



## Message from Mrs Genders

Mr. Hilliam is off on an exciting adventure today with our Year 9 students on their first Duke of Edinburgh trip, so I'm stepping in to keep his spot warm!

Last weekend, we held our Open Day, and I want to say a huge thank you to all the children who acted as ambassadors for primary - you did us proud! It was also lovely to see so many families exploring the classrooms and getting a feel for our wonderful school.

Tuesday's Performing Arts Evening was a fantastic event, and it was wonderful to see so many of you there. I hope you all enjoyed the show as much as we did! With a bit of luck, the summer sunshine will be making an appearance soon, which means we'll be able to enjoy playing on the field again. To help keep things tidy, we ask that pupils bring in an old pair of trainers (not their PE trainers) in a carrier bag, so they can change shoes before heading onto the field.

A little plea for the holidays - please take a moment to check uniform at home. I have quite a collection of unnamed uniform (or items with names of past pupils), which makes it tricky to return them to the right owner. A quick label check will make a huge difference!

Our next Achievement Assembly is coming up on Monday 24th March. If there are any special achievements you'd like me to include, please do let me know at [genders.k@derbygrammar.org](mailto:genders.k@derbygrammar.org).

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Genders  
Head of Primary School

## MARCH

24 Achievement Assembly - in the School Hall

## MAY

14 U11 ISA Midlands Hardball Cricket Competition, All Day and Crackley Hall School.

21 U11/10 Cricket v Nottingham High School, 2pm Start at Rykneld Sports Centre.

## JUNE

13 U11 ISA Midlands Kwik Cricket Competition, All Day at Duffield CC.

18 Primary School Sports Day, 2:00pm till 3:30pm at Rykneld Sports Centre.

## PTA CLOTHING LABELS

Our fabulous PTA has teamed up with the brilliant company **STIKINS**, a brand that manufactures amazing, no-fuss school labels - simply stick them onto your child's clothing and you're done! No sewing, no ironing, just quick and easy labeling that lasts. The best part? Every purchase using our unique DGS code - 35859 - helps support the school, as we receive a percentage of the sale! That means every time you order, you're not only getting a great product but also helping the PTA fund exciting projects and resources to benefit our students.

So why not give them a try? Pop over to [www.stikins.co.uk](http://www.stikins.co.uk), enter the DGS code (**35859**) at checkout, and enjoy hassle-free labeling while supporting the school. It's a win-win for everyone!





## SHOWCASING OUR TALENT – PERFORMING ARTS EVENING

Tuesday night saw our annual Primary Performing Arts Evening, a celebration of creativity and talent across the Primary School. The event showcased an incredible range of performances, highlighting the dedication and enthusiasm of our pupils.

A special congratulations to Atkinson and Blackton, who secured the House Poetry title by just one point! A huge thank you to Mrs Simpson for her expert judging.

It was truly inspiring to witness the passion and confidence of our primary school pupils. Their performances were a testament to their hard work and talent. Well done to all the children – you were all winners!





## IT'S CRICKET SEASON!

As we enter the Summer Term, all Year 3 to Year 6 pupils will be learning cricket as part of their Games lessons at Rykneld Sports Centre. This will include a mix of kwik cricket and hardball cricket. Meanwhile, PE lessons will focus on developing pupils' fundamental movement skills through Athletics.

In terms of equipment, we have plenty of helmets, pads, and bats available for all pupils to use at Rykneld Sports Centre. However, pupils are welcome to bring and wear their own cricket equipment if they prefer during lessons. For those representing the school in fixtures and competitions, cricket 'whites' are not mandatory unless otherwise stated.

Lastly, please ensure that all cricket bags, bats, and other equipment are stored in the Primary School shed before entering the main site

### Summer Term Sports Kit Requirements

#### PE Kit Requirements:

- House shirt/top
- Navy shorts
- Ankle/short socks
- Navy crested Midlayer
- Tracksuit top and trousers (optional)
- Trainers

