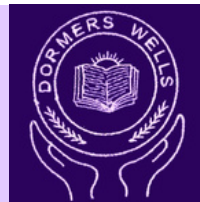


DORMERS INFORMER

Believe. Aspire. Flourish



A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was fantastic to see so many of you at the start of term, at the Meet the Teacher Information events. The slides for these can be found on our website, www.dwps.co.uk, on the year group pages. It also gave us an opportunity to share our school priorities, which will enable our pupils to flourish. This year we achieved the BEST SATS RESULTS in Writing (90% at Expected+) in the history of the school. This year we improved on or matched 2024 results in Reading, Writing and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. Despite this, we continue to aspire and have ambitious targets for 2026!

Our main priorities this year are to:

1. Raise Maths standards (Reasoning and Problem Solving).
2. Improve the quality of teaching to increase good to outstanding practice, through adaptive and anti-racist teaching.
3. To develop the safe and effective use of AI.
4. Ensure every pupil feels safe, happy and supported (using Therapeutic Thinking to guide behaviour, in a kind, positive way).

We look forward to working with pupils, staff and parents to achieve this.

Welcome and Goodbye

I'm sure you'll join me in welcoming new teachers, Syeda Rubaiath (Year 1), Fatema Mamjiwala (Y2), Hodan Omer (Y4) and Sharn Singh (Y5), who have joined the Dormers Wells family this term. Also a fond farewell and THANK YOU to Mrs. Teo-Richards, who has retired from her role as a Teaching Associate, after 9 years' service.

Meet the Teacher meetings

It was fantastic to see so many parents/carers who attended and thank you for your feedback. Attendance ranged between 27% and 64% for all year groups. If you were unable to attend, please do look through the slides which are available on the Year group pages of our website. Feedback we have received shows you found them very informative; curriculum and expectations were made clear, in preparation for the upcoming year. You enjoyed the opportunity to talk to our staff and ask questions, as well as finding out about our school priorities including attendance.

Attendance and Punctuality

GOOD ATTENDANCE = GREAT RESULTS!

If your child's attendance is below 90%, they are classed as a persistent absentee. We strongly encourage parents whose child's attendance is below 95%, to improve attendance, starting from Reception.

- Statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and poor attendance
- Research shows regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically
- Regular attenders find school routines, schoolwork, and friendships easier to cope with
- Regular attenders find learning more enjoyable
- Regular attendance encourages responsible learning habits, as well as prepare children for higher education and working life.

Good attendance supports our pupils to flourish both individually and collaboratively, in their personal and academic development. Thank you for your continued support and understanding that excellent attendance is essential to productive learning, positive life-long habits, setting them up for success as adults. We ask that you continue to support us in the new academic year, improving attendance, as it is important that your child is in school every day learning.

Please find attached some helpful information regarding illness

here: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Position	Class attendance
1st	6W Johnson 97.4% 😊
2nd	2D Latimer 96.7% 😊
3rd	YR Pollock 96.4% 😊
4th	YR Mahlangu 96% 😊
5th	4W Wangari 95.7% 😊
6 th =	3D Farah 95.3% 😊
6 th =	1D Seacole 95.3% 😊
8 th	4D Attenborough 94.7%
9 th	3W Tendulkar 94.6%
10 th	6S Turing 94.2%
11 th	5S Zephaniah 94.1%
12 th	2W Curie 93.5%
13 th	5D Blackman 93%
14 th	AM Nursery Raza 92.7%
15 th	1W Earhart 94.7%
Overall, SEPTEMBER attendance	94.3% (TARGET OF 24-25, 95.5% NOT MET) 🎯

Overall SEPTEMBER attendance

94.3% (TARGET OF 24-25, 95.5% NOT MET)

We want all our pupils to achieve 97% and be in the 97 Club! A big shout out to our amazing children who continue to show a love of learning by coming to school every day. Attendance is down, due to mainly unauthorised holidays. A Special Well done to the TOP SEVEN classes for their excellent attendance, so far.

As we start this new academic year this September, we want to remind you of the importance of regular attendance. Especially Holidays or visits abroad during term time can significantly impact your child's learning

Thank You to our Fundraisers

Summer fair: I'm delighted to confirm that we raised £2,200, which will enable us to buy vital resources for the children, such as playground equipment and books and subsidise trips. The 3rd purchase of lunchtime equipment has just arrived and will be given out next week, look out photos on DOJO!

Harvest: Thank you for all your donations for the Foodbank. We are collecting, until 9th October, if you are able to donate.

