

THE DERBY DIGEST



30 years ago Tomorrow's World predicted 2025 - how did it do?

In 1995, on the BBC's programme Tomorrow's World, the presenters took the bold step of predicting what the world would be like in 2025 – and here we are! I shared their forecasts in my New Year's assembly with all year groups. The findings have been that, whilst we have not had 'Cyberspace riots', 'Space Junk Gel' or even 'Banking using Microchips in our arms' some of their ideas were not far off and many are likely to become a reality in the future. The programme did not touch on social media or the rise of the big technology companies. Both these areas now being big parts of modern life with some benefits but also negatives that we all need to be aware of and carefully manage. The BBC programme also started to touch on the future of our planet, and we all are more aware than ever about the impact of climate change – this is happening now.

There were a few key messages I wanted to share

- The world will look and feel very different in the future, we need to be prepared for this, and we need to shape it for the better.
- Studying Science at school is incredibly important. It not only helps inform and support our lives, but it is a subject required for so many future careers providing skills and knowledge that employers are looking for.
- Use social media and technology wisely and positively.
- Look after our planet.

I believe The Derby High School can lead the way with the Sustainability Agenda through and with our students. In my assembly Mrs Provoost announced new student roles we are seeking in school, 'Sustainability Changemakers', and I would ask that you encourage your child to apply for these positions. It is a great opportunity.

In 2025 we can make a difference!

Happy New Year to you all.



Ms Hubert
Headteacher



Celebrating a Season of Community and Festive Spirit

The festive season has been a whirlwind of activity here at The Derby High School, as we came together to celebrate, give back, and spread joy throughout our community. From performances to acts of kindness, it was a week to remember, showcasing the true spirit of togetherness and generosity.

One of the highlights of the week was our Winter Wonderland performance and Winter Maker's Market, where parents, staff, governors, partners, and students joined forces to raise money and create a memorable experience. The creativity, energy, and collaboration on display were inspiring and a testament to the strength of our school community.

Our choir brought festive cheer to Abbeydale Care Home, where their heartfelt singing brought smiles to residents' faces. Additionally, we staged an extra-special performance for local primary school students, extending the magic of the season to the younger members of our community.

As we continuously strive to be fully inclusive, our BSL (British Sign Language) team performed signed festive songs, allowing everyone to enjoy the music and embrace the holiday spirit. Meanwhile, the whole school came together to create and donate hampers for those in need. These hampers were distributed across the community, including care homes and through FGRS Community Charity at Gigg Lane, showing how small acts of kindness can make a big impact.

Our new Year 7 cohort also had the opportunity to bond during a special family-style meal and celebratory disco, marking the start of what we hope will be a happy and fulfilling journey with us. We were thrilled to welcome members of The Grundy Day Care Centre to our school for festive treats, where students read, sang, and danced for our guests, creating a heartwarming connection between generations. "Thank you for inviting us along. The performances were fantastic! These hampers mean so much to us and the customers we serve. Thank you for your support. We really do love the relationship we have with The Derby". The Grundy Day Care Centre.

Finally, we concluded the week with form tutor group celebrations. From festive parties to creative challenges, these gatherings brought students and staff closer together, rounding off an unforgettable week. As we look back on the week, we are reminded of the power of community, the importance of giving back, and the joy that comes from working together. Thank you to everyone who made it so special.





Winter WONDERLAND & Makers' Market

The Expressive Arts Team have gone above and beyond to make this year's festivities extra special. They have worked tirelessly to deliver performances to multiple community groups. Concluding with the spectacular Winter Wonderland performance





CELEBRATING OUR FIRST ALUMNI OF THE MONTH: DAVE

We are thrilled to announce Dave as the first recipient of our inaugural Alumni of the Month Award. This recognition is particularly special, as Dave has played a key role in establishing and supporting our Alumni group, helping to strengthen ties between former students and the school.

Dave's dedication and vision have laid the foundation for a thriving alumni network, which we are incredibly excited to grow. Through this partnership, we aim to inspire and motivate current students by showcasing the diverse achievements of our alumni and highlighting the opportunities that lie ahead.

Congratulations, Dave, and thank you for your continued commitment to The Derby High School! We look forward to seeing the Alumni group flourish in the years to come.

EXPLORING ANIMAL RIGHTS WITH ANIMAL AID

Our Year 11 GCSE class had the privilege of welcoming Dawn Bishop from @AnimalAid for a thought-provoking session on animal rights.

The discussion inspired students to explore the ethical and moral aspects of animal welfare, encouraging them to connect the topic to their own experiences, beliefs, and opinions. The session was engaging and eye-opening, leaving students with much to reflect on about the impact of their choices and actions.



