



WALTON HIGH

Leading Learning

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Principal – Brooklands Andrew Bennett
Principal – Walnut Tree Sharon Alexander

Co-Chair of Governors Ayser Asif, Natalie Latham
Business Manager Sukh Singh

Dear Parents

It has been another busy, productive term at Walton High. As you will have read in previous correspondence, Walton High will be merging with 5 Dimensions Trust in the near future and we have already begun working closely with them. Those who were able to attend the 5D parents' information evening will have met Tony Nelson, CEO of 5D, who explained the shared vision for the future and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

COMMUNICATION

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving parental engagement the parent survey highlighted that communication was an area that we need to improve. We have therefore employed an additional telephonist to add to our Administration team with the aim of reducing the time taken for calls to be answered. We are hopeful that you will notice the difference in response times and would welcome thoughts or feedback on this.

In addition to this, we are reducing our response times to emails received with a commitment to provide a response within two school days to update you on the status of your query. As a reminder, all emails should be addressed to feedback@mket.org.uk and not individual staff so that we can direct them as efficiently as possible to meet this shortened response time.

We have a lot to celebrate at Walton High and over the next term will be increasing our Facebook presence; posting details of important dates and celebrating the many achievements of our students. Please follow and share our page at <https://www.facebook.com/WaltonHighMK>. Our school website (<https://www.waltonhigh.org.uk/>) will continue to be the place for static information like term dates, copies of correspondence and all statutory information. Improving communication and sharing feedback will help us build a sense of community as we grow under the umbrella of a new trust.

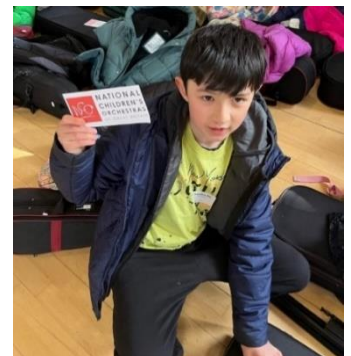
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We are delighted to share with you a few of our student achievements from this term. We hope that you will share in congratulating all of our students who represented our school and make Walton High such a diverse and successful home for so many talented young people.

Musical Maestro

Congratulations to Theodore who has been selected to lead the 2nd Violins in the National Children's Orchestra. The NCO is made up of more than 650 musicians, aged 8-14. They take part in a number of orchestral programmes each year, performing a varied repertoire.

What an excellent achievement Theodore and we look forward to hearing you play.



Football Comes Home!

Report by Mr Cowie

On Friday 15 March fifteen young Footballers from Walton High travelled to Arbour Park, the home of Slough Town FC to compete in the Year 8 Bucks Schools FA County Cup Final. On a balmy spring afternoon, Walton High ran out 3-2 winners over perennial rivals Dr Challoner's Grammar School. In a game of attack and counterattack, ebb and flow, fantastic goals and artful defending, the ultimate winner on the day was football itself.

The full match report can be found on our social media feeds or our school website.



Netball Winners

Congratulations to our Year 8 Netball team, winners of the Milton Keynes Schools Cup Competition. The girls played brilliantly throughout the tournament. Ruby was captain of the team, not only leading them to victory but also playing centre, working well to get the ball up the court. Layla was a star shooter, scoring goals to take the team through to the final and achieving the Manager's Player award. Stacey defended the ball well, not letting the other team score and winning the Players Player award. The team won four matches to progress to the semi-finals where they beat Hazeley. They faced Ousdale in the final, finishing with a nail-biting 6-5 victory.



The team displayed great sportsmanship and worked well as a team throughout! It was a fantastic achievement girls, brilliant job.

Equestrian Achievement

Congratulations to Isabella who placed at the National Schools Equestrian Association Dressage competition for schools, achieving a 3rd and 4th placed finish. The NSEA host prestigious inter-school equestrian competitions throughout the country, from local events to annual National Championships. Disciplines include Dressage, Show Jumping, Arena Eventing ('Jumping with Style'), One Day Events, Hunter Trials, Eventer's Challenge and Grass Roots competitions.

