

DIXONS KINGS DIGEST



TERM DATES

2022.23 Term 1

30 August 2022 Academy opens

21 October 2022 Academy closes

2022.23 Term 2

7 November 2022 Academy opens

1 December 2022 Planning & Data Day (Academy closed)

2 December 2022 Planning & Data Day (Academy closed)

16 December 2022 Academy closes

2022.23 Term 3

3 January 2023 Academy opens

2 February Dixons Academies Trust Conference Day (Academy closed)

10 February 2023 Academy closes

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear families,

We said farewell to Year 11 this term and felt mixed emotions of relief for finally getting there and crossing the finish line as well as happiness in celebrating all that they have achieved. Five years always seems such a long time but in reality it goes so fast! Our Prom was a great success, allowing our students to enjoy their last moments in school together. This is why we do the job we do, making a difference and pushing our students to be the very best that they can; it's all worth it in the end.

A first for DKA this year was our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh expedition, 80 students in year 9 completed this challenge and it was such a good experience for them. We battled wet and warm weather but everybody had a good time.

If you are collecting GCSE results this year, we will see you on Thursday 25 August 2022 for Results Day. Enjoy the summer break and we look forward to seeing you all back on Tuesday 30 August.

FAREWELL, WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS

By Ms Hickey

It has come to the time of the year when we have to say goodbye to some of our staff. Ms Peake, Mr Yaseen, Mrs Oliver, Mr Waheed, Mr Clarke, Mr Harrap and Ms Fatima are all leaving us at the end of this academic year. We would like to wish them all the best in their exciting new roles.

We will also have some new members of the team joining the Academy in September; Mr Hopkinson joins us as Teacher of Drama, Mr Kowacki is joining the maths team, alongside Mr Woodier, who joins us from Dixons Cottingley as Head of Maths.

Ms Woodward will join us as Principal Teacher of English, Mr Bhatti joins us as Teacher of RE and Mr Percival will join us as a Teacher of History. We know you will make them feel welcome at Dixons Kings.

We would also like to congratulate the below members of staff on their internal promotions. Dr Jennings will be taking on a pastoral role as Head of Year 7 and Ms Tahir will also join the pastoral team as Head of Year 9. Ms Labella, Ms Lawrence and Ms Willetts will join the Senior Leadership Team as Associate Assistant Principals next academic year.

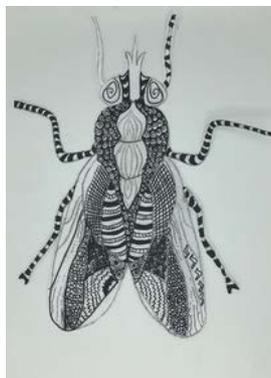
CREATIVE SPOTLIGHT

By Ms Bland

During cycle 3 art lessons Year 7 students have been working on an environmental project researching ocean pollution. The students created a range of observational drawings using different materials such as sgraffito and watercolour paints. Students completed the project by creating their own poster raising awareness of ocean pollution inspired by the artist Olivia Pilling.



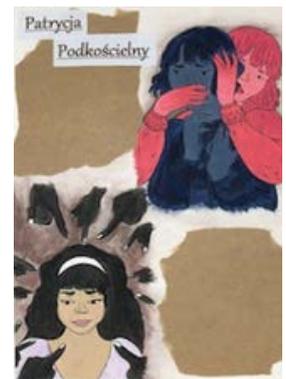
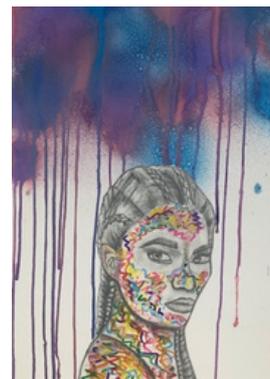
Our Year 8 art students have been looking at different art movements such as Pointillism, Optical Art, Cubism and Surrealism. Students researched the work of artists such as Pablo Picasso and Bridget Riley and then created work in the style of these artists.



