

MAY 2, 2025

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 Families,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Easter holiday. As we return to school, we have several important updates and messages to share with you.

Firstly, after the break, all students participated in a reset assembly to clarify our routines and expectations at Dixons Croxteth. This assembly was an opportunity to support our students in always 'getting it right.' We make no apologies for over-communicating key messages, as it is essential for maintaining a positive and productive school environment.

Secondly, I would like to wish all our Year 11 students the best of luck in their GCSEs, which start this week. It was incredibly pleasing to see many students in over the holiday, diligently completing their revision. Their commitment and hard work is commendable, and everyone is supporting them to do well.

Thirdly, a big thank you to the Year 7 families who attended the parents' evening last night. I would like to apologise for the wait to see some teachers, but we had over 80% attendance. There was a real buzz about the evening, and the feedback has been extremely positive. Well done to Year 7!

Additionally, I will be sharing a Vlog with families next week and getting back into the positive habit of completing a weekly Vlog to improve communication.

Please take your time to read this week's bulletin, as it contains some key messages as we move into the final term of the year and if you need anything, reach out.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mr Duggan
Principal



Mr Duggan
Principal

STAY HYDRATED



At Dixons Croxteth, we are committed to the health and well-being of our students, and we understand the importance of staying hydrated for maintaining good health and supporting effective learning in the classroom.

We encourage all students to bring a water bottle into the academy.

Staying hydrated is crucial for remaining healthy and helps students stay focused and engaged during lessons. While students are allowed to bring water bottles, they are not permitted to leave classrooms to fill them up during lessons. Water will be available before school, during break, and at lunch times. During lessons, it is essential that students remain in the classroom to maximize their learning time.

To become more energy efficient and reduce waste, we will not be providing plastic cups or selling bottled water. Therefore, we highly recommend that each student brings their own reusable water bottle to school.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping us maintain a healthy and efficient learning environment.

DRINKS AVAILABLE AT LUNCH

During a recent student council meeting, our students expressed a desire to have drinks cartons available for purchase at lunch. We are pleased to inform you that we have worked with our suppliers to source these drinks.

Starting last week, drinks cartons are available for sale at the canteen during lunchtime. Additionally, water will continue to be available for all students.

For families in receipt of free school meals, your child can choose either a drink or a dessert with their meal. This decision is due to cost considerations. We spoke to students, and they expressed a preference for having the choice between a drink or a dessert. If you wish for your child to have both, you are welcome to add money to their accounts via ParentPay.



BUILDING UPDATE

As we continue our journey together at Dixons Croxteth, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the progress we have made over the past two years and share some exciting updates about our academy building.

When I became Principal two years ago, one of my biggest frustrations was the state of our academy building. It had been neglected for far too long, with little investment in key areas. Our students did not have a building they could be proud of, and this was something that deeply concerned me.

One of the first actions taken by Dixons Academy Trust was to invest in doubling the size of our canteen. This was a phenomenal cost, but we went to the government because the old canteen was not fit for purpose and could not accommodate our growing school. The new canteen has made a significant difference, providing a comfortable and spacious environment for our students to enjoy their meals.

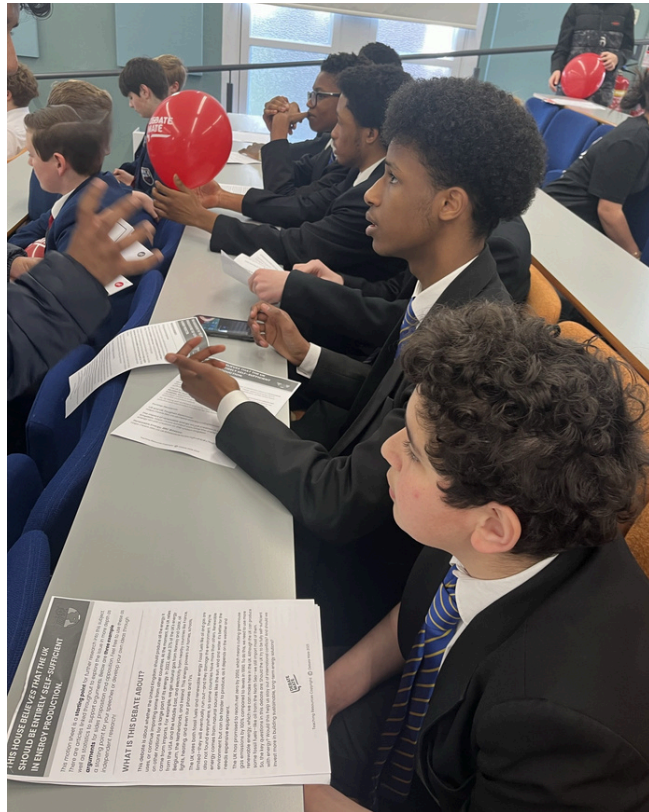
Secondly, our science labs were dated, damaged, and again, not fit for purpose. I was shocked when I was told that we could not conduct science practicals because of the condition of the labs. Determined to change this, I reached out to Dixons Academies central trust, and we now have two state-of-the-art science labs. Our students are once again able to complete practicals, which is essential for their learning and development.