A WICKED START TO THE NEW TERM

What better way to kick off the new term than with an incredible theatre trip? Our students were thrilled to visit the Palace Theatre to watch the spectacular Wicked. The performance left everyone in awe, showcasing the magic of theatre and the power of storytelling through song and stagecraft.

For the cast and crew of our upcoming production of The Addams Family, this was more than just a night out—it was a source of immense inspiration. Seeing Wicked brought to life has left them "changed for good," fuelling their excitement and creativity as they prepare for their own show.



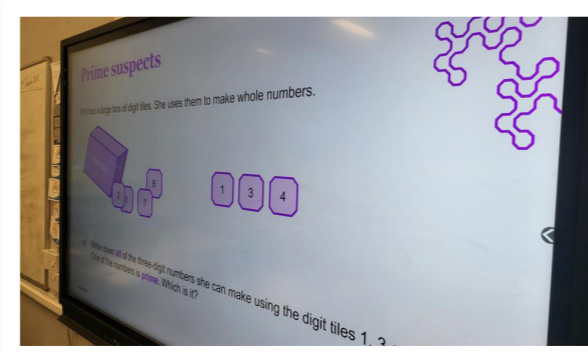
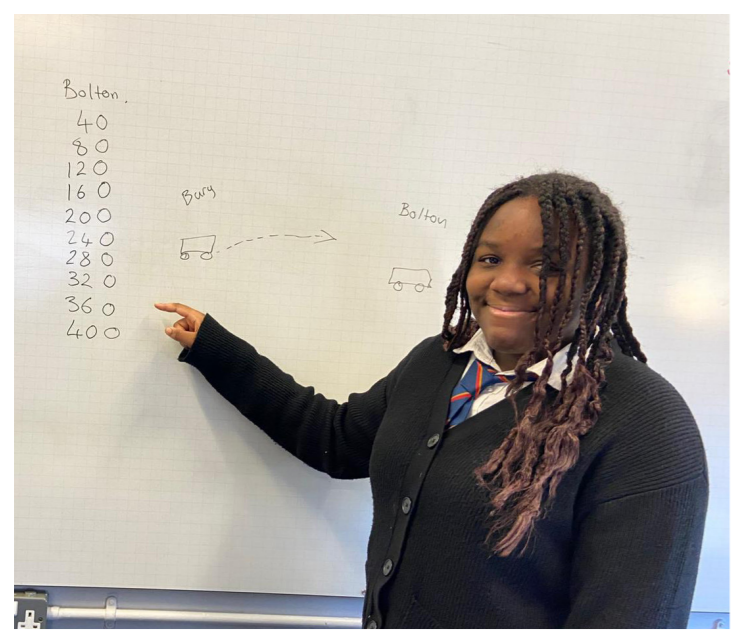
YEAR 10 STUDENTS SHINE AT MANCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKETS

Our annual Year 10 French trip to the Manchester Christmas Markets was a resounding success! Students embraced the opportunity to practice their language skills, confidently asking questions in French and gathering information for their activity booklets.

The bustling markets provided the perfect setting for real-world learning, combining culture, language, and festive cheer. From sampling French-inspired treats to engaging with stallholders, the students showcased their enthusiasm and growing proficiency in French.

It was truly a bon voyage! Well done to all who took part, and thank you for making the day so enjoyable. À la prochaine!

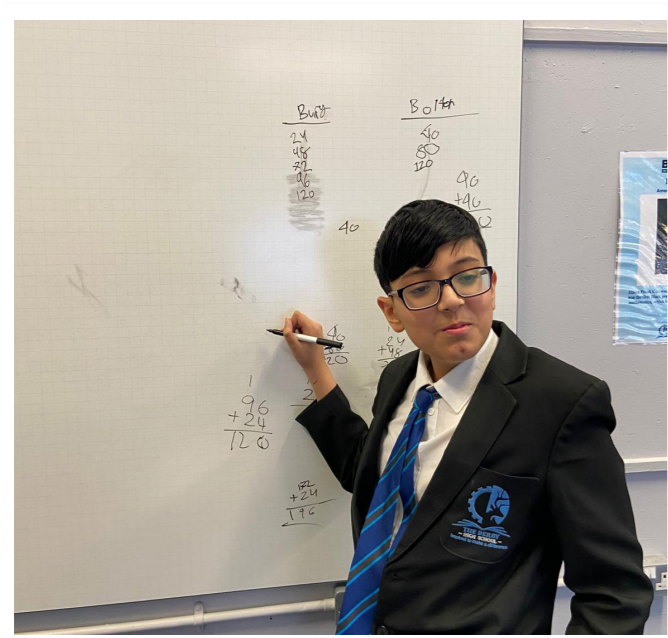




MATHS IN ACTION: REAL-WORLD PROBLEM SOLVING

Students in 9A4 put their mathematical knowledge to practical use this week by tackling real-world problems. Using their understanding of Lowest Common Multiples, they worked on navigating bus timetables and solving scheduling challenges.

