



Message from the Head of School



Mrs K Gardner
Head of School

As we approach the Christmas break, I want to take a moment to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a joyful New Year. I hope you enjoy this special time with your loved ones, and take the opportunity to relax, recharge, and celebrate the festive season.

Please remember to stay safe over the holidays – whether you're spending time with family, travelling, or simply enjoying some well-deserved rest. We want students to return to school feeling refreshed and ready for the exciting challenges and opportunities ahead in the new year.

We look forward to seeing students return on **6th January**.

Bideford Community Centre:

Thanks to you, we managed to come together and donate over 200 items to Bideford Community Centre. Your support made this possible, and we couldn't have done it without you. These donations will make someone's Christmas brighter.



Christmas at Brooklands



On Wednesday, students had a very festive day! They enjoyed a Christmas Dinner along with Crackers, a live band and even a special visit from Santa! Students especially loved Mrs Gardner on Karaoke!



Looking back on the term...



Spanish:

Year 9 students followed the recipe in Spanish to create their own take on tortilla Española.



Ghyll Head Trip:

A group of Year 8 students, along with some from Year 9, enjoyed an adventurous residential trip to Ghyll Head, where they took part in a variety of exciting activities. These included canoeing, coastering, scrambling, and zip-lining, all set in the stunning natural surroundings.



Ski Trip skiing lessons:

Students took part in their final ski lesson of their 3-week course, where they were to have 6 hours of tuition from some expert ski instructor at the Chill Factor. The students have progressed from Beginner skiers to now being Intermediate skiers.



Careers:

We had some amazing careers opportunities this term; NG Bailey delivered a workshop on apprenticeships and careers in Engineering. Wyn, Cabin crew for Easy Jet delivered an aspire to be session. The Army did a lunch time drop-in session over lunch time.

Looking back on the term...



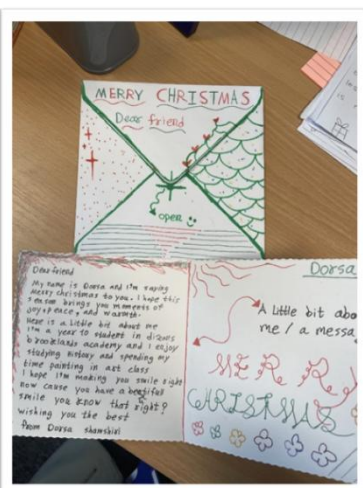
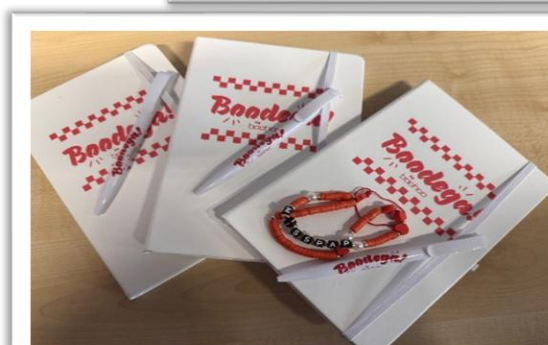
Christmas Concert:

We held our Christmas Concert and had an amazing turn out! With local care home residents, students and many families! Thank you to all students and staff who helped make this night possible!



Careers Session:

We had Everfi bring in some Boohoo representatives to deliver an insightful careers and Skills Workshop. A fantastic opportunity for Year 9 students to learn about the professional world and gain inspiration for their future careers.



Local Community:

Students crafted and wrote over 500 Christmas cards, which will be donated to local care homes!



Yr 11 Trafford Centre:

Students from year 11 had a trip to the Trafford Centre. They had a wonderful time, and we were extremely impressed by the students' maturity and behavior. The students shared that they enjoyed playing Laser Quest, shopping, and indulging in some delicious food and treats. A huge well done to everyone involved for maintaining excellent attendance and exemplary behavior throughout the year.

Attendance

This term, 174 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 term in each year group:

- Year 7 - 59 students
- Year 8 - 38 students
- Year 9 - 26 students
- Year 10 - 29 students
- Year 11 - 22 students



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.

Celebrating Student Achievements

Sparx Maths:

Well done to Year 11 for completing the most homework this week!

