

Parent/Carer Update Sheet

May 2024/June 2024

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May 2024

Welcome to the Summer Term! We hope you all had a lovely Easter break albeit a long time ago now and that students are ready for a great final term of this academic year! As we are now in the Summer term, just a reminder that students are allowed to wear their summer polo shirts.

May and June are obviously a very important time as we enter our exam season and we wish all our students all the very best of luck! Please ensure students come to school fully prepared during this important period and encourage them to attend any additional revision sessions and also take some time out to relax as part of their revision preparation.

Well done to everyone involved in FoDC's recent Talent Show! A special congratulations goes to Kellisha Flash in 9DX who came 1st with her rendition of Stay with Me by Sam Smith, Lois Boyle in 9DY who came 2nd with her rendition of Stay by Rhianna and Liam Ball in 10SX who came 3rd with his very impressive Black Belt Karate Demonstration set to the Mortal Combat theme song! A BIG thank you also goes to FoDC for arranging this event for our students.

Well done to our Careers Team and all our Year 10 students who recently ventured out into the world of work with their Work Experience!

Plans for the Year 11 Prom on Thursday 4 July 2024 at the Park Hall Hotel are progressing. Year 11 students need to submit their Seating Arrangements to Mrs Otton ASAP.



Learner of the Month Winner March 2024 & April 2024

Our Learner of the Month Winner for **March 2024** was **Ruby Barker - 11DY** for outstanding effort in Citizenship.

Our Learner of the Month Winner for **April 2024** was **Rosie Stevens - 7NDI** for outstanding effort in History. Congratulations to all the other students who also received nominations this month.

You did it!
Congratulations

What's Happening

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations - Wednesday 15 May 2024

All Year 8 pupils will be offered their HPV vaccination on Wednesday 15 May 2024. It is very important that you fill in the form in the link that has been sent out via email. You need to fill in the link attached to the email **even if you don't want your child to have the vaccination**. If you have already filled in the link you have already registered your child and therefore there is nothing else for you to do.



Effort Reward Event - Thursday 16 May 2024

We will be holding our Pizza Reward Evening on Thursday 16 May 2024, for selected pupils. Invitations have already been sent out to those pupils who are embracing our Core Value of 'Effort' in their everyday school life. The evening will consist of a pizza buffet, followed by a film to celebrate your child's determination and hardworking nature within school.



House Arts Showcase Evening - Thursday 23 May 2024

This year's competition will be on the theme of **Identity**. Pupils can enter as many of the following categories as they like:

- **Music:** Solo Instrument Performance/Solo Vocal Performance/Ensemble Group Performance;
- **Art:** Produce your own Art piece or photograph;
- **Drama:** KS3 - Duologue/KS4 - Monologue;
- **Dance:** Solo Performance/Group Performance.



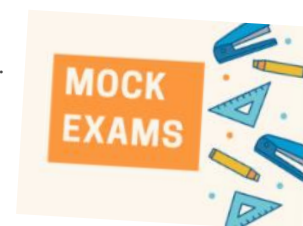
**ARTS
SHOWCASE
EVENING**

Music . Theatre . Dance . Poetry . Art

Performances and Art work are judged on Wednesday 8 May 2024. The chosen performances that make it through the auditions will perform on the evening of Thursday 23 May 2024 in the Theatre. The artwork will be displayed on the gallery the same night. Parents/carers will be invited to the evening to view artwork and watch the performances.

Year 10 Mock Exams - From 24 May 2024

KS4 Mock GCSE exams will start on Friday 24 May 2024 and will continue after May half-term. These exams will reflect GCSE exam procedures and will take place in the Sports Hall under full exam conditions. High expectations will be in place for pupil's behaviour and conduct during these exams. It is vital that pupils attend school for each mock exam as there may not be a chance for pupils to 'catch up.' The results of this first set of Mocks will play a major role in staff generating their first 'predicted grades' for students outlining where we would expect them to be by the end of Year 11. Timetables will be given out shortly. Please ensure your child is revising for these exams and that they attend school well prepared.



What's Happening

May Half Term - WC Monday 27 May 2024

We will break up for May Half Term on Friday 24 May 2024. School will therefore be closed to students WC Monday 27 May 2024. Students should return to school on Monday 3 June 2024 to a Week 1 timetable. Wishing you all a great half term!



Year 9 WEX Launch to Parents - Tuesday 18 June 2024 at 6.00pm

We are pleased to confirm that Work Experience will go ahead in 2025. This will be for all current Year 9 students and will take place in April 2025 (when they will be Year 10). We will be holding a parents' information briefing on Tuesday 18 June 2024 at 6.00pm to fully explain the Work



Experience process to you and the reasons why we expect all students to participate. On the evening we will also update you on the Post-16 pathways legally available to your child and how to support them with their careers choices. A letter with more information will be sent out nearer the date.

Year 8 Consultation Evening - Thursday 20 June 2024

Our Year 8 Consultation Evening will be taking place on Thursday 20 June 2024. This evening will take place on-line and appointments will need to be booked and attended via our on-line booking system. A letter containing further details will follow in due course.



Year 11 Leavers' Assembly - Friday 21 June 2024

Just a reminder that Year 11 Leavers' Assembly will take place on Friday 21 June 2024. We are looking forward to reuniting the year group back together for this lovely event. Please see the Year 11 Study Leave Letter for further information.



Year 7 Exams - WC 24 June 2024

Year 7 exams will start from W/C 24 June 2024. These exams will take place in classrooms during timetabled lessons. A finalised timetable will be sent out when available and teachers will let pupils know what the exam will cover. Please ensure your child is revising for these exams and that they attend school well prepared.



