



Message from the Executive Director

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Head of School, Kristy Gardner to the Academy. Kristy will begin her role next Friday, 1st March, however students may have seen her in the building this week as she has met with me to begin planning for her start with us. Kristy has already mentioned wanting to meet as many parents/carers as possible and will write to you soon.

For our Year 11 students, the focus now is on their mock exams and preparation for their external examinations in the summer. We want to support Year 11 students as much as possible over the next two weeks with their examinations, and the Dixons Brooklands Academy website contains a useful revision link, which your child should find helpful as it contains resources that will help them to revise: <https://www.dixonsrevision.com>

At Dixons Brooklands Academy, we want our students to be prepared for their next destination in life. Rules exist in every area, and just as companies require employees to follow a dress code that must be adhered to, all students at Dixons Brooklands Academy must follow the uniform expectations. These will be stringently applied and we thank you for your support in ensuring that your child attends school in the correct uniform. Here is the link to the uniform section of the website which details the correct uniform for students <https://www.dixonsbk.com/about/uniform>



Mr Mark Harrison
Executive Director -
Manchester and Liverpool

Convention of the North

We are delighted that students from Dixons Brooklands Academy have been invited to attend the Convention of the North 2024, in Leeds, next week. 5 Year 9 students will be representing the Academy, and have been given the opportunity to speak in front of 400 guests at the event. We are incredibly proud of our students who have volunteered to participate in the event and we look forward to sharing details of the visit in a later edition of the newsletter.

Oxford University Visit

19 of our Year 11 students are visiting Oxford University on Tuesday to gain an insight into university life and what to expect following college.



The students will no doubt find this experience an invaluable opportunity to speak to students and staff at Corpus Christi, Oxford and will help with their future choices.

Street Reds

5 students from Dixons Brooklands Academy who attend Manchester United Foundation (MUF) Street Reds sessions in the evening, took part in the annual Premier League Kicks MU Foundation tournament recently.

MUF Street Reds is a community session for 8-19 years olds to play football for free, in partnership with Dixons Brooklands Academy, providing opportunities for the young people in our community to access sport and physical activity.

Premier League Kicks is the national initiative of the Premier League to fund community clubs across the country to engage with young people and provide opportunities to play and learn through volunteering or workshops about local issues they face in their communities. Each year they deliver the national PL Kicks Cup where representatives from each club come to play for the recognition of being national PL Kicks champions.

We are delighted that the students from Dixons Brooklands Academy won the MUF tournament and will go on to represent Manchester United at the national tournament for the third year in a row! Good luck to the students and we look forward to hearing about their experience in the coming months.

Sport at Dixons Brooklands Academy

Prior to half term the weather was not too kind to us, which has forced the PE department to take to the sports hall and assembly hall for some team building activity. But these yellow weather warnings were not going to stop us having fun!

Our students took part in inter-advisory group Basketball tournaments, where students played against each other in a round robin tournament. The students loved the competitive element of the games and enjoyed working with their advisory groups in this competition.

Meanwhile over in the assembly hall, students were taking part in team building activities; these activities were a chance to give students to think on their feet and use their communication skills, teamwork and brain power to logically complete tasks and actions under pressure. The students were brilliant throughout and seemed to thoroughly enjoy these tasks.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Following the success of our school production of Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, our Performing Arts Department don't sit on their laurels. Work has already begun planning for our next show, and we'll let you know what this will be as soon as this is confirmed.

If your child was inspired after attending the performance, please encourage them to participate. It is wonderful to see our students confidence grow as they work with their friends to bring the production to life.



The Little Princess Trust

Over the half term break, Ms Goulden, one of our Learning Support Assistants at the Academy, decided to have her hair trimmed. Nothing unusual about this you may think, but whilst sat in the hairdressers chair, she decided to have a more drastic cut and as a result has generously donated 10 inches of hair to The Little Princess Trust!

