



Message from the Principal

We finish for half term on Friday 20th October at the usual time and we are looking forward to a big week of learning at DBK this week. Please do ensure your child arrives at school before 8.15am fully equipped for each day.

Last week, our PE department at Dixons Brooklands took 23 students to the Manchester Schools Cross Country League at Wythenshawe Park for week two of the winter league. All students put in 100% effort and completed the 1.5-mile route around Wythenshawe Park. In the first week of the competition, Year 11 student Maks was the academy's standout performer, finishing in 6th place.

There were some excellent performances in week two from the Year 7 girls, with four of them being placed in the top 25! Students will now advance to the Manchester schools finals in November.

Students had the opportunity to taste a new menu and feedback to our caterers this week as part of our improvements to our menu. We look forward to hearing about any changes this leads to.



Students of the Week

Congratulations to Zach, Fernando, Louie, Elena, Daniel and Mohammadtaha, who were all nominated by staff to be our students of the week for demonstrating our values brilliantly.



Student Leaders

On Thursday 19th October, Year 11 students will be voting for their peers who will represent the Academy as Head Students and Deputy Head Students for this academic year. Best of luck to all those who have put their name forward.



Mr James Haseldine
Executive Principal

MacMillan Coffee Morning

Next Friday, 20th October, students will be invited to purchase cakes during break time, all in the name of charity! Cakes will be sold for 50p each; all donations - cash and cakes - will be gratefully received and all proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Macmillan offer services to people living with cancer at every stage of their experience. They provide invaluable work supporting people with cancer, emotionally, financially, practically, physically and offering financial support. 98% of their work is funded by voluntary donations and we would like students at Dixons Brooklands to support in contributing to this worthy cause.

Students will need to bring along cash to the bake sale, and the exact change would be welcomed.

If you would like to donate a cake for us to sell, please drop it off at main reception by Friday morning, or if you would like to make a cash donation to support the cause, this can also be given in at main reception.

As always, thank you for supporting us in supporting others.



Black History Month

October is Black History Month, and theme for 2023 is 'Celebrating our Sisters'. Each faculty within the Academy will be focusing on the contributions made by black women in their subject areas to showcase throughout the month.



SALUTING
SISTERS



This week, we would like to celebrate the work of **Harriet Tubman** (1822 – 1913), who fought to end slavery in the United States. She risked her life to smuggle enslaved people out of America, in a secret system called The Underground Railroad. She also fought for women's rights and suffrage (the right to vote).

Due to her bravery, she will appear on the \$20 bill in America.

Readathon

Well done to Hollie, Year 9 who took part in a sponsored read before the summer break, raising over £80 for books to be purchased for children in hospital. Dixons Brooklands Academy was also lucky enough to be gifted with a box of books which will be a fantastic addition to the school library.

Here are two of our student librarians, Enya and Caitin, with Ms Sheridan, sampling some of the books.



Sport at DBK

Football

Our Key Stage 3 boys' football teams have had mixed results this week, with wins against Wright Robinson and William Hulme; The Barlow however, proved a more challenging opposition!

Key Stage 3 girls played their first matches together as a team. They played 7 games - won 4, drew 2 and lost 1. Player of the matches was Kayomi, Year 7.

The KS4 girls football team started their campaign to retain their title. They played 4 - won 3 and drew 1. Player of the matches was Phoebe, Year 10.

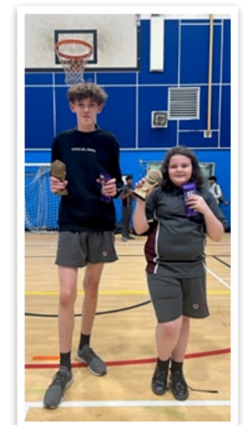
Basketball

Dixons Brooklands Academy's Basketball team took part our first Basketball tournament in over a decade this week! The team played really hard and worked really well together, showing the resilience we strive to instil in all our student athletes. Unfortunately, St. Paul's Catholic High School proved to be the better team on this occasion, but we are super proud of the performances that each participating student displayed, and with continued hard work and drive for success, we are hopeful for our future games. Well done to Camron, Bradley, Harvey, Anvi and Hayden in Year 9, and Yusuf, Abdulla, Corey and David in Year 10.



