

DORMERS DIARY



FROM THE HEADTEACHER

This half term has been one of celebration, creativity, and achievement across our school community. Our students continue to make us proud — from the outstanding GCSE and A Level results that have seen many progress to top universities, to our Year 7s who have made an exceptional start to their Dormers journey.

Dormers Wells witnessed two days of celebrations in August with students achieving the school's outstanding results in both GCSE and A Level examinations. The hard work of Year 13 students was rewarded with excellent results across the board. 74% of A Levels were achieved at grades A* to C, with 44% of grades A* to B and 18% either A* or A. Results in vocational subjects were also strong, with every student taking a BTEC course gaining three substantial qualifications. Those results have secured students places at several Russell Group and other leading universities including Cardiff University, Imperial College London, Kings College London, London School of Economics and Political Science, and Queen Mary.

We are incredibly proud of our Sixth Form leavers this year, who have secured places at a wide range of prestigious universities across the country. Students are pursuing diverse courses, from Medicine, Nursing, and Biomedical Sciences, to Law, Accounting, Economics, Computer Science, Engineering, and the Arts. Many have chosen courses with placement years or foundation years, demonstrating their ambition to gain practical experience alongside academic study. Our students' achievements reflect not only their dedication and hard work, but also the support of our outstanding staff and families. These exciting next steps mark the beginning of bright and fulfilling futures for our Sixth Form community.

The excellence of those results was mirrored in Year 11, with more than 74% of students achieving a grade 4 in English and mathematics and 53% achieving the sought-after grade 5+. The results place Dormers Wells amongst the leading schools not just in Ealing, but nationwide. All concerned can be proud of their achievements. With so many of those achieving excellent GCSE results staying at Dormers Wells for A Levels, we look forward to celebrating exceptional results from them again in 2027.

We were also delighted to welcome families to our Open Evening, where the enthusiasm of our students and the dedication of our staff shone through. The MiSST Instrument Ceremony was another highlight, with every Year 7 receiving their own classical instrument — a milestone that reflects our belief in the transformative power of the arts. Beyond the classroom, our students have excelled in sport, innovation, and leadership: from Manny Safari's European Boxing Championship win, to the success of our AI & 3D Printing Club, and the Charity Den launch inspiring social action in our Sixth Form. These achievements are a testament to the hard work and ambition of our students, supported by an exceptional team of staff and families.

Thank you for your continued support, and I wish everyone a well-earned, restful half term.

Ms Walsh

Headteacher

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT – MOHAMMED SAFARI

We're incredibly proud to celebrate Manny Safari, who has brought home gold for England Boxing at the European Championships! Through hard work, dedication, and countless late nights, Manny achieved an extraordinary milestone, becoming European Champion with a clinical unanimous decision win in the final.

"Alhamdulillah, very proud to bring home gold for England Boxing. All the hard work, sacrifices, and long nights paid off. Thank you to my team, coaches, my family and everyone who believed in me, we did it! We're only just getting started!"

Congratulations, Manny! Your perseverance, humility, and fighting spirit continue to inspire our entire school community.





FROM THE HEAD STUDENTS

This month has been full of energy, achievement, and new beginnings across our community. Our character values of determination, service and honesty have been on full display, from students embracing new opportunities to celebrating outstanding successes. The Year 6 Open Evening was a brilliant showcase of Dormers life, with students proudly leading tours and running interactive subject stands. The enthusiasm continued during Y6 Activities Week, where visiting pupils experienced the spirit of teamwork that defines our school. Our Y7s have settled in wonderfully, strengthened by experiences such as the Paccar Scouts trip, which encouraged leadership and confidence in a fun outdoor setting. Academic ambition remains high, congratulations to those who triumphed in the Maths Olympiad and students who recieved their exam results, getting into top universities inspiring our younger students. The KICK charity launch, marks an exciting partnership aimed at promoting meaningful change in the community, led by our determined students. Meanwhile, MISST Saturday School and the launch assembly have opened up new ways for students to extend their musical talents beyond what they learn in the classroom. A highlight of our enrichment and curriculum this month was an inspiring A-Level Literature class with Dr Tom Betteridge, giving students a taste of university level discussion. From clubs like AI & 3D Printing to sporting triumphs, every corner of Dormers Wells is buzzing with creativity, ambition and community spirit, a true reflection of what it means to be a Dormers student.

