

# Parent Bulletin



**To all Da Vinci Families,  
We would like to thank you all for your  
continued support.  
Wishing you a very Merry Christmas.  
From all at Team Da Vinci**

**Last day of term plans:**

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December the school day will end at 12:15pm. Food will be available until 12:30pm for any students wanting food before leaving.

**The Learning Hub:**  
The Learning Hub students have put together a fabulous advent calendar with Mrs Spanner



**Community Languages:**

We are proud to say that we have students taking GCSE's in their home languages of Arabic, Polish, Russian and Spanish.

**Reports:**

Attainment and Attitude to Learning reports will be released on our Go4schools platform, prior to the festive break.

Don't forget to follow us on our Instagram account: **DaVinciAcademyDerby**  
This is where important reminders are posted along with updates on what we have been doing in school.

**Lost Property:**

If your child is missing a coat, please contact reception with a description and we will check lost property as we already have a number from this year alone.

Please remember to label your children's clothing clearly.

**Key dates**

**22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Last day of term

**8<sup>th</sup> January 2024** – Return to school

**11<sup>th</sup> January 2024** – Y11 Parents Evening

**W/C 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024** – Y9 Options Taster Week

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2024** – Y9 Options and Parents Evening

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024** – Break up for Half Term

## Community Choir Trip

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, students from 7A visited The Limes Residential Care Home in Derby to entertain residents and staff and spread some festive cheer within the community. Students performed a selection of Christmas songs they had been rehearsing during Music lessons, including “Rocking Around the Christmas Tree” and “Merry Christmas Everyone”. Year 7 students were also joined by a selection of Year 10 singers who helped to spread some additional festive cheer! The residents and staff enjoyed the singing very much, as did the students, and we hope to repeat the experience again next year in addition to other homes in the local community.



## Jingle Jam 2023

Da Vinci students took to the stage on Wednesday for an evening of festive music, performing to a sold-out crowd as part of this year's Jingle Jam concert. Every year group was represented over the course of the evening, with vocal and instrumental solos in addition to duets and group performances. The evening opened with a bang as the new Year 10 Music class performed in public for the first time, giving their rendition of Wham's "Last Christmas". This was followed by a KS3 segment, featuring vocal solos from William O and Jade J (Y7) and a spell-binding piano solo "Carol of the Bells" by Thinuli W in Year 9.

Jack B and Kieran B (Y10) sang their toe-tapping rendition of "I Wish It Could be Christmas Everyday" which was followed shortly by two vocal solos from Ella C and Evie-Mae W. Year 11 Music students Summer G and Millie D celebrated their successes of the term by singing music from their performance assessments, with confident performances of "Fireflies" and "Piece by Piece" respectively. To conclude the soloists for the evening, Latae R (Y10) performed his version of Michael Buble's "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" with great aplomb, before Megan H (Y10) gave a captivating performance of the traditional Scots song "Auld Lang Syne".



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The final section of the evening featured a Year 7 Choir, comprising of students from every form group. Year 7 Music classes have been rehearsing a variety of Christmas songs in their lessons this half-term, learning about vocal and performance techniques, and were eager to showcase their skills. They performed 2 songs, “Rocking Around the Christmas Tree” and “Merry Christmas Everyone” before inviting the audience to join them in a festive sing-a-long of the classic “Merry Christmas Everybody” by Slade. This really raised the roof! The choir were joined onstage by all the evening’s vocalists for the Finale – an ensemble performance of Lily Allen’s “Somewhere Only We Know” with added percussion by Victor M (Y10) – and featuring poignant solos from Ella SM in Year 8 and Megan H. This was accompanied by a short video clip, showcasing footage from the rehearsals and performances over the term.

The evening was a real success, with ‘dancing room only’ at the back and a plethora of support from the audience. Musicians on stage were also ably assisted by a technical team including students Ronaldo A (lighting – Y10) and Abbie P (tech support – Y11.) We are incredibly proud of all the students who took part to showcase their talent and look forward immensely to watching them develop and shine even brighter in years to come.

# Merry Christmas!

