

OCTOBER 18 , 2024

NEWSLETTER

DIXONS CROXTETH ACADEMY



The Dixons Croxteth newsletter keeps our community, including parents, students, staff, and the public, informed with updates on school events, policies, student achievements, opportunities for community involvement, and available educational resources.



Academy's values:

Hard Work: we never give up. We remain positive so that we have the strength to persevere with even the hardest work. We do what it takes for as long as it takes.

Integrity: we do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. We do this even when people are not watching.

Fairness: we play by the rules. We are respectful, polite, and courteous at all times. We treat others in our diverse community as we wish to be treated. When we help others, we help ourselves.

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Dear Dixons Croxteth Community,

As we come to the end of our first half term, I wanted to take a moment to express my appreciation to all of you for your continued support and commitment Dixons Croxteth Academy.

It has been a busy and productive term filled with learning, growth, and achievements, and I am incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication shown by our students, staff, and families alike. From the classroom to extracurricular activities, your engagement has made a real difference.

This week we welcomed international visitors from America to Dixons Croxteth. Brian Sims from One World Education that works globally to improve education outcomes for students visited all Dixons Academies. Brian is hoping to work closely with us to develop teaching and learning at Dixons Croxteth. As mentioned in the vlog, we have appointed our Head Student. I had the opportunity to meet with him this week to gauge his vision for leading the student body. In the next newsletter, you will hear about Frank's aims for Dixons Croxteth.

My highlight this week was watching the first inter-house football competition. We have re-launched the house system at Dixons Croxteth for several reasons; it helps to create belonging and a sense of community, creates friendly joyous competition and develops teamwork. Our houses are named after famous figures from the City of Liverpool and more work will be completed moving forward to understand the contribution of these people to our great city.

This newsletter includes important information regarding the launch of the final learning habit, homework, student equipment, compulsory learning catch up, attendance, our new Head Student. If you have any questions please direct these to your students Head of Year.

On behalf of everyone at Dixons Croxteth Academy, I wish you a restful, joyous, and safe holiday season. We look forward to welcoming you back for the next term, ready for continued success and new challenges.

Thank you once again for your support, and best wishes for a wonderful holiday.

Mr Duggan
Principal



Mr Duggan
Principal

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Thank you for all the positive feedback we have received on the vlog. We will be recording a video blog every fortnight to share key information from the academy. You can access the blogs by using the **link below**, **QR code**, or clicking on the **YouTube button**.

Link: [Dixons Croxteth Academy](#)



Principal's Update

Informative video blogs providing regular updates from our Principal, offering insights into key developments and keeping our entire community well - informed about important school events, policies, student achievements, and opportunities for community involvement.

RESET MORNING ON RETURN

At Dixons Croxteth whenever we return from a break, we complete a 'reset' morning with students this is completed in a large teaching space, so all students receive the same message. We always go over the academy mission, values, drivers and learning habits.

When we return on **Monday 4 November** all students will have a reset assembly led by the principal. The following will be covered:

- Values, drivers
- Learning Habits
- Attendance
- Safeguarding
- Enrichment

It is essential that your child is in school on time, fully equipped and ready learn at 08:20am in Morning Meeting so that they do not miss any of the key messages.

THE LITERARY LOUNGE

A big thank you to **The Literary Lounge's librarian**, Lawrence D., who has donated a series of books featuring football superstars! The number of 'Reading Ambassador' attendees is increasing by the week, so any book donations would be gratefully received.

For more details about **The Literary Lounge**, please visit: [The Literary Lounge](#).



HOME LEARNING AT DIXONS CROXTETH

At Dixons Croxteth Academy, we build a partnership between carers, students, and teachers that puts learning first. We help our students value learning by teaching them to take ownership of their own success. Home learning activities play a significant role in a pupil's educational journey and wider development.

Why is Home Learning so Important?

When our long-term memory is altered, we have learnt something. However, when we are exposed to new information, we instantly begin to forget it. Over time, the amount of original information retained significantly reduces unless it is revisited often.

Our home learning strategy is designed to allow students to frequently revisit powerful knowledge, interrupting the forgetting process.

There are three strands to our Home Learning Strategy:

Read. Cover. Write. Check. (RCWC): This is a paper-based task.

Sparx Maths: Online.

Seneca Learning: Online.

