

# Dormston News



## CHILDREN IN NEED

### Inside this issue:

Children in need	1
Pupil reception	1
Valencia	2
Jesus live	2
S.T.E.M	3
Best event	3
PLC update	4
School production	4

After successfully raising £3,600 last year for Children in Need, the pupils at Dormston School decided that they wanted to make a difference again this year.

Pupils and staff decided what activities they wanted throughout the week. Pupils were allocated jobs which included selling spotty wrist bands, selling tickets for football matches, organising, auditioning, selling tickets and working back stage at a Talent Show. As well as this, there were also cake sales, Zumba lunchtime classes,



Friday. After all the hard work and fun we raised an amazing total of £3,659. In the difficult financial climate this is testament to the good will of so many fantastic pupils and staff

at Dormston School.

'Beat the Goalie' competitions and several sponsored silences. The Head Girl, Rosie Downes, was one pupil who completed a 2 day sponsored silence and she raised an amazing £280. Staff were also sponsored by family and friends to come in Fancy Dress which saw characters ranging from 'The Flintstones' to the cast of 'Jungle Book'.

The week of events finished with a mufti day on



### Important Dates:

**4th January 2012**

Term Begins

**19th January 2012**

Year 7 Parents Consultation

**7th-10th February 2012**

'Our House' School Production.

**21st February 2012**

Year 9 Options Evening

**12th March 2012**

Year 9 Parents Consultation

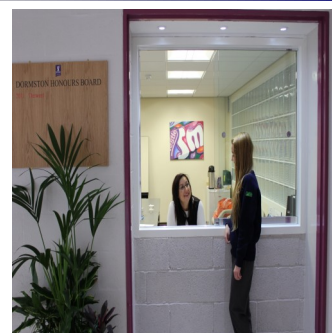


## Our new pupil reception

Following recent renovations during the summer holidays our atrium area now boasts an impressive pupil reception. This new facility acts as a first point of contact for pupils, offering help with general enquiries, safeguarding valuables such as mobile phones and dealing with

lost property.

Our receptionist, Lorna Evans, is always on hand to help pupils organise their lives more efficiently during the school day and the staff and pupils agree that this has already become a hugely successful and well used feature of our school.



# Annie

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 213 Year 7 students travelled to The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton to watch a West End performance of 'Annie'. The idea behind the visit was to enhance the cross curricular learning that is currently taking place across all Arts lessons. The trip was a great success with our Year 7 students representing the school honourably with their excellent behaviour. The visit also enabled many of our students to experience the excitement of a live, professional performance for the very first time.

**Congratulations to Natalie Pullinger who has successfully obtained her Netball Umpire Qualification.**

## Christmas Celebrations

On the afternoon of the 6<sup>th</sup> December, Dormston hosted its first 'Christmas Celebration' in the Mill Theatre. Pupils from Cotwall End and Roberts Primary Schools sang a selection of Christmas Songs to their parents and the residents of local care homes. There were also performances from the Dormston School Orchestra and the Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts students who performed the Flint Street Nativity by Tim Firth.

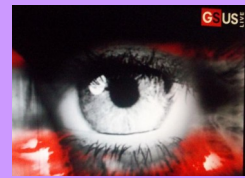
## VALENCIA FOOTBALL



For the first time ever, Year 10 and 11 pupils and staff visited the well known football city of Valencia (Spain). This fantastic opportunity took place in October half term 2011. Pupils took part in 5 days of professional training sessions led by the Valencia coaching staff as well as playing 2 football matches against both Spanish and English opposition. In addition to training, pupils had the opportunity to have

a behind-the-scenes tour of the Mestalla Stadium and watch the Valencia team take on Athletic Bilbao in a La Liga match.

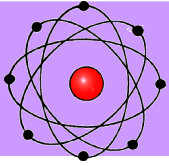
The trip was a huge success and all pupils came back to the UK having had a fantastic experience, all are now improved footballers.



*The RE department invited GSUS LIVE to work with Dormston pupils last term. Our pupils were privileged to gain this experience as the company is extremely popular and visits the local area only once every three years.*

*GSUS LIVE is an interactive experience looking at the issues of fear, forgiveness and rejection from a Christian perspective. The students boarded a kitted-out HGV trailer equipped with 16 computer workstations and a 3D cinema screen, provided by the Christian charity "Counties". The GSUS LIVE Team consisted of Christians from local churches and youth workers led by David Brown and Gareth Hides. Our pupils responded positively and were engaged in the material throughout. They particularly enjoyed the opportunity to work on an interactive program which allowed them to help a fictional character with his issues on forgiveness.*





## Science Club

Over the past term several of our pupils in Key Stage 3 have been attending Science Club. They have had great fun designing and building battery-powered cars. There have been some superb imaginative designs. Last week the cars were raced. Congratulations to Jake Effa whose car won. Next term the Science Club is joining with the Art Club and we shall be making models of the solar system.

Since September, Dormston has played host to 30 pupils from three local primary schools. They have been taking part in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) STEM is essentially about creating opportunities to inspire young people in these areas.

The demand for STEM-skilled individuals is expected to grow dramatically in the future. STEM skills can open up new and more highly paid career opportunities and Dormston School wants to prepare our young



## S.T.E.M



Dormston School is now working to create the first ever STEM activity day in the Dudley Borough.

Year 5 pupils will work alongside Dormston students and undergraduates from The University of Wolverhampton.

adults of the future with the right skills and experiences.

