

3 February 2023

Dear families

I want to start by saying thank you for your continued support during a logistically difficult week as we navigated the strike action by NEU members. As I said in previous communications, the disagreement is between the striking union members and the Government and we hope that it can be resolved without further disruption.

### **Debate Mate Success**

One of the real strengths of students here at Dixons Fazakerley is their ability to express their opinion in a well articulated and well supported manner. Further evidence of this came this week as all of Dixon Fazakerley's teams won the first round of their Urban Debate challenge. As always, we are so very proud of our students; feedback from other schools commented on both the knowledge and behaviours of our teams and I know everyone will join me in giving them a virtual two claps after three.

### **Class of 2023 Revision Evening**

We are excited to welcome all parents of Year 11 students to our next GCSE revision evening on Wednesday 8 February from 5-6pm. This is an essential event where we will cover how to support your child with revision, how to revise effectively and what revision looks like in core subjects. As part of the event, all families who attend will also receive a full set of revision guides and flashcards for every subject that their child studies.

### **Mental Health Awareness Week**

From the 6 - 12 February we will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Awareness week with the support of our colleagues at Place2Be and Liverpool City Council. The theme is 'Let's Connect' and focuses on developing meaningful relationships with all. It focuses on the power of community and healthy connections in supporting student wellbeing and positive mental health. This week we had a very successful pop up event to stimulate students to think about their own positive mental health and how they can develop their own positive connections. For more information please visit: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/about/>

### **Rainbow Flag Award**

On Friday 20 January Miss Moore and I attended training at YPAS for the Rainbow Flag Award. This training will guide us through how to make our school a more inclusive and welcoming space through ensuring all members of staff are confident in tackling homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying as well as able to highlight and celebrate LGBT+ lives. The award will also support us in making changes to our curriculum as well as a student led approach on how to improve the inclusivity of our school. We know how important this is to our students, colleagues and families and look forward to the journey ahead.

We continue to build an inclusive school where our core value of respect ensures everyone is valued for the person they are. We have come a long way on this journey in recent months but have much more work to do and I look forward to your support and suggestions in this regard.

Finally, a reminder that the Academy is closed to students on 10 February 2023 as we have our Trust wide CPD conference. Students are to work from home on that day.

Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

Yours faithfully

**Chris Wilson**  
**Principal**  
**Dixons Fazakerley Academy**

