

Parental Communication & Engagement



01384 816395 info@dormston.dudley.sch.uk @DormstonSch <http://www.dormston.dudley.sch.uk>

Message from Headteacher

On Tuesday, Year 11 undertook preparation for their Post 16 next steps. They had an assembly delivered by Halesowen College who gave information about all the Post 16 pathways available. ASK Apprenticeships also spoke to the students. Students then went back to their form rooms where they worked through a further careers booklet with their form tutor.

School Production auditions for 'We Will Rock You' took place this week. Year 8 - 11 parents/carers were sent a letter with regards to the commitment and expectations for those who want to take part in this exciting opportunity.

FoDC also held their Grand Opening of their #Pre-Loved Pop-Up Shop today. The Mayor attended to cut the ribbon along with local Councillors, Governors and Student Eco Committee members; Mrs Grundy, Tessa Gobourn, Joe Sticker and Lucas Pitt. It was great to hear from the students themselves about what this means to them.



Best wishes.

Mrs Sutton
Headteacher

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

The vast majority of all letters are now emailed home and we use electronic reply slips as much as possible. 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 - Marking Feedback Letter;
- Year 7 Parents/Carers - Dormston Choir Sign Up Letter;
- Year 7 Welcome Evening Letter;
- Year 7 Parents/Carers - GO4Schools Letter;
- Year 8 - 11 Parents/Carers - School Production 2024 Letter;
- Year 11 Parents/Carers - Post 16 Evening Letter.

Events/Reminders

- Year 7 CAT4 Assessments - WC 18 September 2023;
- Spelling Bee - Monday 18 September 2023 Periods 1 & 2;
- Welcome to Year 7 Evening - Monday 18 September 2023 at 6.30pm;
- Year 11 Textiles Trip to Sealife Centre - Friday 22 September 2023;
- Post 16 Evening Attendance Reply Slip Deadline - Friday 22 September 2023.

Updates

Reading really makes a difference!

Reading for pleasure is possibly the single most important activity your child can do to improve achievement in school. Here are some book events for a range of ages, that may be of interest.

<https://www.waterstones.com/events/search/shop/wolverhampton>

<https://www.waterstones.com/events/search/shop/birmingham>

<https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/literature>

Get Caught Reading in the PLC!

For a bit of fun and to reward reading, every time a student is caught reading in the PLC for 10 minutes or more, they will be given a raffle ticket. At the end of each week, we will draw the raffle and a small reward will be given to the winner. The more times they sit in the PLC and read, the more tickets they accumulate, meaning more chance of winning! Happy reading to all our students!

CAT4 Tests

On Monday, Year 7 will start completing their CAT4 tests. These tests will take place between Monday 18 September 2023 - Wednesday 27 October 2023. These provide extra information alongside their KS2 scores on their ability and their reasoning skills. There are 3 tests in total each consisting of smaller timed tests completed on computers. These are nothing to worry about and really help us get a clearer picture of where each student is at.

Breakfast Club

Please see below details of our Breakfast Club which has recently started. Please remember that we are now a cashless school so please make sure your child's account is topped up.



The graphic is a collage of images and text promoting the Breakfast Club. It features a yellow circle with 'BREAKFAST CLUB' text, a purple starburst announcing the start on Monday 11 September, a vibrant fruit basket, a stack of toast, a 'ENJOY' speech bubble, and a plate of croissants with coffee.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Starts Monday
11 September!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Coffee Shop in the Atrium
8.20am - 8.40am

Open to all pupils. Toast, Pastries,
Drinks and Fruit available

We are now a cashless school.
Please make sure your account is topped up!

ENJOY

Dudley Parent Carer Forum Annual Survey OPEN

Dudley Parent Carer Forum are excited to launch their annual survey of SEND services. This is a completely independent survey, designed for parent carers of children or young people aged 0-25, looking at a range of education, health and social care services across the borough. Parent Carers are invited to share their views, letting us know about the services that are doing well, and those that may need to improve. We had a fantastic response last year and the results of this provided us with some very important data which has enabled us to push for change where this is needed. The survey takes around 10-15 minutes to complete.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7XBKXXM>

Know When to Keep Your Child at Home

The start of a new term is a good time to familiarise yourself with the symptoms of common illnesses. For some illnesses, but not all, it will be important to keep your child at home to stop their infection spreading to others. For example, it's fine to send your child to school or nursery with a minor cough or common cold if they are otherwise well and do

not have a high temperature. But if they have diarrhoea and/or vomiting, they should stay home for at least 48 hours after the last episode. The NHS has a [useful guide](#) to help you decide whether your child is well enough to go to school, based on their symptoms. The attached poster can also be used to help parents and carers know when is appropriate and for how long to keep children off school.

UK Health Security Agency **NHS**

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No
 but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

Advice and guidance
 To find out more, search for **health protection in schools** or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfoc>.

SCAN ME

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

Congratulations also go to the following students who received a Headteacher Commendation this week.

Fallon Clark	Connie Beardsmore	Lilly Collins	Henry Ball
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