# EDormers Diary



#### From the Headteacher

Our penultimate edition of Dormers Diary this academic year promises to be yet another packed one, reflecting an extremely exciting and eventful term.

We are now very firmly in the midst of exams season, with our senior students having already sat some of their exams and they will sit the remainder after the half term break. I am delighted to announce that once again this year we are offering our Year 11s a free breakfast on the mornings of their exams. We will be encouraging our students to avail of this offer as the link between nutrition and enhanced learning ability is well established.

This half-term I was lucky enough to attend the highly anticipated annual Art Exhibition, where the best artwork of the year was displayed by the art department. Students, staff, and families filled the long gallery, admiring the creativity and talent of the art students. The artists shared their techniques and inspirations, making it a delightful and insightful event for all attendees. It was a fantastic showcase of the impressive artistic abilities within our school community.

The performing arts at DWHS continues to grow and it was wonderful to watch our student perform on stage at the Andrew Lloyd Webber concert at the iconic Roundhouse in Camden.

Congratulations to our Year 7 students for their nomination to perform in a full orchestra and choir alongside other MiSST students.

This term, over 25 new clubs are available, including junior and senior cricket, sculpting, crochet, and table tennis. It was wonderful to hear about the high participation rates and last week I visited the Cupcake Competition where I found Year 7 decorating cupcakes which looked divine. We certainly have some budding chefs in our midst! In other news, congratulations to Year 12 students Fatama, Mohammad, Rahul, and Amit for presenting at the

GreenSTEM Challenge at the Natural History Museum. They explored biofuels, bio-based plastics, land usage, biodiversity, and zoonosis, with Mohammad receiving a commendation for his essay. Read about it in the stories below.

Meanwhile, all that remains for me is to wish you all a peaceful and restful half term break.

Ms Walsh Headteacher

#### From the Governors

My name is Jane Jones and I had the privilege of working as a class teacher, phase lead and SendCo at Dormers Wells Infant and Junior school over the last 27 years. My previous career was as a nurse caring for patients with spinal injuries, followed by caring for children with rheumatoid arthritis and other orthopaedic conditions.

I would love to continue to support the school and the area I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of.

During my career I have observed the impact of the holistic approach to children's education that Dormers Wells provide for their pupils and am passionate about providing the very best for our children, not only in their educational experiences, but their mental well-being and their resilience to navigate the transition to adulthood and

independence in an increasingly complex and challenging world.

Every child has the right to be the best they can be and feel successful in life, I truly believe that I have a role in the promotion, direction, and oversight of high standards of teaching and learning, pupil achievement and progression through effective inclusion for pupils with special educational needs.

I am keen to contribute to the ongoing development of the school and am eager to complete any training that would help ensure my participation as an effective governor at the school. I believe my professional background and interests place me in a strong position to make a difference as a thoughtful, engaged and active Governor.

# From the Head Boy and Head Girl

It has been a very eventful term at Dormers. We were all dazzled by the amazing art exhibition put together by the art department. There was a great display of paintings and photography put together by students from different years. All year 10 students also participated in mock interviews to build essential skills for life after DWHS. There was a wide variety of employers, ranging from British Airways to local charities all providing great feedback to students. We also had students who participated in the GreenSTEM challenge present their work at the Natural History Museum, where Mohammad Bilal received an award for his individual essay. They collaborated on an essay and made a subsequent presentation on using science to combat climate change. Finally, we would like to wish the Year 11s and 13s the best of luck with their GCSE and A level exams. During this time, we would like to emphasise taking care of your physical and mental wellbeing.

#### **Art Exhibition**



Have a great and well-deserved half term holiday!

This half term saw the return of our much anticipated annual Art Exhibition, where the art department showcased all of its best pieces throughout the year. Students, staff members and families packed themselves in the long gallery to see the talent of our art students. The artists spent the afternoon sharing their techniques and tricks behind creating their artistic pieces, as well as discussing what inspired them to create the piece. It's fantastic to see how many talented students we have in our school.



# **Mock Interviews**

Students in Year 10 had the fantastic opportunity to take part in workshops run by Spark and volunteers from top companies. Year 10 had classes on with interview techniques and tips.

