

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Headteacher

Looking back at the end of last week, our wonderful staff band sang as pupils entered school! The setlist included Fleetwood Mac, Oasis and Coldplay. Staff have been rehearsing very hard before school on Tuesdays. We will hopefully put a recording on our YouTube channel as soon as possible. Our soloists were Mr Peacock and Mrs Brown. A big thanks goes to them all for their hard work and early mornings!



Well done to our Year 11 Football Team who won 1 - 0 against Ellowes Hall on Tuesday!

The drama department selected some Year 9 students to take part in a bespoke workshop delivered by a practitioner from the Birmingham REP Theatre on Wednesday. The students spent 90 minutes experiencing a truly creative environment, where they were encouraged to think outside of the box and devise theatre from even the simplest stimuli. Our visiting practitioner, Nyasha, was extremely complimentary of the students involved and answered questions they had about careers in theatre, the drama GCSE and his own background as a director at the REP theatre. Well done to everyone involved and thank you Mrs Toy for arranging this fantastic opportunity!

Don't forget that it is 'Odd Sock's Day on Monday so we want to see as many staff and students wearing odd socks as possible to celebrate the fact that we are all different.

With the exam season fast approaching, we have organised a KS4 Parent/Carer Workshop which looks at helping pupils cope with exam stress. The session will be run by Dudley Reflexions and they will look to offer tips and advice to help you navigate what can be a difficult period for young people. The event will take place on Tuesday 11 November 2025 at 5.00pm - 6.00pm at Dormston School.

Mrs Sutton
Headteacher

Events/Reminders

- Anti-Bullying Week - WC 10 November 2025;
- Odd Socks Day - Monday 10 November 2025;
- Whole School Remembrance Assembly - Tuesday 11 November 2025;
- Reflexions KS4 Parents/Carers Exam Stress Workshop - Tuesday 11 November 2025 at 5.00pm;
- Year 7 Theatre Trip - Wednesday 12 November 2025 at 1.30pm - 5.30pm approx.;
- Sonia Kumar MP Citizenship Talk - Friday 14 November 2025 - Period 5;
- House Arts Evening Invitation Response Deadline - Friday 14 November 2025.

Anti-Bullying Week - WC 10 November 2025

Anti-Bullying Week 2025 will take place from Monday 10th - Friday 14th November 2025, with the theme: Power for Good. Odd Socks Day is taking place on Monday 10th November 2025, with staff and pupils being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique. As part of anti-bullying week, we are asking for donations of odd socks to be brought into school to help us to create bigger and better 'sock bunting' to show our support against bullying. Can donations please be left in the odd socks box located within the atrium each morning. The wackier the socks, the better!



Dear Parents/Carers
**WOOHOO... MONDAY
10TH NOVEMBER IS ODD
SOCKS DAY!**

WHAT IS ODD SOCKS DAY?

Odd Socks Day is part of Anti-Bullying Week! To celebrate that we are all unique, we ask that children wear odd socks to school on Monday 10th November. Andy Day (CBeebies/CBBC) and his band Andy and the Odd Socks are partnering with the Anti-Bullying Alliance to help bring Odd Socks Day to life again this year. Have a listen to the brilliant song they have recorded especially for Anti-Bullying Week, 'Power for Good'.

WHY IS ODD SOCKS DAY IMPORTANT?

The day sends an important message that we should all be allowed to be ourselves free from bullying and helps us celebrate Anti-Bullying Week in a fun and positive way.

WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

It's so easy! ☺ Here's what you do:

1. Make sure your child wears odd socks to school.
2. Encourage them to partake in lunch time activities in C102 throughout anti-bullying week.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

We can't wait to see all the odd socks on Monday 10th November!!





**MONDAY
10TH NOVEMBER**

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

- House Arts Evening Invitation Letter; **Selected Parents/Carers only*
- Choir House Arts Evening Invitation Letter; **Selected Parents/Carers only*
- Year 11 Science Intervention Sessions Letter; **Selected Year 11 Parents/Carers Only*
- Year 11 Maths Intervention Sessions Letter; **Selected Year 11 Parents/Carers Only*
- Year 11 English Intervention Sessions Letter. **Selected Year 11 Parents/Carers Only*
- Year 10 Targets Letter.

