

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Head Teacher

I hope you have had a good week and this newsletter finds you safe and well.

As I mentioned last week the Government have now issued guidance for all schools detailing the re-opening to all students in September. The guidance really boils down to "schools need to make this work in ways that suit them. Head Teachers and senior teams can put in place models they think work for the school". Next week you will receive more information which will provide you with detailed guidance about what to expect at Dormston from September. Just to give you some advance warning this will include some big temporary changes including times of the day, staggered starts and finishes, zoning of the school for year groups, staggered lunches and breaks and new classroom layout. When we issue these details next week please do try and read them carefully so that you are fully informed before the school re-opens. Nobody knows how long this will go on for but let's hope we can return to some kind of normal very soon.

As I have informed you in previous correspondence we have been busy in school, taking advantage of the quiet period to brighten up some of our corridors and learning spaces. Our very talented art department have produced their own mural in C block and I thought you might like a sneak preview before the students return:



Just a reminder that school opens to Year 7 only on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 and then opens to students from all Year groups on Thursday 3rd September 2020. Start and finish times will be sent out next week in the letter mentioned earlier.

Have a great week.

Head Teacher

Emails/Letters Sent Out Recently

ALL letters are now emailed home, hard copies are ONLY provided for 'Reply Slip' Letters. *Selected student only letters are given out to your child by hand or are posted directly home. The criterion for 'selected student only' opportunities are based on various factors depending on the trip and its focus. Unfortunately, we are unable to allow every student the opportunity to be involved with every activity which we understand sometimes causes disappointment. If you require more details about the selection process for any opportunity please contact the event organiser.

- HoH Keeping in Touch Email to Students (includes Weekly PowerPoint) - Monday 6 July 2020;
- Head Teacher's Blog - Friday 7 July 2020;
- July Monthly Update Sheet.

General Updates

Refund Update

We are pleased to confirm that we have now processed refunds for the following cancelled trips - Berlin History Trip and the remaining deposit balances for Disneyland Paris. If you paid for any of these trips via ParentPay can you please log on to check your account. Thank you for your patience whilst we have been working through the refund process.

Year 11 Hoodie Update

The payment deadline for Leavers Hoodies is Tuesday 14 July 2020 and needs to be paid via ParentPay. If you require a bar-coded letter please email Nina Bradnick or call the school office.

Important change to Dinner Money Payments

As you will be aware from September 2020 we will be moving to a completely cashless system within school for the canteen. This will mean that any students who wish to pay for school dinners will need to already have the money allocated to their account. **Students will NOT be able to "top up" their accounts at school.** We have recently distributed letters to Parents/Carers whose accounts are showing as not being activated. **To help ensure that payment arrangements are in place and that sufficient dinner money funds are in place for the start of the new academic year can you please ensure that you have activated your account before Friday 17th July 2020.** If you unable to register account please email churst@dormston.dudley.sch.uk as soon as possible.