



Oak Academy Newsletter 2022/23 – Term 1

Principal's Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Colleagues

As we end the first term of the new academic year, as always there is much to look back and be proud of.

The term saw many changes for everyone at Oak, with the move into the left-hand side of the school and the closure of the side of the academy we had come to call our home. Staff and students have really embraced the changes and despite the inevitable teething problems, overall, the move has been a positive one.

Throughout the term I have continued to engage in meetings around the new build. I am pleased to confirm that plans are still very much on schedule and students will continue to see contractors onsite, as the site is prepared to start demolition early next year.

This term saw us welcome our largest Year 7 cohort for many years. They have settled in well and are already making positive contributions to the academy. In addition to the 143 Year 7s, we have also been lucky enough to welcome 26 new starters across other year groups. I am excited to see the academy numbers grow and know this will have a positive impact on us all, across the next few years.

In the next few pages, I would like to share some of the events and student successes of the last term. If you have a moment over the next week do take a moment to look at some of what students have been up to.

As always do not hesitate to email me at hayley.richley@oak-academy.co.uk if you have any questions ahead of the new term. Although I will not be monitoring this email continually, I will ensure that I get back to you in good time for the term.

Yours Sincerely,

Hayley Richley
Principal





Thank you from Julia's House

You may remember that in July we ended the academic year with our 'Summer Festival'. The purpose of the event was to bring together the community and raise money for our chosen charity, Julia's House. This term we invited a representative from Julia's House to the Academy to personally and over money raised. We have since received the letter below thanking us for our contributions. Students should feel proud of their combined efforts in contributing to such a worthy cause.



Summer Festival July 2022





Oak Academy - LeAF Campus
Duck Lane
BOURNEMOUTH
Dorset
BH11 9JJ

14 October 2022

Dear Oak Academy - LeAF Campus

We can't thank you enough!

I wanted to write to thank you for your recent generous donation of £748.00.

In these challenging times, we are so grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness. We receive just 8% of our funding from the government, so your support means so much – thank you.

Your donation is helping us continue to provide vital care in our hospices, in family homes and out in the community. Our specialist team of nurses, carers, therapists and family support workers provide a lifeline of care, offering clinical, emotional and practical support tailored to the individual needs of the most seriously ill children and their families.

As one of the parents we supports says, "No matter how strong you are, it's not until you are put in a position like ours that you realise how fundamental children's hospices like Julia's House are for your wellbeing."

Your support is helping us give these families a much-needed break, so they can carry on coping. Thank you.

With best wishes



Welcome Year 7

As mentioned already, our new Year 7 cohort have made a really positive start to their time at Oak. They have really thrown themselves into everything it means to be secondary school students. From their amazing contributions to lessons, to extracurricular activities and sporting fixtures, they really have been prepared to do it all. We are excited to watch them continue to flourish across the rest of the year.





Year 6 Open Evening

As we continue to look towards Oak's future, we were excited to welcome potential Year 6 students and their parents to the Academy on Thursday 29th October. The evening was an overwhelming success with feedback from all extremely positive.

On the evening we were extremely proud of the number of students who were prepared to give up their time to support the Academy. Students supported across the evening, working within departments and completing tours. Five extremely brave students, including two year 7's and our senior team, even got up and spoke to students and parents about their experiences at Oak.

On the Friday, following the event, we were happy to bring our students together to say thank you for their support. All students were given a certificate and a doughnut.





Math's Festival – Bournemouth University 14th September

On the 14th September Mr Lissenden escorted eight of our Year 9 students to Bournemouth University to take part in the annual Maths Festival."

The day was an opportunity to gain insight into science and maths-based careers and to experience the University through a series of workshops.

The day started with an inspiring keynote speech in the aptly named 'Inspire' Lecture Theatre before beginning the workshops in the Fusion building.

First up was 'How noise is measured' with lots of interesting experiments including how loud we could clap as a group and how quietly we could unwrap a parcel.



