

DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

27 September 2024 edition

Another week has flown by with lots and lots of exciting news and success at Durrington High School.

We're really proud of so many of our sports teams who have recorded success after success in recent fixtures. Dance Live is up and running again and it has been lovely to see just how many students have been getting involved in the wider extra-curricular activities on offer to them.

The SSLT too have been busy launching their Food for Thought charity event in assemblies this week. If anyone can help in terms of donating any tinned or long-life food goods these would be gratefully received and can be dropped to reception

and/or taken by your child to their form base (more info to follow).

In terms of our upper school year 10 have made a fantastic start to their GCSEs and year 11s are already organised and revising for their next set of tracking point assessments in mid-October.

Thank you for your continued support and we hope you enjoy the content in this fortnight's newsletter.

*Shaun Allison &
Chris Woodcock
Co-Headteachers*

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Curriculum spotlight

Year 7

Year 7 have begun the year by studying and discussing a selection of Greek Myths.

Lessons have focused on identifying themes looking at the wider purpose of mythology and what it can teach us about what it is to be human.

This has inspired their creative writing, which is supported by their fortnightly writing lesson where they will create their own story describing a character journey and exciting event.



Going beyond our best

English

Year 8

Students in year 8 have begun their year reading a range of Gothic and Victorian texts. They will be using their fortnightly writing lessons to practice vital writing skills. The Gothic conventions they have studied will inspire their writing of a short Gothic story.



They have also been busy researching in the LRA completing posters on various topics. Students presented their work and spoke about their topic, referencing the title of the book, author and page number from which they had taken quotes, showing awareness of correct copyright practices.



The Durrington Journey



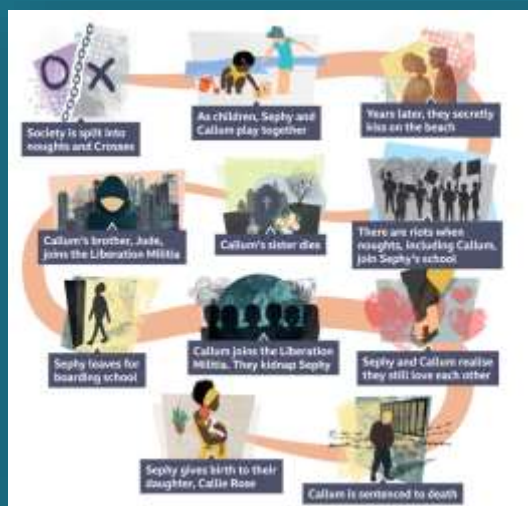
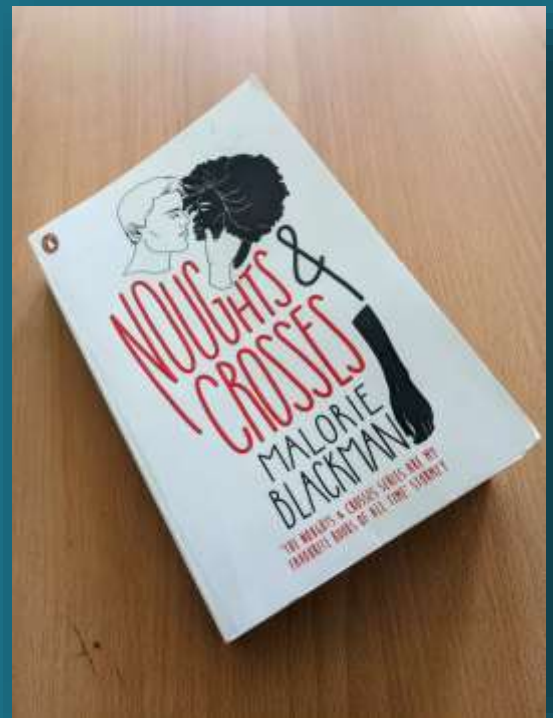
Curriculum spotlight

Year 9

Year 9 students are currently reading 'Noughts and Crosses' by Malorie Blackman.

This novel is set in dystopian Britain in which society is divided by race. Dark-skinned Crosses are privileged in society over the light-skinned noughts. Against the odds, the main characters, Sephy and Callum, fall in love despite the divide which leads them into danger.

Malorie Blackman was inspired by real events from history and her own life when she wrote this novel.



Rose in year 9 said the book was different to what she had been expecting and it certainly opened your eyes a lot and made you think.

#Kindness

English

Year 9 have also been discovering other genres from the vast array available in the Learning Resource Area.



At the end of every academic year the English department proudly celebrate their students achievements at the annual KS3 celebration event. This takes place during the second half of the summer term, and we are already looking forward to seeing, and celebrating, the success of our aspiring year 7s!