Extra-Curricular Basketball

Congratulations to Danielle (Year 7) and David (Year 10) who have both been awarded Player of the Week in After-School Basketball this week. PE teacher Mr Uma-Okoro says "Danielle and David have both shown hard work and dedication which exemplifies the qualities we strive to instil in all our student athletes. Keep up the fantastic work!"



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Our Duke of Edinburgh Award group set off to Snowdon for their Silver expedition this morning (Friday 13th October). We hope the weather is good and that students enjoy the experience.

Here they are, before they left this morning, all kitted up and ready to go!



New Staff at the Academy

We have a number of new staff who have joined the academy. As a regular feature of the newsletter, we'd like to introduce them to you. This week, it's the turn of Ms Greenhalgh in Geography and, although he's new to the Academy as a member of our teaching staff, Mr Caldwell was previously the Manchester United Foundation Schools Partnership Officer for over 10 years, and so a familiar face to many parents.

Ms Greenhalgh – Geography Teacher

What is one of your hidden talents?

I can read a whole book in a day

What are some traditions or superstitions you have for the first day of school?

I usually get a nice face mask, paint my nails, play some chilled out video games and then get an early night.

What's the best thing about your role?

Knowing that I'm shaping the futures of my students. Also seeing that moment when a student who has been struggling finally gets the answers right.

If you could take the students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you take them?

Iceland to see the volcanoes.

What would you like students to remember about you?

How much they smiled in my classroom and enjoyed their geography lessons.



Mr Caldwell - PE Teacher

What is one of your hidden talents?

I'm not one for having any hidden talents, but I've competed in multiple CrossFit competitions from local to worldwide. I'm able to back squat 180kg, snatch 100kg and clean and jerk 125kg.

What are some traditions or superstitions you have for the first day of school?

I don't really have any traditions or haven't developed any as yet.

What's the best thing about being a teacher?

Being able to support students in our local community which I've worked in for over 12 years. I'm looking forward to supporting all students to find a love of participation in physical activity and sport at all levels, recreationally or through competition in our after-school provision and teams.



If you could take the students on a field trip to anywhere in the world, where would you take them?

Japan, I took a trip to Japan with the Manchester United Foundation, just after the tsunami to support young people in the affected areas who love Manchester United and football. The architecture and the people were amazing, going on the high-speed bullet train and the beautiful countryside when we went further inland just made the experience incredible. That, and also sharing dinner most nights with Andrew Cole.

What would you like students to remember about you and your class?

Someone who provided an inclusive environment for all our students and gave them an experience which made them enjoy taking part in sport and physical activity and inspired them to think about a career in sport or teaching.

Careers

Next Steps for Year 11

Local Sixth Form and FE providers' Open Day events have now begun.

Xaverian and Loreto Sixth Form Colleges have also hosted assemblies with our Year 11 students this week.

We strongly encourage students and families in Year 11 to take the opportunity to visit these events to ensure they are fully informed about the possibilities available for their destinations post DBK.

A list of events and addresses can be found below:

Xaverian Sixth Form College	Sunday 15th October, 10.30am-2.00pm
Loreto Sixth Form College	Sunday 15th October, 10.00am-12.00pm and 1.00-3.00pm
Greater Manchester Skill Centre	Thursday 19th October, 4.00pm-6.00pm Thursday 23rd November, 4.00-6.00pm
Access Creative College	Saturday 4th November, 11.00am-2.00pm
Trafford College	Saturday 4th November, 10.30am-1.00pm
Cheadle College	Saturday 11th November, 10.30am-1.00pm
Stockport College	Saturday 11th November, 10.30am-1.00pm

Dates for your Diary: October/November 2023

Wednesday 18th October	Parent/Carer's Coffee Morning - 8.10-9.30am <i>Literacy: How to support your child with reading/Robust Reading</i>
Friday 20th October	Students break up for half term break.
Monday 6th November	Return from half-term break
Wednesday 8th November	Parent/Carer's Coffee Morning - 8.10-9.30am <i>Relationships and Sex Education Curriculum Information</i>
Thursday 9th November	Year 10 Parents' Evening: 3.40-6.35pm
Thursday 23rd November	Staff Training: School closed to students
Friday 24th November	Staff Training: School closed to students
Thursday 30th November	Year 9 Parents' Evening