

Headteacher: Ms E Thurston
EDWARD STREET, NEW CROSS
LONDON, SE14 6AN

TEL: 020 8691 3236

E-MAIL: info@deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk WEBSITE: www.deptfordgreen.lewisham.sch.uk

Tuesday 29th August 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope that you and your family enjoyed a restful summer and are looking forward to the start of the new school year as the team here certainly are.

We were delighted to see so many of our year 11 students and staff here on exam results day, there were many smiles and successes to celebrate as ever. Huge congratulations to all of our students who worked incredibly hard, despite the challenges. I am sure you will have seen the many reports in the media about the significant drop in results from last year. This is due to a return to pre-pandemic grade boundaries and assessments leading to results being more in line with 2019 results than the previous three years. We are pleased to share the news that we have seen a significant increase in outcomes across all measures rom 2019 outcomes. I will share more details of KS4 outcomes once these have been confirmed in early September. A huge congratulations to Dot Lee who achieved an impressive 10 x Grade 9's. This is an outstanding performance. She was not alone, with many other students achieving a plethora of grades 7-9's.

Here at DG, we pride ourselves on being a truly inclusive school. Therefore, celebrating progress is as important as the celebration of high academic achievement. We were delighted that much of our students who have faced many challenges both academically and personally achieved outstanding progress through sheer hard work and determination.

The link between good outcomes and high attendance is profound. We encourage you to ensure your child/ren are in school on time EVERY day starting with a strong start to the new academic year.

Please remind yourselves of the start times and dates for next week.

Tuesday 5 th	•	We look forward to welcoming year 7 at 8.40am . Please
September 2023		line-up in the playground. This will be a normal school day
		with a finish time of 3.00pm. You will have also received an
		invitation to our parent induction taking place after this.

	•	Targeted students in Year 11 are expected to attend one-to-
		one appointments with members of staff. You will have
		received an Indvidual invite if your child is expected in.
Wednesday 6 th	•	All year groups are expected in school for an 8.40am start.
September 2023		As usual please line up in the playground.

For your child to have the best start possible, please ensure that students are prepared with the correct uniform in place (name clearly labelled), that they have full equipment and (if applicable) that their lunch money is topped up on ParentPay. A reminder that false nails and eyelashes are not allowed under any circumstances, and we have a strict NO SEE NO HEAR mobile phone policy, so please remind your child/ren of these rules before they return to school.

Please find detailed information on school uniform policy and expectations plus a list of suppliers here: <u>uniform information</u>. Note: trainers are prohibited footwear except during PE lessons.

Many of you will know from personal experience that the cost-of-living crisis has had a significant impact on many families. Miss Walker has worked with the Friends of Deptford Green parent group to offer second hand uniform sales at numerous points throughout the last term. We hope to continue to offer this. If you do have any uniform that your child has grown out of that is in a good condition, please do keep this aside and send into the school office at the start of term.

The Bank of Things has put an urgent call out for used but good uniform basics, such as shirts, trousers and skirts for secondary school. Highlighters, pencil cases, maths sets, calculators, folders, paper, notebooks and toiletries are also needed. If you can donate, these items can be dropped in at Unit 19, Lewisham Shopping Centre from Monday to Friday, between 10am and 5pm. If you would like to help but cannot get down to donate, you can make a cash donation online – this will be used to buy the items needed. Items will be distributed on Monday 4 September, from 10am, from the Unit.

I hope your child/ren have had a wonderful break spending time with friends and families, we look forward to seeing them all on time, refreshed and ready for a strong start to the term next week.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Thurston



Headteacher

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