#Aspiration



Curriculum Spotlight ... English

Key Stage 4

Students in year 10 have already planned and written a short story as an introduction to the English Language GCSE. They will now move on to reading *Macbeth*, another key text they will know in full by the end of their time at DHS. They will explore the plot, characters and Shakespeare's message within the play, as well as studying key scenes at a deeper level.

Caleb in year 10 enjoys this subject and writing creatively using his imagination, and he also enjoys annotating poetry. Caleb said: "Our teacher is really good and enthusiastic which helps you to enjoy the lesson and learn."

Josie in year 10 enjoys the creative writing aspects of English. She says: "You get to enjoy writing your own creations and express yourself without limits. You can put your thoughts down on the paper and then look back at it and make changes, expand on your words and bring it to life."

Josie added: "In today's lesson we have been given a prompt, 'The worst day of my life' and examples, such as 'you have missed your bus'. By writing creatively and exaggerating the story with your words you can turn this into an interesting story. English is a fun subject."



#Perseverance



Year 11 began this September with study of the non fiction part of their English Language GCSE. They have to read and answer questions on two separate non fiction texts and will use the techniques and skills they identify in this to inform the next phase which will be to write their own non fiction as well.

Year 11 GCSE English revision

GCSE English revision classes take place after school every Wednesday from 3.15pm to 4.15pm. The revision schedule will be available to all students and sent home to parents and carers too.

#Pride



Curriculum spotlight

Year 11 Media

Students have been asked to create either a sports or fashion magazine targeting audiences between the ages of 16-24 for their coursework in Media Studies.

They have been producing a front cover, contents page and a single page article for their own magazine. They have worked incredibly hard on this and have applied great knowledge and skill to their work, thinking about layout/design, colour palette, representation and how their production work is going to appeal to their target demographic.



Work by Nathan Dogbe and Ayla Sayers

#DHSCreativity

Media



Media Studies students were given the opportunity to watch 'Luther' (Series 1, episode 1) in our state-of-the-art Performing Arts Centre in order to help them with their Component 2 exam. This exciting, thrilling and intense crime drama was enjoyed by many of the students, enabling them to develop their knowledge around the conventions of a crime drama, the technical codes included within the episode, as well as learn more about the different character types that were included. This will help to better prepare them when they begin learning the unit in October.

#TheDurringtonJourney



Creative writing club

*“Creative writing was the gateway for my aspirations to become a writer in the future. It inspired my passion for poetry and led to a love of words.”
Joseph in year 11*



Working alongside the 'Young Writers' five of our incredibly talented students were chosen to become published poets! They each had to write a poem playing with perspective and having to see the world from somebody else's eyes.

Congratulations to: Leo McBean, Marley Edwards, Freddie McGeorge-Hinks, Hollie McCullough, Grace Packer and Sophie Hopkins.

The publication will be out at the end of this month. Well done to you all, a brilliant achievement!



This term year 10 and 11 students will be taking part in the 'Young Reporter Scheme' which gives students in KS4 & 5 the opportunity to write for a real live online newspaper. This programme will run for eight months during the school term, with various opportunities offered along the way. At the end of the scheme students are judged on the articles they have submitted throughout the year and an awards ceremony is held for the winners.

Good luck to all our students taking part, Joseph Waterer, Nethini Gunasena, Aimee Tandy, Hazel Fraser, Matilda Cutting, Tyler Green, Nafisa Rahman, Ave Ellis, Owen Burt and Scar Kinnett. We are excited to see where this opportunity takes you.

#ProudofDHS



Learning Resource Centre

The LRA is a social space as well as an educational setting and opens at 8am each morning for students to visit prior to period 1, plus breaktime, lunchtime, and after school until 4pm.

Students can use the computers, choose a board game to play with friends, catch up on homework, or select a new book to read. Everyone is welcome.



#TeamDurrington



Senior Student Leadership Team

Our Student Senior Leadership Team led the year 7 assembly this week and launched the KAPP Kindness Passport Challenge 2024.

What's Kindness? Why's Kindness important?

Kindness, by definition, is the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.

Being kind is proven to increase self esteem, reduce isolation and increase feelings of satisfaction and optimism.



Kindness Passport

As the new year 7 at DHS we have an exciting opportunity for you. Over the next few weeks we will be launching your new kindness passports for you to complete at home. This is a chance for you to earn your bronze Kindness badge by completing a list of tasks all around the theme of being kind. Whether that's kindness in school, to your friends, family or even yourself there is something for everyone to get involved with.

Kindness passport challenge 2024

Kindness is the act of helping others and being nice to them.

