

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Headteacher

It has been a full-on start to rehearsals for our school production 'School of Rock'. Students have gotten stuck into rehearsals in singing, acting and dancing with enthusiasm and lots of energy - long may it continue! A massive thank you to Mrs Grundy for her work and dedication with the singing so far, to Ms Froggatt, Mrs Brown and Mrs Priest for their ongoing support and a big welcome to our new choreographer Grace. It's going to be a great show! With tickets going on sale very soon, I suggest you keep your eyes peeled for updates so you don't miss out on the best seats.

Don't forget to remind your child to try and get creative this October with Inktober 2026! Students are encouraged to draw every day using our daily list of fun and inspiring prompts. Whether they are a confident artist or just love to doodle, everyone is welcome to take part! Prizes and House Points will be awarded for the best entries, so please encourage them to get their ideas flowing and see where their creativity takes them!

On Thursday, Year 7 and 8 received West Midlands Police input sessions around the dangers of e-safety, safety in darker nights in the lead up to bonfire night and Halloween and antisocial behaviour awareness

Today and yesterday, our Year 11 Religious Studies students have visited All Saints Church as part of their studies. Mr Mac and Mrs Gidda were really proud of their maturity and attitude.

We've had a lovely end to the week in the PLC celebrating and recognising the efforts made by students who participated in our Summer Reading Challenge this year. The challenge aims to encourage students to read throughout the summer holiday and to help ensure their reading skills don't dip during the long break from school. Well done and congratulations to the following students.

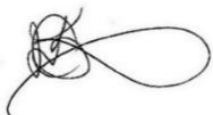
Christopher Hinton - 7AX
Evie Rathbone - 7AX
Jess Wilkes - 7AX
Lola Davies - 7DX
Ozzy Hutton - 7DX
Lewis Croucher - 7DY
Karishma Kumar - 7DY
Phoebe Taylor - 7TX
Darcey Roberts - 7DY
Imogen Cox - 8AY
Remel Lattery - 8TX

Today, we also held our Sweet Treat Rewards, well done to everyone who was nominated.

As you know, we have our Open Evening next week on Thursday 8 October 2026, so don't forget that we will be closing at the earlier time of 1.30pm.

Can we please remind you of our mobile phone policy: mobile phones must not be used during the school day and will be confiscated if they are used; please do not call or message your child during school hours.

Best wishes.



Mrs Sutton
Headteacher

Events/Reminders

- Year 11 King Edwards Personal Statement Session - Wednesday 7 October at 3.10pm in PLC;
- Early Close - Thursday 8 October 2026 at 1.30pm;
- Class of 2026 Roll of Honour Presentation - Thursday 8 October 2026 at 2.30pm;
- Open Evening - Thursday 8 October 2026 at 6.00pm - 8.00am;
- Year 7 Author Visit - Friday 9 October 2026;
- HelloYellow Mental Health Awareness Day - Friday 9 October 2026.

Key Letters/Information Sent Out Recently

- All Parents/Carers - Well-being for All Sheet - Autumn 2026;
- Year 9 & 10 Parents/Carers - Science Evening Notes;
- Additional Reading Intervention - Lexia PowerUp Letter **Selected Year 10 pupils only.*

Updates



PE Department - Important Reminders

As we continue into the new academic year, we would like to remind students and parents/carers of a few important PE expectations that help us keep lessons safe, inclusive and enjoyable for everyone.

Jewellery

For safety reasons, all jewellery must be removed before PE lessons. This includes earrings, piercings, necklaces, bracelets, rings and watches. Jewellery cannot be covered with tape or plasters as an alternative to removal. If a student is unable to remove jewellery, their participation in practical activities may be restricted.

PE Kit

Students should bring the correct PE kit to every PE lesson and be ready to participate. Having the correct kit allows students to take part safely and get the most out of their lessons. Students who are unable to participate due to a medical condition may be supported through an appropriate risk assessment where required.

If Your Child Cannot Take Part

If your child is unable to participate in one PE lesson, please provide them with a note explaining the reason. Students should still attend the lesson and may be given an alternative role or suitable activity. For long-term non-participation, medical evidence such as a doctor's note will be required so that we can understand any restrictions and make appropriate arrangements.

We really appreciate the support of parents/carers in helping students arrive at PE prepared and ready to learn. Correct kit, removal of jewellery and clear communication around medical needs all play an important role in keeping our students safe and ensuring they can enjoy PE.

Thank you for your continued support.



Hello Yellow/YoungMinds Mental Health Awareness Day - Friday 9 October 2026

On Friday 9 October 2026, The Dormston School will once again be supporting the YoungMinds Charity Event HelloYellow.

Over the past few years, we have raised over £2,000 for this charity and we are keen to continue this good work in the future.

This year, every pupil will be asked to complete an active mile in their PE lessons. Pupils will also be able to take part in various physical activities throughout the week aimed at improving awareness of how exercise can improve wellbeing and mental health.

We are asking all staff and pupils to wear either a yellow item of clothing or display a HelloYellow ribbon which will be available from school. Pupils should however still wear their full school uniform.

Pupils can also make donations upon receiving their ribbon and we will be having a cake sale on the Friday to raise funds for the charity.

This is part of our ongoing support for pupil well-being alongside extra-curricular activities that are published on our school website and the weekly PowerPoint.