Next in the 'Energy Crisis' workshop we learnt how to calculate energy usage and identify practical cost savings measures. A couple of our students were slightly disappointed to find staying in the shower for over an hour was probably not the best use of energy.

Moving on to the 'Design and Calculations' workshop we worked with professional engineers on a practical exercise to calculate flow rates required to ensure water flows efficiently through buildings.



After a break for lunch the final workshop was 'Maths to help patients' where we took each other's blood pressure, compared grip strengths, and learnt about bones. We all agreed this was great fun.





To finish off we went on a short tour of the University campus and discussed what it would be like to study at university.

Chloe H summed up the day perfectly.

"The experience was wonderful, it was amazing to look around the university. As a group we made some good memories and I found other interests beyond what I learn in school. It was liberating."

Throughout the day all our students were a credit to both themselves and the school and they ensured the day was both enjoyable and interesting.

None of this would have been possible without the wonderful Ms Spencer organising the trip and the ever-helpful Mr Bell ferrying us to and from Bournemouth University. So from us, Mr Lissenden and all the students, thank you.



Sporting Fixtures

As our extracurricular offers grow so does our involvement in sporting fixtures.

This term students have taken opportunities to compete for the school in a range of different sports, with some firsts for Oak in both badminton and basketball. We are excited to watch our competitive teams grow.





Dorset School's Annual Leadership

On the 18th October, 13 students travelled to Bryanston for the Dorset School's Annual Leadership conference. Once we arrived the students were split up into three groups. 'Young Ambassadors', 'Youth Leaders' and 'Game On Football Activators'.

The Young ambassadors spent the day completing tasks and learning about how to lead in preparation for the to come back to school and run their own events. They are looking forward to being able to work with our primary feeder schools over the course of the next year.

The group of Youth Leaders spent the day in the sports facilities learning about different activities they can offer to students as Youth Leaders and they took lots of opportunities to ask questions and work with students who have been through the young leaders programs and gain insightful knowledge they can use back at school.

The Game On Football Activators spent the day working with coaches from AFCB honing their football skills, learning how to lead and set up their own girls football club back at school.

All students thoroughly enjoyed the day and to look around the historical school site of Bryanston. We were fortunate enough during the day to have inspirational and motivating talks from both Beth Rodford (Ex-Olympic Rower) and Jamie Barrow (World's fastest Snowboarder).



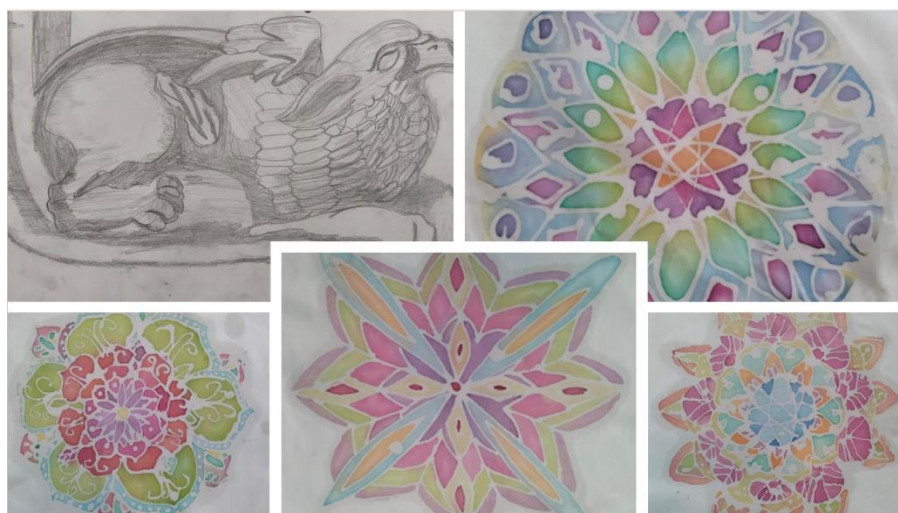


Around the curriculum

As well as those successes in sporting activities there is also much to celebrate across other subject areas. I look forward to sharing more of these achievements at the end of Term 2, but for now here is a little taster.

