



## A message from our principal



**Mrs K Gardner  
Principal**

In this week's newsletter, I want to take this opportunity to remind you all of our three key values: Working Hard, Being Kind, and Having Integrity. I would like to share why these values are so important and how they shape the culture of our school.

### **Working Hard**

We believe that effort and determination are the foundations of success. By encouraging students to work hard, we help them develop resilience, perseverance, and a strong work ethic. In the classroom, this means setting ambitious goals, embracing challenges, and learning from mistakes. We celebrate students who put in their best effort, knowing that persistence leads to achievement both now and in the future.

### **Being Kind**

Kindness is at the heart of our school community. We teach our students to treat each other with respect, empathy, and compassion. Through daily interactions and structured activities, students are encouraged to support one another, listen actively, and celebrate each other's successes. A culture of kindness ensures that everyone feels safe, valued, and included at Dixons Brooklands Academy.

### **Having Integrity**

Integrity means doing the right thing, even when no one is watching. We expect our students to be honest, take responsibility for their actions, and stand up for what is right. Integrity builds trust and creates a positive environment where everyone can thrive. We reinforce this value in our lessons, assemblies, and through the example set by staff and student leaders.

Our three values form the foundation of our school's ethos. They guide our decisions, our relationships, and our approach to learning. By living these values every day, students not only achieve more academically but also grow into thoughtful, responsible, and confident young people.

We encourage you to discuss these values at home and ask your child how they put them into practice at school.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

# NEWSLETTER

6 March 2026

Issue #20

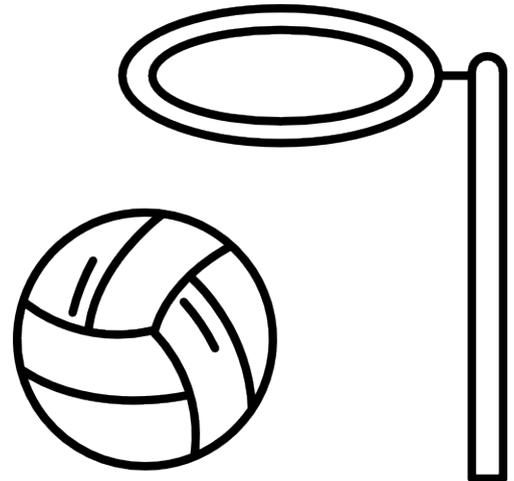
# Preparing our students

## through experiences to nurture their future

### Shooting hoops: netball success

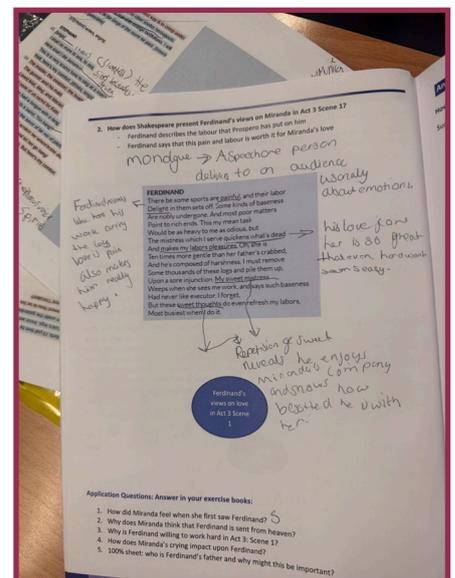
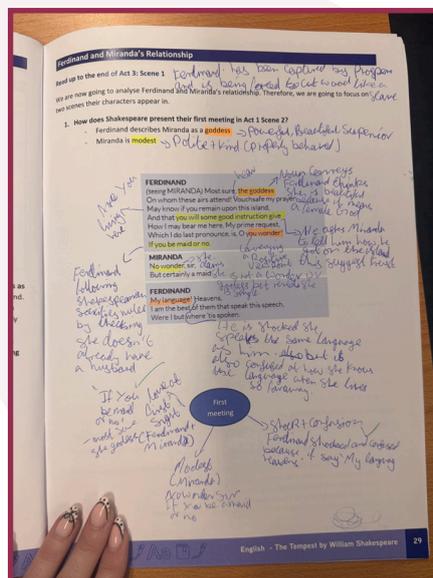
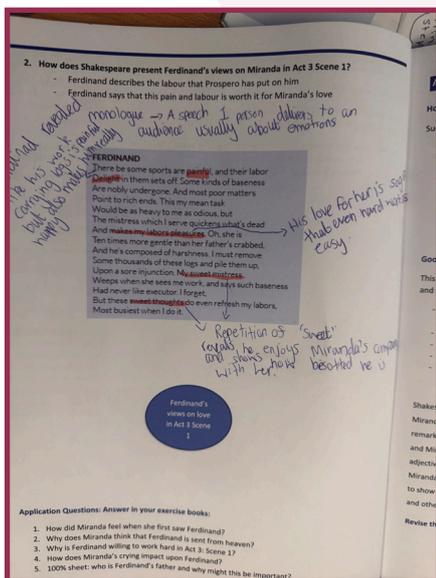
Our Year 8 and 9 netball team played an away game against Manchester Enterprise Academy. They showed fantastic determination throughout a very contested game. They persevered throughout and were victorious in a 6-5 win!

