

A message from our principal



Mrs J Whitworth
Principal

We have enjoyed an excellent start to the term, and it has been heartening to witness the purposeful and focused environment that prevails throughout the school. The positive energy and commitment displayed by both students and staff have set a strong tone for the weeks ahead.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the staff and students who have returned from China following a ten-day school tour. Special thanks are due to our dedicated Mandarin teacher, Mrs Kirham, who invested countless hours in planning and organising this remarkable experience. Her efforts, along with Mr Jones, ensured that our students were able to take part in a trip designed to leave a lasting impression. For further details about the tour, please visit our website.

This week, all our students attended an informative presentation delivered by the Metrolink, focusing on safety while using the metro. In addition to this, we have reiterated to our students the importance of road safety. With the support of parents and guardians, I am keen to ensure that our students are fully aware of how to keep themselves safe on the roads, particularly after school when crossing at busy times of the day.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

NEWSLETTER

8 May 2026

Issue #10

Sports Update

I am delighted to share some excellent news from the PE Department following the Dixons Cup Rowing Competition, which took place on 28th April.

Our students produced outstanding performances across multiple year groups:

Year 7 Boys were crowned Dixons Cup Champions

Year 8 Boys were crowned Dixons Cup Champions

Year 9 Boys were crowned Dixons Cup Champions

Year 7 Girls finished Second in the Trust

Year 8 Girls were crowned Dixons Cup Champions

Year 9 Girls were also crowned Dixons Cup Champions

These results are a testament to the students' commitment, work ethic, and dedication throughout their training. They have worked exceptionally hard, and it is fantastic to see that effort rewarded. They have added another 675 points to the school's overall points total.



PDS

Subject overview

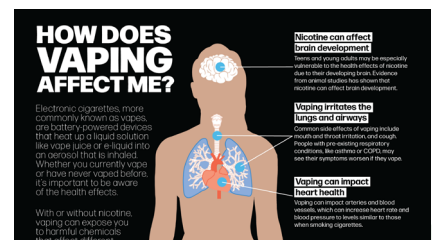
Year 7 - Healthy eating

Year 7 students have been learning all about healthy eating and nutrition in Personal Development Studies. They have explored what makes a balanced diet, the importance of different food groups, and how everyday food choices can support their health and wellbeing. Through engaging discussions and activities, students have developed a better understanding of how nutritious foods help to fuel their bodies and minds.



Year 8 - Smoking and vaping

Year 8 students have been learning about smoking and vaping as part of their personal development curriculum. Lessons have focused on understanding what smoking and vaping are, the health risks associated with them, and the pressures young people may face to try them. Through discussions and activities, students have been encouraged to think critically about making informed, healthy choices and to develop skills to confidently say no and seek support when needed.



Year 9 - Safety around water

Students have been learning about the dangers of open water as part of their personal development and safety education. Lessons have focused on understanding the risks associated with rivers, lakes and other open water environments, including cold water shock, strong currents and hidden hazards. Students discussed how to stay safe, make sensible decisions, and know when and how to seek help, helping them to build awareness and confidence to keep themselves and others safe, particularly as warmer weather approaches. exploring iconic artists and bands who shaped Manchester's distinctive sound—from early pioneers to modern-day influencers. Pupils will learn about the cultural impact of Manchester's music scene and engage in practical work inspired by these styles.



History

Subject overview

Year 7

Our Year 7's have been learning about one of the most horrible events in all of history – the Black Death! As top historians, we like to keep the most gruesome bits in, including how some would rub a live chicken over black, pus-filled swellings known as buboes – nice!



Year 8

Our Year 8 historians have been learning about local history and the campaigns for the vote. We have learnt about the infamous 'Peterloo Massacre', where thousands of innocent protestors gathered at St Peter's Field's in Manchester, only to be violently attacked by the authorities. We have been learning about the differences between the suffragists and suffragettes, the courage of Emmeline Pankhurst and the sacrifice of Emily Davison at the Epsom Derby.



Year 9

Our Year 9 historians are working hard on their first unit of the GCSE course, looking at Nazi policies towards workers, women and young people. We are developing our extended writing and source analysis skills so that we can feel confident ahead of the Cycle 3 examination.



Extra-curricular activities

to enrich our students' experiences

Timetable

We now have over 14 amazing clubs up and running and Dixons Newall Green Academy! With such a wide range of clubs on offer, there is something for everyone. Get involved and reap the benefits of being involved in clubs!

