

Parent/Carer Update Sheet

October 2024/November 2024

☎ 01384 816395

✉ info@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

🐦 @DormstonSch

🌐 <http://www.dormston.dudley.sch.uk>

October 2024

There's lots of great stuff coming up over the next few months right across the school. Our School Production this year is 'Grease' and rehearsals are now in full swing! October is also Black History month and there will be lots of exciting activities taking place in school in recognition of this.

As you know, it will be our Open Evening on Thursday 17 October 2024 and as detailed in our recent letter school will close at 1.30pm to allow staff to prepare and also because many students come back in on the evening to support.

We break up for October Half Term on Friday 25 October 2024 so school will be closed to students W/C 28 October 2024. Students should return to school on Monday 4 November 2024 to a Week 1 Timetable. We wish all our New York students an amazing trip over half term and look forward to sharing many great photos with you in November!

We are asking for donations of odd socks to be bought into school now to help us to create 'sock bunting' to show our support against bullying in November. It is always great fun to see students spotting their odd sock hanging in the atrium!

Please don't forget to let us know of any success stories you would like to share with regards to your child by emailing kotton@dormston.dudley.sch.uk



Learner of the Month

September 2024

Our Learner of the Month Winner for **September 2024** was **Ben Eccleston - 11SY** for his outstanding effort in **Maths**.

Congratulations and well done also goes to all of our other students who were nominated for Learner of the Month!



What's Happening

Black History Month - October 2024

All students will celebrate Black History Month this October with form resources and assemblies on the struggles of black people throughout history and celebrating their successes and positive impact on British life. Students will also be treated to special meals served in the canteen with food influenced by black culture. All students will be taught about key black figures in every subject area and how they have made an impact. This year we will let students decide how they would like to celebrate and we will be getting feedback over the next couple of weeks. This could be some students leading dance classes at lunch times, hair braiding, food tasting, language classes all influenced by black culture, or preparing resources for all students to share their experiences as black students or information on their or their families ethnic background.



Year 7 - 11 Flu Vaccination - Friday 4 October 2024

The flu spray vaccination will take place on Friday 4 October 2024 for Years 7 - 11. If you have not already done so, please fill in the link that was emailed to you in order to allow your child to receive their vaccination.



Year 10 RS Trip to Coventry Cathedral - Wednesday 9 October 2024

Religious Studies would like to offer GCSE students in Year 10 the opportunity to experience a daytrip to Coventry Cathedral on Wednesday 9 October 2024. This is a unique opportunity for students to experience first-hand a Christian place of worship and pilgrimage. This visit also supports our current unit on religion, peace and conflict as Coventry Cathedral is now a centre for reconciliation within the Christian Church. Further information will follow shortly.



PSHE - Friday 11 October 2024

PSHE Sessions will be taking place on Friday 11 October 2024 as follows:

Year 7 - Puberty: Students will be learning about the physical, social and emotional changes that occur in adolescence and how their body matures.

Year 8 - Crime and Consequences: Young people, crime and the law.

Year 9 - In session 1 students will be learning about breast, testicular & cervical cancer including how to recognise systems and seek medical support. In session 2 students will be exploring the different methods of contraception available and the risks of unprotected sex.

Year 10 - Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health: Students will be learning how to recognise mental ill health and the range of support available for those with emotional or mental health problems, including how best to access local services.



What's Happening

Open Evening - Thursday 17 October 2024 at 6.00pm *EARLY CLOSE

We will be holding our annual Open Evening on Thursday 17 October 2024 at 6.00pm - 8.00pm and will be closing at **1.30pm** on this day in order to prepare. School Tours will also be taking place on Monday 21 October 2024 - Wednesday 23 October 2024. If you wish to book on to one of these School Tours please contact the school office. You do not need to book if you wish to attend our Open Evening.

OPEN
EVENING

Year 7 Targeted Parents Evening - Thursday 24 October 2024 at 6.00pm

Our Year 7 Targeted Parents Evening will take place on Thursday 24 October 2024 from 6.00pm for invited parents/carers only. A letter will be sent out shortly to those parents/carers who have been selected to attend.



House Arts Auditions - Friday 25 October 2024

This year's House Arts Competition will be launched in assembly this half term and the auditions are due to be held on Friday 25 October 2024. The evening showcase will happen on the 21 November 2024. More details to follow soon.



October Half Term - W/C 28 October 2024

School will be closed for October Half Term week commencing Monday 28 October 2024. Students should return to school on Monday 4 November 2024 to a Week 1 Timetable.



