



22nd March 2024

Message from the Head of School

Thank you to those families who attended our session at the Academy yesterday evening, to learn more about our culture and routines. It was good to see so many families in attendance and I hope you found the evening informative. It is my intention that we host many more sessions so that you are more aware of the student experience at the Academy.

I have now completed three full weeks at Dixons Brooklands Academy. I have met with many of our staff, students and a number of parents, and I can see already that we have an amazing community here. One of my initial observations is that we need to open our communication channels more, and I will be asking our teaching staff to speak with you more to let you know when your children are doing well.

I have also noted that there are a number of students not complying with both our mobile phone and uniform policies. You should have received a letter from me today outlining our expectations.



Mrs K Gardner
Head of School

Year 9 Masterchef Competition

On Tuesday this week, our Year 9 students took part in a Masterchef competition in school and what an amazing experience this was!

Students worked really hard, were professional and worked together to produce restaurant-worthy dishes, ensuring they were picture perfect. Students were very proud of their accomplishments, and rightly so. Staff agreed the food tasted as good as it looked! Well done to everyone who took part.

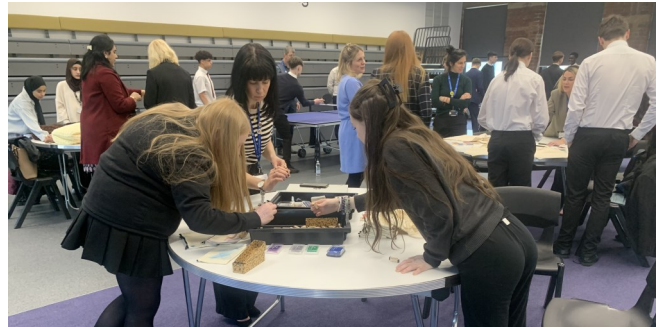
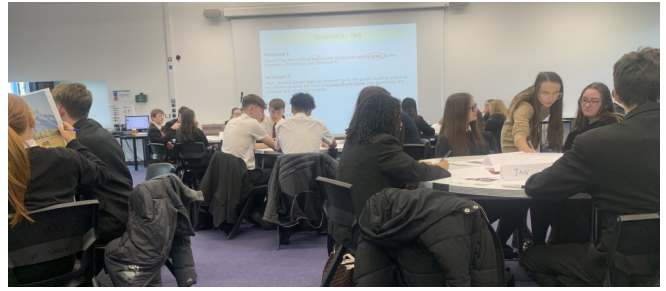


Year 11 Workshops

This week, a number of Year 11 students took part in GCSE workshops at Dixons Sixth Form Academy in Bradford to help and support them with their Maths and English exams.

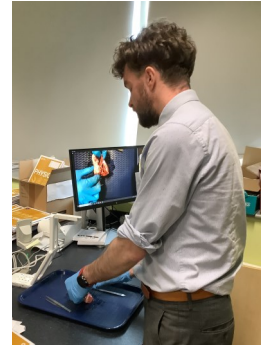
Students worked hard during these sessions and there were lots of useful tips and strategies given to help boost their grades in their exams.

There was also fun to be had a break time, with a number of activities on offer including learning how to crochet, making pencil cases, table tennis and vertical jump.



Year 9 Science

Year 9 students found their recent Science lesson particularly fascinating this week, when they took part in dissecting a heart!



English: Reading Programme

Congratulations to Chloe B, Summer W, Amir H, Jumana M, Lacey C, Aya A, Mia B and Beth M for their participation in a 12 week High Intensity Reading Programme. All students have improved their reading ages, reading fluency, vocabulary, confidence and accuracy!



English: Sparx Reader

Thank you for continuing to support us by ensuring your child completes their 30 minutes of Sparx Reader. A reminder that students access Sparx through their same log on as Sparx maths.

This week's top readers are :

- Vincent S, Year 7
- Jacob A, Year 7
- Aistis V, Year 8



Power2

Well done to Gracie L in Year 9 who was presented with a special award recently for Outstanding Progress of the Year in her work with Power2.

Power2 mentors students in school, helping develop a number of skills including communication skills, time management and health, wellbeing and self-esteem.



Year 11 Exams

A reminder:

The **GCSE Art** exams begin week beginning 15th April. This is the actual GCSE and not a mock! Please ensure your child is preparing for their exam at home and/or after school on a Tuesday and Thursday. If you need more information, please don't hesitate to contact Ms Cashmore at school.