We have also installed new girls' toilets to accommodate our growing cohort of female students. Over the Easter holidays, we undertook a full painting refresh of the main corridors, making the school feel fresh and modern. These improvements have significantly enhanced the learning environment for our students.

Looking ahead, we have more exciting plans. Next year, we will be installing a new IT suite to support extracurricular activities, and our third science lab will be refitted so that students can use it. Additionally, Ms. Palmieri has worked tirelessly with our students to display their creative work throughout the school. This has added a vibrant and inspiring touch to our building.

I feel we are slowly but surely creating a building that can be loved and one that our students can be proud of. If anyone would like a tour of the building and our facilities, please do not hesitate to contact the academy. We would be delighted to show you around and share the progress we have made.

DEBATE MATE CUP



Our Year 10 students took part in their very first public Debate Mate Cup competition.

Over 200 pupils from schools around the region took part and our boys won 2/3 of their debates- an amazing achievement for a team that only began this journey in the autumn of 2024!

The Dixons Croxteth team won against a seasoned West Derby team and also a specially selected mentor team, in the words of the judge ""they won by some distance" in the latter debate.

The conduct of the boys was exemplary, and both the organisers and staff from other schools commented that boys were superb ambassadors of our academy and represented themselves , their families and Dixons Croxteth superbly.

It was a day that filled me with great pride. A real privilege to have accompanied the boys and celebrate their success.

Mrs Morgan, Vice Principal.

POST 16 INTERVIEWS



On Thursday 24th April we welcomed Miss Lyon, Head of Sixth Form at St John Bosco, to the academy.

Our year 11 students had interviews with Miss Lyon to discuss their post 16 options. All boys received a conditional offer and have been invited to a taster day.

We are so proud of how our students conducted themselves throughout their interviews and they were a credit to our academy.

MERSEYSIDE CHESS COMPETITION

On Friday 25th April, a group of our students took part in the annual Merseyside chess competition at North Liverpool Academy.

The Dixons Croxteth team finished 5th out of 13 schools. It was a great experience for the students.

Well done team Croxteth!



DIXONS MUSIC CUP

This year we had 14 entries for the Dixons Music Cup from Dixons Croxteth from years 7, 8 and 9.

7 Dixons Croxteth students made it to the final selection in the distinction category. All students who entered received a certificate for participation.

Well done all involved!



















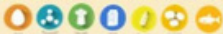














EXCITING ART NEWS






















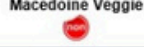









**COMING
SOON**



LUNCH MENU

Below is the our spring menu

   					
Week 1	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MENU					
	Beef Bolognese Pasta Garlic Bread 	Pepperoni / Cheese Pizza Potatoes Fries 	Katsu Chicken Rice & Broccoli 	Chicken Fajita Spanish Rice & Salsa 	Chicken Burger & Chips 
	Assorted Baguettes or Wraps CHICKEN-BACON-TUNA-MEATBALL 				
	Macaroni Cheese Garlic Bread 	Mix Vegetables Pizza Potatoes Fries 	Vegan Katsu Curry Rice & Broccoli 	Roast Veggie Fajita Spanish Rice & Salsa 	Beyond Burger & Chips 
	Selection of Salads / Chef's Homemade Soup (Twice a Week) Selection Sandwiches: CHEESE-HAM-TUNA 				
	Ice-cream 	Apple Cake 	Chocolate Muffins 	Yogurt 	School Cake 
Any special order or allergy than the main menu please ask the kitchen before 10:30 am					

   					
Week 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MENU					
	Pepperoni / Cheese Pizza Potatoes Fries 	Tandoori Chicken Pitta Potatoes Bites / Kebab Salad 	Chicken Karaage Korean BBQ/Bufalo Sauce Roast Potatoes Coleslaw 	Nigerian Stew Jasmine Rice, Potatoes Casava Macedoine Veggie 	Fish / Chicken Goujons & Chips Bake Beans / Peas 
	Assorted Baguettes or Wraps CHICKEN-BACON-TUNA-MEATBALL 				
	Mix Vegetables Pizza Potatoes Fries 	Tandoori Veggie Pitta Potatoes Bites / Kebab Salad 	Quorn Karaage Korean BBQ/Bufalo Sauce Roast Potatoes Coleslaw 	Veggie Stew Jasmine Rice, Potatoes Casava Macedoine Veggie 	Quorn Nuggets & Chips 
	Selection of Salads / Chef's Homemade Soup (Twice a Week) Selection Sandwiches: CHEESE-HAM-TUNA 				
	Ice-cream 	School Cake 	Chocolate Muffins 	Yogurt 	Apple Cake 
Any special order or allergy than the main menu please ask the kitchen before 10:30 am					

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

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