

Parental Communication & Engagement



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

Message from Headteacher

Thank you to all our Year 9 & 10 SEND Parents/Carers who came along to our SEND Workshops on Wednesday & Thursday this week. Further workshops will take place for other year groups shortly.

It was our Welcome to Year 11 Evening on Thursday and it was great to see so many parents/carers in attendance. For any parents/carers who were not able to attend, the information from the evening is now available on our website.

We are really sorry to inform you that Mrs Blewitt, our Pupil Receptionist sadly passed away recently after over 20 years of service with us here at Dormston. Mrs Blewitt was the person so many children would come to if they needed help or a phone call home and as such we wondered if you might like to make a small donation to the Cancer Charity that supported her. If you would like to do this please feel free to donate via ParentPay now. Donations will close on Friday 4 October 2024. We will also shortly be opening "Blewitt's Stationary Shop" and planting a tree on the school site in order to remember Mrs Blewitt.

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 - Open Evening Early Close Notification Letter;
- Choir Parents/Carers - Open Evening Permission Letter;
- Reading Ambassador Expression of Interest Letter **Interested students only;*
- KS4 Parents/Carers Science Workshop Slides;
- 11AX/11AY/11TX/11TY - SEND Parent/Carer Workshop Letter;
- 11DX/11DY/11SX/11SY - SEND Parent/Carer Workshop Letter;
- Year 10 Student Executive Leadership Team - Post-16 Evening Support Letter - **Selected Year 10 students only;*
- 8DX, 8DY, 8TX, 8TY - SEND Parent/Carer Workshop Letter;

- 8AX, 8AY, 8SX, 8SY - SEND Parent/Carer Workshop Letter.

Events/Reminders

- Year 11 Post 16 Evening - Tuesday 1 October 2024 at 6.00pm;
- 11AX/11AY/11TX/11TY - SEND Parent/Carer Workshop - Wednesday 2 October 2024 at 9.10am;
- 11DX/11DY/11SX/11SY - SEND Parent/Carer Workshop - Wednesday 2 October 2024 at 10.10am;
- Year 10 RS Trip Reply Slip & Payment Deadline - Wednesday 2 October 2024;
- Year 7 Pioneer Leadership Sessions - Thursday 3 October 2024;
- Year 7 - 11 Flu Vaccinations - Friday 4 October 2024.

Update

Year 7 Photo Order Deadline

A reminder that the deadline date for ordering photos to receive free delivery to school is Sunday 29 September 2024. Any orders placed after the deadline will be subject to postage and packaging costs with delivery direct to your home address.



Parents and carers can now apply for benefits related free school meals on line

Parents and carers can now apply for benefits-related free school meals* on line by using the My Dudley portal.

If your child is in reception, years one or two, you will automatically be entitled for free meals under the new 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' criteria. However, if you do meet the criteria listed below then you will need to submit an online claim in order for your child's school to receive Pupil Premium funding and free school meals.

If you get **any** of the following support payments your child may be entitled to receive free school meals:

- Universal Credit (you must have less than £616.67 a month net earned income (after tax - and not including any benefits);
- Income Support;
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance;
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit;

- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190);
- Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.

Please note: Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right are also allowed to receive free school meals. Apply for free school meals <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>



Anti-Bullying Week - WC Monday 11 November 2024

Anti-Bullying Week 2024 will take place from Monday 11 - Friday 15 November 2024, with the theme: Choose Respect. Just like lots of schools across the country, we will be taking part, this year and we will be empowering children and young people to choose respect.

Odd Socks Day - Tuesday 12 November 2024

Odd Socks Day is taking place on Tuesday 12 November, with adults and children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. 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!