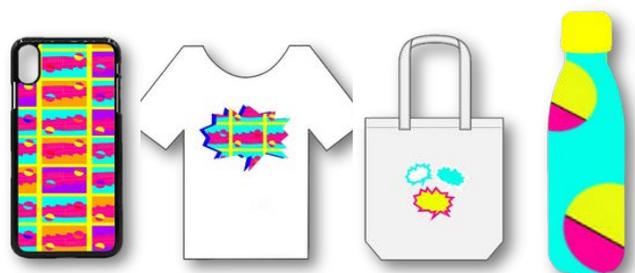
Year 9 art students have been working on the theme of natural forms, experimenting with a wide range of different materials and subject matter.



In Year 10 art, students started working on their personal theme of Identity. Students worked diligently in the mock exam to research their first chosen artist linking to their theme and spent time exploring working using the artist's styles and techniques. It was lovely to see such a range of different ideas.



In photography, Year 9 students have been working on a project titled 'architecture' where they have been photographing and editing buildings on Photoshop in the style of Mauren Brodbeck and Alexey Bolgolepov. We have then studied Andy Warhol and looked at Pop art imagery and shapes to create designs for different products such as T-shirts and Water bottles. Here are just some of our fabulous designs...



LITERACY CORNER

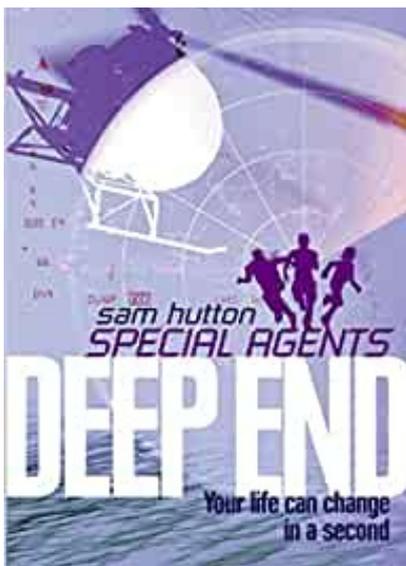
FIRST STORY

By Ms Ashraf

A massive well done to the most brilliant and diligent students in all of Y7 for participating in First Story and writing the most creative and entertaining stories and poems.

Every member of staff at the Academy is so impressed with their perseverance and diligence. They each have a copy of their published work in their amazing First Story anthology. Please visit the library if you would like to read their impressive work.

- Huzaiifa Ali (7.1)
- Yusuf Azam Awas (7.4)
- Wahab Saqib (7.7)
- Imaad Hussain (7.5)
- Faizan Ali (7.7)
- Mustafa Ali (7.5)
- Amilah Hussain (7.4)
- Aleeza Nadeem (7.6)



STUDENT BOOK REVIEW

By Zain Hussain

Special Agents-Deep End by Sam Hutton

This book is packed with adventure – three agents fighting evil.

It starts with Mr. Cooper catching a criminal and then he strikes back destroying his life by leaving him paralysed. His daughter is left to carry on his duty. They are truly SPECIAL AGENTS. One thing to remember-TRUST NO-ONE.

STUDENT LEADER UPDATE

By Year 8 Student Leaders

It seems like a long time ago now since we had to wear masks and sanitise frequently. The Coronavirus meant we missed out on a lot, creating gaps in our learning and we had to quickly recover from this. As a result, we have worked extremely hard dedicating our time towards studies and perhaps having to manage new anxieties. We have now all had the opportunity to experience sitting cycle exams, some for the first time in the sports hall. We hope your diligence will be reflected in your results, or give you focus to improve next year.

Based on the feedback from students in cycle 1, we noted that the biggest thing students felt could improve their experience here was having a more friendly environment and that you wanted a space to share worries with your peers. All members of the student council were upskilled during our training to become peer mentors. This project is now running each Friday with more than 30 mentors building new relationships to support you. If you are feeling worried, lonely or anything else, it is a great opportunity to come and talk to our friendly team, so just ask your form rep or head of year about it.

We also know that lots of you always want to talk about food! We are very excited to share that some members of the Student Council will be getting to sample some of the new menu next week, so we hope you will enjoy that too. Talking about food, we want to remind you of the fundraising, and support for anti-bullying with odd sock day and donating more than 320 kilograms of food to Bardford central food bank which was enough to provide more than 480 meals. Thank you! There will be a final fund raiser, with a chocolatey prize, coming round form next week to raise money for YMCA who have supported the peer mentoring project.