Kindness is the glue that holds the world together. (MARCUS)

Kindness is a small act with a powerful impact. (D.C.)

Remember that it is not how much you do, it is the small act of kindness every day that counts. (LITTLE ROCK, THE ORIGINAL AND (2016))

KINDNESS IS THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD. (D.C.)

How the year 7 kindness passport challenge works...

- Earn 12+ points achieve your bronze kindness badge
- Share points in more classes of your form winning the overall form group competition.

Kindness is a long term change in what we do and how we act

Start date for our challenge is September 2024 with a finish date on Friday 13th October

Once you have completed your passport, hand it back to your house team or form tutor.

Name: _____ Form: _____

Total points scored: _____ Form tutor signed off & points logged: _____

Durrington High Community

Year 7 KAPP Challenge

How the Year 7 Kindness Passport challenge works:

- Show *kindness* to your family
- Show *kindness* to your friends
- Show *kindness* to your teachers and the school community
- Show *kindness* in the wider community
- Be *kind* to yourself
- Earn 12+ points to achieve your bronze kindness badge
- The more points you earn = the more chance of your form winning the overall form group competition!

Once you have completed your passport hand it back to your house team or form tutor. The deadline is Friday 18th October

Kindness on different scales



Kindness exists on all different levels, from worldwide kindness, national kindness, and even in our local community. Every act of kindness makes a difference.

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride



DHS Platinum Academy

The Durrington Platinum Academy runs in partnership with St John's College Oxford, and during the summer holidays a number of our Platinum Academy students were invited to attend Oxford University's Summer School. This was a once in a lifetime opportunity, inspiring our students with a taste of University life, as well as making new friendships and incredible memories.

"At the Oxford Summer School, we did lots of fun activities, including punting, a lecture by the President of St John's College, a BBQ and film night, a quiz, and three workshops.

The workshops I chose were: a workshop about how printing presses were used to print books in the Bodleian Library; a workshop in which we made solar-powered boats and experimented with them, as well as (attempting to) 3-D print with chocolate; and a workshop in the Oxford Prison, where we did a mock court case about someone who was imprisoned and executed in the prison (I was playing the lady being tried, sadly I was found guilty!).



The punting was very fun, but most of our group (including me) were pretty bad at it, so one person was doing it for the majority of the time. It was a memorable experience, although no one fell in!

We stayed in the student accommodation in the college, in the Thomas White

#TheDurringtonJourney

Oxford Summer School

Quadrangle if I remember correctly, and each had a big room to ourselves (which had a lounge, bedroom, fridge and desk) with a shared kitchen/bathroom between every 4 rooms.

One thing that I will take away from this summer school is the experience of being at a university and to enjoy all the things it had to offer. It was also great to meet with lots of students from other schools and have fun together.”

Reuben Bowdery in year 10

“The workshops that I attended were the Science-slime making, Engineering-solar powered boats, History-Tour of the Oxford prison + a mini court case activity. On top of all that we got a lecture from Professor Dame Sue Black the President of the college and also a forensic expert about how they found Viking bones under the new complex when it was being built.

One thing that I have taken away from this experience is that St Johns College, Oxford is a great place to stay and study at with fun activities and lessons but also positive and caring staff.”

Riley Sutherland in year 10



#Aspiration



Senior Student Leadership Team

Whole School Fundraising Campaign

The Student Senior Leadership Team are thrilled to announce their new fundraising campaign to help the most vulnerable in our local area, by donating food to Worthing food bank.



As a community we aim to raise vital goods for our local food bank to help them add to the 1200+ food parcels they have delivered to people in crisis in our local community.

How can you get involved?

We are asking you to donate food for Worthing Food Bank so they can continue helping our community.

If you're in a position where you feel you can donate, we ask that you spare some long life foods to try and help those in our amazing local community that need it the most.

How to support your local foodbank



Food for Thought

Durrington High Community

food

FOR THOUGHT

As well as this amazing opportunity to donate to your local community, there will be prizes for individuals and form groups who donate the most items.

Some of the accepted long life food items include:

- Tinned fruit and vegetables
- Canned fish and meats
- Cereals
- Biscuits

The challenge will be running the week commencing the 7th of October with collection happening on Friday the 11th.

During this week we ask you bring in long life foods into your forms where we will come and collect the items.

Prizes will be awarded to the individuals and form groups who donate the most items!





KAPP nominations

Our system of KAPP rewards and recognition ensures we are able to reward students for *'going beyond their best'* in a variety of ways.

How can you nominate your child?