SEND Contact Details Update

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT SENDIASS CONTACT DETAILS HAVE CHANGED. PARENTS AND PROFESSIONALS CAN REFER BY TELEPHONE, EMAIL OR MY DUDLEY. THE 01384 NUMBER IS NO LONGER IN USE.

MOBILE NUMBERS : 07900161363/07929777744

EMAIL: DUDLEY.SENDIASS@DUDLEY.GOV.UK

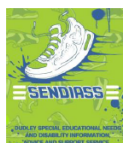
At Dudley SENDIASS we provide legally based advice, information and support on all matters relating to Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities, including health and social care issues. Our service is free, impartial and confidential. The service is available to parents and carers of a child or young person with SEN or a disability, up to the age of 25 with or without an EHCP. Please find below timetable for Workshops during the academic year 2026-2027, to be promoted to parents/carers of children with SEND and young people with SEND. The workshops and events are for parents and young people to attend via MS Teams. All information about workshops and events can be found [here](#). Our service leaflets have recently been updated and are available to share with parents and carers as required. They can be found via this [link](#). Places for workshops and events can be booked by emailing the service dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk

Dudley SENDIASS Workshops

For parents/carers of children with SEND and young people with SEND up to 25 years old seeking further information about SEND support and processes.



Academic Year 2026 – 2027	All workshops are delivered on Teams From 10am – 11.30am					
Understanding how to access SEN support within settings	SEPTEMBER Wednesday 16 th	NOVEMBER Thursday 19 th	JANUARY Wednesday 13 th	MARCH Thursday 11 th	MAY Friday 14 th	JUNE Monday 21 st
Understanding the EHC Needs Assessment request process	SEPTEMBER Thursday 24 th	NOVEMBER Friday 27 th	JANUARY Thursday 21 st	MARCH Friday 19 th	MAY Monday 24 th	JUNE Tuesday 29 th
How to check a draft plan	OCTOBER Friday 2 nd	DECEMBER Thursday 3 rd	JANUARY Friday 29 th	APRIL Monday 19 th		JULY Tuesday 6 th
Preparation and process for annual review	OCTOBER Thursday 8 th	DECEMBER Friday 11 th	FEBRUARY Monday 8 th	APRIL Tuesday 27 th		JULY Wednesday 14 th
Preparation for key transitions	OCTOBER Friday 16 th		FEBRUARY Tuesday 23 rd		MAY Wed 5 th	
SEND Reform Updates		NOVEMBER Mon 9 th		MARCH Wednesday 3 rd		JUNE Thursday 10 th



To book on to a workshop email dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk

[Dudley SENDIASS Website](#)

Dudley SENDIASS Service offers information, advice and support on all matters relating to SEN and disabilities including health and social care to parents and carers of children with SEND and Young People with SEND up to 25 years old.

Parents/Carers, or young people aged 16 and above, are able to self-refer to the service. As a professional, if you would like to refer a parent of a child with SEND or a young person with SEND to the service, please gain consent and email the service at dudley.sendiass@dudley.gov.uk with contact details.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Enquiries and meetings are now handled remotely via email, telephone or Teams. Contact details for the service can be found on the [website](#).

Aldi Car Parking

We appreciate that drop-offs/pick-ups can be problematic, but there have been reports from members of the public that during morning school drop-off, an increased amount of Dormston parents/carers are dropping their children off on Aldi Car Park and in the process are blocking off the parent and child parking bays by parking across the spaces. Could we please ask that you try and show due consideration towards the people who need to make use of these spots provided by Aldi.

House Arts Competition

Please see below details for our House Arts Competition this year which has the theme of 'Conflict'.

A green poster for the House Arts Competition 2026. The title 'HOUSE ARTS COMPETITION' is in white, with '2026' in large, bold, white letters. Below it, 'Theme: Conflict' is written in a white, cursive font. The poster includes two columns of information: 'Week Commencing 19th October: Auditions for Music, Dance & Drama' and 'Friday 23rd October: Art Deadline'. At the bottom, it says 'If you wish to enter please collect an entry form from Mr Richardson'. The poster is decorated with icons: a musical note, a paint palette, a comedy/tragedy mask, and two hands clashing in a fist fight.

HOUSE ARTS COMPETITION
2026
Theme: Conflict

Week Commencing 19th October:
Auditions for Music, Dance & Drama

Friday 23rd October:
Art Deadline

If you wish to enter
please collect an entry form
from Mr Richardson

Year 7 Theatre Trip

Please see below information for our Year 7 Theatre Trip to Treasure Island. Don't forget that the payment deadline for this trip is Friday 30 October 2026.

A poster for the Year 7 Theatre Trip to Treasure Island. The background features a pirate ship on the ocean at sunset, a treasure chest filled with gold coins, and a skull and crossbones. The text 'THE GRAND THEATRE WOLVERHAMPTON' is at the top left. The title 'Year 7 Theatre Trip' is in a yellow banner. Below it, the details are listed: 'When? Wednesday 2nd December', 'Where? The Grand Theatre Wolverhampton', and 'Cost? £26 for Travel & Admission'. The title 'TREASURE ISLAND' is written in large, bold, black letters on a piece of old parchment.

THE GRAND THEATRE WOLVERHAMPTON

Year 7 Theatre Trip

When?
Wednesday 2nd December

Where?
The Grand Theatre
Wolverhampton

Cost?
£26 for Travel & Admission

TREASURE ISLAND

Congratulations/Well Done

Headteacher Commendations

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

Jospeh Cooper	Grace Merriman	Maddison-Rose Sweet	Taj Ssuubi
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