



## Message from Mr Hilliam

I'm so pleased that 'Skipping Henry' was in school during Primary Mental Health Week. It was fantastic to see all the pupils thoroughly enjoying his skipping sessions - especially as, for many, skipping was a completely new skill!

I've known Henry for a long time, as he ran a skipping club at the primary school in Leicestershire where my two sons were pupils. When I first saw him, he had an entire hall full of pupils hanging on his every word. He's clearly a role model, particularly for the boys, with the physique of a boxer, a constant smile, and an always - encouraging approach.

But after just a few minutes of watching one of Henry's skipping classes, you realise that beyond the fun and exercise, there's much more going on. Pupils start to really listen to instructions, cooperate in pairs, coordinate and make decisions in larger teams, celebrate their successes, and accept each other's limitations. It turns out Henry's skipping lessons are truly about wellbeing and personal development.

Best of all, it's been wonderful to see pupils continuing to skip in the playground since Henry's visit!

Best wishes,  
Paul Hilliam  
Acting Head

## MARCH

- 10 Assessment week : Reading comprehension, writing, SPaG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and mathematics
- 17 Year 3/4 WWII Trip Crich Tramway Museum
- 18 Primary Performing Arts Evening 4.00 - 5.30pm  
**All Children are required to attend**
- 19 Reception Stay and Play - Easter Theme
- 20 Y3-6 Sponsored Swim
- 24 Achievement Assembly - in the School Hall



## MESSAGE FROM MRS GENDERS

The second half of the Spring Term has already seen lots of fantastic events: skipping workshops, the infants' visit to the Sea Life Centre, 'Wear Yellow Day' and World Book Day to name but a few! A huge thank you to you, the parents, for your support. We cannot do it without you! I would also like to thank our fantastic PTA for paying for Henry, the skipping man to visit the school. The workshops were so much more than learning to skip. Henry encouraged the children to be brave and resilient. In addition, the primary team (staff and pupil) would like to say a huge thank you for the new play equipment. Welcome to our new pupils, Dileep and Ajeet!

## SKIPPING WORKSHOPS WITH HENRY

On Monday, 24th February, DGS was buzzing with energy as we welcomed skipping expert Henry for a fun-filled day of learning, laughter, and leaps! Henry didn't just teach the children how to skip - he inspired them to push their limits, develop patience, and embrace new challenges.

From basic skipping techniques to the thrilling Double Dutch, pupils threw themselves into the experience with enthusiasm. Here's what some of them had to say about the day:

★ Raheem: "We learnt how to be patient because most of us couldn't get it on the first try."

★ Dileep: "It was amazing to learn how to skip Double Dutch. I didn't think I could do it, but I did!"

★ Nifemi: "I liked skipping with the big rope!"

A huge thank you to our fantastic PTA for funding this unforgettable workshop. We can't wait to invite Henry back for another round of skipping fun!



## ONE PAGE PROFILES

If you are yet to return your one page profiles, please can they be returned to Mrs De Waal by next Friday at the latest please.

[dewaal.k@derbygrammar.org](mailto:dewaal.k@derbygrammar.org)

## WORLD BOOK DAY AT DGS – A STORY-FILLED CELEBRATION!

This year, our World Book Day celebrations were inspired by the wonderful book 'On the Way Home' by Jill Murphy. This heartwarming and imaginative story follows Claire as she journeys home, coming up with wild and exciting tales about how she got her injury – from a wolf to a giant and even a Martian!

All of our lessons were themed around the book, sparking creativity, storytelling, and plenty of fun – a true celebration of reading and imagination.

We're so proud of all the fantastic work produced and can't wait to put it on display for everyone to enjoy.



### WINNERS OF OUR DESIGN A HOODIE COMPETITION

Huge congratulations to Abe and Harys, whose incredible creativity and design skills have earned them a special place in school history! Their fantastic hoodie designs stood out among the many brilliant entries and have been selected to be professionally made into real hoodies.

The competition showcased an amazing variety of ideas, with students putting their artistic talents to the test. Abe and Harys impressed the judges with their unique concepts, eye-catching details, and stylish designs—ensuring their hoodies will be both memorable and wearable.

