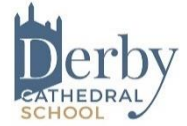


This Week at Derby Cathedral School

w/c 9th December 2024



In Genesis (the first book in The Bible) it says that **God put humans on the earth to “work it and take care of it”**. **It also says humans were blessed by God and asked by Him to... “rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”** (Genesis 1:28)

For us at DCS, this is a clear reminder of our responsibility to treat the natural world with great care and love.

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of our Autumn term, we find ourselves reflecting on the time we've shared together. This week has been particularly special, highlighting the remarkable talents, values, and spirit of our school community.

Our Biblical theme this week comes from Genesis 1:28, which reminds us of our fundamental responsibility to care for the world around us. **God put humans on the earth to "work it and take care of it"**, a powerful message that resonates deeply with our school's commitment to stewardship and compassion. It is a helpful reminder of the work that will start shortly in our grounds using the grant to increase biodiversity on site.

We have so many achievements to celebrate! A special congratulations to Coral from Year 8, who demonstrated extraordinary aspiration and tenacity in the Youth Mayor presentations. As the youngest candidate to reach the final round, Coral has shown remarkable leadership and potential that makes us all incredibly proud.

Our Christmas concert on Thursday was a true testament to the incredible talents of our students. The confident and impressive performances were matched only by the fantastic support from friends and families. It was a beautiful demonstration of our FAITH values in action - supporting, encouraging, and celebrating one another.

As we look forward to our final week, we have an exciting array of activities planned:

- **Wednesday** is Christmas Jumper Day! Students can wear a festive or winter jumper by donating £1 to support Save the Children and YMCA. It's also Christmas dinner day, with an extended lunch and tutor group activities.
- **Thursday** will see our Year 8, 10, and 13 students visiting the Cathedral, while achievement assemblies will take place for all year groups.
- Our final day on **Friday** will be filled with reflection activities, a delicious brunch, and our famous end-of-term quiz. School will finish at 12:10 pm for all students.

If you wish to visit the Cathedral yourself over the Christmas period, please see details of all services on their website: <https://derbycathedral.org/events/special-services/cathedral-carol-services/>

On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all parents and carers for your support throughout this Autumn term. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

I wish you all a good week

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Brown

Year 12 Btec Sports



Year 12 Btec Sport students were heavily engaged in voting who had modelled the heart most accurately using modelling clay. Fantastic to hear the class identifying the structures and discussing the role of each structure using scientific language

December's Reading Theme

The theme for our tutor group reading in December is 'Christmas around the world'. Students will be discovering the different traditions in various countries and how they are different or similar to those in the UK.

Do ask your child/children about what they have been reading about. Maybe ask what countries they learnt about and what different traditions they can remember.

At DCS we have continued with the UK tradition of decorating a tree. We have a huge real tree in the LRC this year which has been beautifully decorated by the site team – a big thank you for their efforts.



Student Achievements

Coral took part in the Youth Mayor hustings on Monday evening as one of the shortlisted 11 students across the city. Her three themes were Healthy Food in School, Online Safety and Inclusive Access to Sport. She didn't make it through to the final 4 but has already started conversations with senior staff in the council about the topics anyway so hopes to make some progress. Well done Coral!!!



All of the candidates. (<https://youtu.be/HnE0rOULcq4>)

School Photographs 2024

Following on from the individual school photographs taken in school on 4th December 2024, the proofs from Fizz Photography will be distributed to all students on Wednesday 18th December 2024. For those that signed up to the Pre-registration service prior to 4th December, you may have already received a proof of your child's photo via email.

To take advantage of the free delivery offer, please ensure you order your photographs before 10th January 2025.

Christmas Lunch 2024 – Wed 18th December

Christmas Lunch Menu

At Derby Cathedral School
Wednesday 18th December 2024

Roast Turkey & Chipolata

or

Quorn Roast

Roast Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Choose From

A Selection of Christmas Desserts

Christmas Pudding

Or

Juice Cuplet

£2.50



End of Term Break Up – Friday 20th December 2024

A reminder that school will close to all students at 12:10 pm on Friday 20th December 2024 for the Christmas Break.



WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Family Fun Day



WINTER



FAMILY FUN DAY

JOIN OUR FREE EVENT FOR LGBT+ FAMILIES OF ANY SHAPE AND SIZE. ALL AGES ARE WELCOME - BRING YOUR EXTENDED FAMILY!



2.30-5.30PM ON SATURDAY 21ST DECEMBER
2.30-5.30PM ON SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER
AT 25 CURZON STREET, DERBY, DE1 1LH

YOU CAN DROP IN FOR A BIT, STAY THE ENTIRE SESSION, OR JOIN BOTH DAYS IF YOU WISH!

