

DORMERS INFORMER

Believe. Aspire. Flourish



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a successful and busy half term, I'm very proud of our school community and how much learning we have achieved so far. We were delighted to welcome so many families to our face-to-face person Parents' Evening on Monday 19th October, with an individual 10-minute appointment, as result of our parent surveys. It was wonderful to see parents and carers meeting with teaching staff to discuss how your child has settled into the term so far and talk about their next steps and targets. Pupils in Years 2-6 also received Maths workbooks to support learning at home. We were proud to welcome a range of professionals and organisations, including NHS Oral Health, Heston Lions Club, Mind, Southall Community Alliance, Learning Labs, Schools Counselling Partnership and Lion Tigers, all offering valuable advice and support. Parents were also able to take home free loaves of bread and school uniform. It was fantastic to see our community coming together to support our children and families. Attendance ranged from 71% to 100%, with an overall attendance of 87%. Huge congratulations to Year 1 Earhart and Both Year 5 classes who achieved 100% attendance! Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the evening such a success. If you were unable to attend your appointment, please speak to your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative time. Working together, we can ensure every child receives the support they need to flourish.

Attendance Awards-OCTOBER 2026

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. In the classes below 97%, attendance is down, due to mainly unauthorised holidays. A Special Well done to the TOP SEVEN classes for their excellent attendance, so far. Year 1 Seacole and Year 6 Johnson, earned a non-uniform day on Thursday 22nd October- last day of term for their attendance being over 98% for the half term (September and October)!

Position	Class attendance
1 st =	Y3 Tendulkar 98.7% 😊
1 st =	Y6 Johnson 98.7% 😊
3 rd	Y5 Zephaniah 98.4% 😊
4 th	Y6 Turing 97.7% 😊
5 th	Y4 Attenborough 97% 😊
6 th =	Y2 Curie 96.9% 😊
6 th =	Y5 Blackman 96.6% 😊
8 th	Y1 Seacole 96.3%
9 th	Y2 Latimer 96.2%
10 th =	Y3 Farah 94.4%
10 th =	Y4 Wangari 94.4%
12 th	YR Mahlangu 93.9%
13 th	Y1 Earhart 92.7%
14 th	YR Pollock 92.1%
15 th	Nursery Raza 88.2%
Whole school attendance	95.7% Target of 25-26 almost met 🎯

Attendance and Punctuality

Good Attendance = Great Results!

We are delighted that our whole-school attendance has reached 95.7%, meeting our school target! Thank you to all our families for your continued support in ensuring children attend school regularly and on time.

Everyday Counts! Regular attendance helps children make the best possible progress, build friendships, develop positive routines and enjoy all the opportunities school has to offer. Even a few days of absence can have a significant impact on learning.

We would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of not booking holidays during term time. Every school day is valuable, and term-time holidays result in missed lessons, disrupted learning and gaps in understanding that can be difficult for children to catch up on. Holidays during term time will not be authorised, except in exceptional circumstances.

We encourage all families to work with us to maintain attendance above 95% and ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we can make every school day count and help our children achieve their full potential!

Black History Month- 'Honouring our Communities'

This October, we celebrated Black History Month with the theme 'Honouring our Communities'. In today's world, stories are powerful tools that shape how we understand our past, present, and future, and this year's theme is a powerful tribute to the strength, resilience and unwavering commitment of local community that defines the Black community globally. Throughout the month, our pupils have been wonderfully engaged in a range of BHM creative and reflective activities, including assemblies, to honour generations of resilience, cultural strength and identity.

Head Boy and Head Girl

Our Head Girl, Jannatpreet and Head Boy, Damain, who were voted by their peers to represent Dormers Wells Primary, as Head boy and Head girl talk about our visions and values on the school website. Do check it out! [Vision and Values – Dormers Wells Primary School](#).

Nursery Places available for January 2027 and April 2027

If your child was born between 1 September 2023 and 31 December 2023, s/he can start Nursery in January 2027.

If your child was born between 1 January 2024 and 31 March 2024, 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.



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

SAFEGUARDING: ONLINE SAFETY MICHELLE

To further help you keep your children safe online, this summer's Parent Guide is: Dealing with Upsetting Content online.

Let's get out and about- Black History Month

Please also do check DOJO for more details of activities available in the Borough and surrounding areas over half term. Here are details of several community events, exhibitions, and library activities for Black History Month 2026 throughout October.

