

## McMillan Messenger

March 2022

### Message from Mrs Lang, the Principal

Dear Families,


What a busy cycle it has been! Ramadan Mubarak to all of our families who are observing the holy month. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our planned early closure on **Friday 31 March**. On Friday, we will close to all students at **12:30pm**. If your child would like lunch, they will be able to eat before they leave at 12:00. Friday will be our Employability Day 2, and we are very much looking forward to it.

Culture week is something that the students have been requesting ever since I joined DMA. We have decided to take some time in week 3 of Cycle 3 to learn about and celebrate our unique and diverse cultures and backgrounds. Over the week, we will learn about what components contribute to our culture, and about the different cultures of students in school (during collective learning and advisory time). On **Friday 5 May**, we will have a drop-down Culture Day, where we learn about specific elements of culture. On this day, students will be allowed to attend school in cultural attire. We will provide more information closer to the time.

Finally, our fundraising efforts for the communities in Turkey and Syria were an excellent success! We raised £219.00 via a bake sale in school. All of the proceeds raised will be donated directly to Islamic Relief. Thank you to all families that made donations, or sent cash to spend. Every little bit makes a difference.

Finally, I do hope that you have a restful break when it comes, and Happy Easter to those celebrating.

Yours faithfully



Kat Lang  
Principal

### Key Dates

**Culture Week 2023:** Cycle 3, Week 3

**Year 11 Fountains Abbey:** 19 April

**Year 11 Mock 2 Evening:** 20 April

**Bank Holiday:** 01 May

**Bank Holiday:** 08 May

**Alton Towers (Year 11):** 12 May

### Ramadan / Eid

From the start of Ramadan, we will collapse lunchtimes down for all students, following the plan below:

- All students in school will have advisory time first at 13:00
- All students will have their break together at 13:35. Any students eating will have family dining in the atrium during Lunch 2
- Any students not eating should be outside / in the library / in the main HS
- Anyone wishing to pray will be able to do so in the following spaces: Girls/Women – lecture theatre; Boys/Men – Sports Hall



- All students wishing to pray should bring their own prayer mats to pray, and can keep them in their lockers (so that we have enough)
- We will close on Friday 21 April for Eid

Following Eid, we will have a whole school Eid meal

### **Entering and Exiting the building – drop off and pick up**

Please can we take this opportunity to remind families about safe conduct when using the designated drop-off zone. All students (unless there is a prior agreed alternate arrangement in place) should enter and exit the building from the designated entrance on Laisteridge Lane. Please park safely and do not park on the yellow lines. If possible, consider dropping off / picking up your child from a street or two away, to ease the congestion. The temporary traffic lights on Laisteridge Lane are estimated to be there for two weeks.

### **Free School Meal Entitlement**

Please see the Bradford government website regarding free school meal entitlement. Further information can be found at: <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/benefits/applying-for-benefits/free-school-meals/>

### **Family Dining - weekly payment**

We will be increasing the charge per meal for Family Dining from June 2023. We will be charging Family Dining on a Monday each week; the cost of family dining is increasing from £2.35 per day, to £2.45 a day. This is due to the rising costs for produce. If you have any queries please contact Mr Greenwood: [jgreenwood@dixonsma.com](mailto:jgreenwood@dixonsma.com)

### **Consultation on Admissions**

We are proud to announce that after going through a consultation process, we have successfully had removed the fair banding testing. This means that moving forward, Dixons McMillan will serve the local catchment area and the local community. For more information, please follow the link:

<https://www.dixonsat.com/news/consultation-on-admissions-arrangements>

### **Website and Twitter**

We post regular updates about life at the academy on both our website: [www.dixonsma.com](http://www.dixonsma.com) and our Twitter account: @DixonsMA

### **Uniform**

We are always in short supply of spare uniform and business dress at the academy, particularly in larger sizes. If you have any spare uniform, or clothes suitable for business dress (for boys or girls) we will gladly accept your donations. Please just drop them in at main reception.

If you need support with purchasing any uniform, please do reach out and ask. Your child's Head of Year can support, or just call main reception who will put you in touch with someone who can help.

