

6 October 2023

Dear families

I hope you are well as we continue to progress through a busy half term at Dixons Fazakerley; I hope you find the updates below useful and please do get in touch if you need anything.

Black History Month

We have been celebrating the start of Black History Month this week which shines a light on and raises the profile of the achievements and contributions of members of the Black community in history. Our student led assemblies have been fantastically well delivered and received and I have included the link to the Black History Month website below for further information:

Black History Month 2023 - Celebrating our Sisters

Student Council

Our student council is up and running for the academic year and already their voices are making a real difference here at Dixons Fazakerley. We have added further praise and recognition to what we do and I know so many families have enjoyed receiving positive phone calls and the notifications of Golden Tickets. We are currently exploring options with the student council around contributing to the wider community more fully and adding even more clubs to the 33 extra-curricular activities we currently offer. Also bringing back, thanks to the work of catering suppliers Chartwells, chicken wraps on 2 out of 3 Fridays which as I am sure you are aware is of key importance to the students. Please do speak with your child and encourage them to feedback ideas, questions or concerns; they will be listened to and considered carefully.

Cycle One Assessments

Cycle One assessments take place over the next two weeks for students in Year 7 and Year 9. Furthermore, we have mock exams starting the week after half term and revision sessions have begun for those – please encourage your child to embrace these and to take them seriously by revising fully. For any assessment, they are only useful if students have revised using their online homework, revision materials from class and by using flashcards at home.

Attendance

I cannot write a family letter without reiterating my plea to address attendance. As a school community we have so much to be proud of with more visitors this week talking about the calm, kind, warm and academically focused school they walked round. However, our single greatest challenge remains ensuring every child is in school every single day and that minor coughs, colds, sniffles do not stop your child being in. I believe in the students of Fazakerley and I know that in the summer students who attended in line with national average did incredibly well in their GCSE results but those who attended below 90% did not and this is something that is true in all schools nationally. We can only give you the school, you and your child deserve, if we promote excellent attendance and that requires all of us to work together.

National Poetry Day

We celebrated National Poetry Day on Thursday which this year centres on the theme of refuge and the link below will take you to the poem I chose to read as one of my favourite poems and I hope you enjoy it as much as I do: <u>A Portable Paradise - National Poetry Day</u>

Calendar and Term Dates 2024 – 2025

As far away as 2024 seems I know how important advance notice of term dates is to allow families to plan accordingly so please see the link to the dates for the next academic year below: <u>Dixons Fazakerley Academy | Term dates 2024-25</u>

Please note that students return on Monday 2 September next academic year.

Finally, I wish every family a restful weekend and a reminder that we run SLT Drop In on a Friday from 3pm – 4pm for anything that may be of concern or feedback you would like to offer. I look forward to seeing all students in school on Monday for a prompt 8.30am start.

Yours faithfully Mr Wilson Principal Dixons Fazakerley Academy