#### Games Kit Requirements:

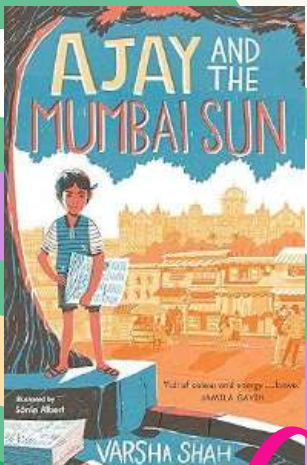
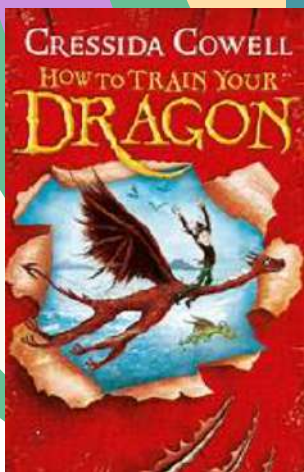
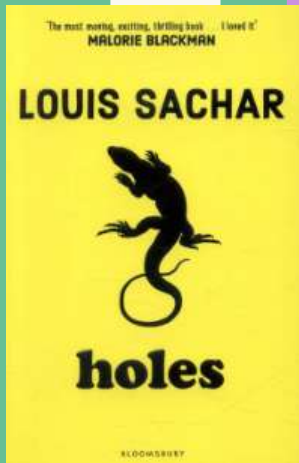
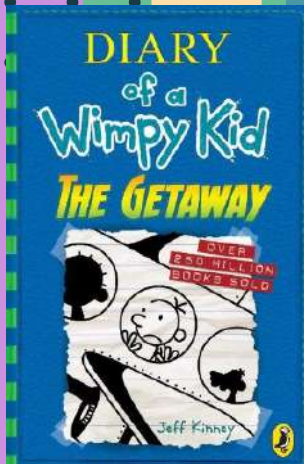
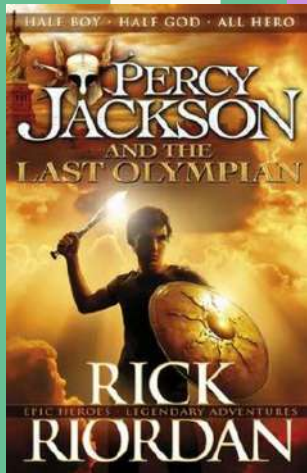
- Navy and green games top
- Navy crested shorts
- Ankle/short socks
- Navy crested Midlayer
- Tracksuit top and trousers (optional)
- Cricket whites (optional)
- Trainers

Additionally, a DGS green (or plain/non branded) baseball cap and sunscreen are also recommended for this term.

### SPONSORED SWIM

Congratulations and well done to all of our pupils who have been involved in our sponsored swim event this week - Lots of widths/lengths swum and money raised in support of our Tanzania project!





## YEAR 5 AND 6 LAUNCH THEIR OWN BOOK REVIEW BLOG!

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been diving into the world of blogging in their Computing lessons, and we are thrilled to announce that they have now launched their very own book review blog!

As part of their studies, the pupils have explored the importance of digital communication, online safety, and how to craft engaging content. They have put their new skills into practice by writing insightful reviews of their favourite books, sharing their thoughts on characters, plot twists, and themes.

Blogging has given them the opportunity to develop their writing skills, express their opinions, and even interact with their peers through comments and discussions. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm grow as they embrace this modern way of sharing ideas.

We would love for you to take a look at their reviews and support their efforts by visiting the blog here:  
<https://www.purplemash.com/blog?sharedLinkMode=1#/app/blog/67d40c95b6098762990cb682/>



# blog



## EASTER FUN AT OUR RECEPTION STAY & PLAY

This Wednesday, we had a fantastic time at our Reception Stay and Play Easter event, welcoming 16 potential Reception pupils for a morning of fun!

The children enjoyed a range of activities, including an Easter Egg Hunt and the chance to create their own cuddly bunny rabbit to take home.

If you know anyone looking for a Reception place in September, we'll be hosting more Stay and Play events in the coming months. Get in touch via our website if you'd like more information [derbygrammar.org/admissions](http://derbygrammar.org/admissions)

## Reception Easter Stay & Play

Wednesday  
19th March  
9am - 11am

To register your interest please sign up on our website at:  
[derbygrammar.org/admissions/  
open-days-and-events](http://derbygrammar.org/admissions/open-days-and-events)



## TANZANIA TREATS AND BUNNY HUNT!

Mrs Wheat is organizing to sell some wonderful Easter popcorn trail mix next week for £1 a bag. Along with our delicious trail mix, Mrs Wheat needs our help to find her lost Bunny Beatrix with her three cute babies on our 100-number square. A turn-on Bunny Beatrix will cost £2 ago. If you find Beatrix, you can keep her and the baby bunnies. All proceeds are going towards our wonderful Tanzania charity.





# IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEK 9



## EYFS

In EYFS this we have been busy learners. We have started our new ocean story 'Mister Seahorse' and have been learning about all the different ways baby fish are looked after. In maths we have started our new topic on our 3D shapes!

Our most exciting learning this week has been in our Expressive and Art lessons where we have finally finished making our class aquarium. We've added so many sea creatures! Doesn't it look fantastic!



# IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEK 9

## YEARS 1/2

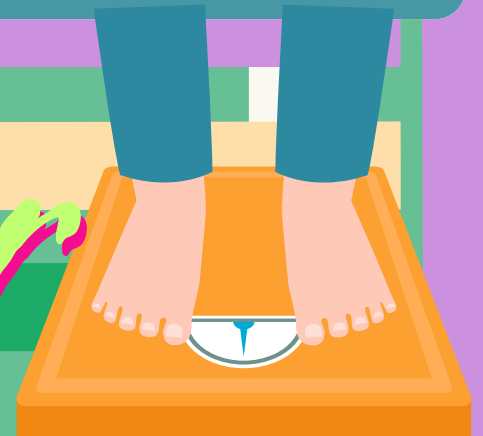
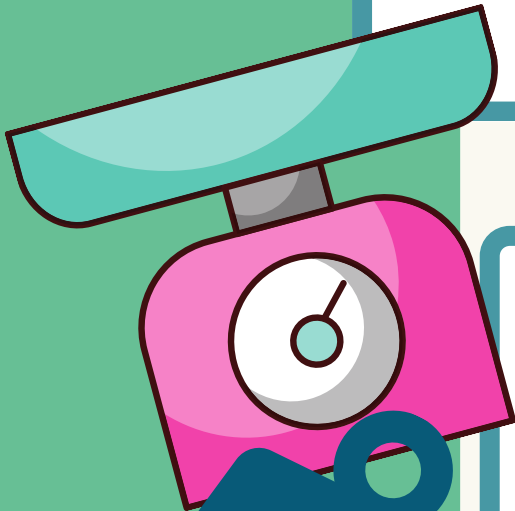
This week has been an exciting one for our Infant children as they explored new concepts and showcased their talents! In Maths, the children have been diving into the world of mass, learning how to compare and measure different weights. They've been busy weighing objects and discovering the difference between heavier and lighter items.

Next week, we'll be shifting our focus to capacity, where they'll explore how much different containers can hold—an exciting hands-on learning experience!

Over in English, the children have been working on prepositions, adding depth and detail to their sentences. Who knew such small words could make such a big difference? It's been wonderful to see their writing come to life with these new language skills.

The highlight of the week, however, was Tuesday's Performing Arts Evening. Our talented young stars took to the stage, and wow—what a performance! Their hard work and determination truly shone through, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

Well done to all our Infant children for another fantastic week of learning and creativity!





# IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEK 9

## YEAR 3/4

This week, our students had the incredible opportunity to visit Crich Tramway Museum for a WWII experience day, immersing themselves in the sights, sounds, and challenges of wartime Britain.

During the visit, the children took part in a workshop where they tried their hand at decoding secret messages, an essential skill used by wartime spies and codebreakers. They also learned about the realities of rationing by budgeting clothing coupons—a fascinating insight into the tough choices families had to make during the war. Exploring replica artefacts brought history to life, helping them understand what everyday life was like during the 1940s.

One of the highlights of the day was learning about the important role trams played during the war. The children even had the chance to ride on vintage trams, experiencing first-hand a mode of transport used by many during that era.

To top off an exciting day, we were treated to a visit to an old-fashioned sweet shop, where the children received their very own ration of sweets, just as children would have during the war.

It was a fantastic trip filled with hands-on learning and unforgettable experiences—a perfect way to bring history to life!







# IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEK 9

## YEAR 3/4

This week, our students have wrapped up their Science Fiction topic, exploring key features of the genre, developed their descriptive writing skills, and even created their own sci-fi-inspired stories.

Alongside this, the children have been busy rehearsing their performance poetry for the wonderful Performing Arts Evening. Their dedication and enthusiasm shone through as they perfected their delivery, using expression, rhythm, and movement to bring their poems to life on stage.

In Year 3 maths, pupils have been mastering addition and subtraction of lengths, learning to solve problems involving measurements in meters, centimeters, and millimeters. They have applied their knowledge to real-life contexts, developing a strong understanding of units of measurement.

In Year 4 maths, pupils have been tackling the concept of improper fractions, learning how to convert between improper fractions and mixed numbers. They have explored different visual representations and practical applications of fractions to deepen their understanding.





# AUDITIONS

## IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEK 9



### YEARS 5 & 6

Excitement is building for Years 5 and 6 as they have now read the script for this year's much-anticipated summer production. With auditions scheduled for next Monday, students are eagerly preparing to showcase their acting and performance skills. The enthusiasm is already evident, and we can't wait to see the talent they bring to the stage!



### YEAR 5

In English, pupils have been diving deeper into the world of biographies. They have been exploring the key features that make biographies engaging and informative, such as chronological structure, formal tone, and the use of third-person perspective. Through a variety of exercises, they have been refining their ability to apply these features accurately in their own writing.

### YEAR 6

In English, Year 6 have started working on an important discussion-based writing topic: screen use. They have been learning how to write balanced discussion texts, exploring both the benefits and drawbacks of technology. Through class debates and research, they have been considering questions such as "Should screen time be limited?" and "How does technology impact learning and social interactions?" This work is helping them develop critical thinking skills, persuasive writing techniques, and the ability to present well-structured arguments.

In Maths we have started an exciting new topic on statistics. They are learning how to draw and interpret line graphs and work with two-way tables, which will help them analyze and compare data efficiently. This topic will give them valuable skills in understanding patterns and trends, both in real-life situations and in mathematical problem-solving.

In Maths, Year 6 are continuing their decimals topic. They have been ordering, rounding, and performing calculations with decimals, focusing on how these skills apply to real-world situations such as money and measurement. As they progress, they will be tackling more complex decimal operations, preparing them for advanced problem-solving and transition to secondary-level maths.



# 2.2