Expectations – Y7 and Y8

Up to 60 minutes per day of:

Seneca

Sparx Maths

RCWC

Expectations – Y9 and Y10

Up to 90 minutes per day of:

Seneca

Sparx Maths

RCWC

Completion of past GCSE examination questions

Expectations – Y11

A minimum of 90 minutes per day of:

Seneca

Sparx Maths

RCWC

Completion of past GCSE examination questions

Accessing revision sites

Excellent additional resources can be found at:

Learn Dojo

BBC Bitesize

Save My Exams

Oak National Academy

Free Science Lessons

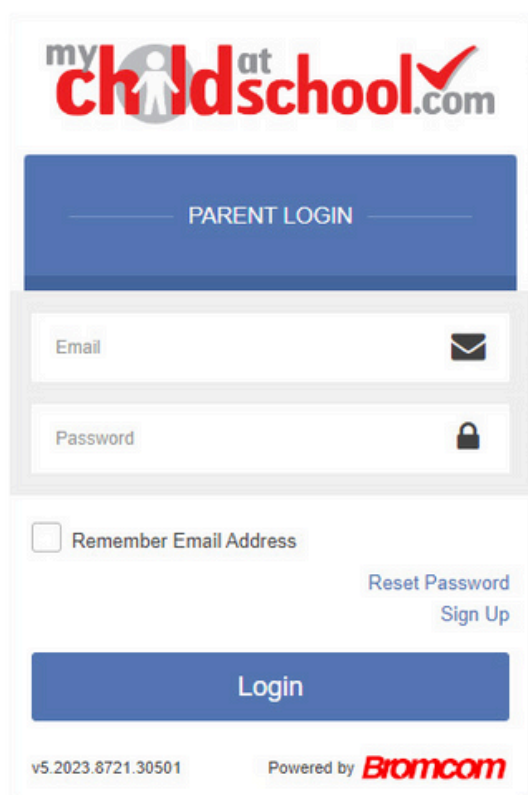
MY CHILD AT SCHOOL (MCAS) APP

One of our aims at Dixons Croxteth is to strengthen our Parent-School Relationship. We launched the newsletter last year and have further developed this with the video blog.

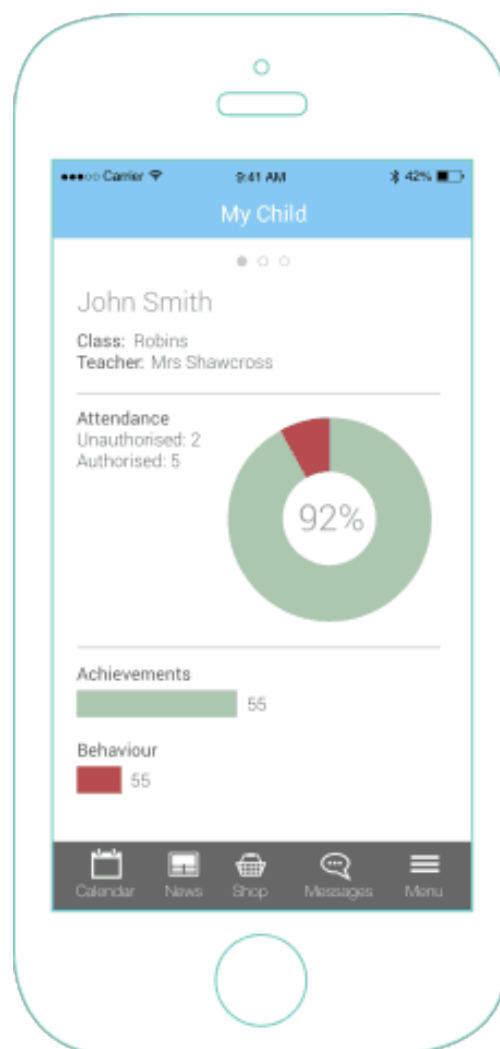
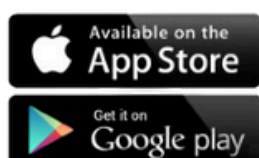
Our next big change will be the introduction of the My Child At School App (MCAS). Over the next few months, we will be rolling out MCAS as the method of communication between parents and families.

My Child at School (MCAS) is a portal which enables parents and carers to view their child's academic performance in real-time, via a web browser or mobile app. The type of information provided in the app include assessment, attendance, behaviour, pupil details, communication, consent forms, timetables, annual reports, exam details and Using the app also allows us to reduce the need to use paper and the cost of SMS messages.