New York Trip - W/C 28 October 2024

It's not long to go now for those students who are off to New York during October Half Term! We hope your child is as excited as we are. It will be a busy half-term with meetings for pupils and parents and final arrangements. Please see our latest New York Update letter for further details. Please also ensure ESTA applications are now completed ASAP.



What's Happening

Year 11 - Stephen Seki - Monday 4 November 2024

Stephen Seki stands as a beacon of inspiration, and his journey as a motivational speaker has left an indelible mark on audiences across the United Kingdom. His undeniable charisma, insightful wisdom, and five years of unwavering dedication to inspiring and motivating people of all ages have solidified his place as one of the most sought-after motivational speakers in the UK. Stephen's story is one of resilience, determination, and unwavering belief in the limitless potential that resides within every individual. Having faced his own set of challenges and triumphed over adversity, he embodies the very essence of his message – that we all possess untapped reservoirs of potential waiting to be unleashed. We look forward to welcoming Stephen to Dormston on Monday 4 November 2024 to inspire our Year 11s at this crucial stage of their academic journey.



KS3 Logic Challenge - WC Monday 4 November 2024

From WC 4 November 2024, Year 7,8 and 9 pupils will be completing the Inter-house logic challenge during their Computing lessons. This involves multiple problem solving activities and logical thinking puzzles. Not only do all pupils receive house points, but they also enter a national competition where the top 10% are invited to enter a further challenge in 2025. Good luck!



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'll empower children and young people to choose respect.



Whole School Remembrance Assembly - Monday 11 November 2024

There will be whole-school assemblies taking place week commencing Monday 11 November 2024 to mark Dormston's school remembrance celebrations. This year marks the 80th anniversaries of momentous battles and turning points of the Second World War. The D-Day landings of 6th June - the largest seaborne invasion in history - marked the beginning of the liberation of western Europe. Pupils will have the opportunity to hear from veterans of previous conflicts and hear factual retellings of these momentous moments in history.



Odd Socks Day - Tuesday 12 November 2024

Odd Socks Day is taking place on Tuesday 12 November 2024, 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 brought 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!



What's Happening

Year 7 - 'Bully 4 U' Performance - Friday 15 November 2024

Loudmouth Theatre Group will be in school on Friday 15 November 2024 for a production. Year 7 pupils will learn about different types of bullying (including cyberbullying and the impact of bullying) in a realistic way they can relate to. This programme has increased young people's empathy for victims of bullying, increased young people's knowledge of different types of bullying and where to go for help and support.



Flu Vaccination Mop Up Session - Wednesday 20 November 2024

A Mop Up Session following Flu Vaccinations on Friday 4 October 2024 will take place on Wednesday 20 November 2024. If you have not already done so, please fill in the link that was emailed to you in order to allow your child to receive their vaccination.



House Arts Evening - Thursday 21 November 2024

Auditions for this year's House Arts Competition will take place on Friday 25 October 2024, with the Art entries deadline being the same day. Pupils will soon find out if they have been successful in appearing at the evening showcase on Thursday 21 November 2024. There will be awards for first and second place as well as the overall winning house. Good luck to all those involved.



INSET Day - Friday 29 November 2024 & Monday 2 December 2024

Just to let you know that School will be closed for INSET on Friday 29 November 2024 and Monday 2 December 2024. Student should return to School on Tuesday 3 December 2024 to a Week 1 Timetable.



Good Bye
november



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.**

Double Success - Isabelle Melbourne - 8SX

Congratulations to Isabelle Melbourne - 8SX who not only took her Grade 4 flute exam during the summer and passed with distinction but also recently attended a Karate competition at Warwick University and became a double gold winner, in individual and team Kata. She has also defended her title of being the UK International Karate Champion! Well Done Isabelle this is amazing.



Isabelle Melbourne - 8SX

Keyboard Success - Sophie Barnett - 11DX

Congratulations to Sophie Barnett in 11DX who has recently passed her Grade 2 Keyboard with merit. Learning any musical instrument takes a huge amount of hard work and dedication! Well done Sophie, we are really proud of you!



Sophie Barnett - 11DX

Netball Success - Evie Darby - 8DX

We just wanted to share and congratulate Evie Darby - 8DX on her recent success. Evie has been successful in the final round of county trials for netball and has been selected for the squad! This is an amazing achievement with over 100 girls put forward in the area. Evie has worked her socks off to get here and she is a very talented sports performer.. Well done Evie!



Evie Darby - 8DX

Congratulations!

WELL DONE!