



# Dormers Diary



## From the Headteacher

Welcome to the February edition of Dormers Diary, a packed edition reflecting a very exciting and busy half term.

I was delighted to see the very promising PPE results from the Year 11 and Year 13 PPEs. The students have worked incredibly hard to achieve this success in their exams, and I am sure they will continue to work hard as they continue to progress towards summer exams. We look forward to seeing many of the Year 11 students attending revision sessions during the half term break, in addition to the regular revision classes held after school. Early indications show we are on trend for another year of fantastic results.

We recently had two very successful taster days, one for A Level students and one for BTEC students. These events enabled our Year 11 students to be able to experience life in sixth form and provided them with an insight into the many subjects on offer, allowing them to gain a deeper understanding of the opportunities that await them in September.

Year 13 students have also been looking to the future, as many of our students and staff have been working hard on UCAS applications over the past few months. Students have received offers from a range of universities across the country. In particular, I would like to celebrate the success of Samia Anjum, who was offered a place at Oxford University to study medicine, and Amarvir Chana, who will be studying engineering at Cambridge University. In addition, three of our students have been offered places at Imperial College London, Tanmeet Gabba in mathematics, Khushi Amin for computer science, and Soruban Selvathuray in mechanical engineering. They, and all the other

Year 13 students with offers for next year, have worked extremely hard to get to this point.

Meanwhile The Brilliant Club is back up and running for another successful year. This has enabled us to further the opportunities available to our students. As you will read in this edition a number of Year 10 students attended the launch trip at the University of Cambridge and are preparing themselves to write their university graded essays.

Looking towards summer, I am thrilled that we have already had a high number of returns from students who have expressed interest in the exciting enrichment opportunities coming up in July. Last year we launched enrichment week, where students were given the opportunity to access a wide range of extra-curricular activities. It was a very successful launch and we look forward to another year of exciting events and very happy students.

After half term we look forward to building our parent partnership and meeting up with parents at the Year 10 parents' evening, as well as Year 9 parents on the IAG days. Working together will enable us to continue to go from strength to strength as the students make their important final GCSE choices.

I wish you all a happy and restful half term break.

Mr D Fenlon  
*Acting Headteacher*



## From the new Head Boy and Girl

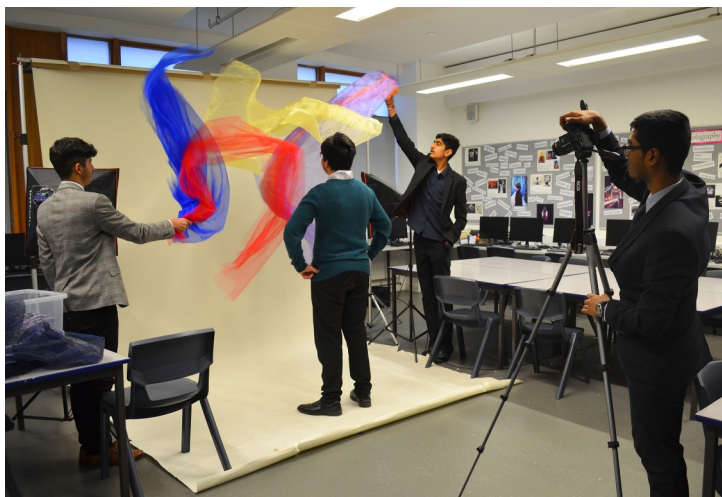
This half-term has been particularly interesting. As of January, the school has launched the Executive Council, where we can work with Form Representatives from around the school to discuss improvements and additions that students feel would improve their experience at school. Recent topics on the itinerary have included the upcoming Sports Day, more extra-curricular clubs and regulating canteen queues.

We urge anyone who has concerns to raise them with their form representatives, such that we can discuss and resolve the issue to the best of our abilities. On another note, both Year 9s and 11s are in the process of selecting their options. We hope that everyone gives these decisions some thought, as it is seriously important to study the subjects that that will put you in the right path to progress to any chosen careers, or at the very least, ones that you enjoy. We wish you a restful half term break.



## A Level and BTEC Taster Day

On the first day of term, our sixth form students were preparing for their examinations while our Year 11 students became sixth formers for the day. Students arrived to school very smartly dressed and were able to enjoy the full sixth form privileges. They attended a range of taster lessons to gain an insight into the A Level courses on offer. Students thoroughly enjoyed the day and gave very positive feedback, 'It was very good and will help me decide what I want to do at A level... for me DWHS provides everything that I will need to ensure I succeed in the future'. The students who opted for BTEC courses attended a workshop in which various stalls were set up hosted by different colleges, universities and apprenticeships. The students were able to walk around and talk to the representatives on each stand to gain a better insight into what their options are and path they would like to take once finishing sixth form.



## Students look to the future

Year 8 and Year 9 students took part in the Options Evening event on the 5th February. Students visited various stalls to talk with teachers about the curriculum choices on offer to them. This gave students the opportunity to learn more about what suits them most for their pre-options and GCSE options.

On the other end of the age spectrum Dormers Wells High School also had their annual careers conference on the 7th February. All students in Year 9, Year 11 and the Sixth Form had the opportunity to engage with a large number of employers, colleges, apprenticeship providers and universities. All students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 10 will visit the second careers conference in July 2020. The careers program at Dormers Wells High School offers all students a wide range of careers related activities and the school prides itself on meeting all of the Gatsby benchmarks.



