

## Parental Communication & Engagement



### Message from Head Teacher

I have been meeting with the Student Councils this week. Their professionalism, eloquence and vision for the school was outstanding. So many great ideas were put forward with confidence and it has really given us food for thought. Amongst many ideas, they have suggested more seating areas, recycling of paper and plastic across the school, the possibility of putting bike sheds on site and ideas for the school dining facilities.

On Wednesday night I was honoured to be invited to Book Club. A group of Year 7 & 8 pupils were discussing with enthusiasm the books they had been reading ready for the Teen Book Awards. Their love of reading was fantastic and we would like to encourage this passion across the school. They were also full of questions about my favourite books and what I read as a teenager.

Our annual Variety Show takes place on Thursday 20 December and both students and staff have been rehearsing their acts in preparation. It promises to be a great day in school. As I am sure you are aware it is also our Warm Jumper/Christmas Jumper day. We can't wait to see the festive attire.

This will be the last newsletter before we finish for the Christmas break. Can I remind you that school will finish at 12.00pm on Friday 21 December 2018 when pupils will be dismissed after a short Christmas Assembly. I would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and I look forward to giving you more insight into life at Dormston in 2019.

**Head Teacher**

### Letters Sent Out Recently Available on our Website

- All Year 11 Parent/Carer - College Application Letter *\*not on website as personalised;*
- 'Express' T-Shirt Letter *\*not on website;*
- Monthly Parent/Carer Update Sheet - December 2018/January 2019;
- Year 9 Parent/Carer Letter - Halesowen Taster Day - 10 January 2019;
- Year 7 Parent/Carer Letter - RAF Cosford Visit - 10 January 2019.

## Events/Trips

### EVENTS

- Year 11 National Citizen Service Sign Up - Monday 17 December 2018 at Lunchtime;
- Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Variety Show - Thursday 20 December 2018;
- Christmas Break Up Day - Friday 21 December 2018 at 12.00pm \*EARLY FINISH.

### TRIPS

- Year 10 Tartuffe Visit to Royal Shakespeare Theatre - Wednesday 19 December 2018. The trip departs at 3.15pm and returns approximately 11.30pm. *\*Selected pupils only*

## General Reminders/Updates

### Parent Communication & Engagement

Following last week's update, please find below some more information with regards to our efforts to improve parental communication and engagement.

- **COMING SOON.... KS3 Quick Note System - Keeping you informed of how things are going!**  
One of the things that was apparent from both taking to our Parents' Committee and from our Parent/Carer Communication Survey was that you would like more regular feedback on how your child is doing in terms of their hard work and attitude to learning. This is especially felt by parents/carers in KS3 when they are making the transition from Primary to Secondary. We are therefore trialling the introduction of a **NEW KS3 Quick Note System** starting from January 2019. It just literally gives you the heads up that your child has performed well in a certain subject on a particular day. They will be issued with Subject Quick Note Card that they can bring home and show you. A Quick Note GroupCall message will also be sent to you letting you know that they have worked hard that day in a particular subject. Although we recognise this is only a small thing, it will hopefully help keep you more informed of how they are getting on in their subjects on a day to day basis.

## Sporting Results

### RESULTS

Year 9 Basketball - Away - Beacon Hill - Cancelled.

The Year 11 Boys Basketball Team hosted Beacon Hill last week, Beacon Hill left with a win of 27-13. However, a massive shout out to Zack Dodd, the wonder sub.....30 seconds on and he scores his first basket in five years..... needless to say the team went wild 😊.

### FORTHCOMING MATCHES/EVENTS

#### Basketball Fixtures

Monday 17 December 2018 - **Year 9 - Away** - Bishop Milner

Tuesday 18 December 2018 - **Year 11 - Away** - Bishop Milner

Thursday 20 December 2018 - **Year 11 - Home** - Summerhill

**Brierley Hill & Dudley Schools - Year 7 Boys & Girls - 5 a-side Football Tournament**

The tournament got under way at Dormston on Wednesday 5 December 2018, Ellowes Hall and Wordsley School boys and girls made it through to the finals day on Wednesday 19 December 2018.

**Ski Hoodies**

Every Ski Trip carried out by school has a limited edition ski hoodie designed, these are available to purchase for the trip next year. The design is displayed on the PE Notice board and letters are available to collect from Mr Bell in the PE Office with the relevant details and costing.

**SKI TRIP REMINDER**

There will be regular meetings during school time for pupils attending the Ski Trip from now until they leave for their adventures on the slopes. Times and dates will be put up on the PE Notice Board (outside the PE Office) please get your child to check as these meetings are important and it is vital that they attend.

**Thank You & Well Done**

Well done to the following pupils who have recently received Head Teacher Commendations.

Gabbie Wyldbore	Evelyn Newey	Rosie Sutton	
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