The student council know that students always want to talk about rewards. The golden ticket options will be changing in September based on your feedback. In cycle 1 we held a board games morning for those that had minimal detentions and lots of positives and cycle 2 reward, some were able to go watch 'The Lion King' at the Alhambra Theatre, which may have been their first theatre experience. We could certainly tell they enjoyed it!



YMCA BRADFORD Peer mentoring

Changing Futures

Training Topics

- ▶ Role of a Mentor
- ▶ Mentoring Skills
- ▶ Safeguarding
- ▶ Communication Skills
- ▶ Boundaries
- ▶ Goal setting
- ▶ Building relationships
- ▶ Youth work skills
- ▶ School transition impact
- ▶ Group & Team work skills

"A service for schools and community that supports positive mental health for young people"

Full training will be provided by qualified and experienced Youth Workers and staff from YMCA Bradford

BRADFORD

Rewards are a way of appreciating those students who always demonstrate our core values and we recognise that some of you just missed out on these. For cycle 3 more students will be invited to enjoy a games afternoon, we are hoping for some sun so this can be outside. Well done to those forms this year that have been Champions League winners, again, based on your feedback, thank you to the canteen staff who have created Kings Fried Chicken and a new pizza menu for us to enjoy.

And finally , we've had our friends and teachers with us for encouragement through the year. We've all had our ups and downs but we've managed to overcome obstacles by showing our core values of diligence, integrity and civility to do our best in class and around school.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

By Ms Hickey

Our Year 9 students have been working diligently throughout the year during enrichment to prepare for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition. They have completed training sessions all year on various aspects of the expedition; tent building, menu planning, map reading, route planning, cooking, first aid, bag packing and the country code to name but a few. This term their hard work paid off as they completed their Bronze Award expedition.



On day two students awoke early, prepared breakfast and then had the mammoth task of taking down their tents and repacking their bags ready for day two's hike. The route took them through Shipley Golf Club and along the Leeds Liverpool Canal to reach their final destination of Saltaire. Some students even had the pleasure of witnessing Dixons Sixth Form Academy competing in the Dragon Boat Race in Roberts Park at the end of their hike.



Students successfully completed an 8.5 kilometre walk from Denholme Gate to Blackhills Scout Camp on day one. Students carried all of their camping equipment and food and water supplies as well as using their map reading skills to independently navigate the route. On arrival at camp, students worked as a team to set up their tent, unpack their bags and cook a meal. We even had time to have a campfire and toast some marshmallows.

We are astounded by the determination of all students that completed the expedition and we are thankful to Ms Stamford for organising such a successful expedition. As always, our Dixons Kings students did us proud and it is a true testament to their diligence.



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIPS

By Mr Kitson



Year 10 geography students completed their GCSE fieldwork in the East Yorkshire coastal town of Hornsea on Monday 4 July. The location is a popular area for geography trips - which we found out on the day when we arrived to find several other schools already there.

We started by walking along the beach to collect primary data linked to our physical geography enquiry question: to what extent do the groyne in Hornsea prevent longshore drift? We then walked along the road leading from the beach into the town to measure the environmental quality of the area before having lunch in the park.

Despite the long coach journeys, our students enjoyed the day out and were excellent ambassadors for the school. They also now have a better understanding of coastal processes and how to collect fieldwork data needed for their Paper 1 and Paper 3 exams next summer.

Year 8 visited the Yorkshire village of Malham this week to see for themselves the amazing landscapes we learnt about in Cycle 2. Students walked up the 400 steps to the top of Malham Cove (featured in one of the Harry Potter films), trekked to Janet's Foss waterfall and also spent some time looking around the village. Next week it will be the turn of Year 8 B band to experience this spectacular area of the country.



THE PLATINUM JUBILEE

By Ms Hickey

We commemorated the Platinum Jubilee on Monday 6 June with a tea party at break time. Students learned about the life of Queen Elizabeth II and her role as the monarch, as well as reflecting on the societal changes over the past 70 years. The catering team provided a delicious afternoon tea, complete with scones, jam and cream to celebrate being a part of this moment in history.



WELLBEING @ DKA

By Ms Asghar

This year's wellbeing intervention involved DKA students making identity mood boards in their own unique style. Students showcased their personality, interests and aspirations, revealing the things most important to them. The weekly sessions were held in the art room which allowed them to put their creative skills to use. In the final session, they confidently presented their work by discussing their designs and image choices, giving each other an insight into their interests and into their life. It was a fun experience for all and fascinating to gain an insight into each student's life. I would like to thank all the girls who participated in these sessions for their civility, integrity, diligence and for their courage in sharing a side of them outside of their DKA student identity.

