

Parental Communication & Engagement



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

Message from Headteacher

It's been a warm, but great week in school with lots going on! Our new Year 7 Parents/Carers came along on Monday evening to our Induction Evening and our new Year 7 students joined us for their two-day Induction on Tuesday and Wednesday. It has been fantastic to meet and welcome them all to the Dormston Community. Thanks to all the many staff and students involved in making this such a brilliant two days for them. They simply cannot wait to join us in September now!

On Tuesday, Mrs Abbott and her Year 10 Food group (10E) proudly took part in a Guinness World Record attempt for the **largest number of people cooking the same dish simultaneously**. The event was hosted live by the Head Chef from Jamie Oliver's Cookery School, with Jamie Oliver himself making appearances throughout the one-hour session. The challenge involved making fresh pasta from scratch, along with a homemade tomato and basil sauce. As Mrs Abbott acted as the official steward for the challenge, students were required to complete every step of the cooking process independently. Their focus, teamwork, and enthusiasm throughout the session was fantastic to see. We are yet to find out if we have been successful in the challenge with official participants still being counted, but we're keeping our fingers crossed and will update you when we know. Well done everyone!



A BIG Well done also goes our Year 9s who have been taking part in their exams this week.

One of our science groups watched caterpillars grow into butterflies this half term. We successfully managed to raise 5 and then on Thursday, we released them into our eco garden. They were painted ladies!



We have also had School Production Auditions taking place this week, with over 150 students auditioning and the talent has just been amazing!

Our annual 'Spelling Bee' competition took place in school during Period 5 today, so we will share more details with you next week.

Our Bronze DofE students also departed for their practice expedition today. We wish them the best of luck with their adventure this weekend and we will hopefully share some photos with you next week!

With regards to the last day of term, I would like to confirm that school will finish on Friday 18 July 2025 at the earlier time of 12.30pm.

As you know, it will be our Sports Day next Friday. Please refer to our recent letter for full details. There are still places available on the coach for those students who require transport. **Please contact Main Reception by Tuesday 8 July at 4.00pm if you require a place.**

Best wishes.

Handwritten signature of Mrs Sutton.

Mrs Sutton
Headteacher

Events/Reminders

- Year 10 King VI College Trip - Monday 7 July 2025 **Selected Students Only;*
- Year 9 NDLP Art Exhibition Trip - Tuesday 8 July 2025 **Selected Students Only;*

- Sports Day - Friday 11 July 2025 at The DELL Stadium.

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

- Year 9 Update Letter - July 2025.

Updates

Year 7 Charity Event - Sponsored Skipping Activity

Please see below details of our Year 7 Charity Event.

Year 7 Charity event



As part of our lifeskills lessons we are looking into health and first aid.

As an extra to this we will be taking part in a sponsored skipping activity to raise money for the British Heart Foundations.

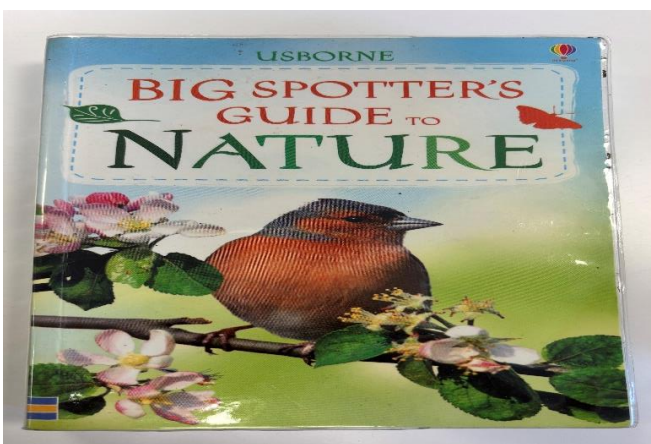
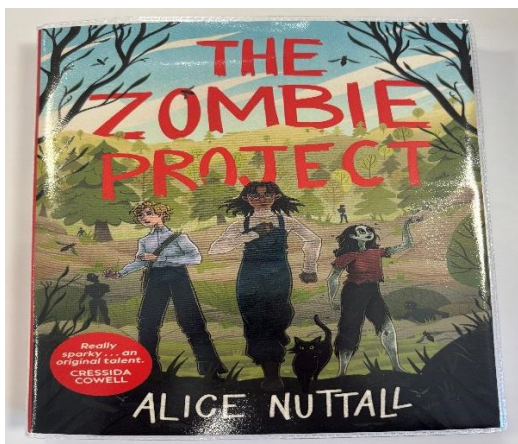
We are going to be skipping in our PE lessons.