The opposition voted for the player of the match, well done Isabelle!



### Building foundations: love and relationships in Shakespeare

Since returning to school, Year 7 have been working incredibly hard exploring love tropes in Shakespeare. Through their study of The Tempest, students have analysed how Miranda and Ferdinand embody ideas of love at first sight and idealised love, considering how Shakespeare presents their relationship as pure, immediate and hopeful.



Class discussions have focused on what makes their love seem so perfect, as well as why Shakespeare may have chosen to present it this way. This foundational work is helping to prepare students for their future study of Romeo and Juliet, giving them the confidence and vocabulary to explore how love is portrayed across different Shakespearean texts.

# Celebrating our students

## Through their focus on excellence

### Aeroplane 'ditching' exercise

On Monday 2 March, Gareth from Loreto Sixth Form visited Dixons Brooklands Academy to lead 20 Year 10 students through an exciting and hands on Aeroplane 'ditching' exercise. This mimicked the emergency procedures on a plane, with students taking on the roles of pilot, cabin crew, and passengers! This gave students an insight into the Travel and Tourism course at Loreto Sixth Form, and we thoroughly enjoyed by all!



### Year 10 Parents' Evening

The Year 10 parents' evening booking portal is now live on the MyChildAtSchool app. Log into the app or browser, go to the Parents Evening page and you can book individual sessions or have this auto-populated. We are excited to share careers and work experience opportunities during your visit.

## Year 10 Parents' Evening

at Dixons Brooklands Academy  
Thursday 26 March, 4–6.30pm

As part of the evening we will be providing information about careers, work experience opportunities and local post-16 providers