	3.15-4.15pm	Electives Thursday
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework Club• Chess Club• Geography Film Club (Y9 WK B)• Spanish Cooking• Rugby	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Careers Launchpad• Debate• Science in the Media• Chinese Culture• Pasaporte a Espana• Drama• El come Espanol• Strength & Conidtioning• Dodgeball• Board Games• Warhammer
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework Club• Choir• Library Team• Open Art Studio• Football/ Gym Fitness (All Years)	
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework Club• Girls Netball• Media Cubs• Year 7/8 Football	
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework Club	
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Homework Club	

Free Breakfast Club – Every Morning from 7:50am, open to all students!

Enjoy a warm start to the day with free breakfast options - Fridays feature bacon, sausage, and vegetarian sandwiches.

Celebrating our students through focus and dedication



Sparx Science Stars

Year 7 Zacharia Y

Congratulations on completing 100% of your homework so far this year—what an outstanding achievement that shows real dedication and consistency. Keep up the excellent effort, as this strong commitment will continue to lead you to great success.

Year 8 Amber B

Congratulations on completing 100% of your homework so far this year—your consistency and determination really stand out. This kind of commitment is setting you up for continued success, so keep it going.

Year 9 Alaina D

Fantastic job on completing 100% of your homework so far this year—your reliability and hard work are shining through. Keep maintaining this great momentum, as it will continue to open doors for your success.

Sparx Reader Stars

88 amazing students have completed 100% of Sparx Reader EVERY WEEK since September! This level of consistency shows real dedication, self-discipline and a genuine commitment to learning. Regular reading builds vocabulary, strengthens comprehension and improves writing across every subject – benefits that last far beyond the classroom. Sticking with it week after week is no small achievement, and you should be incredibly proud of yourselves. Keep turning those virtual pages!

Each of these students was entered into a draw. The winners for special praise and a small prize are:

Year 7 – Lilly-Mae A

Year 8 – Daniel S

Year 9 – Caitlyn L

Sparx Maths Stars

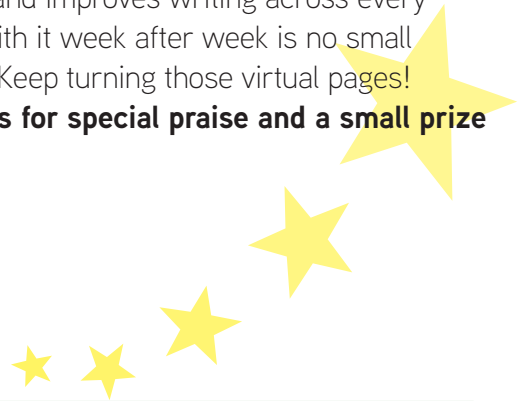
Outstanding commitment from the students who have completed 100% of their Sparx Maths every week since September. This consistency shows real resilience and determination. Regular practice builds fluency, sharpens problem-solving skills and gives students the confidence to tackle unfamiliar questions. This kind of discipline makes a real difference, and we're incredibly proud of the effort shown week after week.

The following individuals from each year group receive special recognition this week:

Year 7 - Scarlett C

Year 8 - Daniel S

Year 9 - Aiza S



House points leaderboard

Who is in the lead?

Our houses are named after the mountains of the United Kingdom. House Scafell Pike are still in the lead in 2026!

House Points are awarded for high levels of attendance, punctuality, golden tickets, and appreciations. More points are added for the lowest number of corrections. Every individual plays their part and contributes to their house, so make sure that you play yours!



Head of Year Champions...

Year 7 Isabella R

Growing in confidence and has been making a massive effort to participate in lessons!

Year 8 Bobbie-Logan W

For all her hard work in morning meeting.

Year 9 Zara F

Living by our school values of hard work, integrity and kindness. She is a conscientious student who is making great progress.

Attendance

For this half term there will be weekly advisory competitions in each year group...

The advisory with the highest attendance that week in each year group will win a hot chocolate/ ice lolly Fridays Robust Reading session!

Who's in the lead so far this academic year?

7SP

8SP

9SP

Attendance in HT 5

In Half Term 5 we are focusing on the positive correlation between high school attendance and better wellbeing and mental health.

-Attending school promotes student wellbeing as it helps students build positive relationships with peers and trusted adults. This supports emotional development and resilience.

