

Parental Communication & Engagement



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

Message from Headteacher

As you may know, our Silver DofE assessed expedition took place last weekend and I am pleased to share that all students passed this section with flying colours. Over the course of three days, they walked roughly 18 miles around the Carding Mill Valley, Stiperstones, Long Mynd area of Shropshire, all while carrying heavy rucksacks with all their equipment - not easy in the heat! Their navigation skills were excellent with no groups getting lost! Their camping skills were also excellent - no instructions or guidance given they all just came on to camp, got set up, cooked and cleared away. The instructors from Gecko were very complimentary and they said that the group could easily go on to achieve their Gold Award at college if they wanted to which was lovely to hear! We also had lots of positive comments from members of the public on the campsite who said they were "brilliant" and a "credit to the school". For some context, the last time we had a Silver DofE group 2 years ago we had 5 pupils take part. This time there was 28! So clearly, they enjoyed their Bronze experience last year. A big thank you goes to Mr Fox and Mrs Millership for all their hard work over the weekend which made this experience possible.



Also, last weekend, 12 members of our wonderful School Choir sang with Wombourne Choral Society. After only four rehearsals, they performed on Saturday in St John's in the Square. As well as singing in the chorus of Carmina Burana, they also sang some solos of their own. We are immensely proud of them all and they represented The Dormston School impeccably. Below are some comments from the choir and members of the public below so you can see the scale of the impact our wonderful pupils had. Well done girls, you made Mrs Beer and Mrs Grundy very emotional and they were bursting with pride!

Write up from the Musical Director of the choral society

And let me not of course forget the wonderful children from The Dormston School! It was relatively last minute that we got them involved, and we're lucky to have teachers from Dormston in the choir who jumped straight on board and organised it, sending letters out to parents, liaising with me about repertoire and rehearsals, and then organising DBS protocol, taking

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registers and sitting with me while I rehearsed the children. They did that in four rehearsals. Many of them had not done anything remotely like it before, and they were singing in ancient German and Latin! I had tales from Mrs Beer about children singing "OH OH OH TOTUS FLOREO" at them in the corridors! They did a brilliant job.

From an audience member

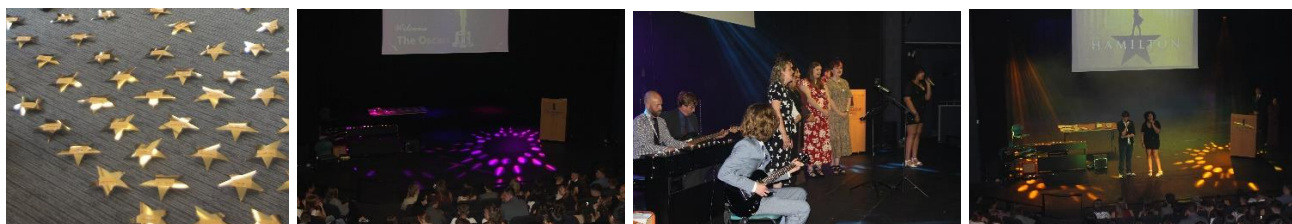
A note of appreciation for the CO/CB event of last Saturday pm at St Johns. The pupils certainly added to the success of the Concert, making it a 'Night to Remember.'

Written response from a member of the choir

'The youngsters had such clear voices.'



On Thursday evening, we held our annual Oscars Awards Evening and as always it was fantastic to celebrate the amazing achievements of so many of our students with their families. Thank you to everyone who came along and for everyone who helped and performed on the evening. It really was a very special night.

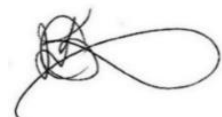


Also this week, our Year 10 geographers visited Carding Mill Valley to carry out fieldwork as part of their GCSE studies. Pupils worked across three different sites along the river, where they developed their practical skills by measuring river width and depth, calculating velocity, assessing gradient, and analysing sediment size. The visit provided an excellent opportunity for students to apply their classroom learning in a real-world setting, while also building teamwork and data collection skills essential for their exams.

When we return after the Bank Holiday, Year 11 GCSE's will really start to kick in and we wish all our Year 11 students the very best of luck as they enter the final phase of their educational journey with us here at The Dormston School!

Don't forget that Monday is a Bank Holiday, so school is closed to students. Students should return to school on Tuesday 5 May 2026 to a Week 2 timetable.

Best wishes.



Mrs Sutton
Headteacher

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

- Year 8 Vaccination UK Letter;
- Year 9 & 10 Parents/Carers - Science Revision Guides Letter;
- Year 10 Citizenship & Religious Studies Parents/Carers - Shrewsbury Prison Trip Letter.

Events/Reminders

- Early May Bank Holiday - Monday 4 May 2026 ***SCHOOL CLOSED;**
- Bronze DofE Practice Expedition - Friday 8 May 2026;
- Year 11 Hoodie Order Deadline - Friday 8 May 2026.

Updates

Safeguarding Notice

Virtual Parent/Carer Session - Guide to Social Media and Livestreaming
Wednesday 6 May 2026 at 4.00pm - 4.45pm

Focus: Guide to Social Media and Livestreaming - this will include latest trends and emerging threats and will focus on developing your understanding of Social Media and Livestreaming, the associated risks and steps we can take to support our children.