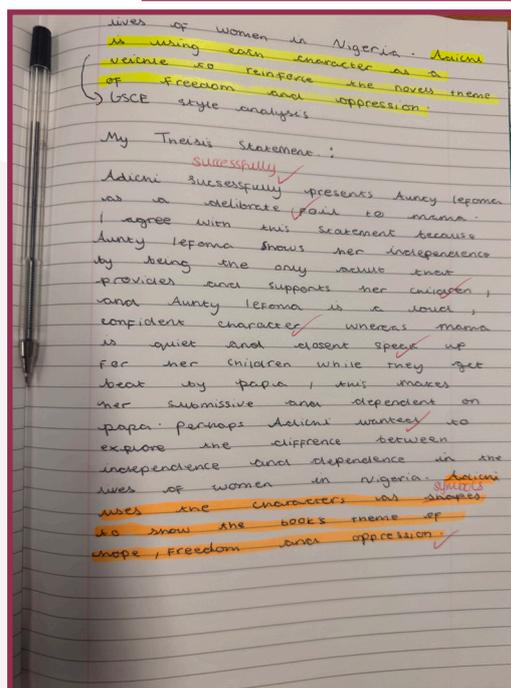
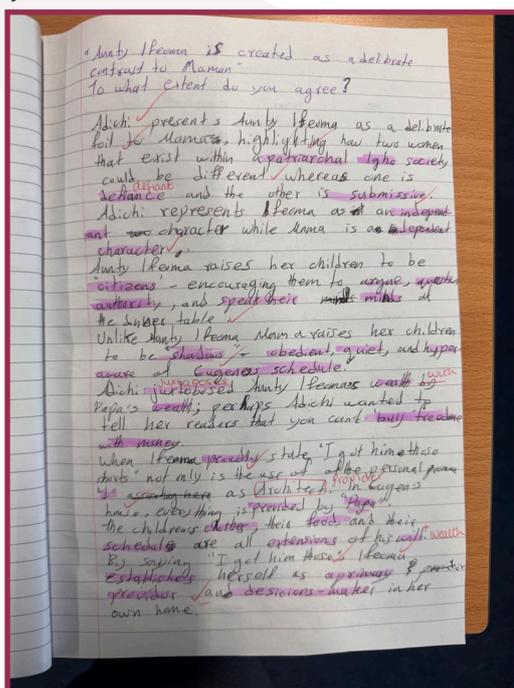
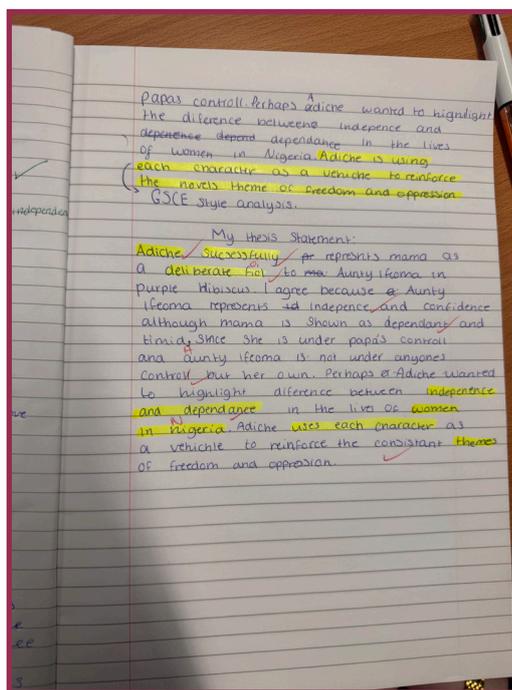
# Preparing our students through experiences to nurture their future

## Exemplary evaluations

Year 9 have been producing some fantastic evaluative work on Purple Hibiscus, demonstrating a confident understanding of the novel as a whole. Students have engaged thoughtfully with Adichie's exploration of key themes such as freedom, oppression and transformation, tracking how these ideas develop across the text.

Through rich discussion, they have analysed how characters such as Kambili, Jaja, Mama and Auntie Ifeoma contrast with one another, particularly in their attitudes to power, faith and independence.

It has been a pleasure to see students moving beyond individual moments to consider the writer's wider message and the impact of change on both characters and society.



## Year 5 science visit

We welcomed another of our local primary schools, Baguley Hall Primary School, into a science lesson this week. 60 students took part, with our Mrs Staniforth and Mr Martin leading students through a series of exciting practical tasks.

Students had a great time, and our staff were very impressed with their behaviour, knowledge, and enthusiasm!

# Celebrating our students

## Through their focus on excellence

### 2D to 3D: building shapes from nets

Our Year 10 mathematicians are currently exploring nets within their current geometry unit of study. The nets are the 3D shapes flattened / opened up into individual 2D shapes that make them. This lesson, we used the nets and built them into 3D shapes: cubes, cuboids, and triangular prisms. Class 10ab/Ma5 were doing brilliantly and were very engaged in the activity. There were many 3d shapes built perfectly, even Euclid would be proud!

Some highlights include Oliver C, Charlie R, Robyn D, Mack N Anna P, Johanna R, Shannay R, Paige C Ruby G, Leila V and Amelia Z. Keep up the great work in *shaping* your learning.