Exhibitions & Art

One Love: Errol Lloyd Fine art exhibition

Date & Time: Friday, 23 October 2026 at 11:00 AM (final event of the series)

Venue: Felix & Spear Art Gallery, 71 St Mary's Rd, Ealing, London, W5 5RG

Description: An art exhibition showcasing paintings and three-dimensional sculptures by Jamaican-born pioneering artist and book illustrator Errol Lloyd. Family-friendly and indoors.

Cost: Free

Library Events & Author Talks

• Black History Month Scavenger Hunt

- Date & Time: Daily (except Sundays) through 30 October 2026
- Venue: Jubilee Gardens Library
- Description: An interactive Black History Month scavenger hunt.
- Cost/Details: Free, exclusively for children aged 4 to 11 (must be accompanied by an adult if under 12)

New Gen x Black History Month (Youth Festival & Open Mic)

- Date & Time: Saturday, 24 October 2026, from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Venue: Northolt Library (Church Rd, Northolt, UB5 5AB)
- Description: A youth-focused music and culture event featuring a free open mic and live performances from guest artists including Grimm Dreamurr, Amarachii, Cee2, and Trxth (selected via BBC Introducing on BBC 1Xtra), hosted by Malaeka.
- Cost: Free (aimed at ages 14–25; under-14s must be accompanied by an adult).

Black Histories Walk in West Ealing

- Date & Time: Friday, 23 October 2026, from 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- Meeting Point: Outside West Ealing Community Library (Melbourne Ave, West Ealing, London W13 9BT)
- Description: A guided neighborhood walk exploring local Black history, paying special tribute to Eric and Jessica Huntley (founders of the pioneering Bogle L'Ouverture Bookshop in Chignell Place) and visiting local landmarks.
- Cost: Free (via [Eventbrite Registration](#))

Other support available-Cost of living

Ealing Council offers a range of support, benefits, grants and money-saving discounts for children and families, including help with the cost of living.

Cost of Living Support & Advice – benefits, grants, money-saving discounts, food support and family support:

[Cost of living support and advice | Ealing Council](#)

Free Mobile Data / SIM Cards – information about eligibility and how to get a free SIM through Ealing's Community Hubs:

[Get free mobile data | Get free mobile data | Ealing Council](#)

Financial Support & Help with Bills – includes Council Tax Reduction, Housing Payments, Crisis and Resilience Fund, Free School Meals and support for families:

[Cost of living support: Living costs: bills, housing and health - GOV.UK](#)

Benefits Calculator – check what benefits or financial support you may be entitled to:

[Check benefits and financial support you can get - GOV.UK](#)

Crisis and Resilience Fund – support for residents facing financial difficulties, including help with money, bills, debt and essential costs:

[Crisis and Resilience Fund: Guidance for local authorities in England \(1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029\) - GOV.UK](#)

Getting Online – information about free Wi-Fi, digital support, free SIM cards and social tariffs:

[Get online | Get online | Ealing Council](#)

Thank you for your continued support. School closes at 3:15pm on Thursday 22nd October. Wishing you all a safe, restful half term. School re-opens, at 8:30am for Nursery and 8:40am for all other pupils, on Monday 2nd November. Happy Diwali to our Sikh and Hindu community.

With best wishes,

Mrs Toni George
Headteacher



UPCOMING DATES

Mon 2/11/26:
 ·Pupils back to school
 ·Maths Story Week
 ·9am Y6 Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop
 ·2.30- Y1 Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop

Tue 3/11/26:
 ·9am YR5 Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop
 ·2:30pm Y2 Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop
 ·Book fair begins
 ·Primary Pentathlon event (Selected pupils)
 ·Closing date of Autumn Parent Survey

Wed 4/11/26:
 ·9am YR4 Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop
 ·2:30pm Rec Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop

Thurs 5/11/26:
 ·9am Y3 Parents Reading/Phonics Workshop
 ·2:45pm Y3 Farah class Assembly
 ·Diwali themed lunch

Mon 9/11/26:
 ·9am Black parent forum
 ·Last day of book fair

Tue 10/11/26:
 ·Y6 puzzle academy in school

Wed 11/11/26:
 ·Y6 trip to Tate Modern
 ·Remembrance Day, 1 minute silence @ 11am

Thurs 12/11/26:
 ·Diwali Theme Lunch
 ·2:45pm Y5 Blackman class Assembly

Fri 13/11/26:
 ·Children in Need Day

Mon 16/11/26:
 ·Mufti Day - Odd Socks day.
 ·WB 16.11.26 Anti bullying Week

Tue 17/11/26:
 ·Y2 Film Festival @ Cineworld Cinema

Wed 18/11/26:
 ·Y2 & Y5 London Fire Brigade visit
 ·Y1 Film Festival @ Cineworld Cinema