More information will follow about the roll out of this over the coming weeks with the aim of all families using the app by Easter 2025.



The screenshot shows the web login interface for the My Child At School (MCAS) app. At the top is the logo 'my child at school.com' with a red checkmark. Below it is a blue 'PARENT LOGIN' button. The login form includes fields for 'Email' and 'Password', each with an icon (envelope and lock respectively). There is a checkbox for 'Remember Email Address' and links for 'Reset Password' and 'Sign Up'. A large blue 'Login' button is at the bottom. The footer shows the version 'v5.2023.8721.30501' and 'Powered by Bromcom'.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Jacqui Varkulis

Vice Principal



Who is our Staff Spotlight of the week?

Jacqui graduated from Liverpool John Moores University in 2007 with a QTS honours degree in secondary physical education school sport and dance. Jacqui loved every aspect of school sport and was very competitive. Jacqui believes that all young people need a champion and Jacqui's PE teacher Mrs Graham was her champion at school and inspired her to become a PE teacher. Jacqui secured her first teaching job as an NQT in a large secondary school with sixth form in Halton and undertook many leadership roles over her 16-year career at that school. Jacqui has always loved sport and represented her county at 4 different sports and played county netball for two different counties. Currently her participation in sport is limited due to a hip injury but she still watches it on TV especially rugby. With her sons.

Favourite food: Chinese / Italian.

Favourite film / series: Too many to name but I recently watched one my favourites (Erin Brockovich)

What are your favorite hobbies or interests outside of work?

I love to spend time with my family especially supporting my children at all their events and activities. My sons play rugby, and my daughter loves horse riding and dance, so mums taxi service is never off the clock and time for myself is very limited, but I wouldn't have it any other way. We like to go on holidays and travel to as many different countries as possible to explore the world and different cultures. When I do get some free time, I like to watch real life crime documentaries and think I would make a pretty good detective.

What do you like most about working at Dixons Croxteth?

I truly believe in Dixons mission of "challenging educational and social disadvantage in the north". I was the first in my family to go to university and it wouldn't have been possible without someone believing in me and keeping me on track to achieve my aspirations.

I felt fully aligned to this mission and wanted to work with like-minded professionals to improve the life chances for as many young people as possible so they by the age of 18 will have the choice of university or real life alternative.

I love working at Croxteth because of the pupils who are remarkable young adults. Dixons Croxteth is a completely different school than it was 12 months ago when I joined, and I am proud to be a part of this wonderful community.

What is your sentence:



































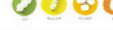


Tirelessly hardworking leader who is passionate about improving the life chances for all, who goes above and beyond every day to be the best version of herself and a role model to many.
























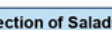


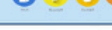










LUNCH MENU

Below are the lunch menus for Dixons Croxteth.

We understand that some families have encountered issues with ParentMail; these have now been resolved.

Week 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MENU	 <i>Italian</i>				
	Beef Bolognese Pasta Garlic Bread 	Roast Turkey, Veg, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy 	Chicken Burger Chips Coleslaw 	Chicken Tikka Rice Naan Bread 	Tandoori Pork Pitta Bread Salad 
	Italian Meat Panini 	Sweet Chilli Chicken Wrap 	Jacket Potato with Beans/Cheese 	Greek Chicken Gyro 	Roast Chicken Baguette 
	Veggie Roasty Pasta Garlic Bread 	Swedish Meatballs, Gravy & Mash 	Southern Fried Nuggets, Wedges & BBQ Sauce 	Chickpea, Spinach & Potato Curry, Rice & Naan 	Vegetarian Stir Fry Noodles 
	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 
	Ice Cream 	Mixed Muffins 	Donuts 	Fruit 	Yogurt 

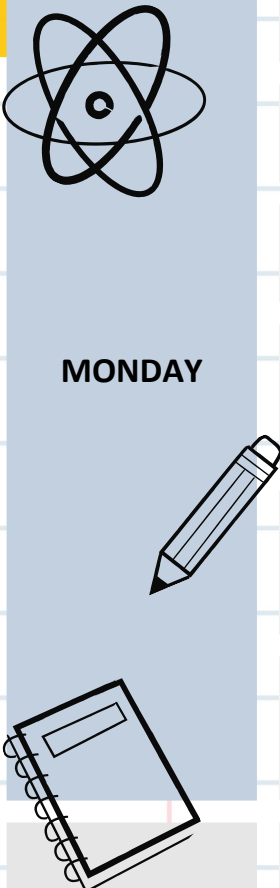
Any special order or allergy than the main menú please ask the kitchen before 10:30 am