Updates

Attendance Reminder

Can we remind all parents/carers that due to the change in guidance all schools are only allowed to keep their registers of a morning and afternoon open for 30-minutes. If your child is not present during that time (8.40am till 9.10am and 12.30pm till 1.00pm) then they cannot be marked as present. If they arrive after 9.10am without a valid reason they will receive an unauthorised absence and if they attend a medical appointment during this time, they will receive an M. Both will be classed as an absence and will affect your child's overall attendance level. Please make sure if possible to make any appointments outside of these very important periods of the day.

FoDC 'Winner Winner Christmas Dinner' Raffle

Fancy winning a £200, £100 or £50 voucher for the supermarket of your choice (Asda/Tesco/Morrisons/Sainsburys etc.) to make your Christmas dinner this year that extra bit special/cheaper? Then why not buy a ticket for our FoDC 'Winner Winner Christmas Dinner' Raffle. Tickets are £1.00 each and are available on ParentPay now. **Raffle closes on Friday 12 December 2025 at midnight.** Winner announced and E-Voucher provided to winners shortly after. Good luck!

Free School Meals Slide

Just a reminder as to what is included in our Free School Meals. Please note that pop bottles will need to be purchased separately via ParentPay top ups.



The graphic is a two-part slide. The left part has a blue background with the text 'FREE SCHOOL MEALS' in large, white, stylized letters. To the right of the text are two circular images: the top one shows a sandwich on a plate, and the bottom one shows a plate of food including vegetables, meat, and potatoes. The right part has an orange background. At the top left is a logo that says 'free school meals' with a fork and knife. At the top right is the Dormston School logo with the tagline 'Knowledge - Strength'. In the center, the text 'What's included?' is written in large white letters. Below it, in smaller white text, is 'Hot Meal/Baguette/Sandwich with Fruit Pots/Yoghurts/Homebakes/Hot Pudding'. Below that, it says 'Free squash is available at The River Café.' At the bottom, in white text, it says 'Pop bottles will need to be purchased separately via ParentPay top ups.'

Extra-Curricular Clubs - Autumn Term 2

Please see below our Extra-Curricular Club Activities for Autumn Term 2.

PE Extra-Curricular Autumn 2				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch-time	Lunch-time	Lunch-time	Lunch-time	Lunch-time
Cricket Club Pupils Sportshall NAB & ILS	Multi-Sports 7-9 Sportshall NBE & ILS	After school	Multi-Sports 10 & 11 Sportshall NBE & ILS	After school
After school	After school	Basketball 7-11 Sports Hall Outside Staff	After school	
Girls Football 7-11 Astro Outside staff.	Football Year 9 Astro JWS	Football Year 7 & 8 Astro SCY	Football Year 10 Astro PAS	
	Netball 7-11 Sportshall ILS		Football Year 8 Field NBE	
			Boys Basketball Year 7-9 Sportshall NBE	

 Lunchtime Clubs 				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7 E-Sports FIFA C101	Year 8 & 9 E-Sports FIFA C101	Year 10 & 11 E-Sports FIFA C101	Year 8 & 9 E-Sports FIFA C101	Year 10 & 11 E-Sports FIFA C101
Friendship Club Inclusion Hub	All Years Cyber Explorers A8	Friendship Club Inclusion Hub	Friendship Club Inclusion Hub	Friendship Club Inclusion Hub
	Friendship Club Inclusion Hub			

 After School Clubs 				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 9 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC	Year 8 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC	Year 7 - 9 Dance Club 3.10pm - 4.10pm Dance Studio	All Years Choir 3.10pm - 4.10pm D106	Year 7 - 9 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC
	Year 7 - German Club 3.10pm - 4.10pm A13	Year 7 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC	Years 7 - 8 Uno Club 3.10pm - 3.55pm A6	
	Year 7 - 9 Lego Club *Invitation Only 3.10pm - 3.45pm Inclusion Hub	Year 7 - 9 Mindful Colouring Club *Invitation Only 3.10pm - 3.45pm Inclusion Hub	Year 7 - 9 Karaoke Club *Invitation Only 3.10pm - 3.45pm Inclusion Hub	
Please note: It is the responsibility of the pupil to inform parents & carers if they are going to attend the activities. The school will not make phone calls home if pupils do not attend the activities after enrolling. If pupils enrol for an activity they should attend every week until the end of the course. If pupils do not attend regularly they will be asked to leave the activity. We operate the activities on a first come/first served basis and sometimes we may have to refuse pupils a place on the activity.				