Resilience is something that will be really important during your child's Cycle 3 Assessments

-Students who will achieve highly will have attended as many lessons as possible before the assessments

-They will have had the resilience to attend school every day and pick themselves up when needed

For the next 3 weeks, all students who are in the academy every day that week will go into a prize draw for a £50 'Restaurant Favourite' gift voucher

-Your child can spend this with their family (or friends) and feel good about the achievements that they've made in that week!

The advisory with the highest attendance that week will be recognised with ice lolly Fridays Robust Reading session. Well done to 8BL and 8SP who have won so far!

On Friday all students who have 100% attendance between Monday and Friday will be entered into

Attendance letters

Each family will receive a personalised attendance letter through the post which highlights your child's attendance and what this means in terms of your child's likelihood of successful GCSE results.

During Cycle 2 assessments this year, 100% of our top 10 students making the most progress had attendance above 93%, with the vast majority of these students having attendance above 95%.

We'd love for all students to demonstrate excellent, regular attendance, every day and especially in the run up to the Cycle 3 exams. This is imperative so that they can do as well as possible in their assessments. Students have worked so hard this academic year, and they deserve to be successful.

How can you help your child to attend school regularly?

1. How to make sure they are rested and getting enough sleep
2. How to set themselves up for success with a great morning routine
3. What to do if they feel worried about anything
4. Why every student at DNG is important
5. Why high attendance at school opens more doors in your future

If you would like any more information on any of these topics, please contact kmartin@dixonsng.com

Remember:

1. 97%+ = On track
2. 95% = Risk of falling behind
3. Below 90% = Serious concern

If your child is worried about school, please contact us early - we're here to help.

Dixons Newall Green Academy Students Embark on an Unforgettable Educational Journey to China!

In March and April 2026, a group of students from Dixons Newall Green Academy took part in an extraordinary educational visit to China, exploring the historic cities of Beijing and Xi'an. Over the course of nine days, students experienced first-hand the country's rich history, vibrant culture, and world-famous landmarks, deepening their global understanding far beyond the classroom.



Exploring China's Capital: Beijing

The adventure began in Beijing, where students were immersed in over 3,000 years of history. Highlights included an awe-inspiring exploration of the Forbidden City, once home to emperors of the Ming and Qing Dynasties.

Students also visited the Temple of Heaven, learning about ancient Chinese beliefs and imperial rituals, before enjoying a walk along historic Qianmen Street. A traditional Peking duck dinner rounded off an unforgettable first day and offered students a taste of authentic Chinese cuisine.

Another standout moment was a visit to Beijing Zoo, where students saw the iconic giant pandas, followed by a peaceful afternoon at the Summer Palace, renowned for its gardens, lakes, and imperial architecture.



Walking on the Great Wall of China

One of the most memorable experiences of the trip was walking along the Great Wall of China, one of the world's most famous landmarks. Students were amazed by the scale, engineering, and historical significance of the Wall, gaining valuable insight into ancient Chinese defence systems and geography.



Culture, Faith, and Daily Life

To better understand everyday life in Beijing, students explored the Lama Temple, one of the most important Tibetan Buddhist temples in China, and took part in a Hutong walking tour, discovering traditional courtyard homes and learning how local communities have lived for centuries.

Visits to Nanluoguxiang Alley, the Bell and Drum Towers, and local markets provided opportunities to engage with modern Chinese culture while appreciating how tradition and innovation coexist.

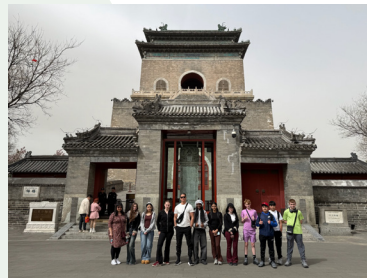


Journey to Xi'an: China's Ancient Heart, Birthplace of Empires and the Silk Road

The journey continued to Xi'an, one of China's oldest cities and the former capital of 13 dynasties, including the powerful Qin and Tang Dynasties. It was also the eastern starting point of the Silk Road, the ancient trade network that connected China to Central Asia, the Middle East, and Europe.

Here, students encountered the world-famous Terracotta Army, discovered in 1974. Created over 2,200 years ago to guard the tomb of Qin Shi Huang, China's first emperor, the army contains thousands of life-sized soldiers, each with unique facial features, offering extraordinary insight into ancient military organisation and beliefs about the afterlife.

Students also explored the ancient City Wall, enjoying panoramic views and learning about military defence in imperial China. Other cultural highlights included the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, a symbol of Buddhist heritage.