It's very simple. Just let us know if your son/daughter has done/achieved something amazing and you think it might be worth a Kindness or Pride badge. We have tried to make things as simple as possible. The only thing you need to do is complete the form below, telling us about your child's accomplishments.

[KAPP rewards recognition form](#)

Aspiration and Perseverance badges will be rewarded by the school, through teaching staff and house teams.

Going beyond our best

Durrington High Values

Durrington High School



Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

Kindness Aspiration Perseverance Pride



Durrington High School Open Evening

Durrington High School



Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

Open Evening

Thursday 3 October 2024

6pm to 8pm

Presentations by the
Headteachers at 6.10pm
and 7pm



Open Mornings

Monday 7 to Friday 11
October 9am to 10am each
morning

Book on the QR code below



| Going beyond our best |

Durrington High Open Events

Durrington High School Prospectus

Durrington High School is highly aspirational for all, with strong traditional values, expert teaching, excellent facilities, and care and support with our dedicated pastoral team. Find out more in our prospectus here: [Durrington High School Prospectus](#)



Transition

Having a dedicated and experienced transition team means that joining Durrington is something to be excited about. We provide personalised support to ensure all questions are answered and each child is known and supported from day 1.

- This includes transition activities and events on site in the summer term alongside the formal transition day
- Additional visits and contact for those who may need a little bit more support (whatever this is)
- Coffee mornings for parents/carers pre and post joining to build a personal relationship with home



Pastoral support

Our outstanding pastoral support team make it a priority to know and support each and every student. With a dedicated non-teaching pastoral manager within each house, supported by a number of additional specialist pastoral staff, we can help and support whatever the issue

- Our staff go out of their way to know each and every child
- Tailoring support to the individual so they feel safe, confident and happy in school
- Close links with a wide range of external specialists so when specialist support is needed this can be accessed quickly



School Values

Our values of Kindness, Aspiration, Perseverance and Pride underpin all that we do at Durrington. Rewarding and recognising students for successes they have, both within and outside of school, builds on these values and strengthens our community.

- We recognise and reward all students irrespective of their starting point
- Students are proud to "wear the badge" and celebrate the success of others
- There are leadership opportunities in every year group and across a wide range of areas



Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride



Extra-curricular



#DHSEnrichment

Clubs



Creative writing



Football



Minecraft



Extra-curricular at Durrington

There are a huge range of clubs, competitions and trips for students to get involved with. From art trips to New York, to mud runs, field trips to Iceland and West End visits. The list is endless.

- Trips and clubs that are both curricular themed and also focus on children being able to have a wider educational experience.
- The club rota changes each term to maximize the range of opportunities for students

DMAT
Getting Better. Never Stopping.



Something for everyone



Lunchtime Clubs September 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	LGBTQ+	All Years	Sawyer	G31E
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
Tuesday	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
Wednesday	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Rubix Cube Club	All Years	Miss Gover	G26M
	Chess Club	All Years	Mr Borrett & Mr Venness	G21M
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
Thursday	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Basketball	All Years	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
Friday	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro
	Careers Club	All Years	Mr Henry	Careers Library
	Basketball	7-9	Mr Pickford	New Sports Hall
	Basketball	10-11	Mr Crane	Sports Hall
	Dance	All Years	Miss Johnson	Bistro
	Computing Club	All Years	Mr Burgess	F24
	Fashion/Textiles	9	Mr Bloomer	FO3T
	Football	All Years	Mr De Gruchy	Astro

After-School Sports Clubs Autumn Half-Term 2024

Day	Club	Staff
Monday	Yr 7 Boys Football Fixtures	Mr Brombley
Tuesday	KS3 Girls football club	Miss Johnson
	Yr 8 Football Training	Mr Pickford
	Yr 9 Boys Football Fixtures	Mr Burgess
	Yr 10 Boys Rugby Training	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Burnett
	Yr 11 Boys Rugby Training	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Burnett
	U16 Girls Football Fixtures	Mrs Fuller
Wednesday	U14 Girls Basketball Fixtures	Mrs Wallis-Taylor
	Yr 9 Boys Football Training	Mr Burnett & Mr Pickford
	KS4 Netball Training	Miss Cann
Thursday	Yr 10 Boys Rugby Fixtures	Mr De Gruchy
	KS3 Girls Basketball Club	Mrs Wallis-Taylor
	Yr 8 Boys Football Fixtures	Mr Pickford
	Yr 7 Boys Football Training	Mr Brombley
	Yr 10 Netball Fixtures	Miss Johnson
	Yr 11 Boys Rugby Fixtures	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Burnett
Friday	Yr 11 Netball Fixtures	Miss Cann
	KS3 Girls Netball Club	Miss Cann & Miss Johnson
	Badminton Club	Mr Poole & Mr Brombley

