



Dormers Diary

Summer 2018

From the Headteacher...

Welcome to the final *Dormers Diary* of the academic year. This half term has been a busy one and we have a great deal of good news to report.

A success of which I am particularly proud is our most recent award from the SSAT (Schools, Students and Teachers network). It recognises the exceptional progress that our students make and I was pleased to celebrate the success with Deputy Headteachers Mr Cohen and Mr Fenlon and our Head Boy and Head Girl for 2018/19 Kaloyan Haydutov and Harshwarya Kaur (right). Our annual celebration of school-wide success – the Awards Evening – took place at the beginning of July. As ever, this was an excellent occasion that gave us the opportunity to reflect upon the numerous individual success stories that make up the fabric of everyday life at school.

The evening was just one of many highlights that have signalled the conclusion of the school year. Another was Sports Day and this year's event was a



highlight not just for the many strong performances from our very talented sportspeople, but also for the activities that went on around the events. The level of support for their peers from students was outstanding, and the profusion of banners at the event very impressive. We were also very pleased to welcome our friends from Berkeley Group and Southall Community Cohesion to talk about healthy lifestyles and present prizes.

Two other outstanding events at the end of term have been the Art Show and the Summer Spectacular. As well as being a thoroughly enjoyable social occasion, the former underlined the high quality

of the visual art students continue to produce here. The latter, meanwhile, confirmed what regular attendees at school events already know about the pool of student talent we enjoy in performing arts. It also highlighted the talent of the staff teaching them, with a brilliant performance adding a further highlight to an already excellent evening.

An event of which many parents and carers will not have been aware was our annual celebration of teachers' learning. This year's event focused on evidence-informed learning and saw staff presenting to one another the results of research they have been carrying out this year. The ideas shared during this event will inform teaching practice next year, further improving the educational experience we provide.

My thanks go to the staff, parents and school governors whose hard work and support make all this happen. I wish you all an enjoyable Summer break, and look forward to both the exam results days in August and welcoming students back in September.

Róisín Walsh
Headteacher

Awards Evening recognises student excellence

Thursday 5 July saw Dormers Wells celebrating the outstanding contributions and achievements of its students during the past 12 months at the 2018 Awards Evening.

The guest speaker was Dr Nira Chamberlain, Vice President of the Institute of Mathematics and its Application, the largest professional mathematical society in the UK. He encouraged students to follow their dreams and described the writing of mathematical modelling algorithms to solve complex industrial problems in a variety of settings, including Formula One.

One-hundred-and-ninety students were presented with awards in recognition of their academic excellence and endeavour. The Headteacher's Award was presented to Priyanshu Grover (pictured centre, between Dr Chamberlain and Ms Walsh).



Artwork of the half-term

Our final Artwork of the half-term of the 2017–18 academic year is a self-portrait in the style of Vincent Van Gogh by Jesan Ahmed. Jesan has included imagery of some of his favourite things and brand logos to reveal more about his character.



MP visits Brilliant Club

Brilliant Club graduates from this and the previous academic year welcomed local MP Virendra Sharma and Brilliant Club Teaching and Learning Director David Jones to school on Friday 8 June for a graduation event. Mr Sharma spoke to them about their projects, asking questions about their work.



DWHS spells success



July saw five Year 7 students representing Dormers Wells in **Greenford High School's Eighth Annual KS3 Spelling Bee**. They competed against other schools from across Ealing in a number of rounds. In a very intense and competitive environment, the students showed excellent teamwork and great poise, achieving fourth place in the competition. Congratulations to Sneha, Rupinder, Renee, Mahmoud and Jeevan (above).

As part of Dormers Wells' celebrations for **National Writing Day 2018** at the end of June, Key Stage 3 students participated in a free-writing call-to-action called *Write Away!* This was a seven-minute writing exercise starting with the line 'I feel most free when...'. The students composed some imaginative creative writing, and the best writing was published on our twitter account @DWHS_English.

Six Year 9 students tested their debating skills in a multi-borough heat of the **English Speaking Union's Debate Challenge** in May. Despite giving confident, articulate and engaging presentations, the students were unsuccessful in their bid to reach the final.

Remember!

Once images are online, you've lost ownership. Anyone can copy and save them!

Diary dates

Thursday 16 August: A Level results day

Thursday 23 August: GCSE results day

Tuesday 4 September: School resumes for Years 7, 10, 12 and 13

Wednesday 5 September: School resumes for all other year groups

Thursday 13 September: Focus Evening for Years 7, 11 and 12

Tuesday 25 September: Year 6 Open Evening

Friday 19 October: Occasional Day

Monday 22 to Friday 26 October: Half term holiday

Cricket, rounders and athletics success

The **Year 8 Boys' cricket team** (right, top) won their final against Greenford. Greenford scored 69 runs for six wickets. Dormers Wells replied with a score of 70 for three wickets in the tenth over of fifteen. Gurpreet Singh and Zion Alfred scored 17 runs each, with Zion also taking two wickets.

The **Year 10 boys also emerged as league winners**, defeating William Perkins to take victory. Dormers Wells scored 107 runs for three wickets and bowled their opponents out for 57. Zaki scored 45 runs and took four wickets.

Year 8 Rounders players (right, middle) competed in the borough tournament at Ellen Wilkinson School at the start of June. Competing as A and B teams, the girls acquitted themselves well, despite playing five matches back-to-back in the heat and, in many cases, playing during their fast. The A team did particularly well, achieving a third-placed finish with victories against William Perkins, Villiers, Ellen Wilkinson and Drayton Manor, before losing to Twyford in the semi finals.



