

# DURRINGTON NEWSLETTER

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride

## 21st November 2025 edition

As always it's been an incredibly busy fortnight here at Durrington. With temperatures dropping this week, it's been lovely to see so many students wearing our new school jumper to keep warm. It was great to welcome the BBC Bitesize Careers Roadshow into school. This workshop gave all students in Years 7-9 the chance to hear real stories from young people who have already taken their first steps into the world of work. The entire BBC crew complimented us on how amazing our students were, in terms of their levels of engagement during the workshops.

Our students have also been showcasing their talents during the Battle of the Bands competition and the 'Young Geographer of the Year' award. We have been blown away by the quality of the performances and work produced as a part of these two activities. Our whole community also demonstrated their kindness towards each other, through their support of the many activities that contributed to our anti-bullying week.

One of the things we are focusing on with our students at the moment is the pride they take in the presentation of their work. Taking pride in the presentation of their

work is an important part of every student's learning journey. When students take the time to write neatly, organise their ideas clearly, use a ruler to underline headings and complete tasks with care, they develop valuable habits that support deeper understanding and better outcomes. Good presentation not only helps teachers provide effective feedback, but also encourages students to feel confident and motivated in their learning. We would be grateful for your support in reinforcing these expectations at home, helping students recognise that the quality of their presentation reflects their effort, resilience, and pride in their achievements. Please talk about their work with them - and make sure they have essential equipment such as pens, pencils and a ruler.

Finally, we would like to wish Year 11 all the very best of luck in their written mock exams, which start next week. They have worked incredibly hard in the lead up to these exams and as a result, we are confident that they will do really well.

Thank you for all your support.

Shaun Allison &  
Chris Woodcock  
Co-Headteachers

### Inside this edition

*National Anti-bullying week*

*BBC Bitesize careers event*

*Remembrance Day*

*Geographer of the Year competition*

*Battle of the Bands*

*Student School Council*

*Term dates*

*Extra-curricular clubs list*

*Diary dates*

*Nominate your child for a KAPP award*

*Sign up to the newsletter*

*Follow us on social media*

# National Anti-bullying week



Last week, Durrington High School marked Anti-Bullying Week with a range of activities designed to raise awareness, promote kindness and ensure every student knows how to seek support. The week began with assemblies for all year groups, reminding students of our processes as a school and the importance of speaking up. On Monday 10th, we celebrated Odd Socks Day, with students and staff embracing the theme of individuality and difference.

Throughout the week, both students and staff took part in random acts of kindness, showing a real commitment to creating a supportive environment. All students also took part in a focused SME lesson on anti-bullying, and as part of Friday Chat, every form class completed a trusted adult activity supported by our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

[Read the full story here.](#)

*#PowerForGood*

# BBC Bitesize Careers event



We were delighted to welcome BBC presenter Kathryn Wilson and the BBC Bitesize Careers Roadshow to Durrington last week as part of our school careers programme. It gave all students in Years 7-9 the chance to hear real stories from young people who have already taken their first steps into the world of work.

The Roadshow was delivered in partnership with Technicians: We Make the Difference, a national campaign raising awareness of technical roles across industry. It was a positive and inspiring event that gave our students a clear sense of what's possible for their future.

[Read the full story here.](#)

*The Durrington Journey*



# Remembrance Day



Thank you to our History Ambassadors who have done a fantastic job visiting tutor groups and selling poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion. We are looking forward to sharing the total figure raised once we have confirmation from the charity.

Over the past couple of weeks our library has displayed a variety of books for students to choose from, aimed at helping them understand the importance of Remembrance Day, and learn more about that period of time, as well as the personal experiences of those who lived through the wars.



The History department led assemblies each day last week talking to students about WWI and WWII, and the importance of how we must never repeat the same mistakes. Once again our History Ambassadors played their part and read out extracts from Valentina Krutovas' diary, an 11 year old girl who was trapped behind enemy lines.

# Young Geographer of the Year



Geography students in KS3 and KS4 had the opportunity to enter this year's Young Geographer of the Year competition - and they didn't disappoint! Tasked with creating a poster comparing two islands of their choice, students produced an amazing array of creative, colourful, and brilliantly researched work. The quality was truly outstanding, and it was clear just how much passion and effort went into every entry. Choosing the winners was almost impossible, and we couldn't be prouder of the incredible talent shown by all who took part.

## Young Geographer of the Year winners

Victoria Evans - Best Theme and Comparison in Year 7

Marco Corpuz - Best Research in Year 7

Millie Thurgood - Best Content and Overall Winner in Year 7

Mrinal Shrestha - Special Commendation for Content in Year 8

Harry Phillips - Best Presentation in Year 8

Jayden Mead - Special Commendation for Content & Presentation in Year 8

Haider Hassan - Best Overall Content and Overall Winner in Year 8

Adam Shissah Chentouf - Best Comparison and Summary Analysis in Year 9

Liz Lovity - Overall Winner for Year 9 and KS3

Nethini Gunasena - Overall Winner and Best Presentation

*Proud of DHS*



# Battle of the Bands



Last week saw the launch of this year's Battle of the Bands, and what a start it was! Four student bands took to the stage, each delivering a fifteen-minute set that showcased the incredible musical talent we have here at Durrington High School. Opening the evening were *No Boys Allowed*, whose performance burst



with sass, fire, and confidence. Next up were *Amplified*, whose tight musicianship and technical ability impressed the judges. Third to perform were *The Treble Makers*, another all-girl vocal group who instantly made their mark. Closing the show were *Razorwire*, whose expertly curated setlist had the auditorium buzzing!

[Read the full story here.](#)

*DHS Performing Arts*

# Student School Council



This week saw the first meeting of the Durrington High School council. It is composed of year 7 and 8 students and they met to discuss issues that are important to them, their peers and how the school runs.

Over the course of the last 2 weeks our form representatives (in the image above) have led period one sessions during form time to discuss key topics. At the meeting they brought those ideas back to the council to share with the Senior Student Leadership Team (SSLT). The SSLT will now pass these ideas onto the Co-Headteachers.

[Read the full story here.](#)

*Team Durrington*



## Term dates

### Autumn term 2025

Wednesday 3rd September to Friday 19th December

#### Half term

Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October

#### INSET days

Wednesday 3rd September, Thursday 4th September  
& Friday 21st November

## Clubs

Our full clubs list for the Autumn term 2025 can be found [here](#).



## Diary Dates

- Year 8 Consultation evening - Thursday 4th December
- Christmas Concert - Thursday 11th December
- Carol Service at St Andrew's Church - Monday 15th December
- Last day of term - Friday 19th December

*The Durrington Journey*



## KAPP awards

Our system of KAPP rewards and recognition ensures we are able to award students for going beyond their best in a variety of ways. You can nominate your child on the link [here](#).

## 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](#)

Kindness | Aspiration | Perseverance | Pride



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



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