This hands-on approach not only reinforced their grasp of key concepts but also highlighted the importance of maths in everyday life. Well done to 9A4 for applying their skills so effectively!



AXIOM MATHS ENRICHMENT GROUP: KICKING OFF THE TERM

This afternoon marked the first session of the term for our Axiom Maths Enrichment group, and it was a fantastic start!

Every Wednesday afternoon, like-minded students come together to tackle challenging problems, share strategies, and enjoy the beauty of mathematical thinking. The sessions provide a great opportunity for students to push their problem-solving skills to the next level while connecting with others who share their passion for maths.

We're looking forward to seeing the incredible progress and discoveries this group will make throughout the term. Keep solving and striving, Axiom Maths team!



INSPIRING FIRST POETRY SESSION

Year 10 students had a fantastic start to their poetry journey today in a session led by the talented poet Cherry. The students impressed everyone with their creativity, expression, and budding poetic skills.

A big thank you to @CominoNWCC for making this incredible experience possible. We can't wait to see how our young poets continue to grow and develop their voices!





SPREADING FESTIVE CHEER WITH THE LIBRARY TEAM

December was a wonderfully busy month for our Library Team as they embraced the festive spirit with creativity and kindness!

The team kicked off by constructing a beautiful Book Tree. They also joined forces with @the_bookfairies, spreading the joy of reading by hiding books around the site for others to discover.

In the lead-up to Christmas, they thoughtfully prepared a Book Hamper delivery for residents at The Grundy, complete with heartfelt gift tags. After all their hard work, they celebrated with well-earned hot chocolates and biscuits, wrapping up the term on a warm and cheerful note.



THE CIRCUIT

THE DERBY HIGH SCHOOL
PE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



NETBALL

There has been a superb number of girls attending netball training on Tuesday nights this term and it has been wonderful to have so many willing to represent TDHS at fixtures. Teams from years 8-10 have competed in tournaments at Phillips High School, playing against different high schools from across Bury. A year 7 team recently travelled to Cardinal Langley Catholic High School in Middleton and, during a closely fought game, they showed great resilience to come away with a win. Thanks for your commitment to netball this term and we look forward to seeing you continue to improve your skills and game play and competing against more schools in the new year.





BASKETBALL

We have had exceptionally high numbers attending Basketball training on a Friday night this term and our students have been keen to compete against other schools. A combined Year 9 and 10 team played against Tottington High School and it proved to be a fantastically competitive and close game. Luckily for TDHS, a buzzer beater 3 pointer from Jack T sealed the win by only 1 point in the end. With fixtures planned against other schools in the near future, we look forward to more success on the court.



CROSS COUNTRY

On a bright and sunny Wednesday afternoon in November, 25 of our finest athletes travelled to Heaton Park to compete in the annual Bury Schools Cross Country event. All showed superb resilience on a notoriously tough and incredibly muddy course (a few trainers were lost along the

way!) Finishing in the top 12 out of all school runners in their respective races, Priscilla (Year 7) and Domonic (Year 8) were selected for the Bury Cross Country team and will compete against other students in Greater Manchester. Congratulations and good luck.



STAFF V YEAR 11 VOLLEYBALL

Following the interest in volleyball during PE lessons, a group of year 11 students were keen to take on the staff. At lunchtime on Friday 13th December, in front of a small but supportive crowd, the teams took to the court. JJ's team versus the PE teachers plus Miss Vandenburg and Miss Wright. The Year 11s definitely improved throughout the game, but it was clear that the staff team's skills and teamwork had the edge. The final score was 25-15 to the staff. A rematch might be on the cards!



FOOTBALL

We have been very impressed with the number of students committed to football training this term and the many brilliant football fixtures that have been played. One highlight has to be the Year 7 tournament at Goshen Sports Centre where 2 boys' teams and 2 girls' teams fought hard against local high schools to bring home the medals. With great teamwork and resilience on show throughout, one of the boys' teams managed to achieve a bronze medal position and both girls' teams placed in the top 3. The

Derby Navy team secured the bronze medal place, and The Derby Blue team beat a strong St Monicas team by just one goal to bring home the gold medals. What an amazing night of football for TDHS! Well done.

A big thanks must also go to our Year 9 leaders (Alyssa, Bella, Evangeline and Finn) who are inspiring our younger players and giving up their time to coach and help out during training sessions. Your contribution is making a difference.





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