The **Year 7 Rounders** Team came joint second in their tournament at the start of July, defeating William Perkins and Brentside, drawing with Drayton Manor and losing to Twyford. The performances were marked by strong teamwork, Sufia's excellent shot placement to score many rounders and Raiyann's consistent bowling.

Fourteen students (left, bottom) competed in the **Year 7 and 8 borough athletics championships** at Perivale at the end of June. They performed well with four qualifying for the finals of their events and two managing top three finishes. The finalists were in the sprint events; Year 7 Abdurrahmen in the 100m, Year 8 Nutaylah in the 100m, Year 7 Aalessha in the 200m and Year 7 Dev in the 200m. Year 7 Hanifah came third in the javelin, while fellow Year 7 Hamzah was runner up in the 1500m.

The penultimate week of term saw students competing in **Dormers Wells' sports days**. The winning form groups in each year were: 7PD, 8AK, 9PI and 10HS.

Experiencing university life

Nine Year 12 students were at the University of Reading this half term as participants on the institution's **Scholars Programme** (right). They enjoyed lessons in subjects including Biology, Chemistry and English Literature, staying in the halls of residence, and using the specialist equipment available in a university setting.



The group report that it was an excellent experience and recommend it to next year's Year 12s.

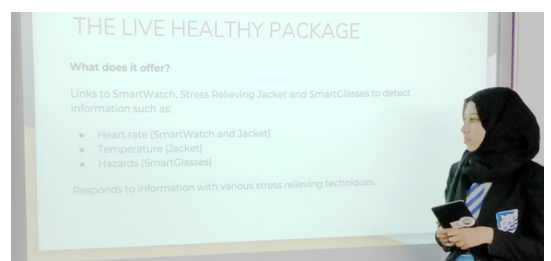
Five Year 11 students – Soruban Vigneswaran, Amarvir Chana, Harpreet Katar, Tanmeet Gabba and Tejdeep Aulakh – enjoyed a week at the **London School of Economics' Summer School** at the beginning of July. They participated in a range of subject-focused classes, workshops, lectures and group discussions, met academics and got advice about applying for university.

Year 7, 8 and 9 students have also been learning more about the opportunities university can offer and how to apply, thanks to a **visit by two undergraduate students from the University of Oxford** at the end of June. The visitors gave a presentation on how the college system works at Oxford, their own experiences studying there, and how to apply effectively, before taking questions from Dormers students.

Students show scientific spirit

Dormers Wells Computer Science students hosted peers from Featherstone and Twyford schools for a **Women in Technology workshop** (below) in July. They worked in teams to create a technological solution to help improve mental health and well-being. The event welcomed two industry professionals – an aeronautical engineer and a director from a software house – who discussed the role of women in industry, and how to access careers in IT.

Twenty Year 10 students visited a **Royal Society exhibition** in July. It featured 22 exhibits spanning scientific domains including astronomy, biology, coding, materials science and quantum physics. It was very interesting and thoroughly enjoyed by students.



News in brief

Dormers Wells welcomed students who will be joining us in Year 7 in September at the end of June for their **induction day**. The day was supported by students from Years 7 and 9 as well as the Year 12 Headteacher's Ambassadors.

Seventy Year 9 students enjoyed their **residential activity trip** in the New Forest at the end of June. They enjoyed great weather as they participated in challenging team-building and problem-solving activities to help prepare them for Key Stage 4.

A group of 12 Year 8 students has also been testing itself against the elements, with a **trip to Ullswater** in the Lake District. They enjoyed activities including hiking, canoeing and cliff jumping.

Dormers Wells students appeared in the borough-wide **Ealing 2 Broadway** event at the ECC theatre on 4 July. Students performed songs from *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, before joining with peers from other schools to sing numbers from *Hairspray* and *Les Miserables*. Year 7 student Japji Mathary was chosen to sing 'I dreamed a dream' from *Les Miserables* as a solo in the finale of the performance.

Forty students performed at the Dormers Wells **Summer Spectacular** event on 10 July. The event featured dance, drama and music.

This half term saw both the **Year 11 and Year 13 prom events** take place. The Year 11 event (above) was on Thursday 28 June, with the Year 13 event a week later.

The **Head Boy, Head Girl and Headteacher's Ambassadors** for 2018/19 have been selected. The Head



Boy will be Kaloyan Haydutov and the Head Girl will be Harshwarya Kaur. Kaloyan is studying Biology, Computer Science and Maths and hopes to read Computer Science at University, while Harshwarya is reading English Literature, Sociology and Psychology and wishes to read Law.

Twenty-three Key Stage 4 students successfully completed their **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Awards** by undertaking their assessed expedition (below) this half term.

Year 8 students were visited by **Holocaust survivor Hannah Lewis** in July. She shared with them her testimony of the events of the

Holocaust, which they have been studying in their History lessons this half term.

Fortius were crowned **house champions** for the 2017/18 academic year. They triumphed with a total of 18,885 house points. Laurus, who finished second, were 700 points behind them, with Citius in third place. Students from Fortius attended the Rock Assembly at Wembley Arena on 12 July as their prize.

Dormers Wells' annual summer **'Ready Steady Cook Bake-off'** took place on Thursday 21 June. This year's theme was Tennis and Wimbledon. Each house entered a team and was challenged to bake with a set list of ingredients (above, left) and to produce a publicity poster. Performance was judged according to criteria including adherence to the theme, presentation, team work and profit generated. Invictus was declared the winning house, raising £59.45 of the £257.87 total profit.

