Pride Park | Derby | DE24 8HY

E-scooters

Did you know?

- ▶ It is illegal to use an e-scooter in public areas.
- ▶ An e-scooter can only legally be used on private land with the owner's permission.
- ▶ Parents may also be liable for prosecution as well.

As of Friday 1 November, officers who engage anyone using an e-scooter in a public place will seize the e-scooter, before sending it to be disposed after 14 days.

Previously, those caught offending were warned for a first offence of riding an e-scooter on a public road, pavement or cycle path. Going forwards there is no longer any requirement in Derbyshire to warn the rider.



Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Scheme

Places are still available for FREE holiday clubs during the winter holidays. Visit www.derby.gov.uk/derbyHAF for more information. If you have not got your Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) code to book your place, speak to school reception. Codes can only be issued by school during term time. If you do not have a code, you will not be able to book a place.

Medical Illness within School

During the winter months, we see an increased number of students presenting at Medical with coughs/colds and stomach bugs; however, please be aware that we are unable to treat minor illnesses such as nausea, stomach cramps and headaches, usually related to winter viruses. Students are encouraged to be resilient and self-manage where appropriate. We encourage students to stay hydrated and eat a warm meal at break or lunch.

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.

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.

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 **lunch time only**, 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 qualify 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

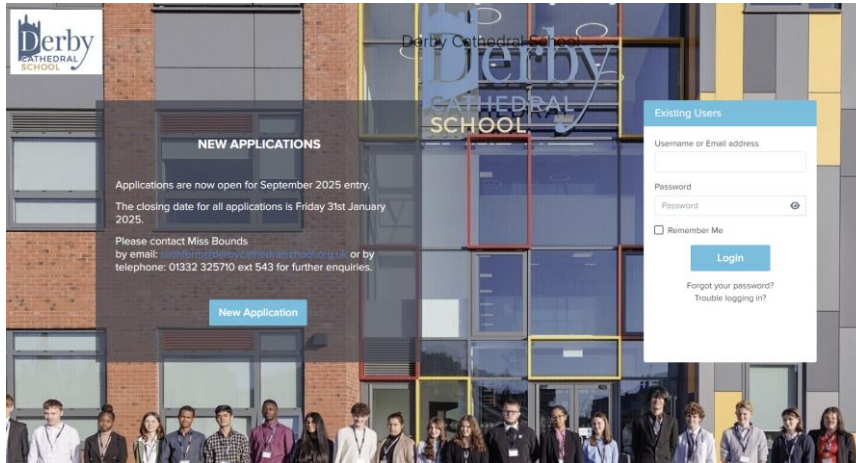


Sixth Form Applications

Applications can be made directly on our website: <https://derbycathedralschool.org.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-admissions>

If you click the 'Application' link it takes you to the page below.

Our current students are already in the system and just need to enter their school email and password in the 'Existing Users' box to start their application.



If you weren't able to make it, or you want to investigate a few more courses, don't forget to look at our prospectus and subject videos on our website. They can all be found on the Sixth Form Admissions page (see link above).

The deadline for applications is **Friday 31st January**.

Community Pharmacy First Services



Providing NHS services

Most pharmacies can help you with **seven common conditions** without needing a GP appointment



- **Sinusitis**
(adults and children aged 12 years and over)
- **Sore throat**
(adults and children aged 5 years and over)
- **Earache**
(children and young adults aged 1 year to 17 years)
- **Infected insect bite**
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Impetigo**
(adults and children aged 1 year and over)
- **Shingles**
(adults aged 18 years and over)
- **Urinary tract infection**
(women, aged 16 to 64 years)



Ask your pharmacy for more information about this free* NHS service



Visit your Pharmacy First!

*NHS prescription charge rules apply where a medicine is supplied



Dates Ahead

School Holidays

17th February 2025 – 21st February 2025 – February Half Term

7th April 2025 – 21st April 2025 – Easter Break (inc Good Friday and Spring Bank Holiday)

5th May 2025 – Bank Holiday

26th May 2025 – 30th May 2025 – May Half Term (inc Bank Holiday)

24th July – Last day of term

INSET Days 2024-2025 – School closed to all students

Friday 31st January 2025

Monday 30th June 2025

INSET Days 2025-2026 – 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

Parents Evenings / Opening Evenings

Wednesday 22nd January 2025 – Y9 Options Evening – 5.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Tuesday 28th January 2025 – Y11 Parents Evening 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15pm

Thursday 13th February 2025 – Y10 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm

Thursday 27th February 2025 – Y8 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm

Tuesday 18th March 2025 – Y7 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm

Thursday 12th June 2025 – Y9 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm

Other Key Dates

Term and key dates can also be found on our calendar and terms dates sections on the school website.