

23rd October 2025

End of Autumn Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the nights draw in, it is a sign we have reached the end of what has been a busy but fantastic half term. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on our achievements and provide you with some important updates.

DPA Values

Our core values of **Determination**, **Pride** and **Ambition** are fundamental to everything we do at DPA. We recognise this by rewarding those students who have consistently demonstrated these values each week. Certificates are presented to students in their reflection time on a Friday, when we celebrate those students who have gone above and beyond with their attitude and behaviour to learning, achievement in subjects, or contribution to the academy. Linked to this, I want to offer my congratulations to three students who have achieved the most DPA values points this half term, and will be treated to breakfast on Friday.

Enrichment and Events

Students and staff at Derby Pride Academy came together for a successful and very enjoyable Macmillan Cake Bake to honour a much-loved former staff member Caroline Fowkes who sadly passed away from cancer. An impressive £135 was raised for charity. The event was filled with delicious homemade treats, enthusiastic bakers, and generous supporters. The atmosphere was warm and lively, with everyone contributing to a great cause while enjoying a sweet break from the school day. A fantastic effort by all involved!



We also marked World Mental Health Day with a vibrant “Wear Yellow” event, bringing students and staff together to raise awareness and show support for mental wellbeing. The school was filled with cheerful splashes of yellow, creating a positive and uplifting atmosphere. The day sparked meaningful conversations and reinforced the importance of kindness, understanding, and mental health support within the school community.

Attendance

We're pleased to share that overall student attendance has started off strong this term, and we appreciate the effort families are making to ensure children are present and ready to learn each day. However, we've noticed that punctuality has become an area of concern. Arriving on time is just as important as attending regularly; it helps students settle into their routines, engage fully in lessons, and avoid missing valuable learning time at the start of the day. We kindly ask for your continued support in promoting good habits by ensuring your child arrives at school by



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8.40am promptly each morning. Together, we can keep building on our strong start and help every student succeed.

Careers/Work Experience

We are seeking the support of parents and carers in helping our KS4 students secure valuable work experience placements. These opportunities provide students with a chance to develop essential skills, explore potential career paths, and gain real-world insight into the workplace. If you or someone you know can offer a placement, please get in touch with your child's form tutor. Your support can make a meaningful difference in preparing our students for their future.

Social Media

Please follow Derby Pride Academy on our social media platforms on Facebook and Instagram (@derbypride_academy), where we regularly post updates of our students work and enrichment activities.

Arbor

As you are aware Arbor is our main method of communication. Please can we ask all parents/guardians to download the Arbor Parent App to your smart phone and contact reception if you require any support with this platform.

Key dates:

Friday 24 th October	Students break up for half term
Monday 3 rd November	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th November	Students return to DPA
Monday 1 st December	INSET Day
Friday 19 th December	Students break up for Christmas

Please keep an eye on our website and social media accounts for updates and key dates.

A Final Word

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. It is a privilege to lead such a fantastic and caring school. I hope you and your families have a fantastic half term break. We look forward to seeing students return on Tuesday 4th November.

Yours sincerely



Mark Hatton
Headteacher



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COLLEGE OPEN DAYS 2025–2026

All Derby College Sites

04/06/2026

Derby College, Broomfield Hall

06/06/2026 (9-12), 12/11/2025

25/02/2026 29/04/2026

Derby College, Joseph Wright Centre

24/06/2026 22/10/2025 04/02/2026

Derby College, The Round House

06/11/2025 12/02/2026 26/03/2026

Lees Brook Skills Academy

06/11/2025

Juniper Training

28/10/2025 (11-2pm)

All times are 5pm to 7pm



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