UPCOMING DATES

3rd November Return to school	4th November Year 8 Parents' Evening	5th November Occasional Day	11th November KS4 HAPS evening	12th November BIMA Digital Day
18th November Sixth Form Open Evening	26th November Winter Careers Conference	w/c 8th Deceber House Form Competition week	w/c 15th Deceber Celebration Assemblies	19th December Last day of school

CHARACTER VALUES IN ACTION

Well done to the following students who have demonstrated DWHS values this term:

- Miss Patel would like to let **Ragamayur in 11CW** know how proud she is to see the determination he has shown towards revising for his Computer Science test and for achieving one grade higher than the last assessment, fantastic work. Miss Patel would also like to congratulate **Hibba in 11LI** for her continued dedication to her Computer Science studies and her consistent effort and determination to always strive to achieve her very best in all she does.
- Mrs Appiah would like to congratulate **Selwyn in Y12** for his dedication and enthusiasm in the business world, always bringing new and interesting topics into class discussion and being so passionate about sharing the things he has learnt to his peers and wider community.
- Mrs Grewal would like to thank **Daiwik in 8SH** for always holding the door open around school.
- **Larissa** for her exceptional service and kindness. Larissa showed remarkable composure, mindfulness and leadership in managing a situation that helped safeguard and support other students in school. Her calm and thoughtful actions turned a potentially difficult moment into a positive example of care and responsibility. Larissa's actions truly reflect our Dormers values , showing empathy , strength and commitment to the well-being of others. We are very proud of her for being a role model to her peers.

DETERMINATION



We never give up

WISDOM



We respond to problems in a calm and balanced way

HONESTY



We are open and true to others and to ourselves

SERVICE



We contribute to the school and our wider community

EVENTS



YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING

Our Open Evening was a huge success, with an overwhelming amount of families joining us to experience life at DWHS. We're more excited than ever to welcome our future students next academic year! Parents praised the warm atmosphere, the professionalism of our staff, and the enthusiasm of our incredible student leaders, all of which made us so proud. A big thank you to every family that attended, our dedicated staff, and our brilliant students for making the evening truly special. Events like this show the determination and service that define our school. Some of the highlights of the evening included; dissecting frogs in biology, explosions in chemistry, performances in drama, a flute ensemble in music, beer goggles in CPSHE, abstract activities in art, feeding families in food tech, lamb hearts in biology and taste tasting in the canteen.



Y6 ACTIVITIES WEEK

We welcomed primary school students from all over the borough to experience life as a Dormers Wells High School student. Year 6 were able to experience Computer Science, Geography, Drama, PE, Business, English, Spanish, History, Science and many more, as well as meeting teachers and students ahead of joining next year.



FOCUS EVENINGS

Year 7, 11 and 12 Focus Evenings were valuable events, giving parents, carers, and staff the chance to connect and focus on the year ahead. It's great to see families engaging with staff and supporting their children as they prepare for this important stage. We're excited to continue building these partnerships as we work together towards exam success.



MISST LAUNCH ASSEMBLY

We had the pleasure of celebrating the annual MISST Instrument Ceremony in partnership with Andrew Lloyd Webber. Every Year 7 student was gifted a classical instrument to begin their musical journey in front of friends and family. As they learn to play, they're not only discovering the power of music but also developing personally, socially, intellectually, and culturally, opening doors to success and discovering new opportunities along the way.

ENRICHMENT



YEAR 7 TRIP TO PACCAR SCOUTS

Year 7 had a fantastic time on their recent trip to Paccar Scouts in Chalfont! The students embraced a full day of outdoor adventure and teamwork, taking part in a wide range of exciting activities. From scaling the climbing wall to testing their aim in archery and even trying their hand at tomahawk throwing, everyone got involved and gave their best effort. They also enjoyed a true outdoor experience with backwoods cooking, learning how to start a fire using flint sticks before toasting marshmallows and making s'mores. One of the highlights of the trip was the Nightline challenge, where students, blindfolded, had to guide each other carefully through the forest and a series of tunnels and obstacles. The day was filled with plenty of teamwork, challenges, and memorable moments.