Week 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MENU	 <i>Italian</i>				
	Spaghetti and Beef Meatballs 	Cumberland Sausages, Mash and Gravy 	Beef Burger & Chips 	Katsu Chicken Curry & Rice 	Salt & Pepper Chicken & Noodles 
	Peperoni Pizza 	BBQ Chicken + Cheese Wrap 	Jacket Potato with Beans/Cheese 	Roast Chicken & Stuffing Baguette 	Mexican Chicken Burrito 
	Margherita Pizza 	Vegan Nuggets, Potato Rusti Bites 	Roast Vegetable Burrito 	Quorn Chicken Curry, Bombay Potatoes 	Peri Peri Quorn Chicken Wrap 
	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 	Selection of Salads & Sandwiches 
	Yogurt 	Fruit 	Muffins 	Donuts 	Ice Cream 

Any special order or allergy than the main menú please ask the kitchen before 10:30 am


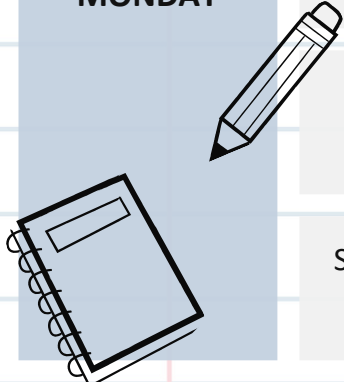



ENRICHMENT TIMETABLE - WEEK 1

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION	YEAR GROUP	STAFF
 MONDAY	Brass Lessons	11.30 - 12.30	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
	Football	After School	Field	7	Mr Little
	Fitness	After School	Studio	7 to 11	Mr Boswarva
	Maths Masterclass	After School	1.08	11	Mr Doyle
	Sparx Maths	After School	ICT Room - Heart Space	7 to 11	Mr Malabar
	Singing Group (Choir)	After School	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
TUESDAY	Literary Lounge	Lunch	1.01	7, 9, 11	Miss Redhead
	Poetry Club	After School	Library	All Years	Mr Kerr & Miss Odell
WEDNESDAY	Origami	After School	Art Classroom	7 to 11	Miss Palmieri
THURSDAY	Literary Lounge	Lunch	1.01	8, 10	Miss Redhead
FRIDAY	Drumming circle / Samba	After School	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
	Guitar Lessons	1.15 - 2.30	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth



ENRICHMENT TIMETABLE - WEEK 2

DAY	ACTIVITY	TIME	LOCATION	YEAR GROUP	STAFF
MONDAY  	Brass Lessons	11.30 - 12.30	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
	Football	After School	Field	8	Mr Boswarva
	Sparx Maths	After School	ICT Room - Heart Space	7 to 11	Mr Malabar
	Maths Masterclass	After School	1.08	11	Mr Doyle
	Singing Group (Choir)	After School	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
TUESDAY	Literary Lounge	Lunch	1.01	7, 9, 11	Miss Redhead
WEDNESDAY	Literary Lounge	Lunch	1.01	8, 10	Miss Redhead
	Origami	After School	Art Classroom	7 to 11	Miss Palmieri
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	Drumming circle / Samba	After School	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
	Keyboard lessons	2.10 - 2.40	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth
	Guitar Lessons	1.15 - 2.30	Music Room	7 to 11	Miss Unsworth

ACADEMY LEADERS

Senior Leadership roles at Dixons Croxteth



Mr Duggan

Principal



Jacqui Varkulis

Vice Principal

Behaviour and Culture



Anish Morgan

Vice Principal

Teaching and Learning



Ian Makin

Vice Principal

Student Experience



Mark Little

Assistant Principal

Designated Safeguarding Lead

SAFEGUARDING TEAM

If you are worried or have a concern please speak to one of the members of staff below or email: dcr_safeguarding@dixonscr.com



Mr I Duggan
Principal



Mr M Little
Assistant Principal
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mr I Makin
Vice Principal
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Ms J Varkulis
Vice Principal
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Miss R Bowers
Safeguarding officer



Miss L Cox
Safeguarding officer



Ms T Redmond
Safeguarding officer



Mr R Owens
Safeguarding Officer



Mrs C Watson
Safeguarding Officer