

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Head Teacher

We are sorry that the last week has been a bit frantic in terms of PCR testing and students being off school. We appreciate it has not been ideal. Thank you to all our parents/carers, staff and students who have supported us with getting their PCR tests, you have been phenomenal! As you know, the PCR testing flagged a huge amount of asymptomatic cases and has potentially stopped the further spread of COVID-19 at Dormston School and the wider community. This simply would not have been possible without your effort and support. Please try and ensure that your child is doing regular lateral flow testing as this will really stamp out the spike in infections that we have been experiencing.

Please remember that both today and Monday 29 November 2021 are INSET days so students should return to school on Tuesday 30 November 2021.

Some of you may be aware that ex-student James Turley recently passed away very suddenly and completely unexpectedly. The staff at Russell's Hall hospital fought hard to try to save James but he sadly passed away on 11 November 2021. As a tribute to James' memory and the incredible work of the hospital staff, his family have decided to raise funds for the Critical Care Unit. They want to raise money for respirators, which relatives need to wear in order to visit their loved ones. Since the pandemic, respirators are a necessary requirement if relatives want to visit loved ones. His family saw from first-hand experience that there is a need for more of this expensive equipment. A charity fundraising page has been set up to raise funds in James' memory which we would like to share with you. Our thoughts and sincere condolences are with his family at this very difficult time.

<https://gofund.me/83deca6b>

Best wishes.

Mr Dixon
Head Teacher

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

ALL letters are now emailed home, hard copies are ONLY provided for 'Reply Slip' Letters. *Selected student only letters are given out to your child by hand or are posted directly home. The criterion for 'selected student only' opportunities are based on various factors depending on the trip and its focus. Unfortunately, we are unable to allow every student the opportunity to be involved with every activity which we understand sometimes causes disappointment. If you require more details about the selection process for any opportunity please contact the event organiser.

- All Parents/Carers - Closure to Year 7 & 8 Letter;
- All Parents/Carers - COVID-19 Update Letter - 24 November 2021;
- All Parents/Carers - NHS Vaccine Reminder Letter;
- Year 10 Maths Revision Cards Letter;

- Year 10 Calculator Letter;
- Year 7 Parent/Carer End of Year Target Grades Letter – November 2021.

Events

- Year 7 Grades & Efforts Data Released on GO4School - Wednesday 1 December 2021;
- Years 7 - 11 - Flu Vaccinations Commence – Friday 3 December 2021.

Reminders/Update

- **GO4Schools Data**
As you may be aware, GO4Schools is a live system. On specific dates throughout November and December progress data and effort grades are released to parents/carers via our GO4Schools system. Please note that due to high staff absences however, some data may be missing. We will endeavour to get this rectified as soon as staff return to school. We do advise all parents/carers to regularly check GO4Schools to view the latest information available to you.
- **RE Revision Sessions - CANCELLED**
Please note that unfortunately Year 10 RE Revision Sessions have been cancelled for Thursday 2 December 2021 and also the week after due to the large revision class sizes. Revision information has been emailed to Year 10 students to cover this period.
- **Twice Weekly Lateral Flow Testing**
Due to a rise in cases within the school and local community we would like to remind all students and families that it is encouraged to take part in twice weekly lateral flow tests. Once a test is completed please report ANY result to <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. In light of the recent rise we have put in enhanced levels of cleaning across the school. We are in regular communication with the local health protection team and will implement any additional measures if necessary.