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE

By Mrs Sprowell



EAL students at DKA have recently started working with Flash Academy. It is a fun and easy way to learn another language. We use it to learn English, as our EAL students have arrived to the UK from all over the world. Flash Academy supports pupils with EAL to break down language barriers and unlock their academic and career potential.

Our Flash Academy winners this term are:

Eiman Rasheed - Learner of the Term

Mahnor Rasheed - Gold award in the topics of Holidays & Travel and School Essentials

Artiom Dumitrascu - Gold award in the topics of Home, Time and Leisure

Mohamad Nour Al-Balbesi - Gold award in the topics of Maths, English Language and Basics



Police Engagement Event

Sunday 24th July 2022
12pm - 3pm
Lister Park,
Bradford BD9 4NS

Attractions

- Police vehicles and motorcycles
- West Yorkshire Police Band
- Police Officer and Support Staff career and recruitment information
- Special Constables and Cadets recruitment information
- Bradford Police Museum Exhibition
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Crime Prevention
- Wildlife Officer
- West Yorkshire Police drones
- Mascots
- Bike register - the National Cycle Database
- Lawn games
- Virtual reality experience
- OK9 welfare dog
- Dhol Players and Bhangra Workshop
- Bollywood Dancers
- And much more...



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Friday 19th August
Saturday 20th August

bd: Festival

BD: Festival a series of events including home grown performances and an aerial acrobatics show.

The weekend will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the opening of City Park, and feature performances by arts group Dream Engine – who performed at the grand opening in 2012.

Acclaimed Bradford based Common Wealth theatre company will be performing its critically acclaimed show – Peaceophobia.

Front Room Poetry – which brings live poetry to unusual locations, will perform at Kala Sangam car park.

SPEAK OUT

By Mr Fieldhouse



This week we have been very pleased to host the Remembering Srebrenica exhibit for the first time since Covid struck in 2020. This exhibit involves year 9 and 10 students training to be Speak Out Ambassadors. The students learnt about the conflict in Bosnia during the 1990s and how this led to a genocide which killed over 8000 Muslim men and boys. The students have shown a great deal of maturity during their training and have coped very well with a very sensitive and difficult topic. Once fully trained, they split into groups of 3 and began delivering this lesson to year 7 and 8 students during their history lessons.

MATHS @ DKA

By Ms Hickey



Our students have achieved four Hegarty Maths Super Schools Awards. These awards are for the number of questions answered, the number of hours spent on Hegarty Maths, the number of skills students have mastered and the amount of retrieval practice students have done. Our students have answered over 900,000 questions and mastered 80 skills each over the course of the year. These are fantastic achievements and we are very proud of our diligent mathematicians!

JURASSIC PROM

By Mr Harrap



After the challenges of the last 2 years, it was great to see our year 11 students celebrate their time at DKA. On the day of the last exam, our students signed shirts and took the opportunity to exchange gifts and take selfies with friends and teachers.

At 6pm, students descended on Northside Road, dressed to impress with supercars and smoke flares, ready to make a grand entrance on our red carpet. Whether wearing the most extravagant dress, fancy suit, or more casual clothes, every student showed style and sophistication... there was also an inflatable T-rex costume...

They walked into the dining hall and were given the red carpet treatment with a mocktail, balloon arch constructed by our very own and multi-talented Principal, onto a dancefloor and 360 photo booth. After goodbye messages from their teachers, we moved on to the student awards; there were mullets, drama, and more mullets!

After a lot of laughs and some tears, we then ate an exquisite meal provided by a coalition of My Lahore and our very own kitchen staff.

The rest of the evening gave our students a wonderful opportunity to spend time with friends, free of any exam pressure, to say goodbye to teachers and to throw some spectacular shapes on the dancefloor. The DJ kept the tunes coming all night and gave everyone a chance to let their hair down after a hard couple of years.

The students were fantastic and demonstrated a high level of civility, while having a fun and enjoyable evening. It was the best send-off we could have hoped for and we at DKA wish all the students the very best for the future.

Thank you class of 2022!