Fri 20/11/26:
 ·Y4 visit British Museum
 ·2pm Y6 Residential Trip meeting for parents

Mon 23/11/26:
 ·Whole School Christmas Pantomime

Tues 24/11/26:
 ·NHS Flu Vaccinations
 ·Y2 Trip to Science Museum
 ·Y3/4 Film Festival @ Cineworld Cinema

Wed 25/11/26:
 ·Y5/6 Film Festival @ Cineworld Cinema
 ·Y3/4 selected pupils to Boccia event

Thurs 26/11/26:
 ·2:45 Y3 Tendulkar class assembly

Fri 27/11/26:
 ·Occasional Day School Closed

Mon 30/11/26:
 ·Rec & Y6 NHS Height & Weight Checks



Reading for Pleasure

October Edition

Reading is at the heart of what we do



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

This October, we are celebrating Black History Month by exploring incredible stories, inspiring role models and rich cultures through the power of books.

 Explore new worlds
  Learn about different cultures and experiences
  Celebrate inspiring role models
  Build empathy and understanding
  See the world through different perspectives

Reception – Year 2 (ages 4–7)



Little People, Big Dreams: Maya Angelou
by Lisbeth Kaiser

Discover the inspiring story of Maya Angelou – a poet, writer and civil rights activist who used her voice to make a difference.

A brilliant introduction to an inspiring role model for our youngest readers.

Years 3–6 (ages 7–11)



The Last Leaf
by Lucy Strange

A moving and powerful story about a young girl finding her voice, her bravery and her place in the world.

A great read for older readers, exploring identity, courage and friendship.

Year 6 (ages 11+)



The Hate U Give
by Angie Thomas

A thought-provoking and powerful story about speaking up, standing up and the importance of finding your voice, even when it's hard.

A must-read for older readers, encouraging empathy, justice and positive change.



Real books. Lasting impact.

♥ Different stories, same love of reading! ♥

KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) OCTOBER HALF TERM 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free

ANGUS STEAKHOUSE Kids under 8 eat FREE daily. 12pm to 5pm ASDA Kids eat for £1 daily. with no adult spend ASK ITALIAN Kids Eat Free October 9th - 31st via Perks App BELLA ITALIA Children eat for £1 with any adult main BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE 2 Kids Eat Free Breakfast with 1 paying adult BILLS Kids Eat Free Monday 26th – Friday 30th October BREWDOG Kids eat free this Oct with KIDS EAT FREE bookings CAFE ROUGE Kids Eat FREE 12-4pm every day of the week CHIKUITO Kids eat FREE during all school holidays DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES Kids eat for £1 with an adult breakfast or lunch FARMHOUSE INNS 2 Kids eat free during the October Half Term FLAMING GRILL 1 Kid eats free weekdays this October half term FRANKIE & BENNY'S Kids eat FREE during school holidays FUTURE INNS Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS Kids under 10 eat FREE all day, every day HARVESTER Kids eat for £1 until November 1st 2026 via App HUNGRY HORSE 2 Kids eat for £1 this October Half Term IKEA Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am LAS IGUANAS Kids eat FREE with 'My Las Iguanas' App	MARCO PIERRE WHITE Kids under 12 Eat FREE daily with an adult spend MARSTON PUBS Kids eat for £1 during the october half term MORRISONS Kids Eat FREE all day, every day with a £5 spend PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM Kids eat FREE with every £4 spend all day PREMIER INN 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast PRETO Kids up to age 10 eat free with 1 paying adult PUREZZA Kids under 10 get free pizza with every adult meal SA BRAINS PUBS Kids eat for £1 on Wednesdays SIZZLING PUBS Kids eat for £1, Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm TABLE TABLE 2 Kids Eat free breakfast daily with 1 paying adult TESCO Kids Eat free weekdays with an adult purchase TGI FRIDAYS Kids Eat Free with any adult meal (Via App) THE REAL GREEK Kids under 12 eat FREE Sundays with £10 spend TRAVELODGE 2 kids eat for free with 1 adult breakfast TURTLE BAY Kids eat free with a £15 adult spend via app VILLAGE HOTELS Kids eat free via the village app WHITBREAD INNS 2 kids eat for FREE with 1 adult breakfast YO! SUSHI Kids eat free all day (weekdays) in school holidays ZIZZI Kids eat free weekdays in school holidays
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WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Nursery

