



Monthly Parent/Carer Update Sheet April 2018/May 2018

Term Dates 2018/2019

Please see attached Term Dates for 2018/2019 for your information. This information is also now available on our website. We have now added the Public Holidays but are still awaiting confirmation from the LA for when Primary Liaison Week will take place. A third and final copy of the Term Dates for 2018/2019 will be re-issued as soon as this information is available.

Forgotten Lunch Arrangements

As you know, we no longer interrupt lessons to pass on forgotten equipment and break-time snacks due to the disruption to learning this inevitably causes. If for any reason your child has forgotten to bring in their lunch it is **their responsibility** to go to Main Reception at the start of lunch to check if any lunch has been brought in for them. Please can you make sure you talk to your child about this procedure. Form Tutors have been asked to speak to pupils about this arrangement as well. If their lunch has not been brought in for them they will be issued with a lunchtime pass which parents will then have to reimburse the school for.

School Attendance

We would like to congratulate the many parents/carers who make sure their children attend school regularly. **It is parent's/carers' responsibility to ensure their children receive appropriate education. Failing to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence.** Absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Are you aware that children who do not attend regularly:

- × do not achieve well in exams;
- × find it difficult to maintain friendships;
- × are more likely to become involved in crime;
- × miss out on opportunities in further education and the world of work.

Please remember that going shopping, visiting family, truancy, not wanting to go to school, alleged bullying (speak to school immediately to resolve the issue) are not acceptable reasons to be absent. All of these will be recorded as unauthorised absence which can lead to a referral being made to Dudley Council.

Year 9 & 10 Intermediate Maths Challenge Outcome

Back in February 2018 sets V1 and V2 in Years 9 and 10 sat the Intermediate Maths Challenge. This is a voluntary nationwide secondary school contest sat by some of the best mathematicians of their age in the country. It incorporates problem solving with mathematical knowledge and logical thinking. The top 40% of students nationally receive a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate in the ratio 1:2:3 and each institution receives a Best in School certificate. This year the following Dormston students received Bronze certificates for their scores:

Mahmoud Ali 10SY, Callum Hodges 10AX, Aaliyah Mohammed 10DX, Robert Stones 9AY - best in year award, Kirree Tannahill 9DY, Joshua Fellows 9TY and Anita Bart 9TY. Congratulations!

We also had 1 pupil who was awarded a Silver award. Well done Katie Townley 10SX!

As well as this, every year around 500 of the highest scorers in the Gold award category for each school year across the country are invited to take part in the Intermediate Mathematical Olympiad papers and we are very proud to announce that Liam Jones was one of those selected pupils. He has now sat this next stage paper and we eagerly await his results. Well done Liam!

Careers Updates

Year 11

Any students that require support with final college/apprenticeship applications or CV's can come to the Careers Office (D2) at break, lunch or after school. Please also be aware that Year 11 reports will go out to Parents/Carers on Friday 27 April 2018.

Year 10

During Assembly and PSHE sessions Year 10 students have been researching careers and looking at Post 16 options. A copy of the pathways available to students together with Labour Market Information (LMI) can be found on the school website.

GCSE Resistant Materials students will be going on a work place visit to Boss Design, Dudley. They will have experience of all departments from the design department, the shop floor, to transport of final products. This should be an exciting insight into many career pathways in a real working environment.

Year 9 - GCSE Option Process

Students have now submitted their GCSE option choices and Mr Grundy will confirm student allocations next term. Copies of the handouts distributed at Year 9 Options and Parents' Consultation Evenings are available on the school website.

Mrs Bradnick and Mrs Dawes are available in the Careers Office (D2) to offer any careers related assistance/guidance/advice.

Year 7 & 8 STEM Club....is back!

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths are key skills that all pupils should develop. If your child enjoys explosions, dissecting organs and exploring the unknown why not chat to them about joining STEM Club, this will take place every Wednesday, Week 1, 3.00pm - 4.00pm. Activities taking place this half term include; eye dissections, exploding bubbles, screaming jelly babies and much more. Everyone is welcome. Please ask your child to speak to Mr Cox if they are interested.

Year 11 Pupils - Science Revision Reminder

All Year 11 pupils are expected to attend Science revision on Thursday Week 1 from 3.00pm - 4.15pm. This is to ensure all pupils are given access to revision resources that cover the new exam specification in preparation for the first exams in May 2018. Some staff have also put on additional extra sessions to support with revision of key topics, and pupils will know if they have been asked to attend. It is clear from evidence that pupils who attend these sessions perform better in the final exam, and achieve better grades overall. If for any reason your child cannot attend one of the sessions, please inform the teacher so pupils can be made aware of the content covered. Your support with these matters is greatly appreciated.

Safeguarding

Dormston School takes the safeguarding and welfare of all pupils very seriously. If you have any concerns regarding the safety of pupils at this school please report them to either Mr Dixon, Mrs Elliott or Miss Smith. Further information and guidance for parents/carers on safeguarding issues can also be found on the school website.

