

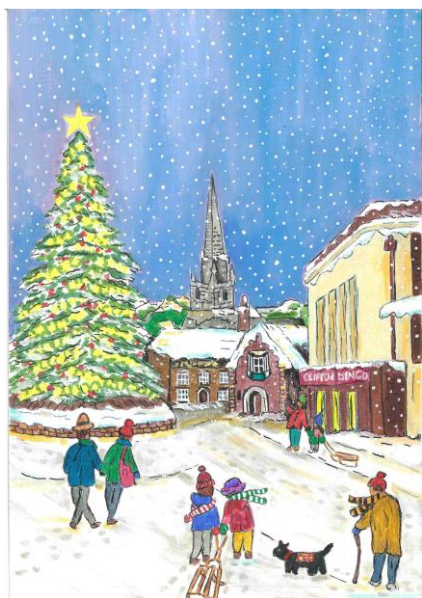
Parental Communication & Engagement



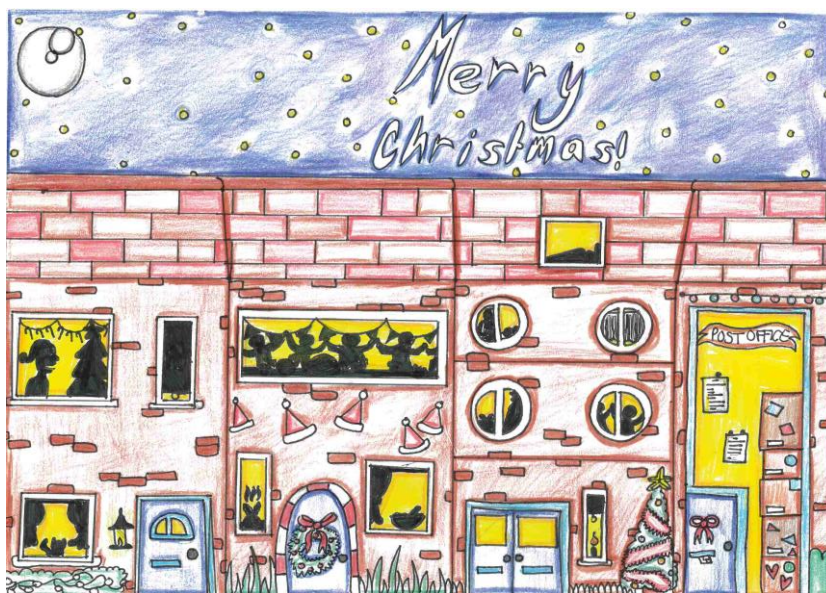
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Message from Headteacher

As you may know, each year we hold our Christmas Card Design Competition and the winners are turned into the school's official Christmas cards. I am really pleased to share that our Christmas Card Design Winners for 2024 are William Smith - 11DY (KS4) and Amber Tandy - 8TY (KS3). Well done to everyone who took part!



William Smith - 11DY



Amber Tandy - 8TY

On Tuesday, Dormston Choir visited Ridgeway Court Care Home to sing for the residents. The pupils represented Dormston impeccably and the residents and staff were very complimentary about their performance.



Year 7 have been working on the skeleton this week and made their own paper skeletons and today we hosted our second open mic event in the atrium as pupils entered school. Pupils who performed were amazing! Well done to everyone who also received a hot chocolate reward today!



Imogen Cope & Nora Duba



Freddie Banks

Year 11 have continued to do extremely well in their Mocks in terms of the behaviour and determination they have demonstrated this week and we are very proud of them all!

A big thank you goes to Mrs Barrett for organising our PSHE sessions which took place on Thursday. PSHE is such an important part of our student's personal development, so please do speak to them about this when they come home! We also had Pioneer Leadership in school on Thursday who came to work with the whole of Year 11, along with some other year groups. All groups participated in team building, problem solving and creative activities. Feedback from the team at Pioneer Leadership and the staff was overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to Mrs Mescam for organising this wonderful event.

Thank you also to all of our Year 10 Parents/Carers who logged in for our Virtual Parents'/Carers' Evening on Thursday. It was great to share some feedback with you about how they are all doing at this pivotal stage of their educational journey with us.

As you know, next week is the last week of term before we break up for the Christmas holidays and we are looking forward to our students taking part in lots of fun activities in our 'Winter Wonderland at Dormston' experience. Please remember that students in Years 7 - 10 are expected to arrive to school in the correct PE kit on Monday 16 December 2024 as part of the day will involve sporting activities. They need to have their Dormston PE Top, Dormston PE Shorts/Skorts/plain black tracksuit bottoms. **IF students are wearing leggings these MUST be worn under skorts/shorts.** Students will remain in their PE kit for the entire day. Thursday is Christmas/Warm Jumper Day. **Jumpers must be worn over their normal school uniform.**

We are attempting to break a world record on Friday for the most amount of school jumpers tied together, so please can you support us by allowing/encouraging your child to bring in as many school jumpers as possible on this day. Please ensure that their names are in their jumpers!

Don't forget that we break up at the earlier time of 12.30pm on Friday 20 December 2024.