Lessons have involved subjects ranging from beauty and buildings, to making parachutes and pizzas. There are opportunities for problem solving, discovery and exploratory learning; pupils have to work in teams like engineers, finding solutions together.

The budding engineers and scientists will be scrambling around to find everyday discarded objects to transport an egg safely from one point to another without using their hands. Everyone involved is very egg-cited about this competition!

**Congratulations to Reece Brown for being selected to represent England U16 Football Team in the Sky Sports Victory Shield 2011 against Scotland.**



## 'BEST EVENT' AWARD

**Dormston pupils win 'Best Event' at the O2 London arena.**

Dormston pupils entered a competition run by Blastbeat & O2 through the community programme 'Think Big'. This was a hunt to find the best musicians and social entrepreneurs in the UK.

The Blastbeat programme allowed young people to learn about the music industry.

Dormston pupils had to create their own business, which they chose to call 'Epic.' They also had to arrange an event, book

bands, sell tickets and take ownership of all the marketing and technical organisation.

Judges from O2 and Blastbeat attended the sell-out

the team travelled to London to present their work to judges and show a 3 minute film of their fund-raising event. Around 3,500 people were at the event and after the judging had taken place, 'Epic' were able to enjoy all the bands that had made it to the finals.

The group had a fantastic, if long, day ending with them being awarded the trophy for 'Best Event'.

Through the process the pupils gained a hands-on learning experience which has certainly inspired them to go on and achieve even more success with new events arranged by the group.

show and gave the group top scores for organisation across the Midlands area. This secured 'Epic' a place in the London finals.

On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October



**Need to contact the school or give us some feedback?**

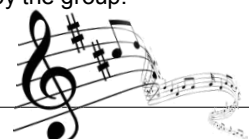
Call us on:  
01384 816395

Our website address is:  
[www.dormston.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.dormston.dudley.sch.uk)

Or email:

[info@domston.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@domston.dudley.sch.uk)

**We would love to hear your views on our school.**





**Dormston**  
SCHOOL  
A MATHEMATICS &  
COMPUTING COLLEGE



**CONGRATULATIONS TO SEAN LEARY ON ACHIEVING A DUDLEY YOUTH AWARD FOR HIS EFFORTS IN THEATRE**

***Congratulations to Mrs Davies-Njie and her group of Year 11 Health and Social Care pupils who managed to organise and run the schools very own MacMillan coffee morning. They raised £60 in only fifteen minutes. Well done to all involved.***



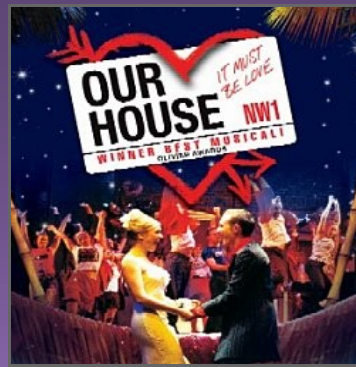
**Attendance:**

The safety and welfare of our pupils is of paramount importance. It is vital therefore that you ensure you let us know when your child will not be in school for any reason. If this is because of illness you need to contact us on a daily basis.

You can let us know either by phone; 01384 816395 or via email on [info@dormston.dudley.sc.h.uk](mailto:info@dormston.dudley.sc.h.uk). We would really appreciate it if you could let us know before 8.30am so that we can ensure that the information is pre-entered into registers and Form Tutors are clear about who is absent.



Thank You



**SCHOOL PRODUCTION**

Rehearsals are now fully underway for this year's school production of 'Our House'. There is an awful lot of hard work going on, with both rehearsals and behind the scenes, so a big thank you to all pupils and staff involved. We still have a lot of work and long rehearsals ahead of us but I am more than confident that our brilliant cast will put on yet another fantastic show (Hopefully without any disruption from the snow!). Tickets for the show will be available soon after Christmas and we will keep you posted when they are on sale.



**DUDLEY CRUISE 2011**

The memory of what we have all brought away from going on the Dudley school cruise will last us a lifetime. The sights we have witnessed are indescribable compared to any usual family holiday.

The cruise ship may not be 5 star luxury; however it provides a discovery of its own, with 9 decks of independent exploration for you and your new friends who are sharing the same amazing experience. Every morning there is a different image from historical lands to the endless deep blue sea.



Amelia  
Hollies and  
Bryony  
Lloyd

**PLC update**

Roald Dahl Day

Pupils from local primary schools attended the PLC in July to celebrate Roald Dahl Day. Mrs Rowley entertained Year 5 with 'revolting rhymes and tales' before setting pupils the challenge of creating their own chocolate bar. Pupils designed and presented some weird and wonderful chocolate bars which were inspired by Roald Dahl. Well done to everyone who took part.



Haunting Tales

On Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October Mrs. Rowley and the Book

Club invited pupils to an hour of spooky storytelling. Pupils sat in a circle around lit pumpkins enjoying homemade cakes and some wonderfully haunting tales.

The Book Club.

The Book Club meets every Monday after school in the PLC to discuss the books members are reading, to write book reviews and even get the chance to meet real authors.

Short Story Competition

Year 7 and 8 pupils have the opportunity to enter a short story writing competition. The challenge is to write a story of 900 to 1000 words entitled The Choice. The winning story will be recorded as a podcast by a professional actor.

For more details please see Mrs. Rowley.

All entries will need to be handed in by Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2012.