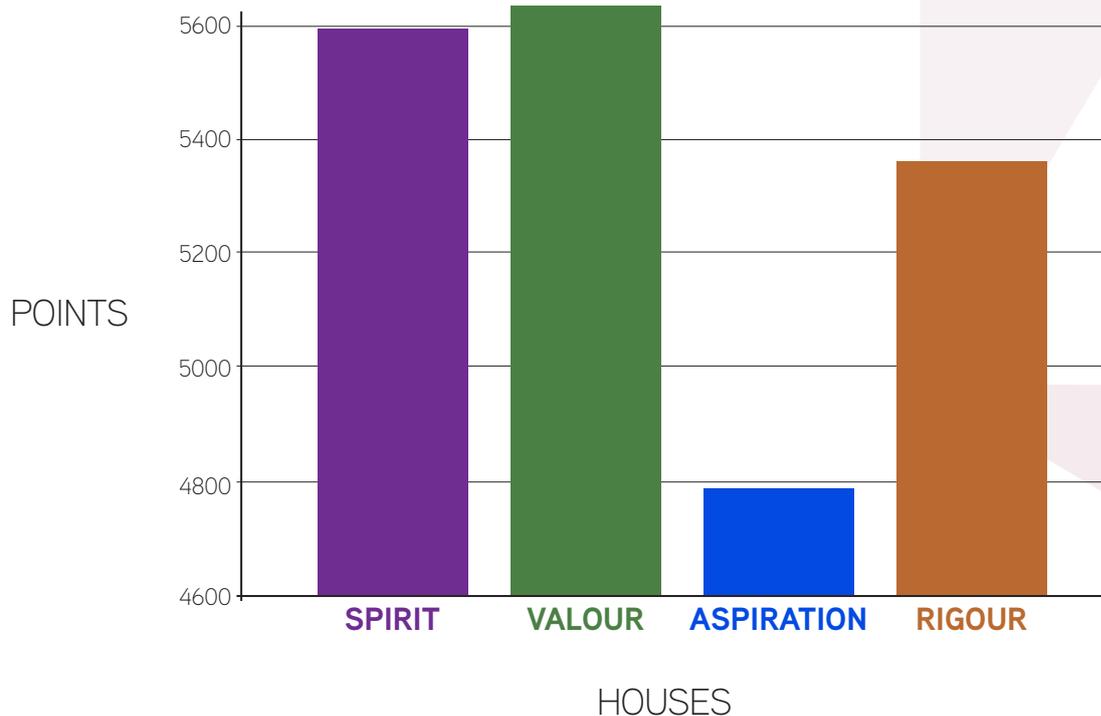
### KS4 girls' football league

The KS4 girls' football team played their penultimate round of fixtures in the Manchester League. They showed some fantastic skills, teamwork and determination throughout and were rewarded with two wins and a draw. The player of the matches was Clementine.



# House points

Valour are creeping ahead of Spirit in the House Points competition, but it remains close! There are less than 100 points between Valour and Spirit, with fewer than 900 points between all Houses. Given that 500 points are awarded for any House competition winners, it is still anyone's to win!



## Parent Forum

Help us support our childrens' and academy's success by sharing your views. Coffee, tea, and snacks will be provided.

Monday 16 March | 5-6pm  
Dixons Brooklands Academy, Moor Road, Wythenshawe, M23 9BP

# Extra-curricular activities

## to enrich our students' experiences

We are excited to share with you our updated extra-curricular activities timetable. At Dixons Brooklands Academy, we believe that learning goes far beyond the classroom, and we are proud to offer a wide range of clubs and activities designed to enrich our students' school experience.

	Lunch	After school
<b>Monday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9/T14)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieve club (T9)</li> <li>• Football (Girls)</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• BTEC Music (week A)</li> <li>• Science Club (S15)</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9/T14)</li> <li>• Steel Pans (T8)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Netball</li> <li>• Badminton</li> <li>• GCSE Art Club (S8/P16/S13)</li> <li>• Sustainability club (P12)</li> <li>• Poetry revision (P3)</li> <li>• Homework club (P13/P19)</li> <li>• Science intervention (S15)</li> <li>• BTEC Music (week B)</li> <li>• Musical Theatre (assembly hall)</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9/T14)</li> <li>• KS3 Spanish film club (T4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football (Boys)</li> <li>• Sparx homework support (P22)</li> <li>• Creative writing (P1)</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9/T14)</li> <li>• KS3 GCSE Spanish exams skills</li> <li>• Rainbow Club (Hub)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BTEC Sport</li> <li>• Keyboard club (T8)</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Football</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Thrive and Dine (by invite) (T9/T14)</li> <li>• Cooking (week B, T7)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate science (week B)</li> <li>• Singing club (T8)</li> </ul>

There is also a free breakfast club every morning before school from 7.30am, this is open to all students.