Please find below the link to access the parent/carers session scheduled for next **Wednesday 6th May 2026 (4.00pm - 4.45pm)**.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZWMzYzRmYTYtMDk0NC00MWQ0LWlyMDctNjYzYzNkZTI0MGJj%40thread.v2/0?context=%7B%22id%22%3A%22dcdb1ea5-3b10-49a2-bf8f-5fd59edcd762%22%2C%22oid%22%3A%225772fa8f-9814-4199-ae2-

[9195804f833e%22%2C%22lsBroadcastMeeting%22%3Atrue%2C%22role%22%3A%22a%22%7D&btype=a](https://www.dormston-school.co.uk/parents/carers/broadcast-meeting-2026)
&role=a

Attendees do not need to register, they simply click on the link at the above time to access the session. **Cameras and voice/audio will be switched off for all attendees.** Attendees can ask questions by typing in the Q&A box, but this will be explained during the session.

The event will be streamed using Teams. Attendees can watch the live event in:



- **Teams app - desktop (Windows or Mac) or mobile.** (The Teams app is free to download if attendees would like to do that beforehand).
- **If they don't have Teams they can access it via one of the following browsers - Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge or Firefox.**

As a reminder, this session (and all our virtual sessions) will be recorded and will be subsequently shared so if somebody can't make the live session then they can watch it back at a time that is convenient to them.

Extra-Curricular - Summer Term 2026

Please see below our extra-curricular activities for the Summer Term.

 <h1 style="text-align: center;">Lunchtime Clubs</h1> 				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7 E-Sports FIFA C101 Friendship Club Inclusion Hub	Year 8 & 9 E-Sports FIFA C101 Friendship Club Inclusion Hub	Year 10 & 11 E-Sports FIFA C101 Friendship Club Inclusion Hub All Years Computer Club A8	Year 8 & 9 E-Sports FIFA C101 Friendship Club Inclusion Hub All Years Eco Club D104 (Bring your lunch if you wish!)	Year 10 & 11 E-Sports FIFA C101 Friendship Club Inclusion Hub Duolingo A13


 <h1 style="text-align: center;">After School Clubs</h1> <div style="font-size: 8px; text-align: center;"> 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 school. If pupils attend 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. </div> 				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 9 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC Year 11 Study Hub 3.10pm - 4.30pm A10	Year 8 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC Year 7 - German Club 3.10pm - 4.10pm A13 Year 7 - 9 Lego Club *Invitation Only 3.10pm - 3.45pm Inclusion Hub Year 11 Study Hub 3.10pm - 4.30pm A10 Years 9 & 10 Science Catch Up & Extra Curricular Learning 3.10pm - 4.10pm PLC	Year 7 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC Year 7 - 9 Mindful Colouring Club *Invitation Only 3.10pm - 3.45pm Inclusion Hub Year 11 Study Hub 3.10pm - 4.30pm A10 Years 9 & 10 Science Catch Up & Extra Curricular Learning 3.10pm - 4.10pm PLC Dance Club 3.10pm - 4.10pm D1	All Years Choir 3.10pm - 4.10pm D106 Years 7 - 8 Uno Club 3.10pm - 3.55pm A6 Year 7 - 9 Karaoke Club *Invitation Only 3.10pm - 3.45pm Inclusion Hub Year 11 Study Hub 3.10pm - 4.30pm A10 All Years Science Forensic Club 3.20pm - 4.15pm C2	Year 7 - 9 Book Club 3.10pm - 4.00pm PLC Year 11 Study Hub 3.10pm - 4.30pm A10

PE Extra-Curricular Summer 1				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch-time	Lunch-time	Lunch-time	Lunch-time	Lunch-time
Netball GYM ILS & CDN 30 MAX		Basketball GYM ILS & CDN	Dodgeball Sportshall NBE 30 MAX	After school
After school	After school	After school	After school	
	Rounders 7-11 Sportshall ILS/CDN	Cricket Year 7-10 Astro ILS/NBE/NAB	Athletics KS3 Astro PAS	

Making Appointments

Please see below regarding making appointments to see us at Dormston School.

MAKE AN APPOINTMENT!



Have you got an appointment?

We are really sorry but unless you have made a **prior appointment** staff are often teaching or involved in other meetings.

If this is the case, our Reception Team will take your details so that an appointment can be requested.

Please note although we always aim to get back to you as soon as possible, we do have a 48 hours response time.

Thanks for your co-operation.

Dudley Performing Arts Instrumental Super Demo Evening

Dudley Performing Arts is holding a drop in Super Demo evening on Thursday 21st May at Cable Plaza between 16:30 – 19:30 for children interested in starting instrumental lessons. DPA teachers will be on hand to show you the range of instruments that children can learn, either in school or after school at Cable Plaza. Children can have a go at playing an instrument, find out about singing lessons, meet the teachers and ask any questions you have. Enrolment for September lessons will be available during the evening. Come and drop in on Thursday 21st May, Cable Plaza, Waterfront West, Brierley Hill, DY5 1LW between 16:30 – 19:30. If you have any questions please contact dpa.cs@dudley.gov.uk

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

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

Layla Aston	Corey Beale	Trixie Cartwright	Shauraydeep Chaurasia
Jetta Davies	Nash Davies	Hollie Halford	Joseph Hicklin
Elijah Higgins	Jessica Hobley	May Jones	Lucie Lakin
Lily Mallin	Hugh Mansell	Indi McEvoy-Cox	Eleanor Millard
Harry Newton	Henry Osbourne	Olivia Porter	Oliver Powell
Millie Tatton	Efrem Tigere	Ben Vaughan	Isabelle Willis
Ayaan Zeeshan			