

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Headteacher

Well, what an amazing final week of term! It's certainly been packed full of festive fun! A huge THANK YOU goes out to Mrs Downie and Miss Downie who masterminded our 'Winter Wonderland at Dormston' celebrations this year! They did an absolutely amazing job and we really hope students enjoyed themselves.

Monday was our Christmas Carousel where Years 7 - 10 took part in a range of creative and sporting activities along with the chance to see our fantastic Christmas Talent Show! On Tuesday and Wednesday, we held our Reward Assemblies and on Wednesday our Year 10 & 11 GCSE Drama students went to see War Horse at the New Theatre Oxford, which I hear was absolutely amazing!

On Thursday, we held our Christmas/Warm Jumper Day and students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 all got the opportunity to take part in Karaoke and Year 7 got to watch a film in the Theatre!





As students arrived to school on Thursday they were also greeted by some of our staffing singing Christmas songs to them by the Christmas Tree along with a real-life Elf aka Mr Cooksey and a giant Snowman aka Mr Amos, in order to really get them in the Christmas spirit!



Today we held our World Record Breaker attempt at tying the most number of school jumpers together along with having Form Parties and a whole school assembly! We will update you on our World Record attempt after Christmas.

We appreciate that Year 11 were still doing their Mock Exams this week which meant that they were not able to take part in all of the events on offer, but they have worked incredibly hard and they should be very proud of what they have achieved.

Thank you to everyone who took part in FoDC's Christmas Raffle. Winners were as follows: 1st Place with a £100 supermarket voucher of their choice was Parent/Carer of Seb Clarke - 8DY, 2nd Place with a £50 supermarket voucher of their choice was Parent/Carer of Phoebe Price - 10AY, 3rd Place with a £25 supermarket voucher of their choice was Parent/Carer of Louis Tighe - 8TX.


As you know, we break up for the Christmas holidays today. Students should return to school on Tuesday 7 January 2025 to a Week 2 Timetable. It is really important that students return to school wearing the correct

uniform in January. Students will be challenged if they are wearing, trainers, have no tie, if skirts are well above knee height or they are wearing metal nose piercings. Please find a copy of our uniform poster attached.

Thank you for all your support this year. We are looking forward to having a brilliant 2025 at Dormston.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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.

- Positive Pathways Initiative Letter **Selected students only*
- Year 10 Update Letter - December 2024;
- Bronze DofE Successful Place Letter.

Events/Reminders

- INSET Day - Monday 6 January 2025 *SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS!

Updates

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 NOW!



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/>

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

Congratulations go to the following students who received Headteacher Commendations this week.

James Hickman	Harrison Martin	Amelia Parkes-Simpson	Harshil Patel
Ruby Robinson	Joshua Smith	Holly Taylor	