MISST SATURDAY SCHOOL

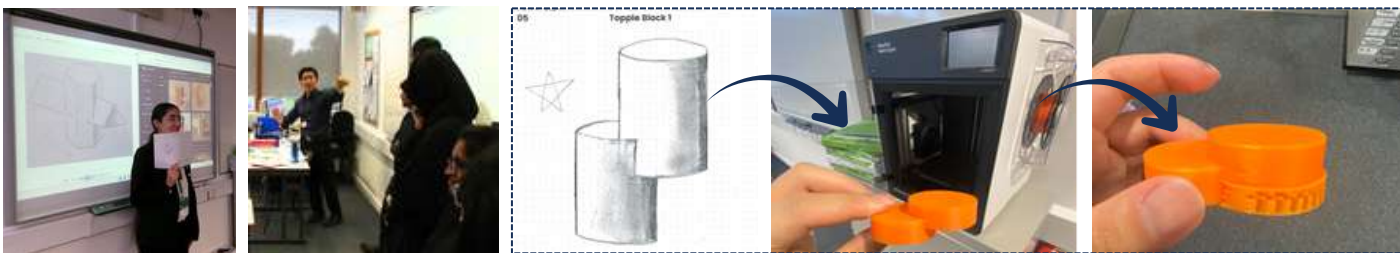
This term marked the exciting launch of the West London MISST Saturday Music School, hosted here at Dormers Wells High School. Students enjoyed their first Saturday of free music tuition, generously funded by the Neville Abraham Foundation. Students had a wonderful time learning new instruments, including the cello, trumpet, trombone, French horn, oboe, and double bass. Under the guidance of expert tutors, our musicians began their journey of building confidence, discipline, and creativity through small group lessons. We're thrilled to see such enthusiasm from our students, and we can't wait to watch their musical skills and confidence grow over the coming weeks.



JP FOUNDATION WINNERS

A huge well done to our fantastic students who were the recipients of this year's £4,000 donation from the JP Foundation. Each year, we are grateful to receive an anonymous donation of £4,000, awarded to hardworking students to support the start of their university journey. The funds help cover essential costs such as travel, textbooks, and other university-related expenses. This year, we're proud to announce that Amit was awarded £2,000, while Harmandeep and Ramandeep each received £1,000 in recognition of their dedication and achievements. Well done to all three, we're incredibly proud of you!

SPORTS AND CLUBS



★ CLUB OF THE TERM ★

Our AI & 3D printing club takes club of the term! This comes during an exciting year in which we are one of only ten schools nationwide working with monday.com on an innovative AI and 3D printing project. As part of this partnership, the school received two state of the art 3D printers, helping students turn their creative ideas into reality. As one of our most popular clubs, Tuesdays are now for running straight to Mr Cheng's room to explore AI tools and transforming hand drawn sketches into digital designs.



WHATS ON IN CLUBS?

This term, our extracurricular programme has been buzzing with activity, creativity, and teamwork. Students from across all year groups have been taking full advantage of the wide range of clubs on offer, from sports and music to art, technology, and social action.

CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

It's been a busy and inspiring term in our music and arts clubs! In **Piano Club**, Beethoven has been the flavour of the month, with students mastering Ode to Joy and Für Elise. **Guitarists** have been practising R.E.M.'s Orange Crush as part of the Trinity College London Rock & Pop course, building confidence and refining their technique. Our **school ensemble** recently wowed audiences with Stand by Me at the MISST Instrument Presentation Ceremony and are now rehearsing for several upcoming performances. Meanwhile, the Y8 **Strings**, Y9 **Violin**, and Y9 **Flute** groups continue to strengthen their tone, and technique through weekly rehearsals. Excitement is also building for our next **school production**, Aladdin! Students are working tirelessly across acting, dance, and singing to bring this story to life on stage. Over in **Film Club**, students have enjoyed screenings of Treasure Planet and The Addams Family (a Halloween favourite!), exploring how stories evolve through adaptations. Miss Quinn-Guest wanted to give a special shoutout to Keenan (Y8) for his thoughtful discussion contributions and to Nirnthana (Y7) for her beautifully designed review posters after each screening!