The following week students participated in mock interviews, where they were interviewed by volunteers from Hawk Training, GSK, Frame store, Accenture, Hill Group UK, Janus Henderson Group PLC, Credit Sights, SUEZ, Mace, The National Archives, UK, Pfizer, University of West London, Volker Fitzpatrick Ltd, Trees for Cities, S&P Global, AWE, IBM, Glencar, Barclay Simpson and Orion Publishing Group.

Year 10 loved the opportunity to refine their skills and gain valuable knowledge from experienced individuals in different industries.



#### **Clubs and Enrichment**

This term has seen the start of some new clubs that you can get involved in at break, lunch or afterschool. You can now play junior or senior cricket after school as well as sculpting, crochet at lunch and table tennis at break, amongst many other options. There are over 25 clubs to choose from and something to suit everyone. You can see the full list below or on our website. Join one today!



# **Green STEM Challenge**

Well done to Year 12 students, Fatama, Mohammad, Rahul, and Amit, who attended the GreenSTEM challenge and presented at the Natural History Museum. The GreenSTEM Challenge is a programme for year 12 students that is designed to explore solutions to real-world STEM issues relating to climate change, health, biodiversity, and natural resources. Our students were involved in presentations relating to biofuels and bio-based plastics (Fatama), changes in land usage and the effect on biodiversity (Mohammad and Amit) and zoonosis and emerging infectious diseases (Rahul). Mohammad was additionally awarded a commendation for his individual essay.



#### **Upcoming Dates**

27-31st May May half term

3rd June Back to school

House form competition week

**10th June** Year 6 visits begin

**28th June** Year 6 Induction Day

**4th July** Awards Evening

**9th July** Careers conference

11th-12th July Enrichment Days

16th-17th July Sports Day

**19th July** Last Day of school

# **REMEBER**

If you receive nasty, rude or bullying messages, SAVE them as evidence. Show a responsible adult who will help you get it stopped. It is often possible to track down WHO it is.

#### **MiSST Annual Concert**

A huge congratulations to our Year 7 students, who were nominated to perform in the prestigious Music in Secondary School Trust Annual Concert at the iconic Roundhouse in Camden. They performed in a full orchestra and choir, with other MiSST students and did a fabulous job!



#### **Art of the month**

This is Aamna's work from 9DH. The Year 9 students have been exploring the work of Franz Xaver Messerschmidt who created a series of drawings and sculptures that tried to display every single human facial expression. Aamna has done a great job expressing sadness and has really shown what the facial muscles do when sad. These will be fired in the kiln and then painted in colours that express the emotions the sculptures show.



# **Character values in action**

Wisdom and service: In a spirit of giving back, five Year 10 students are launching a coding club to equip Year 5 students from Dormers Wells Junior school with valuable HTML skills for web development, well done Maliha, Neenithy, Hetvi, Antoinette and Fahim! Another year 10 student impressing is Cathleen who shows service in lessons. Ms Blakeborough says she, "always helps to tidy the room after every lesson. Always helps her partner to learn. Contributes to class discussions to help the class learn. New to the school and settled in perfectly." Well done Cathleen! In Economics Mr Sadhra would like to congratulate Rajvinder and Asiya for their determination and wisdom. Well done to everyone embodying our values every day!









# **Coping with exam stress**

#### **TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF**

- Eat healthily
- Keep to a sleep schedule
- Go outside
- Take breaks

#### **SET UP A TIMETABLE**

Setting up a timetable can make you feel more in control. Talk to your teachers, other adults or a ChildLine counsellor to help you if you are finding this difficult.

#### **LET THE STRESS OUT**

Everyone gets stressed sometimes, but when it gets too much it can make it hard to concentrate.

You could

- Use the ChildLine Calm Zone to find ways to relax
- Get creative with art or music
- Share how you are feeling with someone you trust

#### **SHARE HOW YOU FEEL**

You are not alone in how you feel and sharing how you feel can help you cope and relieve the stress.

There are lots of people you can talk to.

- Parents, carers or family
- Friends and peers at school
- Teachers and other adults you trust
- A ChildLine counsellor

Go to childline.org.uk website for more information

# **Cultural Days**

Our students have had the best time celebrating Cultural Day. This term saw students wearing their cultural clothing from all over the world and each year group had an allocated day to come in representing their countries. It's fantastic to see so much diversity across the school and the sense of community the diversity days bring. Students were able to raise money for prom whilst coming in in their cultural clothing.

