

Parent/Carer Update Sheet

November 2023/December 2023

☎ 01384 816395

✉ info@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

🐦 @DormstonSch

🌐 <http://www.dormston.dudley.sch.uk>

November 2023

With the second set of Year 11 Mocks starting this month this is a crucial time for our Year 11 students and we wish them all the very best of luck. We do appreciate that this can be a stressful time for students, so please speak to your child about how they are feeling and contact us if you have any concerns.

Just like lots of schools across the country, we will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week W/C 13 November 2023. As you may know, as part of this we are asking for donations of odd socks to be bought into school to help us to create 'sock bunting' to show our support against bullying. If any donations could be left in the odd socks box located in the atrium each morning that would be greatly appreciated!

With Christmas looming we will shortly be launching our Christmas Card Design Competition again where one lucky winner will see their design become the School's Official Christmas Card for 2023! We encourage all students to have a go at entering this competition, even if this is something that they would not normally do.

As the nights are getting darker now please make sure you speak to your child about the importance of road safety. Can I please remind parent/carers about the importance of not parking outside of school. We appreciate that with Bilston Street Car Park being closed it is difficult, but we must ensure that access to the school site is safe for students.

Please be aware that we are closed for INSET on Friday 24 November 2023 AND Monday 27 November 2023. Friday 22 December 2023 will also be an INSET.



“The future depends on what you do today”

Mahatma Gandhi

Mrs Evans favourite quote



Learner of the Month Winners September & October 2023

Our Learner of the Month Winner for **September 2023** was **Oliver Hanney - 11TY** for his commitment and hard work in Religious Studies. Our Learner of the Month Winner for **October 2023** was **Adam Hinton - 8TX** for his outstanding attitude and commitment to Reading.

You did it!
Congratulations

What's Happening

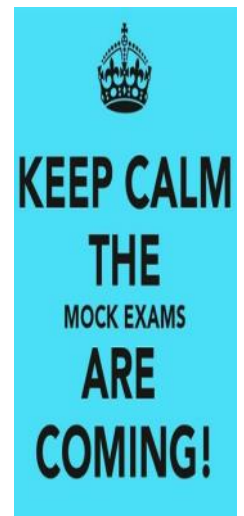
INSET - Friday 24 November & Monday 27 November 2023

School will be closed to students on **Friday 24 November 2023 AND Monday 27 November 2023** due to INSET. Students should return to school on Tuesday 28 November 2023 to a Week 2 timetable.



Year 11 Mock Exams - W/C 27 November & W/C 4 December 2023

Year 11 will sit their second set of mock exams from W/C 27 November 2023 with practical exams following the week after. Targeted revision sessions have been taking place in some subjects. A new revision timetable will be released after half term. We also had the pleasure of welcoming Wolverhampton University recently who spoke to Year 11 about the science of learning and how to revise effectively. Year 11 have also now completed 5 weeks of PHSE sessions focussed around a variety of impactful revision techniques in order to prepare them for mock exam season. In terms of revision at home, strategies such as using flashcards, creating mind maps, completing past papers and self quizzing are all highly recommended. In the build up to exams effective revision will be varied, chunked into manageable chunks of time (the amount of time will depend on the child), and shouldn't feel easy. For learning to take place, it should feel a little uncomfortable and require effort however, over time gaps in knowledge will be addressed and confidence will grow. All the best to Year 11 on the run up to their exams; you can do it!



Year 7 Theatre Trip - Tuesday 5 December 2023

Year 7 will be attending a Theatre Trip on Tuesday 5 December 2023 to see 'Snow White' at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. Students will leave school at 1.30pm and should be back by approx. 5.30pm. Please see the recent letter that has been sent out for full details. Payment is required by Friday 17 November 2023.



Year 10 Consultation - Thursday 7 December 2023

Just to give you the heads up that our Year 10 Parents/Carers 'Virtual' Consultation evening will be taking place on Thursday 7 December 2023. Further details about booking arrangements will be sent to Year 10 parents/carers in due course.



Christmas Break Up - Thursday 21 December 2023 at 12.25pm

We break up for the Christmas Holidays on Thursday 21 December 2023. School will close at 12.25pm on this day. Students should return to school on Monday 8 January 2024 to a Week 2 timetable.



INSET - Friday 22 December 2023

Please be aware that school is closed for INSET on Friday 22 December 2023. As stated above, students should return to school on Monday 8 January 2024 to a Week 2 timetable.



Our Successes

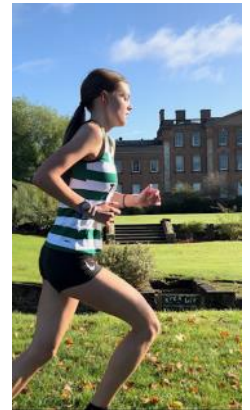
REAL SUCCESS STORIES



We know we have many brilliant students who deserve a mention but here are a few stories that have been shared with us, which we thought we would share with you! **Don't forget, ALL parents/carers, staff and students are invited and encouraged to share their success story with us by emailing kotton@dormston.dudley.sch.uk.**

Running Success - Layla Williams - 8DY

As some of you may already know, Layla Williams in 8DY is an amazing runner. Layla recently ran the West Midlands Schools Cross Country and finished first in the Year 8/9 girls race, which took place at Himley Hall. She was really confident and held the lead from the start, finishing 30 seconds in front of second place.



Layla Williams - 8DY

Karate Success - Isabelle Melbourne - 7CBY

Isabelle Melbourne in 7CBY competed at the Irish Open International Karate Competition in Dublin recently and came away with the Silver medal in her age group. The end match came down to a split decision, but this was still a great achievement overall. Well done Isabelle!



Isabelle Melbourne - 7CBY

Dormston Reading Award - Lucy Smith 10SY

Congratulations and very well done to Lucy Smith in 10SY who has gained her 'Read Like Lily' Award for reading 150 books! This is a fantastic achievement Lucy. At Dormston we recognise that improving literacy can have an impact on students' self-esteem, motivation, behaviour and attainment. We believe that reading and particularly reading for pleasure, has a direct impact on cognitive and social communicative development. It has been shown to improve health and wellbeing, as well as improving compassion and empathy for others. Congratulations Lucy!



Lucy Smith - 10SY