#GetInvolved

After-School Clubs September 2024

Day	Club	Year	Staff	Venue
Monday	Writing Club	All Years	Miss Foster & Mr Gaffney	G32E
	Y7 Boys Football Fixtures	Y7	Mr Brombley	PE Office
Tuesday	Y9 Gifted and Talented Art (Oct Half Term)	Y9	Mrs Gray, Mr Bloomer, Miss Kingwell & Miss Grimes.	FO4T
	Choir	All Years	Mrs Maughan	F20C
	Minecraft Club	Y7	Mrs Carter	F27T
	MFL Film Club	All Years	Mr Gilbert	U06L
	Code Club	Y9	Mr Scott	F24T
	KS4 Spanish Speaking Club	Y10-11	Mrs Baquedano	U01L
	Arabic Club	All Years	Mrs Farah	U02L
	Y8 & Y9 French Club	Y8-9	Mrs Cooper	U03L
	Y8 & Y9 Spanish Club	Y8-9	Miss Smith	U05L
	KS3 Girls football club	Y7-9	Miss Johnson	Pavilion
	Y8 Boys Football Training	Y8	Mr Pickford	Pavilion
	Yr 9 Boys Football Fixtures	Y9	Mr Burgess	PE Office
	Yr 10 Boys Rugby Training	Y10	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Burnett	Pavilion
	Yr 11 Boys Rugby Training	Y11	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Burnett	Pavilion
U16 Girls Football Fixtures	Y9-11	Mrs Fuller	PE Office	
Wednesday	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Portfolio Enrichment	Y10-Y11	All Art Staff	All Art Rooms
	Drama Club	All Years	Miss Cross	Performing Arts Theatre
	Y7 Science Club	Y7	Miss Gurgen & Miss Lee	G15S
	E-Sports	All Years	Mr Scott	F24T
	U14 Girls Basketball Fixtures	Y8-Y9	Mrs Wallis-Taylor	PE Office
	KS4 Netball Training	Y10-Y11	Miss Cann	PE Office
	Y9 Boys Football training	Y9	Mr Burnett & Mr Pickford	Pavilion
	Yr 10 Boys Rugby Fixtures	Y10	Mr De Gruchy	PE Office
Thursday	Lego Spike	Y8	Mrs Taylor	F26T
	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Portfolio Enrichment	Y10-Y11	All Art Staff	All Art Rooms
	Whole School Musical	All Years	Mrs Isham	Performing Arts Theatre
	KS3 Girls Basketball Club	Y7-Y9	Mrs Wallis-Taylor	Sports Hall
	Y8 Stem Club	Y8	Mrs Laming	G09S
	Yr 8 Boys Football Fixtures	Y8	Mr Pickford	PE Office
	Yr 7 Boys Football Training	Y7	Mr Brombley	Pavilion
	Yr 10 Netball Fixtures	Y10	Miss Johnson	PE Office
Friday	Yr 11 Boys Rugby Fixtures	Y11	Mr De Gruchy & Mr Burnett	PE Office
	Yr 11 Netball Fixtures	Y11	Miss Cann	PE Office
	Dance Live	All years	Mrs Isham	Performing Arts Theatre
	KS3 Girls Netball Club	Y7-Y9	Miss Cann & Miss Johnson	PE Office
	Badminton Club	All years	Mr Poole & Mr Brombley	Sports Hall

#DHSClubs



Term dates 2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September – Friday 20 December

Half Term

• Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

INSET Days

- Monday 2 September
- Tuesday 3 September
- Friday 22 November

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January – Friday 4 April

Half Term

• Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

INSET Days:

- Thursday 23 January
- Friday 24 January
- Monday 10 March
- Tuesday 11 March

Summer term 2025

Tuesday 22 April – Tuesday 22 July

Half Term

• Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May

INSET Days:

- Friday 27 June

Bank holidays

- Monday 21 April
- Monday 5 May

The Durrington Journey



Diary Dates

- Open evening - Thursday 3rd October
- Open morning tours - Monday 7th October to Friday 11th October
- Year 10 GCSE support evening - Thursday 10th October
- Year 11 Mock support evening - Thursday 24th October

Sign up to our newsletter

- Our newsletter is sent out fortnightly to parents & carers and we aim to cover as much as possible from across the school. If your family and friends would like to receive our fortnightly editions they can sign up here: [Newsletter](#)

Social media

Don't forget you can follow all the latest news on our social media pages:

- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Instagram](#)



*Going beyond our best through
Kindness, Aspiration,
Perseverance and Pride*



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