



We have had a busy half term since returning in October with lots of activities and visits throughout the school.

## Fundraising

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I have attended a number of fundraising events during the period. This has resulted in some very generous donations and pledges for the forthcoming months. Some money has already been spent on Soundfields for use in the secondary hall and further equipment for the sensory room.

## Visits and Activities

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In November the Primary children had a visit from Animal Magic, they had the opportunity to hold several animals including owls and baby meerkats. This was great fun and all the pupils really enjoyed the visit.



The Primary Department also held an Autumn Inspire day and many parents joined in the pumpkin carving and we were able to create our very own pumpkin trail.



A great day was had in PE recently with the pupils working with Disability Martial Arts. The group worked with the pupils all day where they learnt basic moves in martial arts.

We had a wonderful celebration lunch and presentation of certificates for Former Year 11 pupils and Post 16 leavers, many ex students and their parents were able to join us. It was lovely to see everyone.



## Christmas

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The festivities have started early at RSDD! The Primary children visited Signing Santa at Kedleston Hall recently with older pupils enjoying the pantomime in Derby.

The Primary Play was held over 2 days with huge support from families; this was followed on Wednesday 13 December by the PSFA Christmas Party and Disco for all pupils. This was a great success with games and music. Santa visited the party to meet the younger children and RSDD's very own resident DJ provided the music.



The Choir visited the local Intu Centre in Derby performing carols and Christmas songs and raised £900.

It was Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 14 December; the whole school participated in a Winter Olympics day and everyone enjoyed a festive Christmas lunch.

The annual Christingle service was held on Friday 15 December, parents and Governors attended.



## Weduc

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We are excited to announce that we have now invested in Weduc, a new digital and communication app designed specifically to improve the way that RSDD is able to communicate with parents. There will be more news on this soon. You can download the app ready using the app store on your phone.

## Punjabi Rams

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Punjabi Rams have nominated RSDD as their charity of the season. We will be working with each other to help raise as much money as we possibly can to refurbish the Student Club. All children access this area which looks rather tired. We have been offered 30 tickets for a DCFC match in February (30 children plus a carer each) for free. All we ask is that you assess how Derby could improve match days for deaf people. We may video you on the day. If you would like tickets please contact [enquiries@rsdd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@rsdd.org.uk)



## Preparation for Employment

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We have had several links with local businesses and employers. All KS3 took part in a Computing Day which worked with employers to look at apps and technology for deaf people in the work place. In addition, Year 8 and Year 10 have visited Derby University to look at aspirations for the future and we have also had visits from employers into school.

## Ofsted

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We had a recent visit by Ofsted into our residential provision. Residential pupils and parents will receive the report first and we will put it onto our website once it is published. We are very pleased with the judgement made by Ofsted.



## Press coverage

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We have had some great coverage recently in the press. Please see attached clippings.

## Rewards System

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As a parent at the Royal School for the Deaf Derby your child's achievements are now being recognised through a new web-based system called Pupil Reward Points. The system allows our staff to award points to your child during lessons, for example for outstanding work and even outside of lessons, for example for helping and being kind to others. To teach children that hard work is rewarded, they can choose to save their points and exchange them for rewards such as vouchers for different activities. Your child has a log in which you can now access through any web based system

<https://www.pupilrewardpoints.co.uk/rsdd/>

Username – your child's first initial and surname e.g. jbloggs  
Password – password



## Goodbye

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After 17 years working at the Royal School for the Deaf as coordinator of the Early Years Foundation Stage and class teacher for EYFS and KS1, we say thank you and goodbye to Jenneke Brown-Bollen. She is taking up a new post as a Peripatetic Teacher of the Deaf in Staffordshire on the 1 January 2018.



*"I have had a wonderful time and over the past years I have met many interesting people, adults and children, working with fantastic dedicated colleagues as well as learning a great deal about Deafness.*

*I feel privileged to have met you as parents and carers and having had the opportunity to teach your children. Thank you for the trust you have had in me to teach your child(ren).*

*It is with sadness to leave RSDD; however at the same time, it is exciting to start a new challenge and being able to use all the experience in my new job. I wish you all the very best for the future."*

## RSDD Governor Update

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The Governors have had a busy term. The full Governing Board has met twice, and the two committees, Pupil Wellbeing and Attainment and Resources and Finance have met each half term.