The Little Princess Trust is a charity which helps children and young people suffering from cancer with a real hair wig. It can cost up to £700 for each wig, and so the charity provides a valuable service to those who need it. Ms Goulden has set up a GoFundMe page and has raised £120 so far in addition to her hairy donation.



Year 10 Work Experience - Deadline Extended!

The Work Experience deadline has been extended to 1st March which gives students who have so far been unable to secure a placement in a setting of their own choice another chance to do so. We are encouraging every student to be out of the school building during this week to ensure they get the most out of this opportunity.

We will be holding four drop-in sessions at school on the following days/times to support you and your child in sourcing a placement and ensuring all documents are complete:

Monday 26th February: Anytime between 8.00-9.00am and anytime between 3.00-5.00pm

Wednesday 28th February: Anytime between 8.00-9.00am and anytime between 2.00-4.00pm

Please report to reception when you arrive to sign in and you will be greeted by a member of the team.

National Careers Week 4th - 9th March



Next week in school, students will have presentations from Microsoft and Manchester Airport Group during National Careers Week to find out from these huge local employers what they look for in new employees. Encourage your child to access the Virtual Careers Fair during that week too - over 100 employers all in one place! From 4th March, you can visit: ncw2024.co.uk

Librarian and Literacy Coordinator Vacancy

Do you love reading? Are you passionate about working with children? Yes? Then we have a fantastic opportunity for you: Librarian and literacy co-ordinator. We are looking for a member of our community to work with our students to encourage a love of reading; manage the library; increase our library usage and deliver bespoke reading intervention programmes to help improve students' literacy levels. If you have relevant experience working with young people or have a passion for reading which you'd like to share, then please have a look at the job on our website: https://ce0354li.webitrent.com/ce0354li_webrecruitment/wrd/run/ETREC107GF.open?VACANCY_ID%3d4547525upz&WVID=00960642bb

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 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

Coffee Day: As part of their Age Friendly offer, each Tuesday complimentary refreshments (tea, coffee, biscuits) are on offer to visitors between 10.00am and 12.30pm and 2.00-4.30pm. There is also a selection of board games for customers to use during this day.

Monthly:

Booky Brooky Brew Stop: Visit on Friday 29th March 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.

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	

Dates for your Diary: February/March 2024

Monday 26th February	Year 11 Mock Exams (over a 2-week period)
Monday 26th February	8.00-9.00am and 3.00-5.00pm: Year 10 Parent drop in for Work Experience placements not yet arranged.
Monday 26th February	1.30pm: Year 8 Football Fixture at St Peter's High School (<i>tbc</i>)
Tuesday 27th February	Year 11 Oxford University Visit
Wednesday 28th February	8.00-9.00am and 2.00-4.00pm: Year 10 Parent drop in for Work Experience placements not yet arranged.
Thursday 29th February	3.00pm: KS4 Girls Football Fixture at Wright Robinson Sports College
Thursday 29th February	9.30am: 5 students invited to attend Convention of the North, Leeds
Friday 1st March	9.30am: 5 students invited to attend Convention of the North, Leeds
Tuesday 5th March	3.30pm: Year 11 Football Fixture at Loreto High School (<i>tbc</i>)
Tuesday 5th March	3.30pm: KS3 Netball Fixture at Parrs Wood (<i>tbc</i>)
Wednesday 6th March	2.45pm: Year 8 Football Fixture at Wright Robinson Sports College (<i>tbc</i>)
Thursday 7th March	School closed for staff training
Friday 8th March	School closed for staff training
Wednesday 13th March	Cyber Girls First Event at UA92 (<i>tbc</i>)
Thursday 14th March	3.00pm: KS3 Girls Football Fixture at MEA
Wednesday 20th March	2.45pm: Year 8 Football Fixture at MCA (<i>tbc</i>)
Friday 22nd March	School closes for Easter holidays. <i>Students return Monday 8th April.</i>
Monday 8th April	School reopens for new term.