Christmas Card Competition 2025

Our annual 'Christmas Card Competition' has been launched and the theme this year is 'inclusion'. Closing date is Thursday 20 November 2025 and the winning entries will become the school's Christmas Card for 2025. Please see below slide for further information.

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION 2025

Create a Christmas Card design based on the theme of
'INCLUSION'

Your design could be chosen for this years *official* Dormston Christmas Card!

Your design will be **printed professionally** and **further prizes** awarded.

Plus you will receive **house points** just for entering so get designing!



Previous years winner- Oliver Fellows 11DY



Hand in your completed designs to Mr Goldie or Mrs Taylor.

If your artwork is digital then email your design

to dgoldie@dormston.dudley.sch.uk but remember you **cannot trace someone else's design!**

Deadline is Thursday 20th November

Year 7 Theatre Trip to Elf - Wednesday 12 November 2025

We hope that all pupils are excited for our upcoming trip to see Elf the musical next week. Here is some important information now that the plans for the day have been finalised. Please make sure all pupils have any medicines they require such as Asthma inhalers as they will not be permitted on the trip without them. At the end of Period 3 pupils will need to go to the River Café for their lunch and at 12.50pm, pupils will go to the theatre to sit in their assembly seats.

From the theatre, pupils will be sent a form group at a time with their teachers to the coaches. We are aiming to depart at 1.00pm. There is be no eating or drinking permitted on the coaches.

We should arrive at the Grand Theatre for 1.30pm. This gives us time to use the toilets and find our seats.

Snacks are allowed but please make sure that these are 'quiet' so they do not disturb the performance and also remember we are 'striving to be' a nut and kiwi free school!

The show begins at 2.00pm and finishes approximately 4.20pm with a 20-minute interval. We estimate returning to school between 5.00pm and 5.30pm. Once on the coach pupils will be told the estimated return time. Please make sure pupils have mobile phones on them which are fully charged so they can update parents/carers with the return time. Please ensure all payments for this trip have been made and if you have any further questions please email Mr Richardson: arichardson@dormston.dudley.sch.uk



How to support your child with exam stress (KS4)

A workshop led by Reflexions

Tuesday 11 November 2025

5.00pm - 6.00pm

With the exam season fast approaching, we have organised a KS4 Parent/Carer Workshop which looks at helping pupils cope with exam stress. The session will be run by Dudley Reflexions and they will look to offer tips and advice to help you navigate what can be a difficult period for young people. The event will take place on Tuesday 11 November 2025 at 5.00pm - 6.00pm at Dormston School.

Sandwell Deaf Community Association

Please see below poster which we have been asked to share with you.

Sandwell Deaf Community Association

Coffee Morning

**Breakfast?
Coffee?
Meet new friends?**



Do you live in the Sandwell and Black Country area?
Are you Deaf, Hard of Hearing, or Deafblind?
If yes, you're invited to join our Coffee Morning.
Come and join us for a relaxed and welcoming morning — we'd love to see you there!

When? Wednesday 19th November

Time? 10 am to 12 pm



Where?
Unity Brew,
15 Unity Walk,
Tipton DY4 8QL



For more information, please email
craig_pothecary@sdca.co.uk
or Text / WhatsApp / FaceTime:
07791 921011



DPA Opportunities

Please see below some of the opportunities being offered by Dudley Performing Arts.



**CALLING YOUNG COMPOSERS
AND INSTRUMENTALISTS!**

Are you:
Aged 16-21?
In the West Midlands?
Wanting to create and play
adventurous new music?