The staff continue to keep the Governing Body up to date with new developments in school. A great deal of work is being done behind the scenes for the introduction of Classroom Monitoring to track pupil progress and attainment. A new scheme called 3C's is being used by all staff to encourage and reinforce good behaviour. Work continues to ensure all staff are fully up to date with the latest in e safety and data protection.

The Governors are in School regularly and visit the residence houses, pop in to classes and attend School events. It was a pleasure to attend the Year 11 Presentation Afternoon and see pupils rewarded for their hard work. The Primary Christmas play was a real treat and I'll be very careful next time I open an Advent calendar window!

We were delighted that the recent OFSTED Welfare inspection went so well and would like to say well done to all the staff and pupils. Governance was also inspected and found to be strong.

The Governors would like to welcome a parent to join us on the Governing Board. Although Parent Governors are elected by the parents they are governors in their own right and play a full and active role on the Governing Board. If you think you might like to take on this role contact the Headteacher or the Chair of the Governors at [chair@rsdd.org.uk](mailto:chair@rsdd.org.uk).

Janet Hall  
Chair of Governors

Tuesday, November 28, 2017

Sponsored by *Morley Hayes*

### Planes give career a flying start

As all his life has now got a job as first pilot on the Year 6 team, 11, got his private pilot licence when he sat his final exams in July, this year at the school, in Southampton.

### for ATC trip to Belgium

## Mayor carves out new role as students get into party spirit

THE Mayor of Derby had a spooky afternoon at a city school when he helped pupils carve pumpkins for Halloween.

Councillor John Whitty joined students and parents at Royal School for the Deaf Derby in Ashbourne Road, where he tested out his slicing skills for zapping a first-class jack-o'-lantern.

The pumpkins were used by the school to light the path to reception on parents' and carers' evening - an event which had a record-breaking attendance.

The school provided lots of treats during a special Halloween lunch and students living on site staged a spooky party in the evening.

Head teacher Helen Shepherd said: "We were thrilled to welcome the mayor into school and delighted that he was happy to get hands-on with the pumpkin carving. It's quite a messy job but he was very happy to help - even though he was wearing his mayoral chain."

Halloween is an enjoyable occasion for all youngsters and deaf children are no different.

She added: "They embraced the occasion and really enjoyed meeting the mayor and all the other treats we lined up for them this year."

Derby, presented 128 (City of Derby) 100,000 towards a forthcoming trip to a VIP tour of the ATC's new building and all display team. Pictured are members of the life cell display team.

### boosts cancer research

winners: The team at their North of the Great Haron Charity Bake-Off into bowel cancer. Managing director and head judge. Sales director being treated for bowel cancer.

Saturday, November 25, 2017

Derby Telegraph 31

### Businesses help students get ready for the world of work

Businesses on the agenda during mayor's school visit

Derby City Councilor John Whitty, visited Parkway Infant (16) children about his charities including local issues. For a Halloween, the children and staff dressed in green and red and a girl was dressed by Claire Walker, headteacher and Amy Broad, teacher.

### Education helps band buy new instruments

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### Awarded at Scouts' celebration service

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BUSINESS leaders from across the county gave up an evening to give pupils at a Derby school an opportunity to practice their interview and negotiation skills. The school, based in Ashbourne Road, found the mock interview session through the D2C2 Careers Hub, with support from Derbyshire Education and Business Partnership (DEBP).

Head teacher Helen Shepherd said: "We want every student to have the best possible chance of success at the end of their school life and being able to approach an interview with confidence is a crucial life skill. Companies taking part in the mock interview programme included Bolls Royce, the University of Derby, the NHS, Morgan Stanley and Agilis Global."

Business leaders who supported our mock interview programme, having this opportunity to practice makes a significant difference to our students. "They really value the experience and we got some wonderful feedback from the interviewers about how well they did."

Mrs Shepherd continued: "In a tough job market, young people need all the help they can get when it comes to picking for work and the experts involved in the mock interviews were from some of the county's largest and best employers."

"We are very grateful to all the