SUMMER WORKS:

Over the summer holidays, we completed some site jobs, including fresh paint in some classrooms, to ensure your children play and learn in a FAB environment.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Nursery Places available for January 2026 and April 2026

If your child was born between 1 September 2022 and 31 December 2022, s/he can start Nursery in January. If your child was born between 1 January 2023 and 31 March 2023, s/he can start Nursery in April: a fun environment where the children learn through play and develop social skills. Please come to the school office for an application pack and we will start them as soon as possible.

SAFEGUARDING: ONLINE SAFETY MICHELLE

To further help you keep your children safe online, this summer's Parent Guide is: Parent Guide to Emojis.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES: THERAPEUTIC THINKING TIP:

Dinner: Nurturing Family Connection
Often, dinner can feel like such a chore, even a mission, that you just want to get through. However, studies show that having dinner together as a family is a top predictor for how well children will do in school and in adolescence. The ritual of sharing food with those we love offers children the security of belonging, being nurtured and a space to talk and share.

How can parents help? Try to have at least a few nights a week when you can all eat together. Keep that space sacred, safe and positive and, most importantly, switch off the TV and all devices- including your own phones! It is helpful to keep dinner fun and playful and to engage everyone in preparing the meal and/or setting the table. Think of rituals you can put in place and try to make the discussions interesting for everyone. And the first secret is to keep the food healthy but simple: look after yourself and save your energy for connecting with your family.

Let's Localise- Follow us

An organisation that supports us with fundraising, asking local individuals, organisations and businesses for help. The Infant school is listed on this digital platform but we need to build up our followers. Do follow us on our "Let's Localise page" and share with family and friends, as we pledge for more resources. To follow: <https://www.letslocalise.co.uk/dashboard/school>

With best wishes,

Mrs Toni George
Headteacher

DWJ Top Reading Tips

Reading for Pleasure is at the Heart of What We Do

A new school year is the perfect time to spark excitement about reading! Children are more motivated when they see reading as enjoyable, not just homework. Try these ideas to keep it fun and stress-free:

🌟 **Celebrate small wins** – Praise your child for finishing a page, chapter, or book. A little encouragement goes a long way!

📖 **Mix it up** – Let them choose books that match their interests—comics, magazines, or online e-books all count.

🎧 **Try audiobooks** – Listening to stories on platforms like *Audible Stories* (free for kids) or *Storynory* can build vocabulary and imagination.

📱 **Use library apps** – Free apps like *Epic!* or *Libby* let kids borrow e-books and explore a huge range of stories right from home.

👨‍👩‍👧 **Read together** – Even 10 minutes a night of reading aloud builds confidence and creates a special bonding time.
Remember: the goal in September isn't perfection—it's helping your child discover that reading is something they want to do.

Recommended Read for the Month of September – Science Theme



KS1
The Great Pollination Investigation by Deborah Hocking
Flowers make the world so lovely!
But WHY are they so bright and beautiful?
And HOW ON EARTH do they make food?
Let's find out in THE GREAT POLLINATION INVESTIGATION!



KS2 - Plants to the Rescue by Vikram Baliga
Perfect for anyone who loves nature and wildlife, as well as the scientists of the future – you won't look at plants and trees in the same way again!

Uniform

It was wonderful to see our pupils dressed smartly in uniform. A reminder that pupils must be in full school uniform. Most items can be purchased in supermarkets, fashion stores but the logo sweatshirt/cardigan/t-shirt can only be purchased from Harry's, Fashion Mark, 18 High Street, Southall, UB1 3DA. If you are experiencing financial difficulty and would like the school to arrange some pre-loved uniform for your child, please contact Mrs. Cornelius and or look out for our preloved uniform sale this term.

- White polo shirt or blouse
- Black trousers or skirt or pinafore
- Purple sweatshirt/jumper or cardigan (with logo)
- Purple and white checked summer dress
- Black shoes (not trainers)

On their class PE day, pupils in all year groups must come to school in their PE kits. Pupils need to wear a white t-shirt (with/without new logo) and non-branded black jogging bottoms or shorts. Details of the PE days can be found on the Year group pages of the website or Class DOJO. Please ensure you name all of your child's uniform and belongings.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Too many children are still missing out on a free delicious nutritious school lunch. We want all children to be eating a HOT FREE school lunch, so do encourage your child to try it out and save yourself money! If you are eligible for free school meals, please provide the school with your National Insurance Number or click on the link below, on how to claim, in case your child is eligible for Food vouchers during the holidays AND extra funding for their school from the Government, worth £1,300 per year. That's extra money to spend on enrichment activities, teacher development and targeted support. To see if you qualify please click on the link and inform school as soon as you receive your notification: <http://fsm.bslforum.com/ealing/Dseat.jsp> The Voucher is usually £15 per week, per child. Don't miss out, apply today!