ACADEMIC, INNOVATION & ENRICHMENT

In **Social and Justice Club**, members are exploring key social issues and developing campaigns that promote fairness and equality. Budding writers in **Journalism Club** are sharpening their research and reporting skills, while **Crochet Club** offers a calm, creative space to learn new stitches and unwind. Over in **Cookery Club**, teamwork and creativity are on the menu as students experiment with delicious recipes. Young artists in **Sculpting Club** are bringing their ideas to life in clay, meanwhile, a bit of friendly competition keeps things lively in **Board Games** and **Chess Club**!

SPORTS & TEAMS

Our **girls' football team** has shown fantastic commitment and enthusiasm, training regularly and strengthening their teamwork each week. The **boys' football team** continues to grow in confidence and skill, representing the school with pride in local fixtures. Meanwhile, the **boys' rugby team** has been training hard since the start of term and are eagerly preparing for their upcoming tournament on 21st October at Ealing Trailfinders, with a special shoutout to Dhey for his outstanding tackling and team spirit. Our **netball** players have also impressed with their brilliant teamwork and enthusiasm in every session! With such great numbers competitive matches have been run between year groups. Harshdeep and Neenithy have been supporting the club each week, and Hawa has shown real promise as a young coach, helping to organise and lead parts of the session.

CURRICULUM



EXAM RESULTS SUCCESS

Dormers Wells High School has once again showed the exceptional strength of its academic Sixth Form, celebrating another fantastic year of A Level and BTEC results.

A-Level Results

- 45% A*–B grades
- 74% A*–C grades
- 98% A*–E grades
- Average BTEC grade: Distinction*

Headteacher Ms Walsh said:

"We are immensely proud of our A Level and BTEC students, who have once again achieved outstanding results. These successes are a testament to their perseverance, the unwavering support of their families, and the commitment of our dedicated staff. We are delighted to see so many of our students progressing to top universities and high-quality apprenticeships."

We are extremely proud of all our students, and particularly several students who have secured places at **prestigious institutions:**

- Nowrishair – Mathematics with Statistics, King's College London
- Evleen – Computer Science, Imperial College London
- Harmandeep – Law, London School of Economics
- Nelson – Biochemistry, Imperial College London
- Hodan – Political Economy, King's College London

Our **GCSE students** have also performed exceptionally well:

- 74% achieved grades 9–4 in English and Mathematics
- 53% achieved grades 9–5 in English and Mathematics
- 59% of all entries achieved a strong pass (grade 5 or above)
- 20% of all grades were 7–9

Congratulations to all our students and staff on another year of remarkable success!



YEAR 7 SETTLE IN FANTASTICALLY

A huge well done to our Year 7 students! Just a few weeks into high school, they are already producing outstanding work, making wonderful new friends, and setting an excellent example for our school community. It takes real courage to step into a new environment, and our Year 7s have done so with enthusiasm, confidence, and kindness. Many have already joined clubs, taken on new challenges, and shown an impressive commitment to their learning. What a fantastic start to a brilliant year for this exceptional year group!



A LEVEL LITERATURE CLASS

Our A Level Literature students were treated to an inspiring Shakespeare masterclass by Dr Tom Betteridge from Brunel University! Students delved deep into the Bard's world, experiencing the buzz of university-style lectures and unlocking new ways to analyse classic texts. Thank you, Dr Betteridge, for bringing Shakespeare to life and sparking our students' passion for literature!



READING AWARD

Mrs Grewal was part of the Open University's Reading for Pleasure group working with Ealing borough's "Teachers as Readers Research". It was yearlong research on how to develop reading for pleasure in KS3 using 'Read the Room' as evidence. Mrs Grewal's study was published on the OU website and recognised by Dr Teresa Cremin (Professor of Literacy Education at the OU) and was awarded a certificate.

