



Monthly Parent Update Sheet

October 2015/November 2015

Twitter

Dormston is now on Twitter. Please follow our only official Twitter page @DormstonSch for all the latest news, success stories and events at the school!

STAR Lesson Videoing

As part of the innovative staff development programme that Dormston is embracing, we will, from time to time, want to video lessons. These videos will be used purely for developing the teaching skills of Dormston teachers, and will never be seen more widely. Nevertheless, if you do not wish your son or daughter to be involved in this process, could you please let the school know by e-mail or by letter.

Art Equipment for GCSE Students

Students taking Art and Design GCSE will need to complete some of their practical work at home and will require an A2 folder to transport work back and forth to school. In addition to this, it is expected that students have some art equipment at home to enable them to complete tasks. The Art department can supply good quality art materials, together with a folder at a very competitive price if students wish to purchase through the school. Letters have gone out to the relevant pupils. Please return the slip with the money as soon as possible.

Year 11 Triple Physics Controlled Assessments

All Year 11 pupils will be continuing to complete their second Controlled Assessment this term. As this contributes to 25% of their final grade, all pupils must ensure they at least achieve their target grade in this task.

SEN Information

All parents/carers of pupils with SEN: The SENCO (Mrs Francis) will be sending out a list of dates for the coming year to meet to discuss your child's progress and Special Educational Needs. You are, however, welcome to make an appointment to see the SENCO at any time or to ring with any concerns or queries.

Year 8 and Year 9: Successmaker Reading and Spelling has started again and we very much appreciate your continued support with improving your child's reading or spelling. Parents/carers of pupils taking part in Successmaker are welcome to come to a meeting on Tuesday 6 October 2015 at 3.15pm. (Queen Victoria Primary parents are welcome to come later) and we look forward to meeting you in the school's reception area.

Year 7 Parents' Consultation with Tutors - Monday 12 October 2015

We will be holding a special Year 7 Parents' Consultation with Tutors on Monday 12 October 2015. You will receive notification by letter if you and your child are invited to attend this evening.

Open Evening - Thursday 15 October 2015 *EARLY CLOSE

We will be holding our annual Open Evening for prospective Year 6 parents on Thursday 15 October 2015. To enable staff to prepare for this evening, and as many pupils will be returning to school to assist with this very important event, we will be closing at the earlier time of 1.00pm. Pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to collect a lunch before leaving school.

Derwent House Charity Day - 16 October 2015

On 16 October 2015 all students will be invited to take part in the Derwent House Charity Day 2015, the first of our charity days. All students are asked to wear mufti clothes and pay a £1 charge to be donated to the Teenage Cancer Trust, Derwent's new charity. There will also be a range of stalls and activities, such as cake sales, penalty shoot outs and guess the teddy's name, so please send your child with lots of change so they can enjoy a fun day while doing something good for a very important cause. Last year saw a pie throwing event with Mr Amos (HoH) and Mrs Downie (Deputy HoH) getting covered... let's hope they can survive whatever they do this year!

October Half Term - Monday 25 October 2015 to Friday 30 October 2015

We will be closed for October Half Term on Monday 25 October 2015 to Friday 30 October 2015. Pupils should return to school on Monday 2 November 2015 which will be a Week 1 timetable.

Drop Everything and Read - Tuesday 10 November 2015

On 10 November 2015 we will be holding a Drop Everything and Read Session. Please ensure that your child has a book to read for this session. The PLC has a wide selection of books available.

Year 10 National Skills Show Trip to the NEC - Thursday 19 November 2015

We will be taking a group of Year 10 students to this year's Skills Show. The event offers students: a range of interactive skills activities to 'try out' careers; the opportunity to speak to some of our largest employers about employment routes and apprenticeships, careers advice from a number of recognised organisations.

Year 11 GCSE Presentation Evening - Wednesday 25 November 2015

We will be holding our Year 11 GCSE Presentation Evening on Wednesday 25 November 2015. This is a very special evening where we hand out pupils' GCSE certificates and wish our Year 11 of 2015 one final goodbye. Letters to ex-pupils will be sent out shortly inviting them to this event.

Year 7 Theatre Trip - Thursday 26 November 2015

On Thursday 26 November 2015, all Year 7 students will be given the opportunity to watch the live adaptation of C.S Lewis' 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'. This trip is to take place at The Birmingham Repertory Theatre, where the students will experience the magic of a live professional performance. In the autumn and spring terms pupils will study a musical theatre-based project within the Arts for which this will form the basis. Letters will be issued shortly and should you have any questions please contact Mrs Gamble.

INSET Day - Friday 27 November & Monday 30 November 2015 *SCHOOL CLOSED

We will be closed for INSET on Friday 27 November 2015 and Monday 30 November 2015. Pupils should return to school on Tuesday 1 December 2015.