This month in Nursery the children have continued to settle, explore the inside and outdoor environments, learn the daily routine and become more familiar with the adults and with each other. We have read two special books: Little Rabbit Foo Foo and Little Red Riding Hood. Little Rabbit Foo Foo helps us think about making 'good choices' and Little Red Riding Hood is our first traditional tale. The children are beginning to develop their storytelling when they play at the Story Tray, which has the props and characters from the story for the children to play with. We have also been learning about signs of autumn - making leaves for our Seasons Tree display and picking up fallen leaves from the ground in our garden. You can look for signs of Autumn with your children when you are out and about.



Year 1

This month children in Year One have been celebrating many different occasions including going on their first school trip of Year One. Year One's first school trip of the year was our local walk to the Grand Union Canal and the Three Bridges of Southall. The children saw many sites along the way and a particular favourite for many was McDonalds. A quote from one of our Year 1 children: "I liked our trip. We saw a lock and a swan. We saw some boats too. Some of the water was nice but some was green and dirty."



Reception

As part of our learning on the story 'we're going on a bear hunt' reception children were excited to welcome visitors from 'teach it through drama'. We enjoyed a storytelling session where we pushed through grass, waded through water and tripped on sticks. After following the special map we met a friendly bear called Boris.



Year 2

Year 2 had a fantastic time on their landmark trip, exploring the wonderful sights of London. They enjoyed spotting and identifying some of London's most famous landmarks. Gurbaani shared, "My favourite part of the day was watching the Uber Boats, with a view of the London Eye whilst we were eating our lunch!"



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

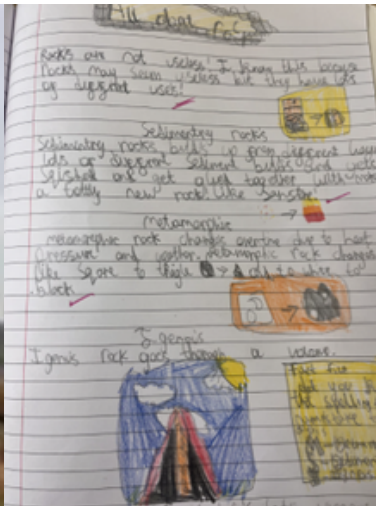
Year 3

Year 3 have loved exploring the world of rocks this half term, learning about the three main rock types and their properties. Their enthusiasm even continued into playtimes, when they searched the school field for different rocks! Their favourite activity was recreating the rock cycle using chocolate, before enjoying their delicious chocolate rocks.

On Tuesday 20th October, the children visited Northala Fields to support their History, Geography and Science learning. Despite the rainy weather, they climbed to the top, spotted local landmarks such as Wembley Stadium and Southall Gurdwara, and explored the rocks used in the landscape. The trip was a great success, with the children showing excellent behaviour throughout. A big thank you to the parents who joined us!

Here's what some of the children had to say:

- "I enjoyed the trip because it gave us time to explore." Aarush
- "I enjoyed the trip because I liked the beautiful trees and houses." Zainab
- "I enjoyed the trip because of the rocks. I saw flint!" Abhinandan



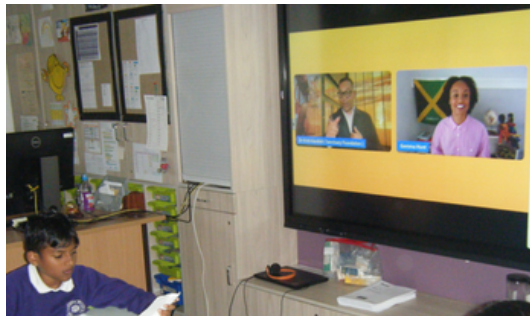
Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about cityscape and Stephen Wiltshire. They have been creating drawings of different landmarks. Here is a beautiful drawing by Dev in 4A.



Year 5

Year 5 were very excited to welcome our local MP, Deirdre Costigan, and ask thoughtful questions about her role in Parliament and the issues that matter to them and their families. They were particularly interested to hear about what she is doing, and has done, to support communities across Southall and Ealing, as well as how she represents local people and helps make positive changes in the community. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to learn more about democracy, Parliament and how their voices can be heard. Year 5 took part in the Great Big Live Assembly, making links to Black History Month (BHM). They explored the importance of celebrating Black history, culture and achievements, recognising the contributions of inspirational Black individuals, and understanding how we can promote equality, respect and inclusion in our school and wider community.



