

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Headteacher

The end of this half term has been absolutely jam-packed! On Tuesday, a group of GCSE music students visited The Halls in Wolverhampton to watch the Wolverhampton Symphony Orchestra perform a concert. They showcased music from 1600 up to the present day, including the work of a young professional composer, Grace-Evangeline Mason, who is originally from Wolverhampton. The students were a real credit to the school and said they had a fantastic time! Also, on Tuesday, some of our Year 11 Geography Students undertook a fieldtrip to Wolverhampton!



This week of course has been all about our brilliant School Production of 'Grease'. On Wednesday, the cast did a special Matinee performance for some of our local primary schools. The dedication, hard work and commitment that goes into putting on a school production, cannot be underestimated. A massive THANK YOU to everyone who either supported or came to watch the show. A BIG THANK YOU of course also goes out to Mrs Toy who was our School Production Lead! We will hopefully be sharing more photographs of our School Production in our March/April Monthly Update Sheet, when we will be reflecting on this amazing show in a bit more detail.



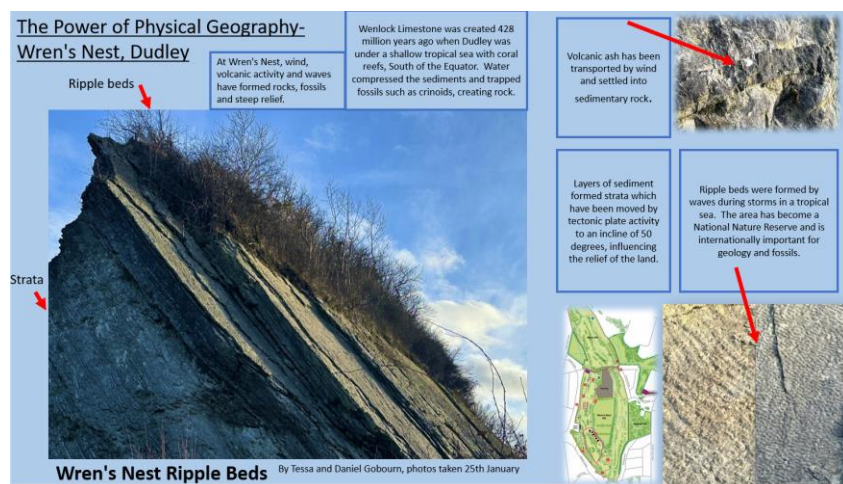
Congratulations also go to the U14s Netball team who won 26 - 0 to St James Academy on Wednesday. We retain a clear win at the top of the league with 3 games to go 😊. Layla Smith - 9TY was awarded Player of the Match by the opposition!



On Thursday we had West Midlands Police in school as part of their Screening Device Operation/Knife Arch Programme. I am pleased to share that Dormston is a safe school. A letter has been sent out today from West Midlands Police confirming this.

We are also delighted to inform you that Dormston has been invited to receive a Music Mark Award for 2024/25 in recognition of our positive approach to music across the school and our engagement with Dudley Performing Arts. A school engaging in music making can usually see marked improvements in behaviour, listening and focus, high self-esteem of pupils means less bullying, improved attainment, and higher school attendance. A musical school is often a happy school with a positive welcoming atmosphere and high expectations. Well done and thank you to Mrs Beer, Mr Richardson and Mrs Grundy for their hard work and commitment in achieving this accolade.

We held our Geography competition in January. Below are entries received from Tess Gobourn, Daniel Gobourn and Tunuj Parmar which showed students really looking at physical geography in a different way. Mr Perry felt that the images and the written description really showed students understanding and knowledge and just how much they are learning to 'think like a Geographer'. Well done!



As you know, we have also been celebrating Valentine's Day in school this week. Our staff band have been rehearsing very hard for their Valentine's performance and sang in the atrium as pupils walked into school this morning. Thanks to Mr Peacock and Mr Perry for their wonderful accompaniment on the guitar and mandolin!

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin WC 24 February 2025

Lots of staff also entered into the spirit and wore red/pink today. Post-It Notes, Valentine's Day Cards and Letters were also distributed around school. At lunchtime, there were sweets, chocolates and roses available to purchase, along with LIVE romantic songs being performed by our students. Heart confetti was also released in the Atrium at lunchtime along with a whole school romantic sing along taking place at the end of Period 5 for students. Thank you to Mrs Downie, who again masterminded these lovely celebrations for us all!



We break up for February Half Term today so school will be closed W/C 17 February 2025. Students return to school on Monday 24 February 2025 to a Week 2 timetable.

Have a great Half Term. Thank you for your continued support.

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 - West Midlands Police Knife Arch Letter;
- Festival of Song Letter **Selected Students Only;*
- Year 11 GCSE History Revision Letter **Selected Students Only;*

Events/Reminders

- Year 11 Geography Trip - Monday 24 February 2025 at 9.00am - 12.30pm **School Production Cast Only;*
- Parents Committee - Tuesday 25 February 2025 at 5.30pm;
- Year 7 Theatre Trip Payment Deadline - Friday 28 February 2025;
- DoF Payment Deadline (£57.50) - Friday 28 February 2025.

Updates

Dudley Performing Arts (DPA) Open Mic Night

The next open Mic event at Cable Plaza is on Tuesday 4th March and the enrolment is now open!! The open mic evening is a great night of music for all ages, instruments and abilities and is a relaxed performance environment without applause. Parents and students will be going about as they please, but microphones and speakers will be in use to ensure the performance is amplified. If you haven't taken part before and have questions, please contact DPA. The open mic places will be first come first served so please sign up even if you are unsure right now what you want to sing or play. A piano is available on the evening to perform on but if you are a keyboard student you may wish to bring along your own keyboard to use if this is preferred. Other instruments will need to be brought in for the evening. There will be a pianist to accompany performers if required or if you want to perform to a backing track you can email a backing track directly to DPA once you have signed up using the link below: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=P-un5irsFkKT3oI9JzsdA8qLWNYqPTZPrqsyPsTNFXJUNDQ3Tk1MUzQzN1ICSFhFTkrIMUtPRFk5Ny4u&route=shorturl>

Year 7 Theatre Trip Reminder!

Just a reminder of the Year 7 Theatre trip to see Charlie & The Chocolate Factory on the 26 March 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity for the whole of Year 7 to see a live musical at the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre. Please can you make sure that payment for this trip is made before February 28 February 2025. Any problems please email: arichardson@dormston.dudley.sch.uk

FoDC School Production Raffle

Just to let you know that tickets for our **FoDC School Production Raffle** are available on ParentPay NOW where you can win one of our Mystery Hampers along with some other great prizes. Tickets are £1.00 and the Hampers are filled with lots of lovely goodies. Winners announced at the end of February!

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

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

Reece Oakley			
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