

12<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## End of Spring Term 1 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of what has been another successful term, I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some important updates before the academy closes its gates for half term.

### Last Day Arrangements

Please be aware that Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February is a non-uniform day, students will finish at our usual finish time of 1.10pm. We are asking for a minimum donation of £1. All money raised from the day will be donated to the Derby County Community Trust Kenya trip that Miss Richards and Miss Roper are taking part in during the summer term.

### DPA Values

Our values of **Determination**, **Pride** and **Ambition** are fundamental to everything we do at DPA. This term we have seen numerous students rewarded weekly for demonstrating these values throughout the school day. An area of focus when we return after half term will be around oracy. It is vital that students continue to communicate with staff and other students with a respectful manner and using appropriate language that is expected in a school environment.

### Attendance

Overall, school attendance remains positive, and we are well above the national average for similar schools around the country. An area of focus continues to be punctuality. Again, we ask for your support and partnership in working together to support our pupils getting to school on time. As a reminder, students are welcomed on to site from 8.40am but are marked as late if they arrive after 9am.

### 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.



**Headteacher; Mark Hatton**  
20 Orient Way, Pride Park, Derby, DE24 8BY  
**Tel:** 01332 349616  
**E-mail:** [info@dpaesteem.co.uk](mailto:info@dpaesteem.co.uk)  
**www.dpaesteem.co.uk**

### KS3 Skills Builder

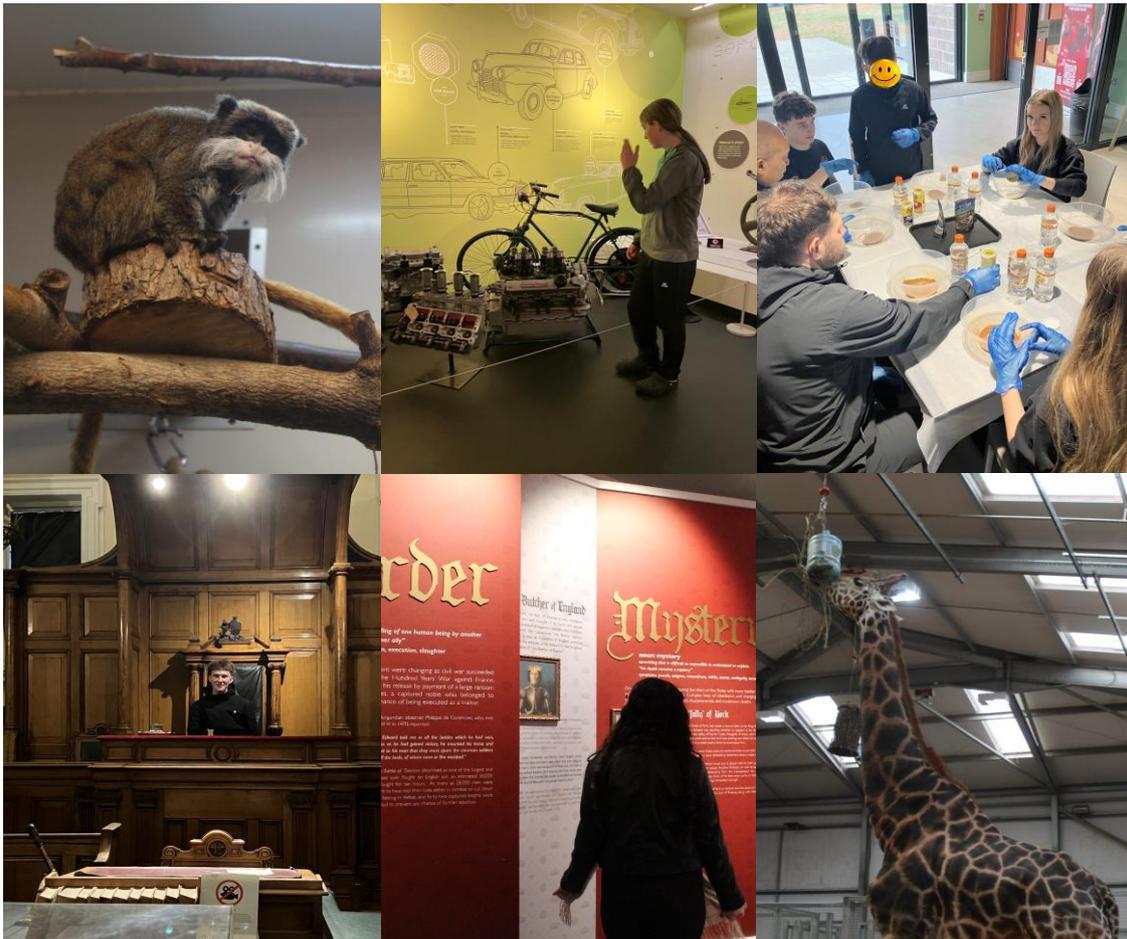
This half term, Key Stage 3 students have been developing their listening skills to support their own personal development and to help prepare them for later in their chosen careers.

“Skills Builder Partnership is a global movement of employers, educators, and impact organisations working together to ensure that one day, everyone builds the essential skills to succeed.”



### KS3 & 4 Enrichment

It has been great to see students’ confidence grow throughout their enrichment curriculum offer this half term. They have had the opportunity to visit historic places of interest within the East Midlands, learn about conservation projects at Twycross Zoo and so much more! Some groups even took their cooking skills to a café.



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### Year 11 Exams

We return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, this will mean only 10 school weeks before our Year 11s sit their first GCSE exam. Before their first academic exam, students will have already completed their GCSE Art coursework; this is scheduled to be completed prior to the end of the Spring term. After half term students will also have the opportunity to attend additional exam revision classes during lunch time. A copy of the GCSE exam timetable is shown below:

Mon 11th May	Tue 12th May	Wed 13th May	Thurs 14th May	Fri 15th May
AQA English Lit 8702, Paper 1, 1hr 45min, AM	AQA Biology 8461 Paper 1 1hr 45 min, PM		Pearsons Maths 1MA1 Paper 1, 1hr 30min, non-Calc AM	
Mon 18th May	Tues 19th May	Weds 20th May	Thurs 21st May	Fri 22nd May
	AQA English Lit 8702, Paper 2, 2hr 15min, AM		AQA English Lan 8700 Paper 1 1hr 45 min AM	
Half-Term Holidays				
Mon 1st June	Tues 2nd June	Weds 3rd June	Thurs 4th June	Fri 5th June
		Pearsons Maths 1MA1 Paper 2, 1hr 30min, Calc AM		AQA English Lang 8700 Paper 2, 1hr 45 min, AM
Mon 8th June	Tues 9th June	Weds 10th June	Thurs 11th June	Fri 12th June
AQA Biology 8461 Paper 2 1hr 45 min, AM		Pearsons Maths 1MA1 Paper 3, 1hr 30min, Calc AM		CONTINGENCY DAY

### Key Dates

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Students break up for half term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Students return to DPA
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Students break up for Easter
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Students return to DPA
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	INSET Day
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Students break up for half term

### A Final Word

Thank you for your continued support throughout what has been a successful term. It remains a privilege to lead such a fantastic and caring school. We look forward to seeing students return on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Yours sincerely



Mark Hatton  
Headteacher



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