

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Headteacher

It's been antibullying week in school this week. Thank you for helping Dormston celebrate and support a successful anti-bullying week. The odd socks that were donated have created wonderful 'sock bunting' that has been displayed in the atrium all week and supports individuality and uniqueness of pupils and staff. Catering have created wonderful 'odd sock' biscuits and anti-bullying cupcakes that have been on sale all week for all to enjoy. All pupils have been involved in the Anti-Bullying Alliance Assembly and have received information about anti-bullying via the weekly PowerPoint. Today staff and pupils have supported by wearing odd socks. Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!



On Tuesday our Fine Art students took part in a Pastel Painting Workshop with the aim of raising their marks for assessment object 2 of their GCSE coursework. All the students involved worked hard to produce some amazing outcomes over the five hours and should be very proud of their efforts.

On Wednesday, our Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies visited Worcester Cathedral to observe an act of Christian worship and to engage in an interfaith discussion with leaders from the Church of England, Roman Catholic, Muslim, Jewish and Sikh faiths. They also participated in worships on pilgrimage and Holy Communion. Mr Salton-McLaughlin and Mr Wood were so proud of how our students conducted themselves on this trip and were in awe of how well engaged they were during the workshops.



A BIG shout-out also goes to some of our Year 7 students who represented Dormston on Wednesday evening at The Dudley Schools Rugby Tournament held at Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club. Most of the pupils were new to rugby this year and were also some of the youngest there and were playing against Year 8 pupils, but they didn't let it faze them and both teams ended up going on to win the tournament! The boys team even went undefeated the whole tournament 😊 A HUGE HUGE shoutout also to **Tayte Smith - 10SX** who gave up his evening to join us as a coach (he even missed his own Rugby training to help with our Year 7 Team)!



On Thursday our KS4 Drama students visited Birmingham Ormiston Academy. BOA is a regional academy for digital, creative and performing arts located in the centre of Birmingham. Students came back absolutely buzzing with future career ideas. Their behaviour during the visit was impeccable!

Don't forget that school will be closed for INSET on **Friday 24 November 2023 AND Monday 27 November 2023.**

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.

- Year 8 Reports Letter;
- Year 8 Targeted Assemblies Letters;
- Year 10 Work Experience No Placement Letter **Selected students only;*
- Year 11 Drama Revision Guides Letter.

Events/Reminders

- Year 11 Drama Revision Guides Order Deadline - Wednesday 22 November 2023;
- Eco Day - Thursday 23 November 2023;
- Christmas Card Design Competition Deadline - Thursday 23 November 2023;
- INSET - Friday 24 November 2023 & Monday 27 November 2023 **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET*

Updates

Important - Parking Safety Outside School

Can we 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.

Safeguarding Notice

We are at that point of the year when the nights are drawing in and it becomes dark quite quickly. Can we please ask parents/carers to remind their children of stranger danger and also make sure that they walk home in groups where possible with a fully charged mobile phone. Thank you for your continued support.

Christmas Card Competition Launch

The Art Department have launched their annual Christmas Card Competition this week. There will be no Art homework set this week so as many students as possible can have a go at designing the Dormston School Christmas card. The theme for this year is 'CELEBRATION' so get your imagination going and start drawing. Work should be A4 in size, any media can be used including digital. Physical entries are to be handed in to the Art Department by Thursday 23 November 2023. Digital entries need to be emailed to Mr Goldie at dgoldie@dormston.dudley.sch.uk by the deadline also. House points and prizes will be awarded for the best entries.'

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2023



Create a Christmas Card design based on the theme of
'CELEBRATION'

Your design could get chosen to be this years *official Dormston Christmas Card!*

Your design will be *printed professionally and further prizes awarded.*

Plus you will receive *house points* just for entering so get designing!

Hand in your completed designs to Mr Goldie or Mrs Taylor.

If your artwork is digital then email your design

to dgoldie@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

but remember you cannot trace someone else's design!

Deadline is Thursday 23rd November

That's next week! So get designing!



Belle Smith



William Smith

Eco Day - Thursday 23 November 2023

Our Eco Committee have organised another Eco Day for Thursday 23 November 2023. We are encouraging all staff and pupils to lift share or walk to school that day where possible. There will also be a litter pick taking place during PM registration, a bake sale and finally an energy shutdown. The energy shutdown will involve lessons being taught without electricity for the last 10 minutes of the day, some staff may choose to use no energy for the whole hour if they are feeling brave! We are holding this day to encourage discussions surrounding climate change and we would like for everybody to be involved so please encourage your child to take part! Ultimately, we will be applying for an Eco Green Flag for our school which is awarded when a school can prove it is on a much greener path! If any pupils would like to become an Eco Warrior then please ask them to see Mrs Grundy in D104 on a Thursday lunchtime.

Year 9 Netball Update

On Sunday we took our Year 9 Netball Team to the county round of the national school netball tournament.

Students gave up their whole Sunday to be a part of the tournament and despite the miserable weather they didn't let it dampen their spirits. They battled right through to the end and as a team they just got better and better! They learnt so much from the tournament and enjoyed playing against and alongside some high-level standard. Most pupils in the teams we were playing against were club level, and our girls put up a fight right to the end coming 5th overall.

The girls started off well winning their first game and drawing the next. Unfortunately, they came up against some tough competition but concentrated on new tactics which made other teams struggle to attack. Amelia Smith had some fantastic shots, Lily-Rose Hill and Bailey Feegan joined the team only three weeks ago and made massive improvements as impact players. Our player of the tournament was Lilly Powell. They demonstrated unbelievable defence against some very tall talented players and they showed resilience, determination and put 120% throughout the whole tournament. We had our very own cheerleaders with 4 parents staying all day with us and the rest joining us towards the end. Some students are now looking at clubs to join outside school to continue their involvement in Netball 😊. They represented Dormston brilliantly, and the organisers said it was so nice to see Dormston School involved and showing what we have to offer!

A massive THANK YOU to Miss Dolan, Miss Lines and Miss Timmins for making this possible!



Year 10 'Virtual' Consultation Evening - Thursday 7 December 2023

Just to give you the advanced heads up that our Year 10 Parents/Carers 'Virtual' Consultation Evening will be taking place on **Thursday 7 December 2023**. A letter with regards to appointment booking arrangements will be sent out next week, but please save this date in your diary now!

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

Congratulations go to the following students who received Headteacher Commendations this week.

Lyndyway Otchere	Piper Fletcher	Ella Mai Jackson	Lily Woodcock
Sienna Barnes	Jackson Gripton	Jacob Ridge	Joseph Cooper
Charly Evans	Freyalea Timperley	Francesca Timperley	Arley Hancox
Alex Mackintosh	Alfie Garratt	Olivia Summers	Kelcie Haycock