



Message from the Head of School

This week has been a truly wonderful and uplifting one, and I wanted to take a moment to share just how proud I am of all of our students. On Monday, we celebrated the Class of 2024 during their Certificate Evening. It was heartwarming to see so many of them return to school and to acknowledge their dedication, achievements, and hard work. Their accomplishments are truly inspiring, and it was a joyous occasion to honour them.



Mrs K Gardner
Head of School

Wednesday brought some friendly competition with the Teachers vs. Students' charity football match. The students claimed victory with enthusiasm and skill, and the spirit of teamwork and sportsmanship was evident on both sides. It was a fun-filled event enjoyed by everyone.

Finally, our Christmas Concert highlighted the incredible talent in our school community. From captivating dramatic performances to beautiful singing and outstanding bands, our students shone brightly on stage. It was a festive and heartwarming showcase of their creativity and dedication.

Thank you for your ongoing support. It's been a fantastic week, and I couldn't be prouder of our students!

Wishing you all a wonderful and restful weekend.

DBK Partners:

All at DBK are proud of our community and are committed to working with our students, our families and the wider community. Right now, a priority for us to strengthen our relationships with all partners. We would like to set up a DBK Partners Group with parents, community leaders and local organisations who are keen to be involved in working within the community to improve the opportunities for our young people. If you are interested in joining us, or would like to know more, please contact Chrissie Boden –

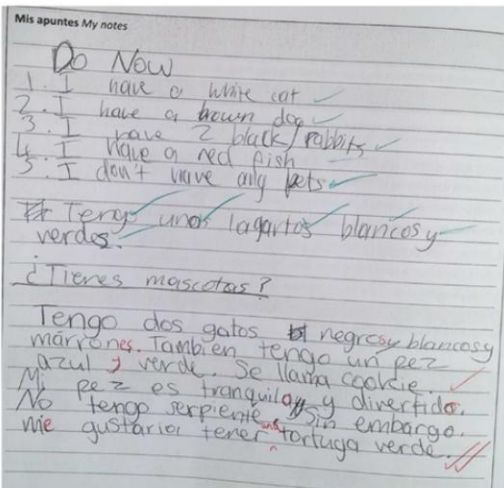
cboden@dixonsbk.com

Celebrating our Curriculum



Personal Development:

This week Mr. Hodgson's Y7 Personal Development Class looked at helping within the community, they created some Christmas Cards to send to local care homes.

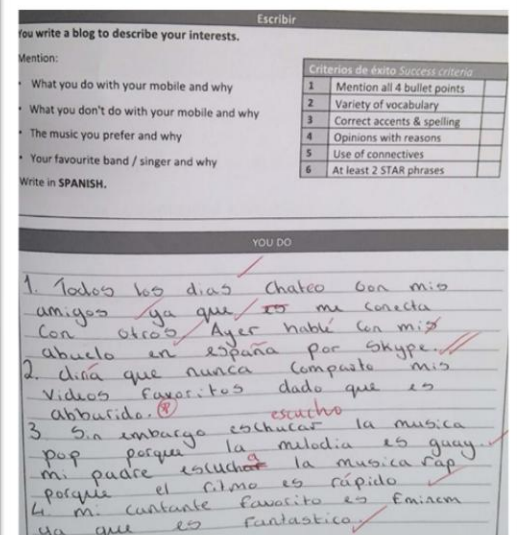


Spanish:

Defne D, Yr 7 - Well done Defne for completing such an amazing paragraph about your pets in Spanish!

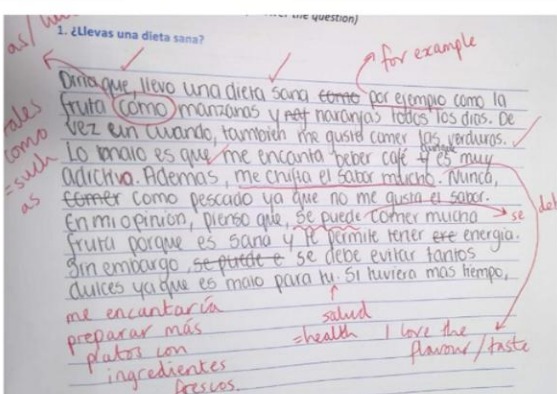
Spanish:

Mason W, Yr 8 has produced an amazing written piece about his mobile phone use and music preferences. Miss Marsh was particularly impressed with how Mason moved his piece from good to great with addition of the past tense!!!



Spanish:

Angel J, Yr 11 has once again produced a brilliant piece of writing which was picked out to show call to the rest of the class for ideas by Miss Marsh



Attendance

This week, 620 students had perfect attendance, showing great commitment to their studies. Their punctuality and effort are impressive, reflecting a positive attitude toward learning and a strong willingness to stay involved in their education.