Here they are with they beautiful Hoodies! Well done boys!





## THE BIG DGS BOOK SWAP

Our Big DGS Book Swap was a fantastic celebration of reading, bringing pupils together to share their favourite stories and discover new ones! The event was a huge success, with students eagerly swapping books, chatting about their top reads, and leaving with exciting new stories to enjoy.

It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm for reading, as well-loved books found new homes and fresh adventures awaited. A big thank you to everyone who took part - your contributions helped make the event such a success!

## A SPECTACULAR WORLD BOOK DAY!

Wow! Everyone who dressed up for World Book Day looked absolutely amazing! From classic literary characters to magical creatures and heroes from our favorite stories, the creativity on display was truly fantastic.

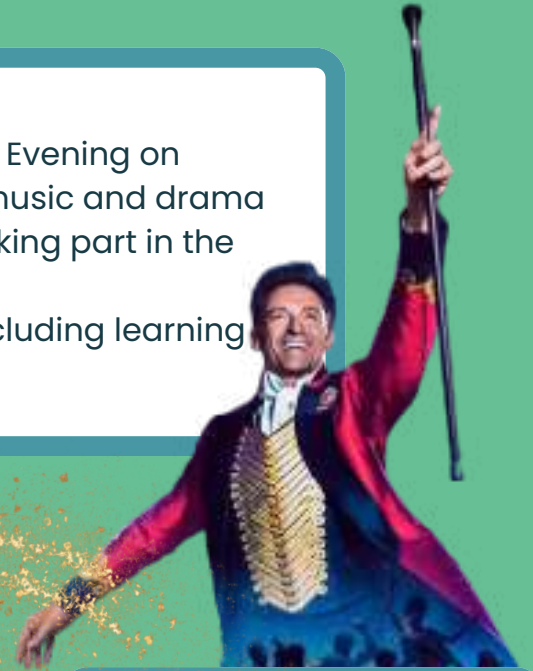
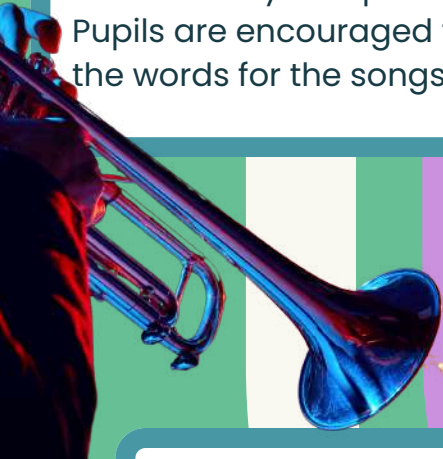
A huge well done to everyone who took part—you made the day even more special with your brilliant costumes and enthusiasm for reading. We can't wait to do it all again next year!



## PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

Rehearsals are underway for our next exciting Performing Arts Evening on Tuesday 18th March. There will be a range of group and solo music and drama pieces to look forward to. All children in primary will also be taking part in the House Poetry competition.

Pupils are encouraged to practise over the next few weeks, including learning the words for the songs and poems!



## BREAKFAST CLUB

When dropping your child off at Breakfast Club, please use the door on the quad side. Some of our younger children have found the door and code challenging, and this will allow Mrs. Dileep to see pupils and let them in more easily.



## WEAR YELLOW DAY

Many thanks for supporting our 'Wear Yellow' day to raise funds for the Air Ambulance. We raised £32. Aaraf made us smile with his interpretation of 'wear yellow'!



## SPONSORED SWIM

Pupils in Years 3-6 will be taking part in the sponsored swim. If you have not received a letter about this, please contact Mrs Genders.



## PLAY EQUIPMENT

Exciting News from the Student Council!

At the start of the year, the Student Council took on a huge mission—they surveyed all Primary School pupils to find out what mattered most to them. The answer? New playground equipment!

Led by the incredible Rohan and Abe, the team sprang into action! They carefully put together a wish list and even filmed a passionate speech to convince the PTA to help make their dream a reality. And guess what? The PTA didn't just say yes—they gave us a whopping £500!!

