

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Headteacher

On Thursday, our Eco Committee held their second Eco Day where pupils and staff were involved in several activities. Firstly, staff and pupils were asked to walk to school or to consider lift sharing. Then, during registration we held a recycling session where pupils brought down paper, card and batteries for recycling.

Following that, a bake sale was held to raise money for the eco garden we are planning on the school grounds. Later, we had an energy shutdown where staff taught using no energy for the last 10 minutes of the day.....some staff even braved an hour!

In Religious Studies with Year 8 we acted out Muslim prayer using prayer mats, compasses for the Qiblah (direction of Makkah) and the rak'ahs (body movements) performed. As the room was darker without lights we discussed prayer times (e.g. before and after sunset).

In Year 9 music, pupils performed using djembe drums with Mrs Beer. The day ended with a litter pick where pupils volunteered to help clear litter from the school premises.

The day was a huge success and I can reveal that the bake sale raised an amazing £43.26 so a big well done to the Eco Committee and a huge thank you for your hard work. A massive THANK YOU also goes to Mrs Grundy who organised all this!

We are looking for new members of our committee and we meet on a Thursday lunchtime in D104. It is a friendly group and all pupils of all ages are most welcome. Please encourage your child to come along and help to save our planet!





It will be the second set of Mock Exams for Year 11 next week. We wish them all the very best of luck with these exams.

Don't forget that we are also closed for INSET on 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.

- Ex-Year 11 GCSE Certificate Collection Arrangements Letter;
- Year 10 Virtual Consultation Evening Letter & Guides;
- Year 10 & 11 Life of Pi Drama Trip Letter;
- Choir Performance Permission Letter;

Events/Reminders

- INSET Day - Monday 27 November 2023 ***SCHOOL CLOSED;**
- Year 11 Mock Week 2 - W/C Monday 27 November 2023;
- Year 10 Virtual Parent/Carers Consultation Booking System Opens - Thursday 30 November 2023 at 8.00am;
- New York Trip 4th Deposit Deadline Due (£156) - Thursday 30 November 2023.

Updates

We Will Rock You

Just to give you the heads up that our School Production of 'We Will Rock You' will take place from Wednesday 7 to Friday 8 February 2024 at 7.30pm. Tickets are on sale NOW!



Dormston School
Proudly Presents

**WE WILL
ROCK
YOU**

Wed 7th Feb - Fri 9th Feb 2024

Tickets £6.50
Available on [seaty.co.uk](https://www.seaty.co.uk)

7:30pm Start

Mill Theatre at the Dormston Centre, Sedgley, DY3 1SN

Cost of Living Support Hubs

Please see below information that we have been asked to share with our parents/carers.



COST OF LIVING SUPPORT HUBS

Cost of Living Hubs are located at:

NEW **Pensnett**, Grace Community Church, Tiled House Lane, Pensnett
Open Tuesdays from 28th November 9:30am - 3:30pm

Brierley Hill, Brierley Hill Methodist Church, 24 Bank Street, Brierley Hill
Open Alternating Wednesdays, 9:30am - 3:30pm

Halesowen, Halesowen Library, The Cornbow Centre, 7th Floor, Halesowen
Open Alternating Wednesdays, 9:30am - 3:30pm

Stourbridge, Christ Church, High Street, Lye
Open Thursdays from 28th September, 9:30am - 3:30pm

Dudley, Provision House, 80-81 High Street, Dudley
Open Fridays, 9:30am - 3:30pm

Winter Ready Criteria
Updated for the upcoming season, recognising the added financial strains. We are here to help!
WE ARE OPENING A NEW HUB IN PENSNETT ON 28th NOVEMBER 2023!!
The criteria for visiting the Cost of Living Support Hubs has also changed.

FROM THE W/B 20TH NOVEMBER, HOUSEHOLDS CAN NOW VISIT THE COST OF LIVING SUPPORT HUBS 3 MORE TIMES.

Attendance history will be wiped. It doesn't matter if you've attended a Hub before.

Households are permitted to attend up to 3 times starting from the week beginning 20th November. This means 3 visits across any of our Hubs and not each Hub.

Please remember there must be a minimum of 12 days between each appointment.

Households must reside in the Dudley Borough.

Assistance Available
Insightful presentations on ways to save money on utilities and how to make your money stretch further.

Practical help relating to access to food, fuel, energy, available benefits, grants and funds based on qualifying criteria.

Issuing a voucher per household to purchase essentials (NB: these vouchers can only be issued in a crisis, and are subject to availability)

Issuing a fuel bank voucher (NB: subject to eligibility)

Identifying other organisations that can help with the struggles being experienced.

How to Book
To see available dates and book an appointment visit our Eventbrite page:
https://CA_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com

Support is only offered by attending a pre booked appointment. Appointments cannot be booked directly at the venues.

Appointments can only be booked via visiting our Eventbrite page.

Only one appointment per household is required, regardless of how many members of the household are attending on the day.

If you are not eligible your appointment may be cancelled or you will be refused entry on the day.

ID Evidence Required
On the day of your appointment, you must bring with you 2 forms of ID:

1 form of ID with your Full Name (passport, travel pass, debit card, driving license etc)

AND

1 recent letter/bill dated within the last 3 months including your name and address to prove you're a Dudley Borough resident. (e.g. a recent council tax bill, gas/electric/water bill, benefits awards letter, letter from Dudley Council, letter from the Government, PIP or DLA letter, TV license etc)

We reserve the right to request photo ID when you are at the hub to authenticate your ID.

We reserve the right to cancel the appointment should we feel the ID is not that of the appointment holder or that the ID is not authentic.

For more information on Cost of Living support, go to:
<https://DudleyWolverhamptonCA.eventbrite.com>
<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/costofliving>
<https://www.facebook.com/CitizensAdviceDudleyAndWolverhampton/>

Please share this information with the community to ensure we can support as many individuals and families as possible in the coming months.

Tie Rewards Assembly - Wednesday 20 December 2023

We will be holding our next Tie Rewards Assembly on Wednesday 20 December 2023 at 9.10am. Parents/Carers will be notified shortly if their child has been successful in gaining their next tie. Following on from the success of the tie reward event in the summer, we have decided to continue with this event being held during the school day, to enable all pupils to be rewarded for their achievements. **Please note we can ONLY facilitate 1 parent per child due to Theatre capacity.**

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

West Midlands Police are currently working alongside all schools in the Dudley Borough to raise awareness and keep children safe in terms of knife crime and gang affiliation. On Thursday a screening device was set up and we are pleased to confirm that Dormston is a safe school. A letter from West Midlands Police will be sent out next week confirming this.

Year 10 'Virtual' Consultation Evening - 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. Booking Lines open on Thursday 30 November 2023 at 8.00am and close on Wednesday 6 December 2023 at 3.00pm. Please see letter that has now been sent for full details.