



## Final year message from the Principal

As we reach the end the school year, I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support, dedication, and commitment to Dixons Croxteth Academy. It has been a year filled with incredible achievements, growth, and memorable moments, and none of it would have been possible without the strong partnership between our families and the school—and the amazing students!

I am constantly inspired by the hard work, integrity, and enthusiasm displayed by our pupils. Their curiosity and eagerness to learn have been a driving force behind our efforts to create a nurturing and stimulating environment at Dixons Croxteth Academy which will only improve next year. It is a privilege to watch students grow, not just academically, but also as compassionate, responsible, and confident individuals—it is why I am fully committed to Dixons Croxteth. After my first full year as Principal I honestly would not want to work anywhere else despite the challenges we face.



**Mr Duggan**  
Principal

Throughout the year, your encouragement and involvement in your children's educations have been invaluable. I thank all families for their support with homework, equipment and corrections. I believe creating the culture for learning is the most important part of school improvement and we are now creating a culture where teachers can teach and students can learn. We are not perfect and will make mistakes but, again I want to thank you for your support and feedback.

We say goodbye this year to some amazing staff including Miss Talbot, Mr Brannan, Mr Fleming, Mr Tomlinson, Miss Nora and Miss Brown who has worked in Reprographics for 22 Years! I would like to thank these members of staff for all the work they have done to help the academy improve and wish them well for the future.

Next year I will be further improving communication with parents with a Vlog that will go out every other week. The Vlog will visibly show families the work that we complete at Dixons Croxteth. I would like to thank all families for their positive feedback with regards to the newsletter, which will continue.

As we prepare for the summer break, I encourage you to take this time to relax, recharge, and enjoy quality time with your loved ones. Reflect on the progress made this year and celebrate the accomplishments, big and small. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new school year, ready to embark on another exciting chapter of learning and growth. We will be focusing on student experience next year and work around this area will be shared early next year with you.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support and for being an integral part of the Dixons Croxteth Academy community. It is an honor to work with such wonderful families and pupils, and I am truly grateful for the trust you place in us.

**Iain Duggan**  
Principal

## Key Dates

Returning to school:

Year 7 and 11—Monday 02 September 8:20am start.

Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11—Tuesday 03 September 8:20am start.

***Any student not in Morning Meeting for 8:20am will receive a late correction***

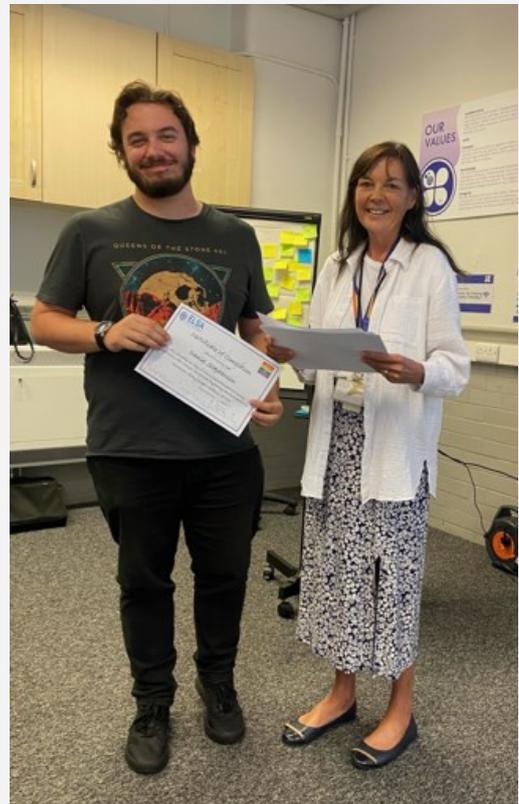
## Congratulations Dan

This year at Dixons Croxteth we welcomed Dan to our staff body. Dan is an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) who has been working with the Local Authority to gain full accreditation this year.

I am pleased to announce that last week Dan was successful with the LA and is now a fully accredited ELSA and will continue to work with us next year.

As our ELSA Dan has worked with numerous students over the year specifically supporting with:

- Loss and bereavement
- Emotional Literacy
- Self-esteem
- Social Skills
- Friendship issues
- Relationships
- Managing strong feelings
- Anxiety and worries
- Bullying
- Conflict
- Emotional Regulation
- Growth Mindset



Congratulations Dan!

# Sparx Maths

(Mr Doyle, Head of Maths)

As we reach the end of the year and our first year utilising Sparx Maths to support students with their independent study of Maths, I wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate the hard work of our students as well as thank you for your support in encouraging students to engage with the platform.

We can clearly see the correlation between the grades of the students who have engaged with Sparx Math and those that have not, in the Cycle 3 assessments.

The below statistics show the fantastic engagement and successes of our students:

- ◆ Students have correctly answered 178 598 questions
- ◆ Students have completed 2742 hours of personalised maths practice
- ◆ At KS3, 46% of our students have improved in their times tables proficiency

This week, the students with the most complete homeworks across the year were celebrated during morning meetings and the students below were awarded a 'Sparx Star Pupil' badge for being the top of their year groups:

- **Aswinn - Year 7**
- **Tuna - Year 8**
- **Omar - Year 9**
- **Christopher - Year 10**

We will continue with Sparx as our homework platform for Maths next year and thank you in advance for your continued support.

**Building maths confidence through  
personalised homework**

## Equipment

Please can we take this opportunity to remind families that all students need to be 100% equipped for the day, each day. This is one of our learning habits.

Towards the end of this year we have seen an increase in children not arriving to school with the correct equipment and this is having a huge impact on children being able to engage in Morning Meeting (focused on revision skills for assessment) as they are spending time finding / organising equipment and then leads to disruption in the classroom as students are not ready to learn.

All families have signed the home-academy agreement, agreeing to support with this. A list of equipment your child should have can be found in the family handbook here: [Dixons Croxteth Academy | Family Handbook](#) .

Families are kindly reminded that we only accept cash at student support (Equipment shop).

***Summer is a perfect time to ensure that this learning habit is met.***

## Parent Mail

We are currently seeing an increase in ParentMail debt, with families not topping up their child's account and allowing it to go into debt.

If you need support with Parent Mail, or paying for school lunches, please do contact school in the first instance – we want to help.

Secondly, families are reminded that lack of payment comes directly from the school budget and impacts what we can pay for, for children – such as Trips and Visits.

Please ensure over the holiday that you check your ParentMail account, and credit it where needed.

## Website and Twitter / X

We post regular updates about life at the academy on both our website: **[www.dixonscr.com](http://www.dixonscr.com)** and our Twitter / X account: **@Dixonscr**

Please like and share our positive article

## Unwanted Uniform / Footwear expectations

Uniform is important at Dixons Croxteth as it promotes equality and fairness, everyone wears the same attire and is treated the same. Our uniform fosters a sense of belonging as we are all part of the same community at Dixons Croxteth.

We welcome ANY unwanted uniform that we can re-use for other students this includes:

- **Blazers**
- **Shirts**
- **PE Kit**
- **Trousers**
- **Shoes**

When we return in September students must have the correct uniform including plain black shoes. Any student not wearing the correct footwear will be placed in our removal room while parents are notified.

## Leadership Roles

As we move into the reinvent stage of school improvement we have analysed the roles and responsibilities of the Senior Leadership team to ensure that we continue to improve standards for students. Next year Senior Leaders will focus on:

- **Iain 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

Next year we will be sharing more information with you about our staff through a 'Staff Spotlight' in the Newsletter.



# PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2024



[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)

## LAS IGUANAS

Join 'My Las Iguanas' via the App & Niños eat free with every adult main

## ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

## SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

## PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

## THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

## TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase an adult's main meal (App needed)

## PUREZZA

Children under the age of 10 get free pizza at Purezza with every adult meal purchased

## TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

## IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

## SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

## BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

## PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

## MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

## TESCO CAFES

1 Free Kids meal with every 60p Spend. Available from July 1st Scotland and NI - from July 22nd England & Wales

## GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

## YO! SUSHI

From Monday 1st July - Friday 30th August 2024, kids eat free all day Mondays to Fridays at YO! Sushi (min adult spend £10).

## WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

## BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

## COCONUT TREE

One child (aged 10 and under) eats free per paying adult. Valid Daily, 12pm - 6pm from Monday 22nd July to Friday 6th Sept 2024.

## DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

## TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

## HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

## FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.



# OPEN WATER: DON'T TAKE THE RISK



Swimming in or playing near rivers and canals may seem like a great idea, particularly on a warm day, but it could all end in tragedy. **DON'T take the risk.**

## THE WATER IS COLD...

...even on very warm days, rivers and canals contain water barely above 10 degrees. Sudden immersion can lead to cold water shock, which can cause gasping and intake of water.

**This can be deadly in a matter of seconds.**

## DID YOU KNOW?

Even the narrowest of rivers can be considerably deep. Rivers are subject to strong flow and **hidden currents** which can trouble even the strongest of swimmers.

## WHAT LIES BENEATH?



**The water is untreated and can make you ill.**

Canals and rivers contain pollutants, sewage and often unseen underwater obstructions and snag hazards.

Debris under the water such as shopping trolleys, broken glass and cans can cause **injury** or **trap** you.



Remember, there are no lifeguards to help you at your local river, lake, canal or dam.



Rivers can be very difficult to climb out of, especially with steep or slimy banks. **Stay clear of rivers with steep or unguarded banks.**



**IN AN EMERGENCY...NEVER** enter the water to try and help a person or animal. You could get into difficulty yourself. Instead, dial 999 and use any water rescue equipment that is available.

**If you fall into the water unexpectedly, fight your instinct to thrash around. Instead, lean back, extend your arms and legs & float.**



MERSEYSIDE  
FIRE & RESCUE  
SERVICE

[www.merseyfire.gov.uk](http://www.merseyfire.gov.uk)

# BEACH SAFETY: KNOW THE DANGERS



## MUD AND QUICKSAND

Large areas of the coast can have mud and quicksand which can cause you to get trapped and risk drowning.



### REDUCE THE RISK

Check tide times

Follow warning sign advice

Avoid crossing estuaries and mud where there can be hidden channels or fast water

If trapped, **sit back and spread your weight evenly across the surface**

Stop others from trying to help you as they may get stuck

Call **999** immediately and ask for the **Coastguard**



Strong currents can sweep inflatables and people out to sea

## FOLLOW THE FLAGS



There are lifeguards in the area. Swim between the two flags.



Do not enter the water. There could be unseen dangers such as currents.



No swimming in this area. There may be non-powered watercraft such as surfboards, kayaks, etc. in this area.

## IF YOU SEE SOMEONE STRUGGLING:



**CALL** 999  
**TELL** the struggling person to float on their back  
**THROW** them something that floats

**TOP TIP**  
ALWAYS GO TO A BEACH WITH A LIFEGUARD



## 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](mailto: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 Owen**  
**Safeguarding Officer**



**Mrs C Watson**  
**Safeguarding Officer**