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 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 - Foster Carer Recruitment Flyer;
- All Parents/Carers - December 2024/January 2025 Monthly Update Sheet;
- Year 11 Update Letter - December 2024;
- 7N/8N - Pioneering Leadership Team Activity Letter;
- SEND Working Party Letter **Interested Parents/Carers Only.*

Events/Reminders

- Year 11 Mock Exams (Week 3) - WC 16 December 2024;
- Years 7 - 10 Christmas Carousel of Activities - Monday 16 December 2024 **Year 7 - 10 to arrive to school in their PE Kit and remain in it all day;*
- Year 10 & 11 War Horse Drama Trip - Wednesday 18 December 2024;
- Festive Warm Jumper Day - Thursday 19 December 2024 **With School Uniform,*
- Karaoke/Film Day - Thursday 19 December 2024;
- World Record Attempt/Form Party & End of Term Assembly - Friday 20 December 2024;
- Break Up for Christmas Holidays - Friday 20 December 2024 at 12.30pm.

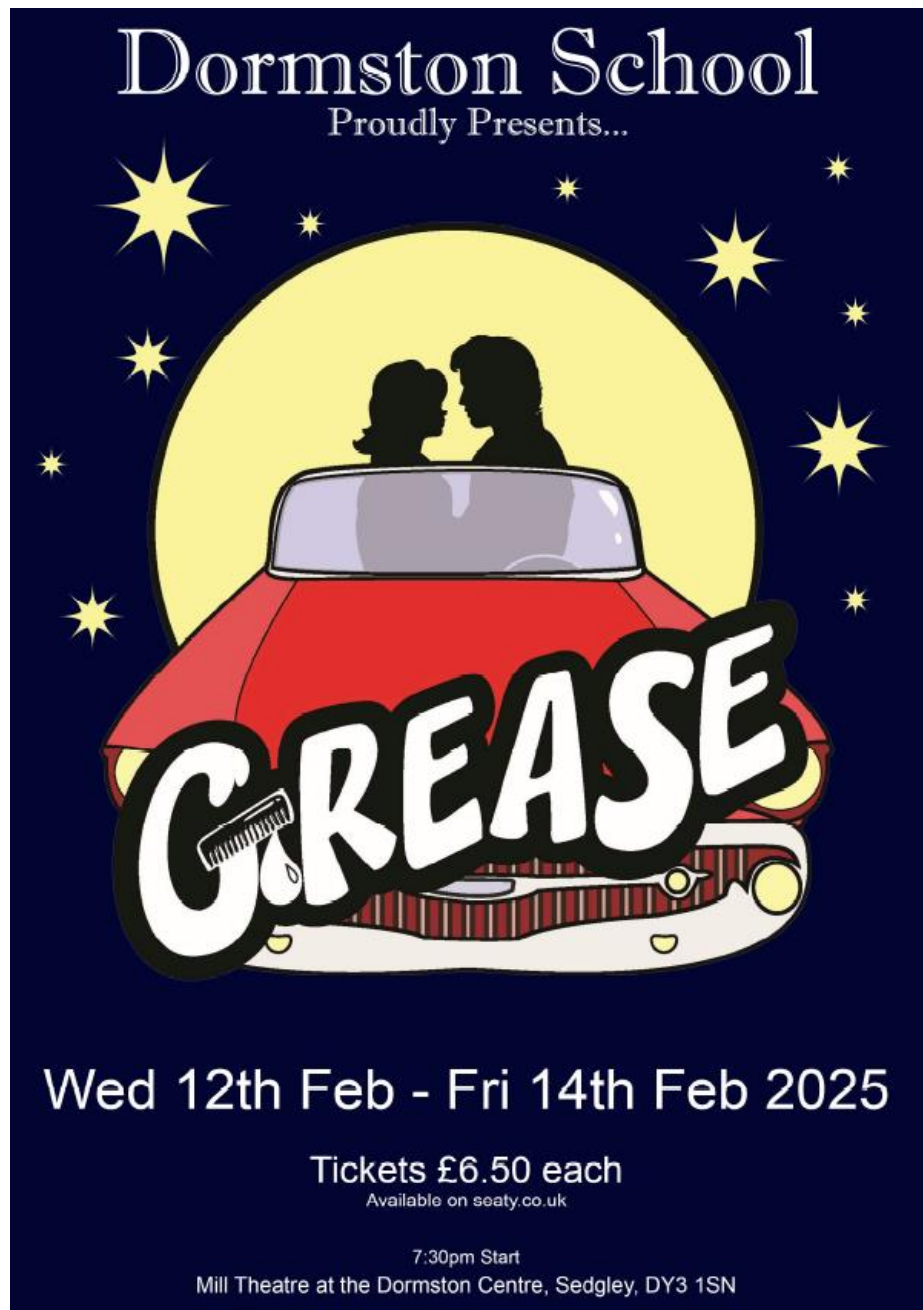
Updates

Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme (AIPS)

The Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme (AIPS) enables young musicians who are receiving musical tuition in school to purchase musical instruments through the school without the cost of VAT. For example, if you purchased an instrument worth £120, then you would only need to pay £100 to the school for it. More information can be found here: <https://www.musicmark.org.uk/resources/assisted-instrument-purchase-scheme-aips/>

School Production Tickets - ON SALE NOW!

Come along and see our School Production of Grease! The show runs from Wednesday 12 February 2025 to Friday 14 February 2025. Tickets are £6.50 and are available from [seaty.co.uk](https://www.seaty.co.uk) NOW!



Congratulations/Well Done

Congratulations to Ruby Robinson for winning the 'Awesome Special Award' for Drama at a recent DPA Show!