Medical Appointments *REMINDER

The school will not authorise medical or dental appointments unless they are supported by a doctor's/dentist's letter (a copy is acceptable) or an appointment slip or card clearly stating the appointment date and time. When a pupil needs to leave school for a medical or dental appointment, the parent/carer or child must show a letter/appointment slip/card to the Office when they sign out, or when they sign in after attending the appointment, or the absence will not be authorised. **Pupils should only leave school for appointments if they are collected by a parent/carer. Pupils can only leave school alone for appointments if there are extenuating circumstances discussed and agreed with the school prior to the appointment.** GP/Dental surgeries can issue appointment slips. When a pupil arrives late to school after a medical or dental appointment, a parent/carer or child must show their letter/appointment slip/card to the Office when they sign in otherwise the absence will not be authorised.

Year 7 & 8 Junior Maths Challenge - Thursday 26 April 2018

On Thursday 26 April 2018 sets X1 and Y1 in Year 7 and sets V1 and V2 in Year 8 will be participating in a nationwide Mathematics event. The Junior Maths Challenge is a voluntary secondary school contest sat by some of the best mathematicians of this age group in the country. It tests mathematical knowledge and logical thinking in the form of 25 multiple-choice questions. Only the top 40% of pupils who sit this test will be awarded a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate for their scores. Last year, we managed to get 15 Bronze awards and 4 Silver as well as 1 pupil gaining

a Gold award and therefore making it through to the next round of the competition. This year we are hoping to build upon that success and increase this number. We wish all participants good luck and look forward to seeing their results.

Year 8 Girls HPV Injection (Dose 2) - Friday 27 April 2018

Year 8 Girls HPV Injections (Dose 2) is taking place on Friday 27 April 2018. Consent forms are NOT needed as they have already been completed.

Election Day - Thursday 3 May 2018 *SCHOOL NOW OPEN TO PUPILS AS NORMAL

We have made arrangements with the LA for Dormston School to no longer be used as a Polling Station to avoid interfering with pupil's learning. Therefore, on Thursday 3 May 2018 the school will be open to pupils as normal.

Year 11 Prom - Friday 4 May 2018

This year the Prom will be taking place at Grand Station, Sun Street, Wolverhampton WV10 0BF on Friday 4 May 2018. Arrival for the event will be 6.30pm - 7.00pm. The Prom will finish at 11.30pm so please ensure suitable arrangements have been made for your child to get home. The cost per ticket is £28.00 and all payments need to be received by Friday 13 April 2018. Payments for the prom can be made online using the ParentPay site. If you require activation information for your ParentPay account please contact the school. If you do not have access to a computer or wish to pay cash please contact the school to request a barcoded letter which can be taken, along with your payment, to a store displaying the PayPoint logo. On the day of the prom, normal attendance in school is expected, any child who does not attend school on the day of the prom will not be allowed to attend. **Pupils will be dismissed after a short assembly at 10.45am on this day.**

Bank Holiday - Monday 7 May 2018 *SCHOOL CLOSED

Please note that school will be closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday 7 May 2018. Pupils should return to School on Tuesday 8 May 2018. This is a Week 1 Timetable

Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening - Thursday 10 May 2018

There will be a Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening on Thursday 10 May 2018. Please encourage your child to make appointments with all their teachers so that we can update you on their progress.

Trent House Charity Day - Friday 11 May 2018

Trent House will be holding their annual Charity Day on Friday 11 May 2018. There will be top prizes up for grabs along with a whole host of exciting activities taking place across lunchtime. Pupils will be able to wear Mufti (£1.00) and we look forward to raising money for the very worthy charity, The Georgina Unit at Russells Hall.

Year 11 GCSE Exams Commence - Monday 14 May 2018

The written GCSE exams begin on Monday 14 May 2018 but there are a number of practical exams prior to this, (please see exam timetable on our website). All pupils should now have their full exam timetable and a booklet outlining the procedures for 'Public Examinations at Dormston School - Summer 2018'. This booklet should answer any queries you may have. The reply slip form must be signed and returned to Ms J McGarry. Each GCSE exam will be preceded by an additional

revision session. Again, the full schedule of this will be on the website once it is complete. If you have any further queries about your child's GCSE examinations please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Bassan on ibassan@dormston.dudley.sch.uk.

Year 11 Art Exhibition - Thursday 17 May 2018

On Thursday 17 May 2018 our Art and Photography pupils will be taking part in an exhibition of their work. We are delighted to take this opportunity to invite parents, carers, friends and family and other pupils who are interested in art and photography to this event.

The exhibition will take place on the gallery at 6.00pm until 7.00pm. All pupils who are exhibiting will be standing by the exhibits, available for questions about their work. A reply slip has been provided to confirm the exhibiting pupils' attendance and the number of accompanying visitors. Please see that these are returned promptly to enable our catering and guest lists to be accurate. Many thanks and we very much look forward to celebrating this occasion with you.

Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening - Wednesday 23 May 2018

There will be a Year 10 Parents' Consultation Evening on Wednesday 23 May 2018. Please encourage your child to make appointments with all their teachers so that we can update you on their progress.

May Half Term - Monday 28 May 2018 to Friday 1 June 2018 *SCHOOL CLOSED

School will be closed for May Half Term from Monday 28 May 2018 to Friday 1 June 2018. Pupils should return to school on Monday 4 June 2018. This will be a Week 2 Timetable.