## Primera Cita



Our Spanish learning students' had the fantastic opportunity to watch Onatti Productions perform the play "Primera Cita" on Friday. Students' loved the performance and enjoyed being able to follow along using their subject knowledge and Spanish tongue. This extremely entertaining and educational play gives the audience an hilarious insight of two teenagers, Carlos and María, preparing for their first date. Then, of course, we get to watch them on their actual date! A fantastic play written to complement Spanish language learning at secondary level and thoroughly enjoyed by students from Dormers Wells HS, Greenford HS and Villiers.



**Think about the information, images, comments and “likes” you post online. Could this come back around and hurt you in some way??**

## Future Frontiers

Future Frontiers is a career coaching programme that matches young people with inspiring graduates and professionals. The selected professionals deliver weekly coaching sessions that guide pupils to discover and explore careers that will inspire them to achieve in school. 25 Year 10 students were selected to participate in this prestigious programme and they are working with International SOS, the world's leading medical & travel security services company. The students had an introductory assembly, four one to one two hour coaching sessions at Chiswick Business Park, as well as a video call with another professional from industry. They will then attend a careers conference in the summer term.



## Brilliant Club

We launched The Brilliant Club in school with some high performing year 10 students intelligent applications. The response was excellent which showed a real interest in the year group to do well. Twenty four of the best replies were selected to participate in the programme, followed by a fantastic launch trip to the University of Cambridge. Twelve students are participating in a humanities programme, studying “From Columbus to Castro: Cuban Art History” and twelve are on a STEM programme studying “The Virtual Journey from Proteins to Cures: Computer Aided Drug Design”. A PhD tutor comes into school for 5 university style tutorials and then they write a 2,000 word essay which gets marked just as it would at university.



## Upcoming Dates

24th Feb 2020	Return to school after half term
27th Feb 2020	Year 10 Parents' Evening
2-3rd Mar 2020	Year 9 IAG
5th Mar 2020	World Book Day
9th Mar 2020	Ealing Teen Read
26th Mar 2020	Year 8 Parents' Evening
30-1st April 2020	Year 10 Swanage Trip
31st Mar 2020	Your life you choose
2nd April 2020	Year 10 Enterprise Event
2nd April 2020	Year 7 History Trip
3rd April 2020	Last Day of Term.
20th April 2020	Return to school

## Mathemagic Show

Year 8 maths scholars prepared for the 'Mathemagic Magic Show 2019' for our local Primary schools students. This maths enrichment activity was a great opportunity for our youngsters to lead a section of the show and to display their mathematical skills in order to inspire the audience.



## Senior Maths Challenge

“The Senior Maths Challenge is a 90-minute exam with 25 multiple-choice questions of progressing difficulty. It challenges individuals in terms of their problem-solving abilities. Most candidates only answer about 15 questions, as there is a penalty for guessing answers. Whilst almost all the questions can be answered with GCSE Maths knowledge, the questions are usually focused on spotting a trick to simplify the problem. Most of the problems are on geometry and algebra, although there are questions on more obscure topics. People who take the SMC do so to improve their capacity to problem solve, encounter strange and abstract problems, but it is also a qualifier for the British Mathematical Olympiad. It is incredibly difficult to get into the Olympiad, and so many take the SMC in Year 12 as preparation so that they can get a high enough score in Year 13 to attempt to qualify. Apart from that, it's certainly been a very fun experience (it's not often that you are given 25 interesting problems for free!), and I hope to repeat it next year, hopefully getting a higher score!” - Jan Wrobel, Year 12.



## Age Link Christmas Party

The Age-Link Christmas Party hosted at Dormers Wells High School was an ultimate success enjoyed by all. It was mainly down to the hard work of the volunteers and students who were magnificent. In preparation for the party many staff donated money, tea and coffee, as well as other goods for the raffle prizes. Others donated their time on the day either cooking, decorating, chauffeuring or entertaining the guests. A total of £245.80 was raised for the Age Link party from the Bake Off alone! Our students were very involved in the running of the event, with around 30 students were there on the day to help out. Alicia Masih entertained the guests by singing a few festive songs, followed by Zion Alfred who then played some tunes on the piano. The elderly guests loved having the students around and certainly enjoyed their company.



## Middlesex Cross Country

Ibrahim Khalif and Abdi Khalif both represented Ealing at the Middlesex Cross Country Championships at Harrow School on the 23rd January.

Both boys did extremely well, representing Ealing proudly. Ibrahim competed with over 80 runners and came 42nd in the inter boys race. Abdi competed against 40 other boys in the senior boys race and came 15th place. The boys showed resilience and determination as there were some very good athletes in both their races.



## Maths Relay

Year 10 students got into teams of 4 to participate in the Maths Relay. The students worked collaboratively together to answer challenging mathematical problems at Grade 9. The Maths Relay required the students to apply their mathematical skills to solve problems within a short time, if they got it right they would obtain the next problem to solve with each problem bearing different amounts of achievable points. The winners of this relay are: Jessica Grover 10BT, Muna Farah 10EB, Jonathan Porter 10DH and Yahya Handulle 10PW!



## Art of the Month

This edition's incredible art of the month is awarded to Smita Sharma in year 9. The piece is her first assessment piece for art and is inspired by the work of Chuck Close, a very famous American artist. Smita created this by using the grid method. This technique involves drawing and shading one square at a time to ensure an extremely accurate representation.