History Brought to Life

The trip concluded with a spectacular evening at the Qianguning (Eternal Love) Show, a large-scale theatrical performance combining music, dance, martial arts, and storytelling to bring Chinese legends and history vividly to life.

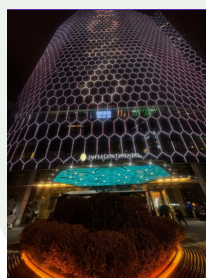


A Truly Unforgettable Lifetime Experience

This immersive journey enabled students to engage directly with history, geography, religion, and global citizenship. By experiencing ancient sites, modern cities, and living traditions, students developed a deeper appreciation of China's lasting influence on world civilisation.

The trip was truly transformative, and the students represented Dixons Newall Green Academy with pride, curiosity, and respect throughout. We would like to thank Mrs Kirkham and Mr Jones, who accompanied the students and made this visit possible. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the Swire Chinese Language Foundation for their generous funding support, which made this journey possible. We also wish to express our sincere appreciation to the Swire Chinese Language Foundation for their generous financial support, which enabled this visit to take place.

The memories, learning, and inspiration gained from this journey will stay with our students for years to come and will undoubtedly enrich their studies back at school.



What has been happening recently..

House Competitions

We've been really proud to launch our new House Competitions this half term, and the energy from students has been fantastic. Our first event, House Hoops, saw houses competing in fast-paced basketball activities, with Ben Nevis crowned our first House Champions. Congratulations to everyone involved!

This week, students are taking part in House Dash, bringing plenty of excitement and healthy competition, and next week we'll be switching gears with a House Maths session, where teamwork and problem-solving will be put to the test. We're loving the buzz these events are creating and look forward to sharing more successes as the term continues.

Noahs Art Careers Second Session

We're delighted to welcome back Noah's Art Animal Careers sessions, with a new cohort of students taking part this term. These sessions give students a unique insight into a range of animal-related careers, combining creativity, practical learning, and real-world knowledge of the pathways available within animal care and conservation.

Through engaging, hands-on activities and discussions, students explore how art, creativity, and science can link to careers working with animals, helping to raise aspirations and broaden understanding of future options. We're excited for our next group of students to benefit from this inspiring opportunity.

Metrolink Assembly

This week, all year groups attended an assembly led by the Metrolink team, who shared important information about staying safe when travelling on Manchester's tram and bus network. Students learned how to report anti-social behaviour, what to do if they feel unsafe, and how to look out for themselves and others while using public transport.

The session was informative and practical, helping students understand their responsibilities as passengers and where to get support if needed. We're grateful to the Metrolink team for reinforcing these important safety messages..

Natural state corridors

We want students to feel safe on the corridors and their transition to be calm and purposeful. This is why we insist on natural states. Natural state allows a student to take a moment for themselves and walk sensibly to the next lesson. When they arrive, they enter with the right mindset to learn.

Over the coming weeks we will be prioritising these transitions so that our standards remain as high as ever and so we can support our most vulnerable students who might be sensitive to noise. We are really grateful for your support.

Homework

Our students have made a fantastic start to this half term by continuing to complete homework on time with year 7 and 9 especially receiving very few corrections. We recognised this with a Homework Heroes event on Friday. Our year 9 students have worked hard with their new mastery homework booklets with many using the Study Sessions available to complete this additional work.

Our Homework Champions will be meeting this week to provide some feedback on how we can support students even more with this important learning habit.

All Cycle 3 Knowledge Organisers and Mastery Homework Booklets are now on our academy website in the homework section.

Equipment at Dixons Newall Green

It is essential that students arrive at school each day with the equipment needed for their lessons to maximise time for learning. If students are missing a piece of equipment, we will support them by providing it free of charge if they let us know before 8.10am. If students are missing equipment after this time, their advisor will log an equipment correction and support them with identifying how to ensure this does not happen again the following day.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child has the correct equipment each day.

Equipment list:

- Pencil case
- Black pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Whiteboard pen
- Ruler
- Planner
- Morning meeting booklet
- Knowledge organiser
- Homework booklet
- Lanyard with locker key and name badge
- Plastic A3 or A4 tuff bag

Upcoming dates for your diary

Date	Year group	Description
All week	All Years	House Competitions
Wednesday 13/05	All Years	Assembly in Morning Meeting
Thursday 21/05	Year 7	Stretch Finals