

October 2023

Dear families

Our Unity Community launched in April and our Friday mornings have proved very popular ever since. After the holidays, we are moving into a bigger space within the Academy, and we look forward to continuing to welcome all who can attend 8:30am to 10am each Friday. We have a community café, uniform exchange, food pantry and are hosting a variety of guests throughout the term.

- **Friday 10 November** – Come and see us in our new home – we can't wait to show you our new space! Entry through main reception.
- **Friday 17 November** – Cheryl from the **Department of Work and Pensions** will be available to provide support with anything job related, for example, identifying potential jobs, developing your CV, making an application or interview skills and join our first **Ask a Teacher** morning. Several of our Heads of Department will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about home learning, revision, or the curriculum
- **Friday 1 December** – Join us for a **Christmas Wreath Workshop** where we will make festive wreaths together (materials provided – donations appreciated).
- **Friday 8 December** – **Christmas Craft Workshop** (materials provided – donations appreciated).
- **Friday 15 December** – **Ask a Teacher** morning with some of our Heads of Year ready to answer any questions you may have about the pastoral side of life at school.

We also have several other Unity Community events taking place next throughout next term. We would love to see you at them.

Wednesday 8 November – 5.30pm to 7pm – Winter Warmer Evening

Come and join us for our first ever Winter Warmer Evening! We want to share some useful winter items, have some fun and raise some funds. We are asking for a contribution of £1 per person to attend our event - this will include hot drinks and treats, as well as entry to bingo. Reserve a ticket for free <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dua-unity-community-winter-warmer-evening-tickets-734919262297?aff=oddtcreator> and pay entry on the door if you can.

There will be coats available to try on and take away - we have had dozens and dozens donated and they need a good home. We will also have advice for making the most of your resources over the winter period as well as some other stalls. Come and join us for a fun evening - we'd love to see you there! The event will run from 5.30pm to 7pm. Bingo will begin at 6pm.

Wednesday 22 November – 5pm to 6.30pm – Family Feast

We know how important sitting down together as a family and enjoying a hot, nutritious meal is. Come and join the Unity Community family for our first Family Feast. There will be several dishes on offer with a suggested contribution of £1 per person. Food will be served at 5.30pm. Please express your interest here: <https://forms.office.com/e/vMtXrn4vCA>.

Saturday 9 December – 11am to 2pm – DUA Winter Fayre

Following the huge success of our Summer Fayre, we will be opening the doors to our Winter Fayre at 11am on Saturday 9 December. Expect stalls, games and activities, raffles and perhaps even an appearance from Santa himself! Students will have an opportunity to apply to run stalls. Any stall holders should complete the following form: <https://forms.office.com/e/qVQLzcGrhg>. If you would like to offer any other ideas or feedback for our Winter Fayre, please get in touch using the email addresses below.

Friday 22 December – Christmas Jumper Day and Unity Community Big Christmas Bake Off

On our last day of term staff and – for the first time – students will be invited to come in wearing a Christmas jumper to raise funds for our Unity Community. £1 per person is the suggested donation.

Alongside this, our staff will be taking part in a Big Christmas Bake Off and need you to come and judge their offerings. Please come and join us in celebrating the end of term from 8:30am to 10am.

Christmas Dinner Boxes

Since Christmas 2020, we have provided more than 180 Christmas Dinners for families in our DUA community. We believe that enjoying a Christmas Dinner together is something every family deserves, and we will be offering families who need it this support again this year. More details to follow.

If you have any questions or feedback regarding any of our community events please email sclynes@dixonsua.com or unitycommunity@dixonsua.com.

Yours faithfully



Ms Sarah Clynes
Vice Principal

