

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Principals Update – Term 4, Week 2

Let me start by letting you know how proud I am of Oak students this week, for the way in which they have coped with the cold conditions, while we waited for the repair of our heating system. Most students wrapped up warm, attended school and worked hard in their lessons. So many also chose to remain at school and be involved in extracurricular activities. They showed incredible resilience and they should also be proud of themselves.

I am pleased to tell you that although we are still awaiting a new boiler, our temporary measure means the Academy is now warm. A quick reminder that students are allowed to wear a **plain black jumper only** underneath their blazers. From Monday, with the academy now warm, students will not be allowed to wear hoodies or different coloured jumpers in lesson or around the school site.

During the week there have been so many examples of students demonstrating Oak's core values of 'Excellence, Courage, Kindness Community'. I am delighted to be able to share some of these below. It is also clear students have listened to my message about the need for 'Respect'. There has been far less damage done to the academy site this week, and where this has been seen students have completed community service to demonstrate they are prepared to give a little back in return to any damage caused.

As I move into my third week as acting Principal, I am excited by upcoming events and am looking forward to seeing student success both in and out of lessons. I want students to feel proud of what they are achieving and look forward to sharing their successes with you, on social media, in next weeks update and in our Newsletter at the end of the term.

New Staff Welcome

On Monday we will welcome Mrs Amanda Burrige to Oak. Mrs Burrige joins us from Queens Park Academy as a Family Liaison Officer. She will be working closely with some families in supporting student attendance to school. We are excited for the knowledge and experience Mrs Burrige brings with her and know the community will make her feel welcome.

The rest of the letter will update you on both events from this week and then those upcoming.

Oak Academy Events

During last week Oak students took part in a number of different events. These included.

- Football and netball fixtures (please see our Sports News for more details [Oak PE News Vol 1. Issue 2 - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://oak-academy.co.uk))
- Young Carers Convention at Brockenhurst College
- Year 10 girls visit to Aston Villa to celebrate International Women's Day



Oak Academy

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Part of Ambitions Academies Trust

Next week we have several trips going out including.

- AECC Year 9 Science Trip
- Year 7 and 8 Young Carers Convention to Adventure Pirate
- Year 9 visit to Elm Academy
- Year 10 Careers Convention at the BIC

Parents Evenings

This week, on Thursday 17th March, we look forward to welcoming our first Year 9 parents **onsite, for our first in person parents evening** since before COVID. This is followed by our Year 7 Parents evening on Thursday 24th March. Both evenings take place between 3.30 and 6.30pm and can be booked on line using the following link [SchoolCloud - Oak Academy](#).

Year 9 Options

Options interviews will begin this week and we will be looking to confirm all options ASAP. If you would like to speak to Mr Wacker on parents evening to discuss options, he is available all evening. You can book an appointment with him using School Cloud or pop along on the evening if he has a spare appointment.

Canteen Updates

At Oak we believe that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind. There have been recent changes in our canteen to reflect this. There has been a decrease in the number of cakes and sweet treats. These have been replaced by healthier options such as yoghurt snacks and popcorn. We have also increased our range of hot meals available at lunch times. The large majority of students fed back positively on these changes.

We are now going further! From next week we will be reducing the number of flavoured drinks consumed by students. We will be restricting their purchase to 1 a day. We will provide fruit infused water and jugs of iced water free of charge. We do ask that students bring their own drinks bottles in that can be topped up.

We are also excited to confirm that we have expanded our free breakfast club. This is available to students from 7.30. Students can attend, play games, socialise with friends and access free cereals and bagels to set them up for the day. There is no need to book. The more the merrier.

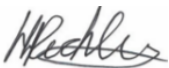


PE Update

I would like to confirm that following discussions with Mr Pretty I have taken the decision to allow students to leave school in their academy PE kit on days where they have PE during their last lesson of the day. In my mind this allows students to maximise their time doing PE. A reminder however that students should be wearing kit in line with our academy expectations.

By the end of this week, we will be halfway through this term. Year 11 will be one week closer to their GCSE exams and the majority of Year 9 students will have had their options interviews. We thank you again for your continued support. Do not hesitate to contact any member of the Academy Team using email addresses at the following link [Academy Staff - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](#) or contact me directly at Hayley.richley@oak-academy.co.uk.

Yours Sincerely,



Hayley Richley
Principal

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