CAREERS

GREEN CAREERS WEEK



GREEN CAREERS WEEK

Green Careers Week is from the 3rd to 7th of November. This week helps to highlight a range of careers needed to help the UK improve the environment and achieve its target of net zero. It is predicted that just within London nearly 144,000 low-carbon jobs will be needed by 2050. To get to net zero by 2050, just over 34,000 energy generation and network jobs are needed. Around 56,000 green job advertisements were promoted in 2022 and at least 40,000 green apprentice starts were targeted from 2021 to 2024. Students will be finding out more about different green jobs in school. You can help your child by looking at [different green jobs](#) and [career profiles](#) to help them think about where they might work in the future, and the types of qualifications they need to achieve this.



LABOUR MARKET INFO

Labour market information notifies us about local, regional and national employment trends. Ealing is focussed on developing creative and digital jobs. They also want to further develop the partnerships with UWL, Imperial College and Brunel University to develop technology in the borough, as well as clean-tech for industry and data centres. In terms of construction, Ealing is looking at opportunities created by HS2 and Heathrow expansion. You can look at skills and salaries for different jobs using the Careerometer on the [careers webpage](#) on our school website.



KICK CHARITY LAUNCH

We were delighted to welcome Jasbir from KICK Charity for the induction assembly of the Charity Den programme. Around 40 of our Year 12 students took part in this launch session, which marked the beginning of an exciting journey in social action and community leadership. Through the Charity Den programme, students will develop their own charity project ideas, learning how to turn them into reality through proposal writing, event planning, and fundraising activities.

It was a fantastic start to what promises to be a meaningful and rewarding experience, well done to all our students for their enthusiasm and engagement!



YOUNG EALING FOUNDATION AWARD

We're proud to share that the Cost of Living Event, run by Dormers Wells Sixth Form students in partnership with KICK charity, was shortlisted for the Young Ealing Awards 2025 in the Fighting Inequality category! This incredible recognition is a testament to the hard work, creativity, and dedication of our students: Navpreet, Mannat, Parthvi, Maryam, and Amritpal. It was also fantastic to see Alex, Ex-head boy, presenting the award for 'Activist of the year' with Labour MP Deirdre Costigan.

FEEDBACK!

Ensuring that an effective and inclusive Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance programme is in place to ensure that all students are able to confidently talk about their career goals, outlining how their education supports these aspirations. If you have any questions about careers and pathways at DWHS, please contact Mr Parmar

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE FEEDBACK!](#)

READING

FROM THE READING LEAD

As the school's Reading Lead, I'm excited to share the work we're doing to champion reading across our classrooms and support every student on their reading journey. We are proud to be one of the only schools in the area that offers a targeted reading intervention programme, designed to help students who need extra support with decoding, fluency, and comprehension. These sessions are personalised and designed to build confidence, independence, and enjoyment in reading. To help develop a whole-school culture of reading for pleasure, we've introduced a simple but powerful change: reading books along with school diaries are now on pupils' desks during every lesson. This is to encourage regular reading habits.

Championing diverse stories in literature is at the heart of our school and so, with October being Black History Month in the UK, our learning mentors put together specially curated assemblies where staff reading recommendations of black authors and/or black protagonists were shared with pupils from Year 7 to sixth form. Finally, I'm pleased to share that I was recently awarded a Certificate of Professional Participation from the Open University's Reading for Pleasure Community. This recognition was based on my classroom development work around reading for pleasure with Key Stage 3 students, and my research has now been published on the Open University website.



HALLOWEEN RECOMMENDATIONS

YEAR 7

Fear Ground
Jennifer Killick

YEAR 8 & 9

Thirteen
Tom Hoyle

YEAR 10 & 11

I know you did it
Sue Wallman

SIXTH FORM

I am Legend
Richard Matheson

BLACK HISTORY MONTH READING RECOMMENDATIONS

What it Takes to Make it in Modern Britain
People Like Us
Hashi Mohamed

THE BOOK OF PHOENIX
Nnedi Okorafor

Black AND British
A short, essential history
David Olusoga

CUTS BOTH WAYS
Candice Brathwaite

The Lonely Londoners
C.L.R. James

HOW TO SAY BABYLON
SAFIYA SINCLAIR

THE VANISHING HALF
BRIT BENNETT

THE DIARY OF A CEO
STEVEN BARTLETT

Coming to England
FLOELLA BENJAMIN