**Be part of
CoMA Festival
2026!**

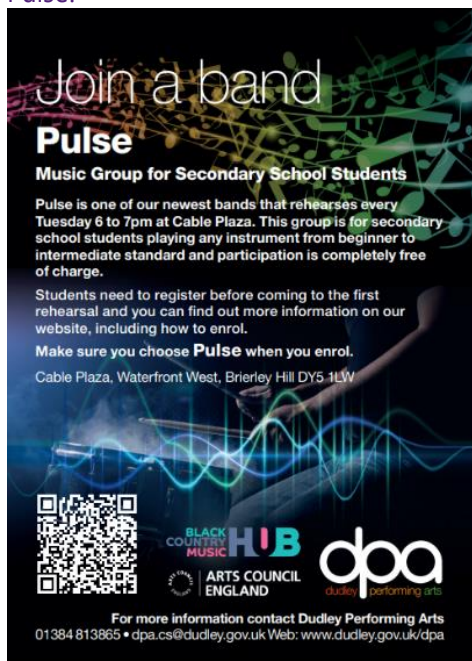
**MYSOUNDS+
CoMA WEST
MIDLANDS**

**APPLY BY
14 NOV**

The poster features a black and white photograph of four young musicians (three boys and one girl) playing instruments: a guitar, a saxophone, and a violin. The CoMA logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the image.

Pulse

DPA currently have space in their Secondary DPA group – Pulse, for a guitar and bass guitar player. This exciting opportunity is open to any secondary aged guitar/bass player that would like to come and join our group. We rehearse every Tuesday 6-7pm at Cable Plaza, the Waterfront in Brierley Hill, DY5 1LW (There is no payment required for this group). These places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis, reading music would be required (either tab or notation) and being a minimum of a beginner or intermediate standard would be favourable. If you would like to join us after the half term holiday, please contact rebecca.gullick@dudley.gov.uk for enrolment or more information. We look forward to welcoming you to Pulse!



Join a band

Pulse

Music Group for Secondary School Students

Pulse is one of our newest bands that rehearses every Tuesday 6 to 7pm at Cable Plaza. This group is for secondary school students playing any instrument from beginner to intermediate standard and participation is completely free of charge.

Students need to register before coming to the first rehearsal and you can find out more information on our website, including how to enrol.

Make sure you choose Pulse when you enrol.

Cable Plaza, Waterfront West, Brierley Hill DY5 1LW

The poster features a background image of a person playing a guitar with a blue and white wave-like graphic overlay. Logos for Black Country Music, Arts Council England, and dpa (Dudley Performing Arts) are at the bottom. A QR code is in the bottom left corner.

For more information contact Dudley Performing Arts
01384 813865 • dpa.cs@dudley.gov.uk Web: www.dudley.gov.uk/dpa

DPA Open Mic Night - Monday 10 November 5.00pm - 8.00pm

On the night there is piano accompaniment or help with backing tracks. It would be wonderful to see students up there performing and shining! The evening has a relaxed, friendly atmosphere with plenty of chatting and people milling around - a perfect chance to try out those tricky exam songs in front of an audience. You're welcome to sing or play (Keyboard) any song you like, either with piano accompaniment or a backing track.

👉 **To sign up for a time slot,** click here: [Open Mic Sign-Up Form](#)

Prom Pop Up Shop

Prom can be very expensive so this pop up shop has discounted dresses, mostly £200 or less to help parents keep the costs down.



28th & 29th November
LUXURY LUX
647 BIRMINGHAM NEW ROAD,
COSELEY, WV14 9JL
01902934155

LUXURY LUX
X
KISS
me
KATE

Pop up shop

2026 PROM DRESSES

STUNNING KISS ME KATE
DESIGNS

BIG DISCOUNTS WITH MOST
DRESSES LESS THAN £200!

The advertisement features a gold glitter background. In the top left, contact details for 'LUXURY LUX' are listed. In the top right is a logo for 'LUXURY LUX X KISS me KATE'. The center features the stylized text 'Pop up shop' with a heart in the 'o'. Below this is an image of two women wearing elegant prom dresses, one light blue and one teal. To the right of the image, text highlights '2026 PROM DRESSES', 'STUNNING KISS ME KATE DESIGNS', and 'BIG DISCOUNTS WITH MOST DRESSES LESS THAN £200!'.