You will each receive a sponsor form that you can take home. If you can ask people to sponsor you, or give a donation, that would be amazing. If not do not worry, you can still take part.

All monies raised will go to the  British Heart Foundation

Eco News

We are starting to put together an eco-section in our school library. If anyone has any eco style magazines or books they no longer require, please contact lgrundy@dormston.dudley.sch.uk if you would consider donating them. Meanwhile, here are 2 of the books you can currently hire out. One is fiction and the other is an informative non-fiction book.



Wysa App

As the summer holidays approach, it's important to remember that not all pupils find this time easy. Some may struggle without the routine and support that school provides. The **Wysa app** offers free, 24/7 anonymous mental health support for all secondary school and college pupils across the Black Country. It's fully funded by **Black Country Health** and can be downloaded at no cost. To access the app, pupils simply need to scan the QR code on the attached poster. We've included two versions; one designed specifically for older students but both use the same download code.

wysa | Use Wysa, Feel Better

NHS
Black Country Healthcare
NHS Foundation Trust

Free Emotional Wellbeing Support for Young People in Dudley

Private Anonymous Secure

Wysa's **AI wellbeing coach** provides a safe, non-judgmental space to talk about anything on your mind. Whether you're struggling with **sleep, exam stress**, or just need support, Wysa is here to listen.

Gain full access to **150+ self-help exercises**, from mindfulness and meditation to therapy tools for anxiety and depression.

Get FREE student wellbeing support today!

Scan the QR code from your phone OR use the link:
<https://get.wysa.uk/PUOM7E8LmBb>
If asked for a code, please enter: **BCDU2023**

Please note: Free resources for students can ONLY be accessed via the QR code or link above, not by downloading the Wysa Everyday Mental Health App from the Google Play or App Store. Only accessible via mobile device, not accessible from a desktop device.

Student download:



Summer HAF

We are a provider of Arts workshops and are delighted to have been funded by Dudley MBC and the Department for Education to provide Summer HAF (Holiday Activities and Food Programme) Specialist Arts, Craft & BSL (British Sign Language) activities. We have many years' experience of delivering HAF schemes in Wolverhampton and Walsall but this is our first time delivering one in Dudley and we are very excited to be leading on a wide range of high-quality arts experiences for young people. These are FREE sessions for eligible* young people in Dudley aged 7-16. * Eligible families will have received notification from the council. We are holding our sessions at Green Park Community Centre, Watsons Green Road, Dudley DY2 7LG Between 10am and 2pm on Monday 4th - Friday 8th August 2025. There is no charge for these sessions: all tuition, high quality resources and a packed lunch are included. Please find our poster for this scheme attached and the online link to Dudley HAF site is: <https://www.dudleyholidayactivities.org.uk> To book a place, parents/carers must register their child via the Booking Lab platform.



Funded by Dudley MBC and the Department for Education



Summer HAF* Arts & BSL

*Holiday Activities and Food Programme

FREE for eligible* young people in Dudley aged 7-16

Monday 4th – Friday 8th August 2025

10am – 2pm each day

- No previous Art / BSL skills needed
- Make new friends and try something different
- *Eligible families will have received notification from Dudley MBC
- High quality art materials and tuition provided
- Packed lunch included
- Deaf children are able to access these sessions
- Please get in touch with us to discuss any other SENDs

Places are limited & **MUST** be booked. Use the link below for more information about Dudley Holiday Activities:

<https://www.dudleyholidayactivities.org.uk>

Sessions held at Green Park Community Centre, Watsons Green Road, DY2 7LG

Email: RealArtsWorkshops@gmail.com or Phone/Txt/WhatsApp: **07882 685923**

Uniform Donations (Particularly Year 7 & 8)

As you may know, FoDC run a very popular Pre-Loved Uniform Service via their Pop-Up Shop. If you have any **good quality** uniform to donate we would be happy to receive it. We are looking for good quality jumpers, shirts and ties **particularly from our Year 7 & Year 8 parents/carers** ready for parents/carers to purchase over the Summer Holidays. If you would like to donate any old uniform students can bring donations to either Main Reception or Pupil Reception. Thanks so much for your support. These donations not only help save parents/carers money and raises money for the school, but also helps save the environment too!

FoDC Summer Raffle

Just to let you know that tickets for our **FoDC Summer Raffle** are available on ParentPay NOW. You can win one of our beautiful summer hampers. There are over 10 prizes up for grabs plus a £50 e-gift card of your choice! Tickets are £1.00. Winners announced on 16 July 2025.

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

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

Joslin Szeto Clarke	Oliver Hinton	Tyler Smith	Molly May McAuley
Noel Wilkinson			