Achieving placements is a fantastic accomplishment, well done Isabella.



Careers Fair

We are pleased to share details of our annual Careers Fair which took place at Brooklands Campus on 13 March and Walnut Tree Campus on 20 March. Over 40 providers were represented at each and included Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue, Thames Valley Police, Parker Engineering, The Parks Trust, Woburn Safari Park, MK Hospital, The University of Leicester, Network Rail, Tesla, Civil Service, EMW Law, NatWest, Aiimi, David Lloyd and MK:U to name a few.



Our Year 8, Year 11 and Post 16 students had the opportunity to speak to both employers and further education providers about their future. We are extremely grateful to all the providers who took the time to come and talk to our students and we look forward to welcoming them all again next year.



WOW Wall

At Brooklands Campus we are very excited to be sharing some of the exceptional moments that take place. These may be in class, homework tasks or outstanding work that happens outside of lessons with our staff and students. Our Wow Wall has been a huge success, and it has been lovely to share the outstanding achievements with the rest of our community.



UPCOMING EVENTS

We have an extremely busy half term coming up. Starting during the Easter holidays, and continuing later in April, our students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh programme will be taking part in various activities and expeditions. We hope they enjoy themselves and details of their adventures will be posted on our social media channels. Separate emails with full details have been sent to participating students.

Following the success of our Diversity Day last year, we are pleased to be holding this again on Tuesday 23 April. This is a colourful and exciting day where students will be able to wear traditional clothing to celebrate their culture. The event will be led by Year 10 Student Council and donations will be collected for Save the Children. Further details will be included in a letter to students.

We have many extremely talented performers in our MKET schools and we are very excited to announce the return of MKET Performs for 2024 with "The Songs of The Beatles". Students from Heronsgate,

Kents Hill, New Chapter and Walton High will be performing some of the Fab Four’s classics like ‘Hard Day’s Night’, ‘Come Together’, ‘Here Comes The Sun’ and more.

We can’t wait to share the talent across all our schools so don’t miss this fantastic evening at The Venue on Thursday 25 April. Tickets are only £5 and are available to purchase directly from The Venue following this link: <https://www.thevenuemk.com/event/mket-performs-2024/>.

Our students in Year 11 and Year 13 will be entering exam season in the next few weeks. Letters will be sent out separately with all the relevant information, but we would like to wish all our students the very best. These exams are an opportunity to showcase all the knowledge you have gained in the years building up to them. Believe in yourselves and be the best that you can be.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Below is a list of upcoming events for your diary. For those events requiring additional information, letters will be sent out to relevant students and posted across our social media channels and Walton High’s website.

Date	Event
Easter holidays	Various DofE activities
Tuesday 23 April	Diversity Day
Thursday 25 April	MKET Performs “songs of the Beatles”
Thursday 25 April	Junior Maths Challenge
Thursday 25 April to Friday 3 May	Year 10 internal exams
Friday 26 April	D of E Bronze expedition
Thursday 2 May	Year 7 Parents’ Consultation
Monday 6 May	Bank holiday – school will be closed
Thursday 9 May	Year 11 and 13 exam season starts
Friday 10 May	ALD
Monday 13 to Friday 24 May	Year 7 and 8 internal exams week
Wednesday 15 May	Year 11 Awards Evening – Brooklands
Thursday 16 May	Year 11 Awards Evening – Walnut Tree
Friday 17 May	ALD
Friday 24 May	School closes for half term
Monday 3 June	Inset Day
Tuesday 4 June	School opens for summer term

Our next newsletter will be sent out on 9 May, celebrating new successes and providing updates on everything coming up for the remainder of May.

Finally, we wish all families who have been fasting for Ramadan or Lent very happy celebrations for the upcoming days of Eid Al-Fitr or Easter.



Andy Bennett
Brooklands



Sharon Alexander
Walnut Tree