



## Message from the Executive Director

Despite reaching lows of  $-7$  in the mornings, not even the extremely cold weather has stopped our students showing great commitment to learning this week. It was really positive to visit lessons and see so much focus from students and high quality delivery from staff. This is particularly important for our Year 11 students who have entered their last full term as students at Dixons Brooklands before their exams begin in May. This will feel a pressurised term for them I'm sure, but if they maintain their efforts they will be successful this summer.



**Mr Mark Harrison**  
Executive Director -  
Manchester and Liverpool

Thank you for your continued support with our push to ensure the highest uniform standards. We still have a selection of students who need to address some items and we will continue to work with them into next week to make sure they demonstrate all our learning habits.

As we move further away from the Christmas break, we have much to look forward to. Mocks are on the way to help us best prepare Year 11 for their examinations whilst the school show is nearing completion! I hope to see you all there and will let you know when tickets go on sale.

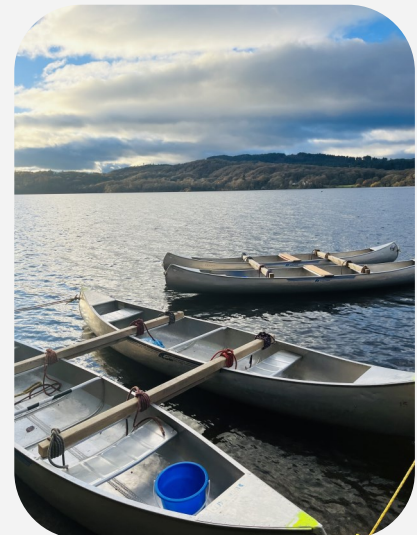
## Students of the Week



Congratulations to Lucy, Anna, Christian, Logan and Ella who were nominated by staff to be our Student of the Week for their year group for demonstrating our values brilliantly.

## Kath Fry Challenge

The Kath Fry Challenge is an annual inter-schools event, hosted at Ghyll Head Outdoor Education and Activity Centre in the Lake District. A team of Year 10 girls will be representing the academy by competing against other schools from the city, in a number of outdoor pursuits challenges. Our team will be heading to Ghyll Head on 26th January and are looking forward to a weekend of adventures.



## Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 students will soon be completing another set of mock examinations. The exams will begin on Monday 26th February and take place over a 2-week period. After the examinations families will receive a report with their child's score and grade, as well as the average score for all students who completed the assessment.

Students will be supported with revision in both subject lessons and during daily mastery sessions in Morning Meeting. It is vital that students are attending school each day and arriving on time so that they do not miss out on these important revision sessions. They must also be revising at home.

At the recent Year 11 Parents' Evening, families received revision guidance for each subject. There is also a wealth of revision support on the Dixons Brooklands Academy website under the 'Revision' tab, and we would also urge you to encourage your child to attend the after-school revision sessions. Families should have received this information, along with the examination timetable in a letter home this week. Please contact the Academy if you did not receive this.

If you have any further questions about Year 11 exams or revision, please email Ms McVey at [dmcvey@dixonsbk.com](mailto:dmcvey@dixonsbk.com).

## Young Interpreter Group

Dixons Brooklands Academy are setting up the award-winning Young Interpreter Scheme® and have invited a number of students to participate.

The role of Young Interpreter is to be a peer-mentor for students who are new to English. It is a high profile responsibility therefore training will be provided for participating students. This will acknowledge and develop students' existing communication skills and allow others to explore how they can help students settle in, especially when they are new to our school.

At the end of the course, these students will be awarded a badge, certificate and Young Interpreter kit. We will then continue to meet with them regularly to guide them in this role. This achievement will go towards reaching the Outstanding Citizen award and will be a great addition to college applications and on CVs as it demonstrates how they are responsible, reliable and compassionate individuals.



## Holocaust Memorial Museum Visit

50 Year 9 prospective GCSE History students enjoyed a workshop led by a member of the Holocaust Memorial Museum this week. Students were able to observe survivor testimonies of the holocaust, including increasing persecution and discrimination against Jews in Germany. Students analysed artefacts from the time with purposeful discussions around the experiences of individuals. Students were encouraged to draw upon their empathy and ask critical questions such as 'How were Nazis allowed to commit the Holocaust?'



## New Staff at the Academy

In our semi-regular feature, we'd like to introduce Ms Firth. Ms Firth is a Higher Level Teaching Assistant and has recently joined the Academy.

We have asked the same 5 questions to all our new members of staff to find out a little more about them...

### Ms Firth – HLTA

**What is one of your hidden talents?**

*I can recite the alphabet backwards in under 20 seconds*

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

*I always buy a new academic diary and pen. The pen HAS to be blue!*

**What's the best thing about your role?**

*Getting to meet new children and getting to know them.*

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

*Iceland! To see the scenery and all the geographical sites.*

**What would you like students to remember about you?**

*That I'm always smiling, no matter what!*



## Dates for your Diary: January/February 2024

<b>Tuesday 23rd January</b>	8.15-9.15am: Year 8 Parents' Coffee Morning: Meet the Year 8 Team
<b>Friday 26th-Sunday 28th January</b>	Kath Fry Challenge; Ghyll Head
<b>Monday 5th February</b>	Year 8 HPV immunisations
<b>Tuesday 6th February</b>	8.15-9.15am: Coffee Morning: National Apprenticeship Week
<b>Tuesday 6th February</b>	7.00pm: DBK'S Musical Production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'
<b>Wednesday 7th February</b>	7.00pm: DBK'S Musical Production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'
<b>Thursday 8th February</b>	3.20pm: Students finish for half-term break ( <i>return Monday 19th February</i> )
<b>Friday 9th February</b>	School Closed to students: Staff Training
<b>Monday 19th February</b>	School reopens for Term 4
<b>Monday 26th February</b>	Year 11 Mock Exams (over a 2-week period)