Other support available-Cost of living

Support for children and families from Ealing Council website has lots of information about the different sources of help, benefits, grants and money-saving discounts the council has on offer. Visit for more information: <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201320/cost-of-living-support-and-advice> Parents might also be interested in the free data sim cards available from Ealing libraries for students. The council's four community hubs include Southall Library, <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201033/council-and-local-decisions/3073/location>, a registered data bank providing sims cards for those who do not have online access or are struggling to pay for mobile data. Anyone struggling to meet food costs, cover their rent or purchase essential items can apply for financial assistance. To find more information or to make an application go to: <https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201264/help-for-residents/2687/help-with-your-money/2> Information about all the different sources of help, benefits, grants and money-saving discounts on offer is also available: <https://www.egfl.org.uk/sites/default/files/Cost%20of%20living%20leaflet%20with%20translations-0.pdf>

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

UPCOMING DATES

1/10/25: Reception - Bear Hunt Workshop

Start of Black History Month

2/10/25: Italian Theme Lunch

National Poetry Day

2.45PM Y3 Tendulkar class assembly

3/10/25: Y3 - Trip to Gunnersbury Park

Week beginning 6/10/25: Active Travel Fortnight

8/10/25: Y1-Y3 Puzzle Academy (selected pupils)

9/10/25: Y4 Trip British Museum

14/10/25: 9am Parent Coffee Morning

16/10/25: Black History Theme Lunch

20/10/25: Online Parents Evening Part 1

21/10/25: Online parents evening Part 1

22/10/25: Movie Afternoon - 97 Club

23/10/25: Online Parents Evening Part 2

2.45pm - YEAR 2 Curie class assembly

24/10/25: INSET DAY (School closed to pupils)

31/10/25: Closing date for Secondary School application (Y6 pupils)

Nursery

It has been a joy to watch our nursery children begin to settle into their new environment. Each day, they are growing in confidence, becoming more familiar with our routines, and showing increasing independence. It's been especially heart-warming to see friendships starting to form, from shared play in the role-play area to helping each other at tidy-up time. They have been reading the story the kissing hand and have made their own very special hands to feel safe in nursery.



Reception

The children in reception have been settling into their new environment this month. They have been getting to know each other and their new friends as well as exploring new and exciting activities!



Year 1

Year One have settled well into their new classes this month and have been learning lots of new subjects and topics. We also celebrated National Teddy Bear Day by bringing our teddy bears and soft toys to school



Year 2

'Curie class are participating in an Environmental Science lesson, during which students are creating a wreath using leaves.'



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Year 3

Year 3 have been looking and exploring rocks this term. We have had an amazing time and a chance to touch and feel the rocks! The children have found out amazing facts about rocks and their properties and have also been able to explore the school playground and find their own rocks and name them!



Year 5

Year 5 joined in the celebration of Afro Hair with pride! The children explored the importance of feeling proud of who you are, learning about different hair types, and recognising what makes each of us unique and special. Whether hair is curly, coily, straight, or big and bouncy—it's all beautiful! The highlight of the day was taking part in a Guinness World Record attempt, promoting cultural awareness and unity. It was a fun and meaningful way for the children to say a big YES to self-love, diversity, and celebrating each other!



Year 4

In Year 4, pupils created posters about online safety and the important tips that must be followed in order to stay safe online. They also explored an artist named Stephen Wiltshire and identified features of cityscape art. During their first week back, Year 4 wrote book reviews about their favourite books, whilst in geography, children spent time learning about rivers and labelled the journey of a river using a diagram.



Year 6

This month year 6 were invited to Dormers High School for a taster session, they went to Spanish, French, History and P.E lessons which they thoroughly enjoyed. Year 6 has also been enjoying Artis sessions on a Monday working on their performing arts skills.



EXTRA STORIES

Learning labs tuition

Learning Labs is currently running a School Partnership Discount for all Dormers Wells Primary students looking to join for additional Maths and English support & 11+. This includes up to 50% off on all classes. Please register your interest with us using the link <https://forms.gle/ngAc2G4XjdVxbFZW8>

LEARNING LABS TUITION
 for Dormers Wells students!




Discounted Tuition Programme

MATHS | ENGLISH | 11+ | SATs

97%

PARENT
SATISFACTION

FREE

TRY FOR
FREE!

A+

PROVEN
RESULTS!

[www.LearningLabsuk.com](https://forms.gle/ngAc2G4XjdVxbFZW8)
 020 8106 0305
 Scan here for a FREE TRIAL!

DWPS Football team

Well done to DWPS Football team, who competed in a Tournament at Goals. They came 6th place and played really well.