The **GCSE Spanish speaking** exams begin week beginning 15th April. As with other exams, attendance is compulsory. If your child is absent and you are unable to provide a doctor's note, unfortunately your child will score 0 out of 60. In order to prepare, students should make sure that they spend a lot of time revising their chosen theme. AQA awards marks very generously for the speaking exam and students are generally very successful when they are confident on their answers. Please encourage your child to attend Spanish revision after school on Mondays or Thursdays as there is a direct link between structured revision with a teacher and improved success

Year 9, 10 and 11 Careers Opportunity

On Thursday 4th - Friday 5th April, England Football are hosting a two-day event at City Football Academy (Etihad Campus, North Gate, 400 Ashton New Road, Manchester M11 4TQ) between 10.00am-4.30pm.

To register, students **MUST** be able to attend both days to sign up.

This 'Your Game' event is for **14 - 24 years old** who would like to learn about roles in football outside of playing. Students will have the opportunity to meet experts from all levels of the game and try roles such as refereeing, coaching, club administration, youth leadership as well as much more!

This event is free to attend and those who participate will be provided with an England Football kit top plus a free lunch, drinks and snacks each day.

If you would like to attend Your Game, **please sign up here:** https://bit.ly/YG_Manchester

Deadline to sign up is on **Wednesday 27th March**.

For further information email Emma at youthevents@thefa.com



Sport at Dixons Brooklands Academy

Football

KS3 Girls Football Tournament

The KS3 Girls football team went to Manchester Enterprise Academy last week for the final tournament of the 2023/2024 academic year, where they played 7 games against a variety of different schools, including MEA, Trinity High School and William Hulme's Grammar School.

The girls were competitive throughout the evening, battering the elements to win all 7 games and come away from the tournament, which counts towards the KS3 Manchester League standings, with maximum points ahead of the finals (the week after the Easter break).

All 9 girls scored at least 2 goals during the evening; it truly was a team effort. They have been a delight to have as part of the school football team this year, and Ms Riches and Ms Lees cannot wait to see how great they will continue to be as the years go on at the academy. Well done girls!



Dance

Last Saturday, nine Year 11 BTEC Dance students were in school to complete choreography for their upcoming BTEC Dance show performance in April. They have been choreographing their 9-minute dance routines for several weeks and they are putting in tremendous effort. Their teacher, Ms Taylor said *"The students were so focused and on task, they are an absolute pleasure to work with. I am so impressed - they were all amazing!"*

Good luck for your performance girls!

Netball

On Monday evening, the Year 7 and Year 8 Girls' Netball team went to Didsbury High School to complete in a triangular fixture against MEA and Didsbury High School where we played 3 games, against Didsbury's very strong Year 7 team and their even stronger Year 8 team before having a very competitive fixture against MEA. We are delighted with the final score being 7-4 to us!

This draws to a close the Netball season for our school netball teams. Our summer sports extra curricular activities will be circulated after the Easter break.



Brooklands Library

We are lucky enough to have Brooklands Public Library on our doorstep, so here is an overview of some of the amazing events and activities they have on offer:

Weekly:

Tiny Tots and Toddler Time: On Mondays during term time only, 11.00am - 12.00pm, for families with a child under 5. Join in for stories, songs, rhymes and crafts.

Drop-In for Basic ICT Support: Wednesdays, 2.00-4.00pm

Lego Club: Saturdays, 10.00am - 12.30pm

Monthly:

Booky Brooky Brew Stop: Visit on Friday 26th April and tea, coffee and biscuits are on offer to all customers.

Reading Club: Adult reading club meet on the last Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be Wednesday 27th March, 6.30-7.30pm. New members always welcome, light refreshments included.

Special Events:

Tuesday 2nd - Friday 12th April: School holiday crafts.

Wednesday 3rd April: Free movie at 3.00pm with free popcorn and a drink!

Please note, children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult to all library activities.

For more information, please see a member of the Library staff or email brooklandslibrary@manchester.gov.uk

Opening Hours

Monday	10.00am - 1.00pm	2.00 - 5.00pm
Tuesday	10.00am - 1.00pm	2.00 - 5.00pm
Wednesday	10.00am - 1.00pm	2.00 - 8.00pm
Thursday	Closed	
Friday	10.00am - 1.00pm	2.00 - 5.00pm
Saturday	10.00am - 1.00pm	2.00 - 5.00pm
Sunday	Closed	

The library will be closed on the Easter bank holidays (29th March and 1st April.)



Dates for your Diary: April/May 2024

Monday 8th April	School reopens for new term
Thursday 11th April	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 18th April	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 25th April	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 25th April	3.40-6.35pm: Year 8 Parents' Evening
Thursday 2nd May	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 9th May	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 16th May	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 23rd May	8.30-9.30am: Year 11 Parent/Carer Drop In
Thursday 23rd May	3.40-6.35pm: Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 24th May	Students finish for half term. <i>Return Monday 3rd June.</i>