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1st Place	Aisha S	Shafia S	Daisy T	Natalia H	Muhammad A
2nd Place	Isabelle W	Kenzie P	Birva D	Yana G	Olivia P
3rd Place	Charlie H	Amelia M	Amelia Z	Muhammad Z	Zach A

Stretch:

This term we have launched our first ever Stretch project with years 7, 8 and 9 students. Each student has researched, prepared and delivered a project on a topic that is personal to them. Each advisor nominated a winner, the winners then delivered to their Director of Standards and from these students we had a Grand Final. Mrs Gardner and Ms McVey had a difficult task of choosing an overall winner, but finally decided on Amelia M in year 8 who talked about the importance of musicals. The quality of the presentations has been of the highest standard with students embracing our drivers of mastery, autonomy and purpose by delivering such fantastic speeches. Well done to all students in years 7, 8 and 9, but especially our Grand Finalists: Berhan S, Lila G, Max R, Murad A, Musdul C, Mehdi S and Aliae Q.

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

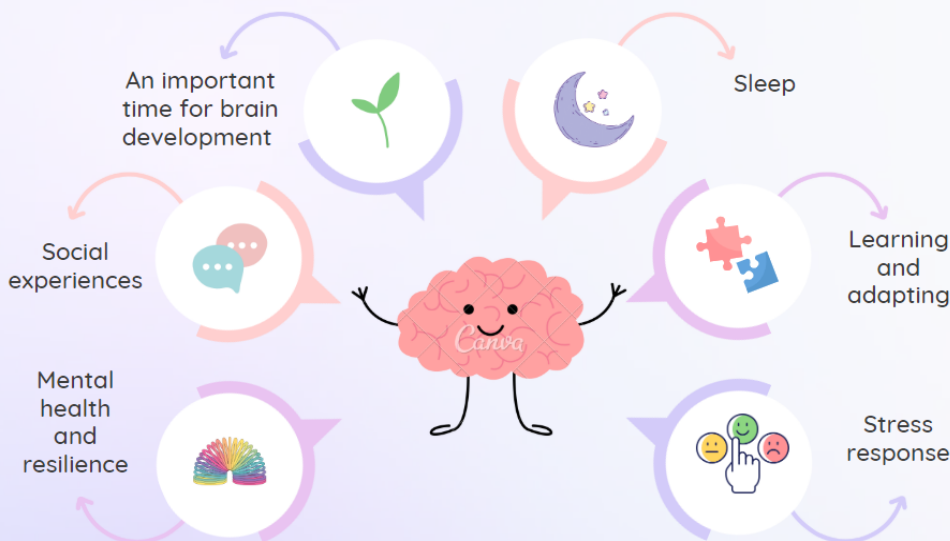
Community



PARENTS' AND CARERS' WEBINAR **The Teenage Brain**

1 - 2:30pm - 24th January - online.
Book here: [Teenage Brain Webinar](#)

Find out about these topics and more:



All Manchester parents and carers are welcome.

www.manchesterhealthyschools.nhs.uk/events/the-teenage-brain-parents-and-carers-webinar

Join us at FoodCycle Manchester Wythenshawe Brooklands

FoodCycle Manchester Wythenshawe Brooklands welcomes anyone to attend as a guest and enjoy a FREE hot meal. No need to book. Just turn up on the day!

Throughout the festive period, FoodCycle Wythenshawe Brooklands will be closed on Wednesdays 25th December and Wednesday 1st January. We will be back open on Wednesday 8th January 2025.



Location

Brooklands Church of the Nazarene Wendover Road, Manchester, M23 9FN



When

Wednesday



Time

5 pm



Contact

brooklands@foodcycle.org.uk



Family Friendly

Yes



Accessibility - Disabled Toilet

Yes



Accessibility - Disabled Parking

Yes



Accessibility - Flat

Yes



MIND Manchester useful contacts:

Support Line – 0300 102 1234

Our support line is a safe space for you to talk about your mental health. Our advisors are trained to listen to you and help you find specialist support if you need it.

Talk to us if:

- You want a safe and confidential place to talk openly about your feelings
- You want someone to listen to you and help you to find the right steps to take for your mental health
- You're looking for emotional support for your mental health and wellbeing

Infoline – 0300 123 3393

Ask us about:

- Mental health problems
- Where to get help near you
- Treatment options
- Advocacy services

Welfare benefits line – 0300 222 5782

Our welfare benefits line supports anyone with mental health problems who is navigating the benefits and welfare system.

Ask us about:

- The benefits you may be entitled to
- Cost of living support
- Personal Independent Payment, Universal credit and other types of benefit
- Benefit appeals