All parents will receive the following:

- FREE TRIAL
- FREE ASSESSMENT
- FREE CONSULTATION
- £20 Voucher Code: DORMERS20

Dormers Wells High School Open Evening

Visit DWHS Open Evening Thursday 2nd October from 5-7:30pm! Headteachers talk at 5:30 and 6:30pm.

DWHS OPEN EVENING

Thursday 2nd October 2025 5:00-7:30pm
 Headteacher's talk: 5:30pm and 6:30pm

Join us in **Opening the Door to Success** at our open evening at **Dormers Wells High School**.

Our ambitious curriculum and safe, supportive environment enables students to become independent and responsible members of society with enhanced life chances.

Join our students in reaching your full potential and attend prestigious universities such as:

Nowrishair studying **MATHEMATICS WITH STATISTICS** at **KINGS COLLEGE LONDON**

Eveleen studying **COMPUTER SCIENCE** at **IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

Harmandeep studying **LAW** at **LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

Nelson studying **BIOCHEMISTRY** at **IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON**

Hodan studying **POLITICAL ECONOMY** at **KINGS COLLEGE LONDON**



Take advantage of some of our fantastic
 Enrichment opportunities

Residential visits	Enrichment days
School clubs	Careers fair
Overseas trips	Guest speakers
House competitions	Jack Petchey competitions
International Evening	Field trips

"Playing a musical instrument as part of the Music in Secondary Schools Trust programme has improved my confidence and now I feel less anxious. I am proud to perform in front of my peers."

Evangeli - Year 9

"I have never played an instrument before, but I practiced really hard and was selected to play for the celebration assemblies."

Joy - Year 9

FURTHER INFORMATION

During your visit, you will receive a tour of the school and a presentation from the Headteacher.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our school office 02085666446 or email OpenEvening@dwhs.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you!

UNABLE TO ATTEND OUR OPEN EVENING?

We are hosting three more open mornings for those who are unable to attend our main Open Evening:

6th October - 9:15am-11:00am
 7th October - 9:15am-11:00am
 8th October - 9:15am-11:00am

Please contact our school office 02085666446 or email OpenEvening@dwhs.co.uk


[@DormersWellsHS](https://twitter.com/DormersWellsHS)


[DormersWellsHS](https://www.facebook.com/DormersWellsHS)


[DormersWellsHS](https://www.instagram.com/DormersWellsHS)


[DormersWellsHS](https://www.linkedin.com/company/DormersWellsHS)





RIGHTS RESPECTING

September article of the month

Welcome to this NEW section of our newsletter highlighting all things **Rights Respecting**. Every month, we will share a different article, helping our school community become aware of what each article means and how it relates to children's lives.

This year, at Dormers, we will be increasing our understanding and work in this area.

We are currently a **SILVER RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL** and we aim to advance to **GOLD** level.

INTRODUCING ARTICLE 12

Every child has the right to **express their views, feelings and wishes** in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

Article 12 – respect for the views of the child



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EMOJIS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 👍 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'mid' or 'delulu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (👤) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 💊 (pill emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌵 (wilted flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Strings like 🔥👤 (fire + 'woozy' face + pill emojis) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emojipedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.

ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted "What does 🍷 (juice box emoji) mean these days?" can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.

CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.

PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to – not just someone who's watching them.

EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples – please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

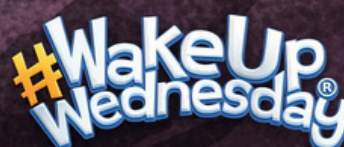
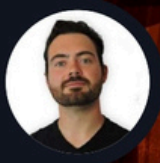
- | | |
|---|--|
| 🤡 (Clown face) Foolishness or clowning around | 🥰 (Pleading face) Over-affectionate or 'simping' |
| 😎 (Cool face) Cool, stylish or ruthless | 👁️ (Eyes) Watching drama unfold |
| 😍 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement | 🐐 (Goat) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.) |
| 😐 (Moi) Stone-faced, unbothered | 💅 (Nails) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference |
| 👑 (Crown) 'Slaying', as in doing great | 🚩 (Triangular flag) Red flag: a warning sign about someone's behaviour |

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 🍷 (Ear of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms) | 🌵 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness |
| ❄️ (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine | 🐍 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced' |
| 🗝️ (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use | 🔫 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm |
| 🍂 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis | ⚠️ (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil |
| 💊 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse | 🍜 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of noodles) |

Meet Our Expert

Keith Broni is a globally renowned emoji expert and the Editor in Chief of emojipedia.org, the world's number one emoji resource. He has an MSc in Business Psychology from University College London and an MBA from Quantic School of Business and Technology.



The National College