# Next week

## Menu week commencing 9/3/2026

	Main meal	Vegetarian meal
<b>Monday</b>	Doner meat in flatbread with spicy noodles	Vegetable spring rolls with noodles and sweet chilli sauce
<b>Tuesday</b>	Hot dogs with chips	Cheese an tomato turnovers with side salad
<b>Wednesday</b>	Chinese chicken drumstick with egg fried rice	Vegetable bean burgers with potato wedges
<b>Thursday</b>	Chili con carne with rice and garlic bread	Vegetable chili with rice and garlic bread
<b>Friday</b>	Chicken burger with chips and sauces selection	Giant vegetable samosa with spicy egg noodles

Each day there is also a panini selection with fillings of cheese, ham, pepperoni, and cheese & beans. Alongside this are a variety of sandwiches and baguettes, a salad bar and a choice of dessert.

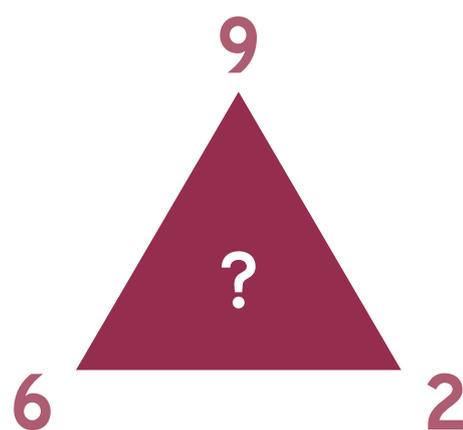
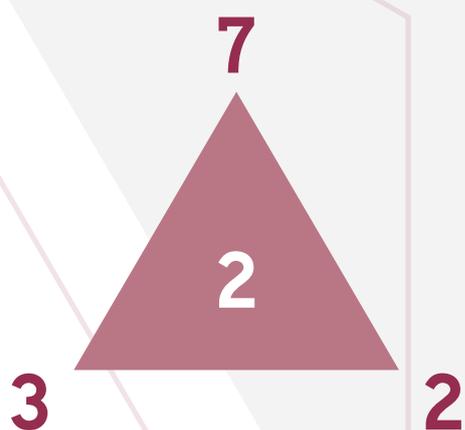
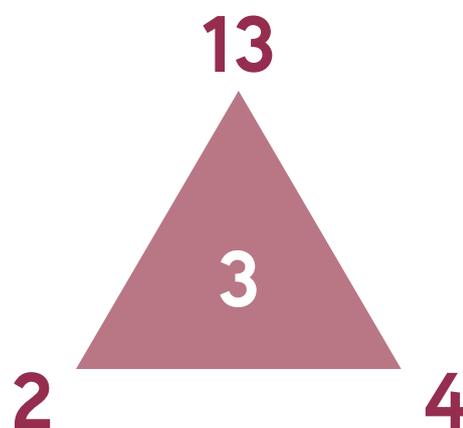
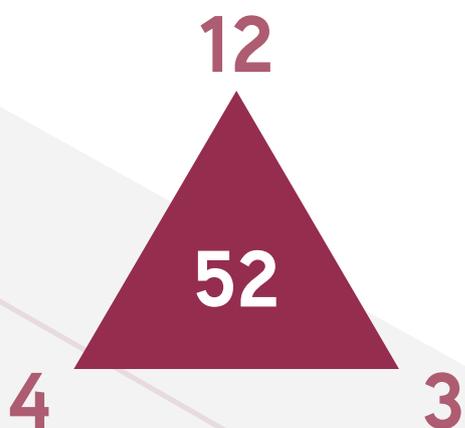
We follow best practices in safe food handling to prevent cross-contamination. However, we cannot guarantee our products are 100% free of any specific allergens. Allergens are listed on the front counter, which refer to the ingredients we use. We also are unable to guarantee an allergen-free environment where some of our ingredients or products from suppliers may have been produced in an environment with other allergens. Please double-check with a member of staff if you have any questions.

## Dates for your diary

	Year group	Description
<b>Wednesday 11 Mar</b>	Year 9	Immunisations
<b>Monday 16 March</b>	n/a	Parent Forum; 5-6pm
<b>Thursday 26 Mar</b>	Year 10	Parents' Evening; 4-6.30pm
<b>Wednesday 1 Apr</b>	All	Vaccinations (for students previously absent)
<b>Wednesday 1 Apr</b>	n/a	Easter concert
<b>Thursday 2 April</b>	All	Final day of term 4
<b>Friday 3 April</b>	All	Holidays begin, students return Monday 20 April

# Brain teaser

Can you find the missing number?



Last week's solution:

