



Derby  
Grammar  
School

# Primary Newsletter

13th June 2025

## Message from Mr Bond

Time flies when you are having fun? Whilst it seems like yesterday that I joined, I am also aware of quite how much we have somehow managed to squeeze in to the last eight weeks and still have to squeeze in over the next three.

I was somehow encouraged to appear in the Y6 leavers hoodies photograph just yesterday. I challenged them to persuade me into allowing them to wear the hoodies for the final few weeks. The reasoned and logical arguments were wholly convincing and included the all important emotional (blackmail) as to how a kind and compassionate Head could possibly deny them...

Similar levels of persuasion and discussion have been had amongst the staff as we prepare for our Prize Giving on Wednesday 25th June and decide upon those fortunate to have been selected.

I am reminded of my own experience of prize giving when I set my hopes on a sporting award only to be disappointed on the day. Fast forward one year and a determined effort during the academic year and I was the proud recipient of the sports award. The lesson here being two fold; if you at first you don't succeed then rise to the challenge and try harder. The second lesson? Never tell me something is impossible. Or is that just stubbornness? Perhaps best to ask my wife.

Enjoy your weekend

Alistair Bond  
**Headmaster**

## JUNE

- 16 Y3/4 class assembly 3.30 - 4pm
- 17 Derby Book Festival  
Y6 - 9.45-10.45  
Y2/3 - 1.15 - 2.15  
Y4/5 Music trip to Manchester
- 18 Primary Sports Day - 2pm - 3.30pm - Rykneld Sports Centre
- 20 First maths Challenge Y2-4
- 23 Y6 into Y7 Induction Day
- 29 Garden Party - 12pm - 3.30pm - School Lawns

## JULY

- 2 Rock Bottom - 7pm School Hall. All KS2 pupils. KS1 & 2 will take place in the noisy dress rehearsal at 2.15pm

## MESSAGE FROM MRS GENDERS

I am always excited to see a class assembly and this week's infant assembly did not disappoint! The lines learned, the costumes and the dance moves made for an incredible performance. They had clearly worked extremely hard and everyone enjoyed their performance - especially Mr Hilliam! Seeing their huge smiles at the end made me emotional. Well done infants! And a big thank you to Mrs Wheat and Mrs Hardstaff for their hard work.

I look forward to seeing Year 3/4's assembly next week. **Mrs Genders.**

## PRE-LOVED UNIFORM REQUEST

If you have any pre-loved uniform which is in good condition which you would like to donate to the PTA please drop it off at school reception. The PTA will be hosting a uniform stall at the Garden Party on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June, and would be very grateful for any donations.



## GARDEN PARTY

It is our 30th anniversary Garden Party next month and the primary school will be running their traditional tombola stall.

If you are able to donate any bottles, unwanted gifts or sweets/chocolate, we would be very grateful.

We are aiming to have a children's and adult tombola!



## WET PLAY PLEA

The student council are looking for some new wet play equipment. They are specifically requesting adult Monopoly, Battleships, Top Trumps cards, Beyblades, games and toys suitable for girls, Uno and Guess Who.

If you happen to have a clear out and have any of these which are unused or you happen to stumble upon any in a charity shop, we would be hugely grateful for any donations. Many thanks in advance!







Derby  
Grammar  
School

Where you belong

You are invited to join us at a

# GARDEN PARTY

for all the family

in celebration of our

## 30TH ANNIVERSARY

An opportunity to reconnect with previous members of staff and pupils

**Stalls, Games, Bar, Pizza, Treasure Hunt, and fun for all the family.**

Picnic Lunch and drink on arrival available at a pre-booked ticket price

**Tickets £10 Adult £5 Child**

Alternatively, entry is free and you can purchase food on the day

SUNDAY 29TH JUNE 2025  
12.00 - 3.30PM

DERBY GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
RYKNELD ROAD



## GARDEN PARTY!

This year, we're marking an incredible 30 years of cherished memories, learning, and community at DGS, and we'd love for you to be part of the celebration! It will be an afternoon filled with fun, laughter, and entertainment for all ages! Whether you're a long-time member of our school family or you'd like to bring someone who's considering joining us, this is the perfect chance to experience the vibrancy of our community.

Here's what you can look forward to:  
Delicious Food & Refreshments – Enjoy a variety of tasty food available for purchase on the day.

If you fancy something special? **Pre-order a picnic lunch box complete with a refreshing glass of Pimm's for just £10 per adult or £5 per child (soft drink included)! Simply scan the QR code in the image to book yours.**

Entry is FREE – Just turn up and enjoy! Refreshments are available to purchase on the day. So, gather your family, bring your friends, and let's make this milestone celebration a day to remember. We can't wait to see you there!

**See you on Sunday 29th June**

## ROCK BOTTOM

Rehearsals for our fabulous end of term production are going well but your support with helping the children to learn their lines would be greatly appreciated.

If you need any help with costumes, please do let us know as soon as possible.

reminder that the performance will take place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 7pm, and all of Key stage 2 will be expected to attend as they will be performing.

## HOMEWORK CLUB /AFTER-CARE

Please note that there will be NO homework club or aftercare sessions on Wednesday 25th June as it is Prize Giving Evening.

There will also be no after-care or homework club on Wednesday 2nd July as it is the primary production of Rock Bottom.



## LAMDA STARS!

A huge congratulations to our talented Primary pupils who took their LAMDA exams before Easter – and we're thrilled to share that every single one achieved a Distinction!

Special recognition goes to our confident public speakers:

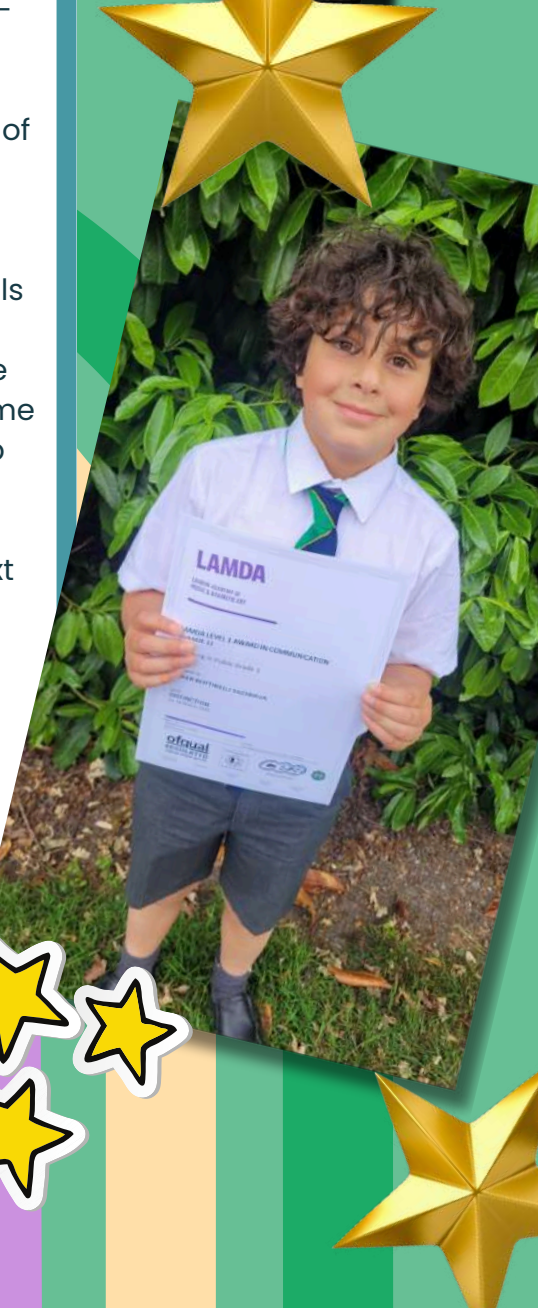
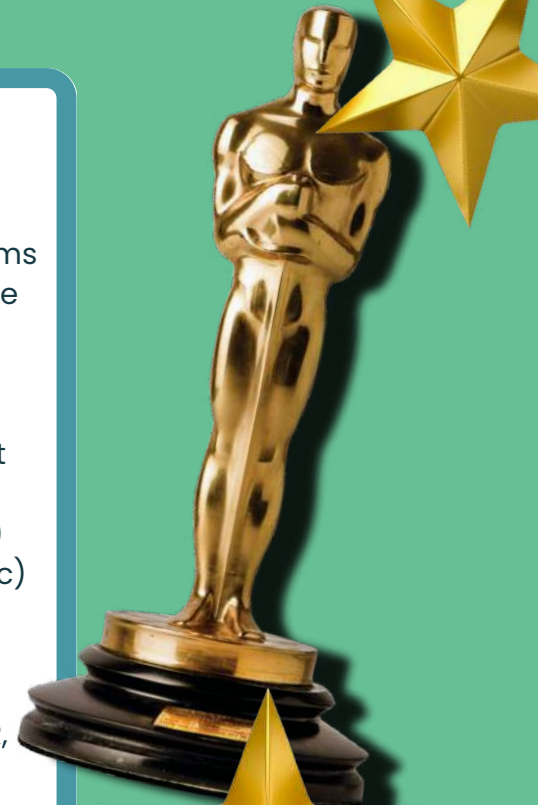
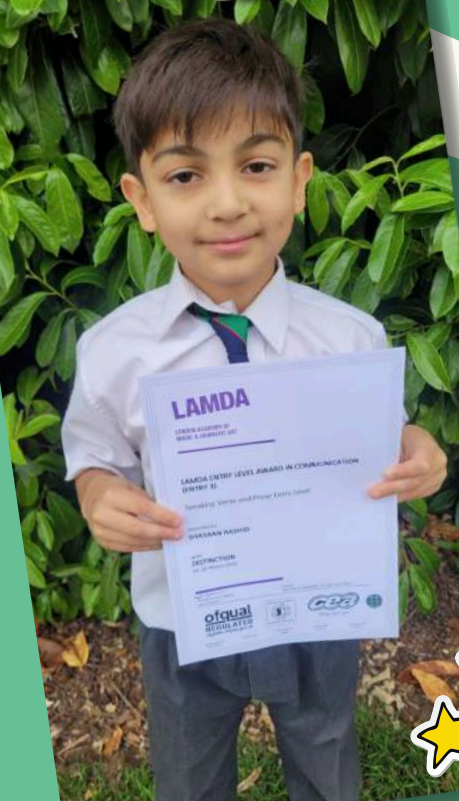
- 🎤 Dylan L (Grade 3 – Speaking in Public)
- 🎤 Rohan M (Grade 2 – Speaking in Public)
- 🎤 Asher B-S (Grade 1 – Speaking in Public)

We're also incredibly proud of Shayaan R, who took his very first LAMDA exam – an Entry Level in Speaking Verse and Prose – and absolutely excelled!

Their outstanding results are a reflection of their dedication, resilience, and excellent performance skills, and we couldn't be prouder of all they've achieved. Looking ahead, some of our Primary pupils are due to take their next set of LAMDA exams this coming Friday. We encourage parents to support their children with some final rehearsals over the weekend to help them feel fully prepared.

Well done to all, and good luck to our next group of performers!

Mrs Simpson





# IN THE CLASSROOMS

## WEEKS 6 & 7

### EYFS

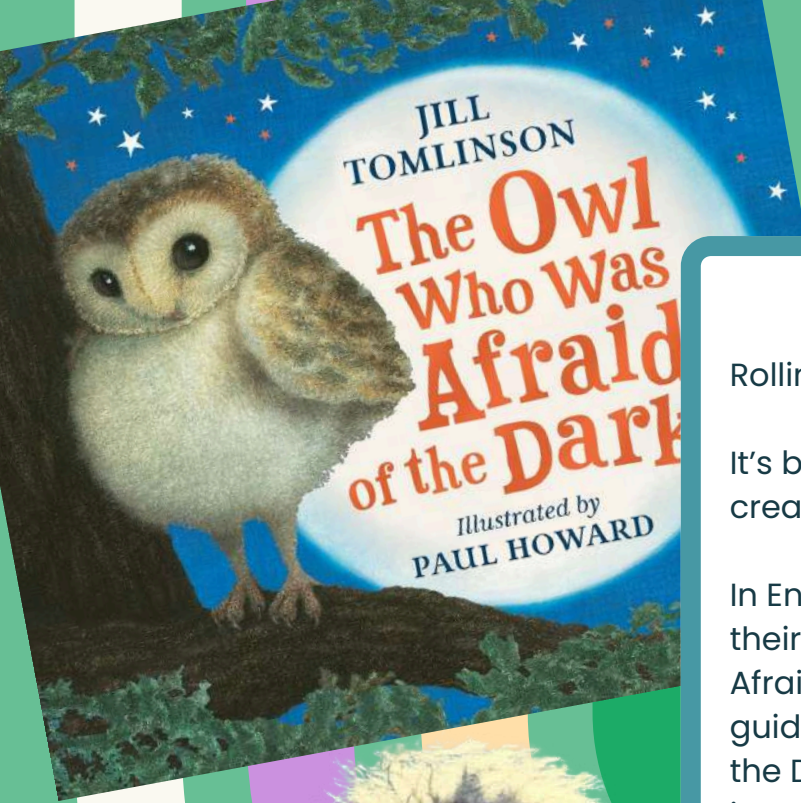
It's been a busy and exciting week in the EYFS department as our youngest learners dived into their summer topic of 'On the Beach'. From discovering seashells and learning about creatures that live along the shore, the children have been fully immersed in seaside-themed exploration. Their curiosity and creativity brought the topic to life in wonderful ways.

To celebrate their learning, the children hosted a very special assembly, inviting their families in for a showcase of everything they had discovered. The assembly was filled with songs, stories, and artwork — and of course, lots of smiles! It was a heart-warming moment to see our Reception children speaking confidently and proudly sharing their work with such enthusiasm.

As part of their wider theme, 'Come Outside', Reception pupils have also been exploring pollution and plastic in our oceans. Through age-appropriate stories, discussions, and creative activities, the children have developed a growing understanding of how rubbish can harm sea life and what we can all do to help. They've created thoughtful art pieces using recycled materials and even imagined what it would be like to be a turtle swimming through plastic-filled waters. These activities not only supported their communication and understanding of the world but also helped to instil a sense of responsibility and care for our environment from an early age.

It's been truly inspiring to see such important topics explored with such energy and empathy. We are incredibly proud of how engaged and passionate our children are — and we thank all the families who came to support them in their assembly.





## YEARS 1/2

Rolling on a River... and Soaring with Confidence!

It's been another action-packed week full of creativity, confidence, and curiosity in Years 1 & 2!

In English, the children have been busy planning their own version of 'The Hedgehog Who Was Afraid of the Dark', drawing inspiration from our guided reading book, 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. They've absolutely loved dreaming up imaginative settings and characters, and have shown fantastic teamwork when sharing their story ideas. If you've caught them belting out "Rolling on a River" at home - we can only partially apologise... it's all part of the creative process!

Over in Maths, we've launched into statistics, and the children have thrown themselves into this new challenge with enthusiasm. Their understanding is already shining through - we're so impressed with their confidence and curiosity.

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to watch our class assembly, 'Beside the Seaside'. The children worked incredibly hard and absolutely beamed with pride on stage. Their growing confidence and joy in performing were a delight to see - and we hope you were as proud as we were!

What a wonderful week - here's to many more!





patiently joyously

## YEARS 3 & 4

It's been a buzzing and brilliant week in Years 3 and 4, with creativity, confidence and curiosity on full display!

In English, both year groups have been hard at work developing their grammar skills. Year 3 have been mastering adverbs, learning how these mighty little words can completely transform a sentence by telling us how, when and where an action happens. Year 4, meanwhile, have been tackling the tricky world of irregular verbs – and have become experts at spotting those rule-breaking verbs that don't play by the usual past tense rules!

Alongside this, we've been putting our speaking and listening skills to the test as we rehearse for our exciting Tudors-themed class assembly. The children have thrown themselves into their roles with enthusiasm and flair, and we can't wait to bring history to life for parents and families on Monday. Expect drama, facts, and a few surprises!

In Maths, the two year groups have been exploring different strands of learning.

- Year 3 are deep in their Time unit, learning to tell the time accurately and calculate durations. To help them build confidence, please keep those time-related questions going at home – "What's the time now?", "How many minutes until tea?" – it really makes a difference!
- Year 4 have just wrapped up their Position and Direction work and are now diving into the world of Geometry. They're learning all about angles, identifying right angles, acute angles, obtuse angles and more – ask them which is their favourite angle and why!

In Art, the creativity has continued to shine with our Tudor Coat of Arms project. Each child has designed their very own family crest, packed with meaningful symbols and vibrant colours.

Whether it's a lion for courage, a tree for growth, or a star for ambition, every detail was carefully chosen to represent values that are important to them and their families. The final pieces are bold, expressive, and full of personality – we can't wait to display them!



play

talk

work daily

thankfully

## YEAR 5 & 6

It's been a week full of imagination, reflection, and milestone moments in Years 5 and 6!

In Year 5, the children have been channelling their inner poets, writing powerful narrative poems inspired by the atmospheric short film *The Alchemist's Letter*. With rich vocabulary, emotional depth, and beautifully crafted verses, the results have been truly impressive. We're so proud of how confidently they've expressed themselves through poetry.

In Maths, Year 5 have just wrapped up their learning on Position and Direction and are now boldly stepping into the world of Negative Numbers. From freezing temperatures to sea-level depths, they're already showing great skill at navigating numbers below zero!

Over in Year 6, excitement is building as preparations for the Leavers' Assembly on Friday 4th July are now in full swing. The children have been busy writing thoughtful, funny, and heart-warming reflections on their time in primary school - we can't wait to share these special memories with you. (Tissues at the ready!)


In Maths, Year 6 are sharpening their geometry skills by learning all about angles in triangles and other shapes. With protractors in hand and minds fully focused, they're tackling new challenges with confidence.

And of course... the moment they've all been waiting for – the Leavers' Hoodies have finally arrived!

Clock







## REV UP OUR RACE CARS – CAN YOU HELP SPONSOR OUR F24 TEAM?

Our fabulous F24 Greenpower Race Team is gearing up for an exciting season finale — but our two much-loved race cars are in need of a little TLC... and a brand-new wrap to get them track-ready!

We're currently on the lookout for a small amount of sponsorship to help give our vehicles the sleek new look they deserve. Whether you're a local business, a proud parent, or simply an engineering enthusiast, your support could help drive us over the finish line — literally!

In return, we'd be delighted to showcase your logo on our cars, shout about your support on social media, and even invite you to join us at a race day to see the action up close. And while we can't guarantee that Mr Lakritz will take you fishing as a thank-you... we're fairly certain the adrenaline-fuelled race experience is the better deal anyway!

If you — or the company you work for — would be interested in sponsoring our student-powered racing dreams, please get in touch with our Head of Marketing, Miss Bird at [bird.s@derbygrammar.org](mailto:bird.s@derbygrammar.org).

Let's put the pedal to the metal — together!