TO BOOK ON, EMAIL FAMILIES WORKER
SONIA AT SONIA@DERBYSHIRELGBT.ORG.UK



HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT:



a hot meal
(vegan and gluten
free options)



craft activities
and facepaint

games and
puzzles



Derbyshire LGBT+

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans*

01332 207 704

INFO@DERBYSHIRELGBT.ORG.UK

DERBYSHIRELGBT.ORG.UK

[@DERBYSHIRELGBT](https://www.instagram.com/DERBYSHIRELGBT)

grounding
activities



storytime
and films



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.



Bridge the Gap



Radiant Minds - for girls aged 12-15

Building strength, self-love, and resilience

1 hr	£7.50	Saint Mary's Gate
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Link to book: https://www.jwbridgethegap.com/booking-calendar/radiant-minds-for-girls-aged-12-15?referral=service_details_widget&utm_campaign=633bd141-1b50-487b-b958-66c0e1b44f3f&utm_source=so&utm_medium=mail&cid=b21d2a86-4eb0-4bee-9f9e-c9974077b960&timezone=Europe%2FLondon

www.jwbridgethegap.com

Parent Governor Vote

A reminder to all that the Parent Governor vote closes this evening, **Monday 16th December at 5 pm**. If you haven't submitted your vote, please do so now by clicking the link below:

MSForm link: <https://forms.office.com/e/1Hr5f7JHqw>

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.

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



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.

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.

Year 11 – Post 16 Options

It is an important time for Year 11 for post 16 applications, with most sixth forms and colleges open for applications. Some apprenticeships are also open for applications. Deadlines are just around the corner so it is important that students get their applications submitted as soon as possible!

For an overview of their post 16 options, including sixth form, college and apprenticeship options, Year 11 should review the post 16 options PowerPoint [here](#). This includes open evening/open event dates and application deadline dates.

Year 11 should submit all applications as soon as possible, but the most urgent application deadlines are below. Please review the PowerPoint for further deadlines. Our Derby Cathedral School Sixth Form deadline is Friday 31st January.

Toyota apprenticeships - Tuesday 10th December

Please add the date to your diary! More information to come soon. If you have any questions or need support, please speak to Mrs Bingham.

Year 12 – Outreach and Wider Engagement Opportunities

This is a really important time for Year 12 with lots of applications still open for outreach and wider engagement opportunities. It is fantastic to see so many Year 12 students engaging with these so far and getting their applications in. These opportunities really do have **the power to change your future!**

For the most up to date list of opportunities, please [click here](#) or scan the QR code below.

These are all opportunities that you must apply for in Year 12 - most of the deadlines are before Christmas. In Year 13, you will not be able to apply, so you must be proactive!

If you need any support or have any questions, please speak to Mrs Bingham.

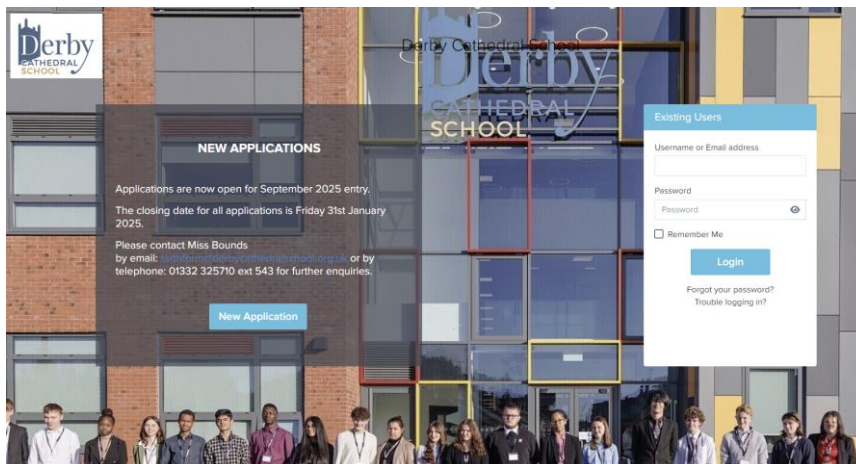


Sixth Form Applications

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

23rd December 2024 – 3rd January 2025 – Christmas Break
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 – School closed to all students

Friday 31st January 2025
Monday 30th June 2025

Parents Evenings / Opening Evenings

22nd January 2025 – Y9 Options Evening
28th January 2025 – Y11 Parents Evening 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15pm
13th February 2025 – Y10 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm
27th February 2025 – Y8 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm
18th March 2025 – Y7 Parents Evening – 3:00 – 6:00 pm – early finish for all students at 2:15 pm
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.