

10th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: Principals Update – Term 1, Week 1

Thank you for your support during our first week back at school. Staff and students had brilliant week, despite the sad end with the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. On Friday, during tutor time, students showed their respects, reflecting on her long life and reign.

There is no doubt that students rose to the challenge this week, moving into our new block and finding their way around. Students returned to school looking extremely smart and on the whole with great attitudes to their learning. I was able to get into a large number of lessons and both staff and students have agreed, that the quality of the buildings they are now working in has really improved. The pictures below reflect the quality of the 17 classrooms that have been refurbished and where lessons will take place, over the next two years while Oak is rebuilt.



Year 7

On Monday we felt extremely blessed to welcome 140 new students to Oak. Each and every one of them have made a fantastic start taking their first week in their stride. Staff have been extremely impressed by the attitudes to learning they have shown. Thank you as parents for all you did to ensure your child was ready to make this important transition.

Achievement for All

This week there was plenty to reward students for. Below are the top three rewarded students in each year group. Students will be receiving postcards home every week from their Heads of Year, Tutors and subject teachers. We really want to celebrate student success. Students have much to be proud of.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Mordecai A	Charlie J	AJ A	Holly B	Maddison S
Najah M	Ella K	HT A	Courtney S	Evie W
Harry D	James W	Lexi B	William B	Amie T

Attendance and Punctuality

Many thanks to all those students who attended every day this week. Attendance to school is crucial for academic success and helps students into the school year. If your child does need to be absent from the academy, please do contact our absence line by 8.20am on [01202 242300](tel:01202242300).

A reminder that our school day now starts at 8.30am by which time students should be sat in lessons. It is critical that students are punctual to school and move between lessons quickly. Where students are late to either school or lessons, they will be expected to attend a break or lunch detention. Many thanks for your support in ensuring they arrive at school on time.

Oak Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

Jon Webb, BA (Hons), Director of Secondary Education

Hayley Richley BSc (Hons), Principal

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Uniform

We have been extremely impressed by how smart students have started the school term. Thank you for ensuring students had the correct uniform. Below are a few reminders.

- Girls can wear a pleated, knee length skirts only.
- Girls cannot wear leggings. We are aware that some supermarkets are advertising leggings as school trousers. These will not be permitted.
- Students should bring an **academy bag**. This can be purchased from our uniform supplier [Oak Academy - Schools \(pbuniform-online.co.uk\)](https://pbuniform-online.co.uk)
- Students are only allowed one piercing in each ear. Students are not allowed facial piercings. Where these have been done recently it is expected they will be covered with tape supplied by yourself.
- Trainer style shoes should have a leather style upper, flat bottom and cannot have any coloured logos or bubbled sole.

We have worked with parents this week to correct uniform. Where students continue to wear incorrect uniform, we will isolate them until this is corrected.

School Photographs

These will take place, for all students on Wednesday 14th September. This will include sibling photo's. Please make your children aware if you would like them to have a sibling photo.

Important Dates

Below is a summary of some important dates over following half term.

13.09.22	Peter Pan Auditions – 3-5pm
14.09.22	All year's photographs Maths Festival Stem-Trip-letter.pdf (oak-academy.co.uk)
15.09.22	Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening OA-Year-11-RA-Evening-2022.pdf (oak-academy.co.uk)
19.09.22	Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II Funeral – details of school closure to follow.
20.09.22 – 30.09.22	Reading Assessments (details to follow) Year 7 CATs Assessments (details to follow)
29.09.22	Year 6 Open Evening
06.10.22	Year 7 Curriculum Information Evening
13.10.22	Year 11 Parents Evening

As always many thanks for your support. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at hayley.richley@oak-academy.co.uk

Yours Sincerely,



Hayley Richley
Principal

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