



## Monthly Parent Update Sheet July 2016/September 2016

### 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.

### House Email System

In order to improve parental communication, we now also have the option of House email accounts so that you can send emails regarding any queries you may have. We aim to respond to all emails within 48 hours. Email addresses are as follows:

[avon@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:avon@dormston.dudley.sch.uk)

[derwent@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:derwent@dormston.dudley.sch.uk)

[severn@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:severn@dormston.dudley.sch.uk)

[trent@dormston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:trent@dormston.dudley.sch.uk)

### SEN News

Parents/carers of pupils on the Special Educational Needs list will receive a letter at the end of this term or the start of next term to confirm if their child is still on the list. If there are any concerns or queries about this the SENCO will be happy to talk to you. All parents of pupils with Special Educational Needs are always welcome to make an appointment to see the SENCO at any time or to ring with any concerns or queries.

### Changes to ParentPay - 'My Account'

In order to pay for school meals (and other items), after you have topped up 'My Account', remember to allocate funds as follows - click 'Pay for items', select 'Dinner money top up', or whatever item it is you wish to pay for, and then choose the 'view details and pay' button. If you would like a full copy of the ParentPay User Guide please contact Mrs Forbes-Ritte on 01384 816395.

### **Left Handed Children: A Guide for Teachers and Parents - DVD**

A short DVD entitled 'Left Handed Children: A Guide for Teachers and Parents' is available for loan from the Learning Support Department. There are some useful tips on correcting pen grip, seating position and orientation of paper, as well as some information about handwriting aids. Please contact Mrs Burns if you would like to borrow this.

### **Year 11 - Macbeth**

When your child returns to Year 11 in September they will be studying "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare. This forms part of their English Literature GCSE and is worth 20% of their overall Literature grade. It is essential that your child has a copy of the play to annotate and study. Whilst there are many editions of the play available, the English department recommend the Oxford School Shakespeare published by the Oxford University Press (ISBN number: 978-0-19-832400-3).

### **Annual Sports Day Tuesday 19 July 2016 at The Dell Stadium - Brierley Hill**

As in past years, this will take place for the whole day. Pupils will need to arrive at the venue by 9.00am and will be allowed to leave from **2.00pm** (*not 2.30pm as stated in the last Parent Update Sheet!*) Please ensure that they are aware of whatever arrangements you have made for their journey home. All pupils should attend, in school PE kit. Parents are welcome to attend but must let the school know in advance so that they can be issued with entry tickets. Limited transport from the school to the Stadium will be provided where needed but most pupils will need to make their own travel arrangements. Pupils will need to bring packed lunches, plenty of drinks, sun lotion, coats, and tracksuits suitable for the day's weather conditions.

### **Last Day of Term - Wednesday 20 July 2016 \*EARLY FINISH OF 12.30PM**

The last day of term will be on Wednesday 20 July 2016. We will be closing at 12.30pm. Pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to take a lunch away with them.

### **INSET DAY - Monday 5 September 2016 \*SCHOOL CLOSED**

School will be closed for INSET on Monday 5 September 2016. Pupils should return to school on Tuesday 6 September 2016.

### **Early Close Day - Friday 9 September 2016 \*SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12.30PM**

We will be closing early on Friday 9 September 2016. School will finish for pupils at 12.30pm. Pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to take a lunch away with them.

### **Year 7 Parents' 'Welcome to Dormston Evening - Monday 19 September 2016**

We will be holding a Year 7 Parents Welcome Meeting on Monday 19 September 2016. Further information will follow in due course.

### **Year 7 Photographs - Wednesday 21 September 2016**

Please note that Year 7 Photographs will be taken on Wednesday 21 September 2016.

### **Year 11 Post 16 Evening - Thursday 22 September 2016**

We will be holding our Year 11 Post 16 Evening on Thursday 22 September 2016. All Year 11 students are expected to attend. Further information will follow in due course.