This week, the excitement was off the charts as box after box of brand-new equipment arrived for Mrs. De Waal. The Student Council eagerly unboxed, sorted, and even cleared out old, worn-out items to make way for the fresh new gear. They proudly unveiled the new equipment in assembly and even set out some golden rules to make sure it stays in top condition.

Since then, the playground has been buzzing with energy as students dive into their new games and activities—and they're absolutely loving it!

A HUGE thank you to our amazing PTA for making this possible!





**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)



**Zumba for  
Tanzania!**

**SUNDAY 9TH MARCH  
8.30AM - 9.30AM  
RYKNELD  
SPORTS  
CENTRE**

**£10 PER PERSON**

**ALL FUNDS RAISED  
WILL BE GOING TO  
SUPPORT OUR WORK  
IN TANZANIA**


## ZUMBA THIS SUNDAY

Zumba for Tanzania – This Sunday!  
Get ready to dance, sweat, and have a blast  
at Zumba for Tanzania this Sunday at  
Rykneld Sports Centre!

Join us for an energetic Zumba session  
where you can throw some shapes, boost  
your fitness, and most importantly—support  
a fantastic cause!

 **Date:** This Sunday

 **Location:** Rykneld Sports Centre

 **Entry:** £10 per person (payable on the  
door)

 **Doors open at 8 AM**

Whether you're a Zumba pro or just fancy a  
fun morning workout, everyone is welcome!  
So grab your friends, bring your best moves,  
and let's make a difference together.

**See you on the dance floor!**



## IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEKS 7 & 8



### EYFS

This week in Maths, we've been diving deep into the world of numbers 9 and 10! Through hands-on activities and exciting challenges, we've explored how these numbers work, spotting patterns, and getting creative with our counting skills.

Meanwhile, in English, we've made a splash with rhyming words as we explored our current story, *Commotion in the Ocean*! From jellyfish that swish to sharks that bark, we've had a fantastic time spotting rhymes and even creating some of our own.

It's been a fun-filled week of learning, laughter, and language

### OUR WOW LEARNING

This week, we set off on an amazing underwater adventure to the Sea Life Centre in Birmingham alongside our friends in Year 1/2!

As we explored, we came face-to-face with all the incredible sea creatures from our story *Commotion in the Ocean*—from mesmerizing jellyfish to graceful stingrays and even some rather cheeky sharks!

But the absolute highlight? We got to wave at Oscar the otter! He was full of energy, splashing around and making everyone smile.

It was a truly magical day, bringing our learning to life in the most exciting way. What an ocean-tastic adventure!







## IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEKS 7 & 8

### YEAR 1/2

This week in Maths, Year 1 and 2 have been busy exploring length and height! Using rulers and measuring tapes, they had a fantastic time measuring objects around the classroom and comparing sizes.

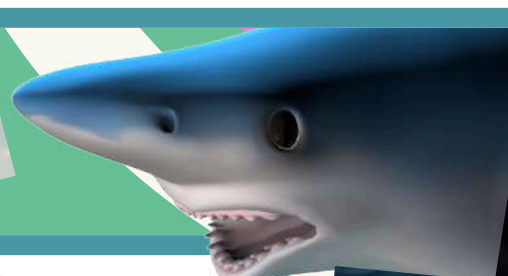
Next week, we'll be diving into Mass, Capacity, and Temperature—get ready for some hands-on, practical learning!

In English, we've been tackling an unusual challenge—writing a persuasive letter in response to a complaint about how the crayons are being used! We've discovered the power of imperative verbs and how they help make our writing more persuasive.

On top of all that, we've been rehearsing for our House Poetry competition, working hard to perfect our performances. We can't wait to share them!

### SEA LIFE CENTRE

This week, we embarked on an exciting trip to the Sea Life Centre as part of our topic, 'Oceans and Continents'! The children had an amazing time, coming face-to-face with a fascinating variety of sea creatures. As we explored, we didn't just admire these incredible animals—we also discovered where they live around the world and which oceans they call home. From tropical waters to icy depths, it was a fantastic way to bring our learning to life!



# IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEKS 7 & 8

## YEAR 3/4

This week, we've launched into an exciting new English genre—Science Fiction! Our journey began with exploring our model text, 'Han-Cell and Gretel', where we discovered the key ingredients of a great fiction story: the opening, build-up, problem, solution, and ending

Next week, it's time for our class write—we'll be finishing the story ourselves! But what will happen next? Will Dad surrender to the computer's evil plan? Will he abandon his children? Year 3/4—The fate of Han-Cell and Gretel is in your hands!

## MATHS ADVENTURES

Year 3 have been mastering length, converting between metres, centimetres, and millimetres. Next week, they'll be tackling perimeter—get ready for some shape-measuring fun!

Year 4 wrapped up their perimeter topic and have now embarked on the world of fractions. Today, we explored numerators and denominators, learning that fractions must be equal parts of a whole. Next week, we'll take it further with mixed numbers and improper fractions—exciting times ahead! A fantastic week of learning, curiosity, and creativity—bring on the next adventure!





## IN THE CLASSROOMS WEEKS 7 & 8

# POETRY

### YEAR 5

In Maths, Year 5 have been mastering long multiplication and are now gearing up to tackle division—exciting challenges ahead! In English, we've been diving into autobiographies, exploring real-life extracts and preparing to write our very own! Plus, we're working hard on our House Poetry entry, perfecting our performances for the big event.

Year 5 have also been playing a key role in an exciting GCSE Design & Technology project! Aaryan, a GCSE student, has been designing, testing, and improving a child-friendly compass, and our Year 5 pupils have been his official testers from the very start. This week, they got their hands on the latest model—and they were seriously impressed! A fantastic week full of learning, creativity, and collaboration!



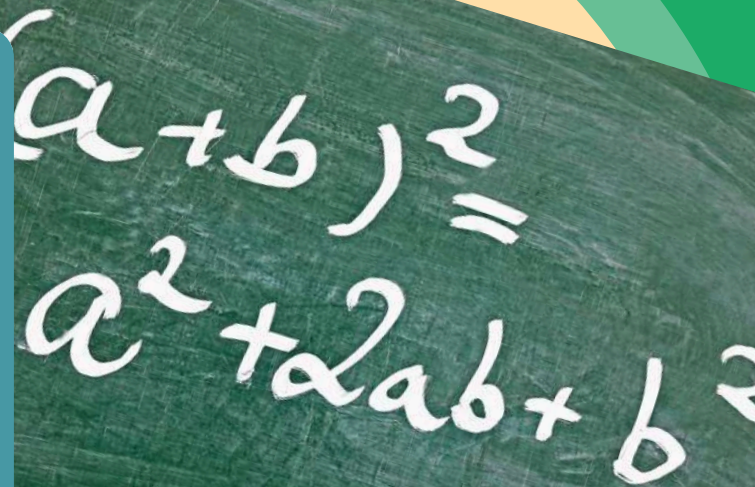
### YEAR 6

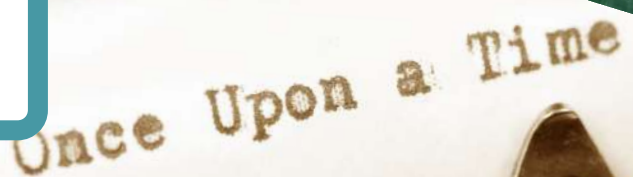
In Maths, we've been tackling algebraic expressions, learning how to calculate and simplify them like true mathematicians! Next up, we'll be diving into decimals—get ready for some number magic!

In English, we've been crafting our own versions of the eerie tale 'Alma', bringing the story to life with vivid descriptions and suspenseful twists.

Plus, we're kicking off rehearsals for House Poetry, getting ready to showcase our performance skills!

An exciting week of creativity and problem-solving—bring on the next challenge!


$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$



Once Upon a Time

# OPEN DAY

Saturday  
*15th*  
March  
10am-1pm



**a quality  
co-educational  
independent school  
with guaranteed  
small class sizes**

to register please complete the form on:  
[www.derbygrammar.org/admissions/open-days-and-events](http://www.derbygrammar.org/admissions/open-days-and-events)