



Monthly Parent/Carer Update Sheet

May 2018/June 2018

Activity Week Payments

Just a reminder that all Activity Week payments are due by **31 May 2018**. Full information regarding Activity Week arrangements will be issued to Parents/Carers after half term.

The Morning Mile - Coming Soon!

The Morning Mile Club will run from 8.00am until 8.20am, exact days to be decided shortly. Pupils will be walking/jogging a mile with a view to improving physical and mental health, making new friends and getting some fresh air before the day starts. Pupil leadership teams will be around to take names this week.

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.

Careers Updates

Year 11

For students applying for an apprenticeship, we have a further 'drop-in' session on 17 May 2018 at 1.00pm in A10. Juniper Training (a local training provider) will be attendance to offer support and guidance.

Year 10

Our independent careers advisor (YETI) will be in school during May and June providing 1:1 advice for Year 10 students on Post 16 options.

We will be holding a Careers Day Tuesday on 26 June 2018. All Year 10 students will be involved in workshops including CV/Personal Statement writing, employability/interview skills and team building activities.

All Years

Please see our website (Careers Education Section) for useful information on 'Future Jobs Market & Labour Market Information'.

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 Ms L 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 11 GCSE Exams Commence - WC Monday 14 May 2018

The written GCSE exams began on Monday 14 May 2018 but there were 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 Mrs J McGarry if you have not already done so. Each GCSE exam will be preceded by an additional revision session. Again, the full schedule of these will be on the website. 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 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.

Tie Reward Evening - Wednesday 6 June 2018

The next Tie Reward Evening will be held on Wednesday 6 June 2018. This is an evening of celebration for pupils who have earned house points through effort, attendance and extra-curricular activities, which has resulted in them being awarded their next tie. We very much look forward to seeing our successful pupils on the evening, they will shortly be receiving an invitation.

Pupil Leadership Tie Award Evening - Thursday 21 June 2018

The new House Leadership Team for 2018/2019 will shortly be receiving their invitations to the Tie Award ceremony, which takes place on Thursday 21 June 2018 in the Theatre. Details of the time and further information will follow shortly. This is a very special evening where ties will be presented to pupils along with their badge and we look forward to meeting pupils and parents during the evening.

Oscar Awards Evening - Thursday 28 June 2018 at 7.00pm

We will be holding our annual Oscar Awards Evening on Thursday 28 June 2018 at 7.00pm. As usual, gold envelope invitations will be brought into lessons by members of the Senior Leadership Team as the excitement starts to build. The event is packed with entertainment, prizes and awards and promises to be a great evening. This awards evening is all about celebrating the success and hard work of some of our brightest and best pupils in Years 7 - 10 whilst also being broad enough to encompass pupils who have triumphed over adversity, shown improvement and commitment to the subject! Unfortunately, due to seating restrictions not all pupils can receive an invitation. Please reassure your child that if they do not get invited to this event it is not because we do not recognise their hard work and effort. There are only 7 awards per subject and Heads of Department spend a great deal of time deciding on the nominations within their subject.

INSET Day - Friday 29 June 2018 *SCHOOL CLOSED

Please note that school will be closed for INSET in Friday 29 June 2018. Pupils should return to school on Monday 2 July 2018. Pupils return to a Week 2 Timetable.