Tie Reward Event - Wednesday 26 June 2024

We will be holding our second Tie Reward Event of the year on the morning of Wednesday 26 June 2024 to celebrate those students who have been successful in achieving their next tie through the house point system. 300 house points = bronze tie, 600 house points = silver tie, 900 house points = gold tie. Students can check their house point totals in their GO4Schools platform by clicking on the I icon. Please note that House Points are only updated at key periods during the school year. Invites will go out to parents/carers in due course.



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.**

Boxing Success - Maisie Jones - 9TX

Well done to Maisie Jones in 9TX who recently took part in Priory Boxing Development Show. She showed her boxing skill and discipline and was just amazing!



Maisie Jones - 9TX

Vocal Success - Joseph Downen - 9DX

Well done to Joseph Downen in 9DX who recently took part in his first Dudley Music Festival at Dudley College of Technology with 3 vocal performances in three different categories. The competition was of a very high standard, with critical feedback from the official adjudicator. We are pleased to share that Joseph with determination and drive was successfully placed 2nd in two categories and was over the moon when he came 1st in the category 'Songs from shows/musicals 14 years' winning the trophy and a keepsake medal.



Joseph Downen - 9DX



Our Successes



REAL SUCCESS STORIES

Dudley Goes to Symphony Hall

On Sunday 10 March 2024, 35 Dormston pupils performed in front of over 2000 people at Symphony Hall Birmingham, as part of 'Dudley Goes to Symphony Hall'. Dormston choir members formed part of a massed Secondary School Choir, opening the afternoon performance with three musical theatre songs, featuring Keira Langowska-Gadd, Annabelle Amogu and Lois Boyle as soloists. A number of Dormston pupils also took part in performances with their respective Dudley Performing Arts Ensemble groups. At the end of the performance everyone took part in a finale of 'Mr Blue Sky'. This saw over 400 pupils coming together either singing or performing on their instrument and was a truly outstanding ending to what was an awe-inspiring event for all involved. We are proud of each and every one of the pupils who took part for the preparation they put into their performances to make them so fantastic!



Dormston Choir Backstage!

A special WELL DONE also goes to the following students who also played instruments at this spectacular event:

- Abigale Amogu on Cello;
- Elliot Hickinbottom on Flute;
- Sophie Barnett on Violin;
- Jasmin Holmes on Saxophone;
- Imogen Rose on Electric Guitar;
- George Dupree on Trombone;
- Kelvin Benion on Electric Guitar;
- Frazer Bateman on Trombone.

Making MEMORIES Together



Dormston Easter Ski Trip 2024

In what can only be described as an unforgettable journey, 26 pupils embarked on a thrilling ski trip to Austria during the Easter holidays. Brimming with excitement and anticipation, the students revelled in a week filled with adventure, camaraderie, and skill-building on the slopes. From the outset, it was evident that the trip promised to be something special. As the students traversed through the picturesque landscapes of Austria, they were greeted by perfect weather conditions, ideal for their skiing endeavours. Under the guidance of dedicated instructors, every pupil embraced the challenge of learning to ski, culminating in a collective triumph as they navigated the slopes with newfound confidence by the week's end.

The ski trip wasn't just about perfecting skiing techniques; it was an opportunity for students to forge lasting bonds and create cherished memories. Engaging wholeheartedly with their instructors, the pupils not only honed their skiing abilities but also cultivated new friendship groups, strengthening the sense of community within the school. One particularly memorable moment saw some students embroiled in a lively snowball fight with their instructors, a testament to the playful spirit that permeated the trip. Additionally, attending an ice hockey game proved to be a big hit, despite the disappointment of our home team's loss, further enhancing the cultural experience of the excursion.

Beyond the slopes, the students indulged in various activities, including swimming, bowling, quiz nights, and relishing an evening out at a local pizza restaurant. These experiences added layers of enjoyment and camaraderie to an already unforgettable adventure. Upon their return, the excitement lingered as pupils regaled friends and family with tales of their exploits in Austria. Many expressed a keen desire to embark on future ski trips, a testament to the profound impact of this excursion.

Acknowledgment must be extended to the tireless efforts of Mr Rodgers, who led the trip with exemplary dedication, supported admirably by Mr Fox, Miss Lines, and Miss Beechey. Moreover, the meticulous planning and coordination by Mr Amos and Mr Bell ensured the smooth execution of the trip, for which they deserve commendation. As the school reflects on the success of this ski trip, anticipation mounts for the next adventure, where new memories and friendships await on the snowy slopes of future destinations.



Making MEMORIES Together



Disneyland Netball Trip

We have so many brilliant memories from this week and some really magical moments that we want to share! The yellow team endured a 5 hour coaching session then a 9-hour tournament on the Tuesday playing 8 games of netball against teams from across the world. Lily-Ann Rigby in particular impressed us. Aside from 16 pupils, the remaining 25 pupils had not played a game of netball before! To learn an unfamiliar sport, all the rules and positions in 1 day of coaching showed huge resilience.

The Purple Team, captained brilliantly by Hollie Halford, WON their cup round in a very intense final which came down to the final minutes. The atmosphere from all our other pupils watching was overwhelming. Hollie the following day collected her trophy and was interviewed at the Awards Ceremony. She spoke with such confidence in front of a huge audience.

Lucie Lakin won the sportswomen of the tournament. She played unbelievably and was so supportive of her team. The attitudes were positive and many skills were developed!

Well done to everyone who took part!

