

Parental Communication & Engagement



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Message from Head Teacher

On Monday all of our students experienced PSHE lessons during Periods 3 & 4 and responded exceptionally well to the themes. Our 'virtual' Open Evening also took place this week! It was very sad on the evening not to have the usual anticipation and excitement that accompanies this very special evening. All information however can be found on our website under 'Open Evening 2020' which we hope you will find useful.

With the rising numbers of COVID-19 cases nationally it is now more important than ever that students are following our requirements for wearing face masks. A number of students are saying that they simply do not have a mask on them. **Can we urge parents/carers to make sure they provide their child with a face mask every day without fail. If you are not able to do this for any reason please can you contact the school office immediately to discuss this.**

The DfE have introduced a new 'exclusion code' for breaching COVID-19 protective measures '*Wilful and repeated transgression of protective measures in place to protect public health*'. I need to inform you that if we need to exclude for this reason we will. Currently, there have been an exceptionally low number of confirmed cases amongst staff and students at Dormston School and if we all follow the guidelines we can be assured that we are studying and working in a safe place. We genuinely need your support to help us protect each other so please do ensure that you are providing your child with a mask for school. All exempt students will be given a purple badge to wear so they are easily identifiable and will remain unchallenged.

Head Teacher

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.

- All Parents/Carers Fortnightly Safeguarding Notice - 'Online Content' - October 2020;
- Year 11 Parents/Carers Careers Update Letter - October 2020;
- Year 11 Parents/Carers MFL Revision Guides Letter - October 2020;
- Year 11 Parents/Carers Chemistry & Physics Revision Session Letter - October 2020; **Interested students only*;
- Year 10 Parents/Carers Fine Art Resources Letter - October 2020;
- Year 7 Parents/Carers GO 4 Schools Registration Letter - October 2020.

Events

- Year 11 Post 16 Virtual Evening - Tuesday 20 October 2020;

- Year 7 Parent/Carer & Tutor Evening - Thursday 22 October 2020 **Selected parents/carers only.*

General Reminders/Update

- Don't forget that we break up for October Half Term on Friday 23 October 2020. Students should return to school on Monday 2 November 2020 to a Week 1 Timetable.
- There has been a Safeguarding alert recently so please remember to talk to your child about stranger danger. There has also been reports in the news recently about sweets containing cannabis. We advise all parents/carers to be vigilant.
- Thank you to all our parents/carers, students and staff for their support in raising awareness of mental health and the importance of talking. During our awareness raising week we raised an amazing **£374.06** for the Charity Young Minds.

PLC Summer Reading Challenge

Thank you and very well done to all students who took part in this year's PLC Summer Reading Challenge. All participants will receive House Points for their fabulous efforts for reading and completing a summer reading log, for writing a book review....or for doing both!

Congratulations to the 5 very worthy winners of the Book Review competition, who have each received a Waterstones Book Voucher prize.

- **Pierce-Vaun Jagdev;**
- **Lola Bennett;**
- **Zainah Zeeshan;**
- **Nimue Jones;**
- **Lily Marsh.**

Quiz Time!

We hope our Year 7's enjoyed their summer reading book. From Monday 19 October 2020 a fun quiz on both books will be available on GO 4 Schools/English Homework. Students should select the quiz for the book they read (either The Vanishing Trick or The Strangeworld's Travel Agency.)

The quiz will be available until Friday 13 November 2020 and there will be a prize for the winner. In the event of a tie, all correct entries will go 'into the hat' and the winner picked at random.

A special mention of thanks and appreciation goes to **Eleanor Forbes-Ritte – 10AX** who, during the summer break, read both books and compiled the quizzes for our new students to enjoy. We hope therefore that there will be a great uptake and that parents/carers will encourage their child to take part.

Keeping Music alive in Dudley - DPA direct music tuition

All young people attending school/college in Dudley (or living in the borough) can enrol for music lessons with Dudley Performing Arts at just £8 for a 20 minute individual lesson. The lessons will either be at school,

at our new base at Resonance (Waterfront Merry Hill) or online. The offer is available between **November 2nd - December 18th 2020** and there will be options to let you carry on into January. You can find out everything you need to know including how to enrol at our [website](#) and we recommend that you enrol as soon as possible to guarantee that lessons can start after the half term break. Certain instruments are provided free of charge and you can find out more information including how to enrol at the [website](#). NB – students who are already enrolled for online lessons will be contacted by DPA about continuing.

We are able to accommodate lessons here at Dormston school and hope that all students who were learning before lockdown will be able to continue along with anyone who would like to start learning.

Congratulations & Well Done

Congratulations to the following students who recently received Head Teacher Commendations.

Max Pearce - 10SX	Joe Gowen - 10AY		
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