Year 6

Southall Community Alliance visiting year 6 as part of the History Southall Uprising topic.



SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

A Guide for Parents and Carers

Raising children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world currently experiencing so many uncertainties. From climate change to military conflicts around the globe, right now children across the globe can scarcely go online without being exposed to unsettling stories, images and ideas. Reassuring a concerned child can be difficult, especially when bad news feels omnipresent. We've put together some advice to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS

There are many ways that children are exposed to upsetting content in the media, both online and offline. Before swamping your child with information, find out what they know already. Show them you're interested in what they have to say, practice active listening and try to gauge how much your child has been impacted by what they've seen.

RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE

Starting a conversation about upsetting content probably isn't the best idea when your child is studying for an exam or about to go to bed. Choose a time when they're relaxed and open to talking, to make sure you have their full attention. Remember, these conversations can become emotional, so choose somewhere your child feels safe and comfortable.

KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE

With younger children, try and keep the conversation more general and avoid leading questions and complex detail. You can go slightly deeper into the specifics with young teenagers but keep monitoring their emotional response. With older teens, you can be more open about the realities and consequences of what's happening – but again, do stay aware of their emotional state.

EMPHASISE HOPE

Upsetting content can make anyone feel angry, scared, sad or overwhelmed. Try to find stories of hope, generosity and strength related to the content you're discussing. Children often feel reassured when they know they can do something to help, so encourage your child's sense of control through activities which make them feel they're positively impacting the events they're concerned about.

MONITOR REACTIONS

All children react differently, of course, and young people might not directly say that they're scared, angry, anxious, confused or uncomfortable. Emotional reactions are natural when discussing upsetting topics, so take note of your child's body language and reactions. Allow them to express their feelings in a non-judgmental space and try to stay mindful of how they might be feeling.

CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS

It's not only young people who find upsetting news difficult to process: adults also have to deal with strong emotions in moments of stress. Children develop coping strategies by mirroring those around them, so staying on top of how you appear to be regulating your emotion on the outside is important for supporting your child through worrying times.

SET LIMITS

Managing screen-time and content can be difficult even in normal circumstances, but especially in unusual or stressful periods (at the start of the pandemic, for example). It's virtually impossible to keep children away from upsetting content completely, but it's important to try to limit exposure by using parental controls, talking about the dangers of harmful content and enforcing screen-time limits.

TAKE THINGS SLOWLY

Try not to overwhelm your child with information all at once. Instead, take the discussion one step at a time. You could make the first conversation a simple introduction to a potentially upsetting subject and then wait until your child is ready to talk again. Opening the door to the conversation and demonstrating that your child can talk to you about this type of issue is a vital first step.

ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS

Online, troubling images, posts, videos and stories are shared across multiple platforms, many of which your child might access. Even if the content is actually inappropriate, encourage your child to discuss what they saw instead of being angry at them for seeing it. Children are still learning that not everything online is accurate – you want to be their ultimate source of information, not their device.

FIND A BALANCE

There's often a tremendous compulsion to stay right up to date with events. Our phones frequently send us push notifications urging us to read the latest article or view the most recent video on social media. It's essential to remind your child that it's healthy to take regular breaks, and to focus on positive events instead of 'doomscrolling' and risking becoming overwhelmed by bad news.

BUILD RESILIENCE

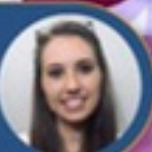
News has never been more accessible. While our instinct may be to shield children from upsetting stories, it's important that they're equipped with the tools to manage this content when they are exposed to it. Talk about upsetting content more generally with your child and emphasise that they can always tell you or a trusted adult if something they see makes them feel uneasy.

IDENTIFY HELP

It's hugely important that children know where to find support if they encounter upsetting content online. Encourage them to open up to an adult that they trust, and make sure they're aware of who their trusted adults are. It is essential that children understand that they're not alone, and that help is available if and when they need it.

Meet Our Expert

Cayley Jorgensen is the director of FaceUp South Africa, which is a reporting system that is currently being used by schools and companies to fight bullying around the world. FaceUp helps give a voice to bystanders by encouraging them to speak up and get the help they not only want but need.



Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/health-56196194>, <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/jul/22/parents-how-to-talk-to-your-child-about-online-safety>, <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/information-support/keeping-your-child-safe-from-online-safety>