Number of students with 100% attendance this week in each year group:

- Year 7 - 148 students
- Year 8 - 116 students
- Year 9 - 151 students
- Year 10 - 106 students
- Year 11 - 99 students

Advisory Groups with the highest attendance this week are:

- 7Y 94%
- 8B 93%
- 9X 93%
- 10C 93%
- 11B 85%



Student Absence: Reminder

School attendance is the most crucial prerequisite for quality education; students cannot learn if they are not in school. We know that attendance to school is linked to high quality GCSE results which our students require to achieve their maximum potential.

The following are not reasons to be absent:

- common cold
- headache
- feeling sick
- stomach pains or general pains
- Cough
- asthma
- hayfever

Students with any of these symptoms should be well enough to be in lesson. Parents/carers are advised to give their child paracetamol or equivalent in the morning for headache/stomach pains before sending them to school. If your child requires medication during the school day, this can be brought into school for attention of our school nurse, Samantha Divers. The school nurse will oversee students taking their medication.

Students should not be leaving school during the day because of their period. We can discreetly support students experiencing any issues.

Upcoming week

Christmas Jumper Day - Wednesday 18th December:

In celebration of the holiday season, students are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or something festive – whether it's a splash of red, green, or a bit of sparkle! **Please note that this is in addition to your normal school uniform, and a blazer must be worn as usual.**



Foodbank donations:

This year, instead of asking for monetary donations for Christmas Jumper Day, we're encouraging students to bring non-perishable food items. These donations will be delivered to the Bideford Community Centre to support local families in need this holiday season. Whether it's tins, pasta, rice, or other shelf-stable goods, every contribution will make a difference and help ensure that no one goes without this Christmas.



Roast Turkey or Mushroom Wellington
With honey roast mix vegetables, roasted potatoes, pigs in blankets, Yorkshire puddings, Onion & thyme gravy
Chocolate Fudge Cake with Vanilla Custard
Or Mince Pie

Christmas Lunch will be served on Wednesday, 18th December. Paninis and sandwiches will still be available as usual on that day.

If you would like information on which foods contain allergens please ask a member of the catering team who will be happy to help



Celebrating Student Achievements

Sparx Maths:

Well done to Year 9 for completing the most homework this week!

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1st Place	Charlie M	David H	Maddison B	Janais H	Brooke C-C
2nd Place	Lexi-Rae O'N	Naya R	Maja K	Ivan R	Bethany B
3rd Place	Anvita K	Finlay McB	Birva D	Collette M	Kayden H



Charity Football Match:

On Wednesday, students and staff came together for a charity football match, raising an impressive £141.10 for Mind Manchester.

The event, which saw both teams compete in the spirit of fun and friendly competition, was a great success, with all proceeds being donated to the charity. Mind Manchester provides essential support for mental health, and this donation will go a long way in helping those in need. The game not only promoted physical activity but also helped raise awareness about mental health, showing the power of community engagement for a worthy cause. In an exciting finish, the students emerged victorious, winning the match 5-3.



Manchester United Foundation:

Noah M, Year 8 won two tickets to the Newcastle game on December 30th, 2024, as a reward for a fantastic start to this year and his outstanding behavior and exceptional performance at Ghyll Head last week.



Foundation

Community

Christmas Concert:

The Christmas concert last night was fantastic! The music was beautiful, and the festive atmosphere really captured the holiday spirit. We were delighted to have local care home residents join us, and they had a wonderful time, singing along! A truly memorable evening!



Nabiha N, Yr 11
Denise M, Yr 11



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:

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

Lego Club: Saturdays, 10.00am - 12.30pm

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.

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	



MENU

Week Commencing 16th December 2024

Monday	Simple warm chicken baguettes with fresh side salad	Garlic roast peppers with egg noodles	Panini selection: cheese, ham, pepperoni or cheese and beans
Tuesday	Traditional cottage pie with red cabbage and gravy	Macaroni cheese with garlic bread	Panini selection: cheese, ham, pepperoni or cheese and beans
Wednesday	Christmas lunch	Christmas lunch	Panini selection: cheese, ham, pepperoni or cheese and beans
Thursday	Yorkshire turkey wrap or chicken enchiladas	Cheese and spring onion potato cakes	Panini selection: cheese, ham, pepperoni or cheese and beans
Friday	Spicy chicken and noodles	Cheese and tomato pizza bread	Panini selection: cheese, ham, pepperoni or cheese and beans

Every day the salad bar plus a variety of sandwiches and baguettes are available, as well as a choice of cold or hot desserts.

We follow best practices in safe food handling to prevent cross-contamination. However, we cannot guarantee our products are 100% free of any specific allergen. Allergens are listed on the front counter, which refer to the ingredients we use. We also cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment where some of our ingredients from suppliers or products may have been produced in an environment with other allergens.

Please double-check with a member of staff.