Art

Mrs Whitby has been super impressed by efforts shown by KS3 student both in the classroom and as part of home learning. Here is a small sample of some of the work students have been producing. Students have been proud to share their work when I have visited classrooms.





History - Holocaust Research Project student write up

A group of year 10 and 11 students are taking part in a project about Jewish children and the Holocaust. Together with three other schools, Belle Vue Academy (Bradford), Hampton School (Middlesex) and Otto Hahn Gymnasium (Herne, Germany), we received a photograph of Jewish school children in Herne, Germany, taken before the Second World War. We were given a list of eight names to explore. Starting with a database search, we quickly realised that we needed to widen our search, so we emailed archivists at museums across the world, including the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.



We knew that one of the children, Luise Tarko, had been at Auschwitz but Nataliia Tkachenko from the International Centre for Education about Auschwitz and the Holocaust informed us that there was no record of her. She went on to say that there was a high probability that a Jewish girl deported to Auschwitz in a so-called Jewish transport would most likely not have been registered in the camp but instead directly sent to death. Ms. Tkachenko suggested we look for deportation records. Knowing that Luise had moved from Herne, in Germany, to Brussels, Belgium, we explored the deportation centres of Breendonk and Mechelen, and discovered the Kazern Dossin Memorial Museum and Documentation Centre where the old Mechelen transit camp was located. Here we found a memorial of people held at the deportation centre. Luise was on the database, we cross-checked her date of birth to confirm it was her, and a photograph of Luise was attached to the database. Now we know this, we can go back to Auschwitz to see if they can match up the records.



We are finding it fascinating learning about the places and people of the Holocaust. We were not aware of the deportation camps and the transit of Jewish people from these to the death camps. Whilst it is hard to learn the fate of the individual children, it is also rewarding when we can piece together their stories and ensure they are not forgotten. We look forwards to sharing more of their stories with you over the coming weeks.

Amie T, Patrick U, Cortana B & Courtney S

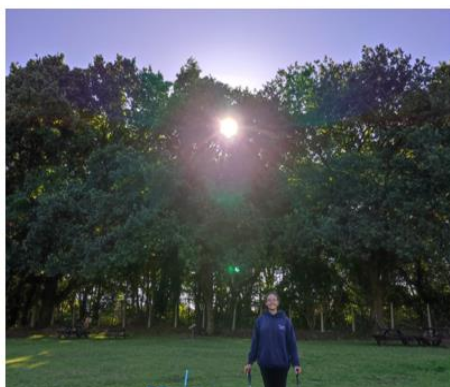


Celebrating Successes Outside the Academy

I am always amazed when parents stop me on the gate and tell me some of the amazing things their children are involved with, outside of the academy. I would love to continue grow a culture of sharing success. If therefore you are proud of your child for something they have been involved with in their own time then please do email me at hayley.richley@oak-academy.co.uk.

Work Experience

Kezzia M from Year 10 was recently asked to complete work experience at a local Alpaca Farm supporting an event for Bournemouth University. Kezzia made a fantastic contribution on the day, and we are very proud of her. As well as supporting during this event Kezzia supports at the farm on her weekend's. It is easy to see what an amazing job she is clearly doing. Well done Kezzia.





Rugby Success



**England
Rugby**

**GIRLS DEVELOPING
PLAYER PROGRAMME**

We are extremely proud of that two of our Year 11 girls have been selected to be part of the England U16 Rugby Development Programme. Both Alicia F and Akira D have only been playing rugby for the last 15 months. This is a massive achievement for both girls and we are excited to watch their journey. A massive well done from everyone at Oak.



Groomsman

Hayden B from Year 10 took the opportunity, alongside his brothers, to be groomsman at a recent family wedding.

As you can see Hayden took his role extremely seriously guiding his younger brother throughout the day.

We are proud of Hayden for the role he took on the day and know his Mum was beaming with pride throughout the day.

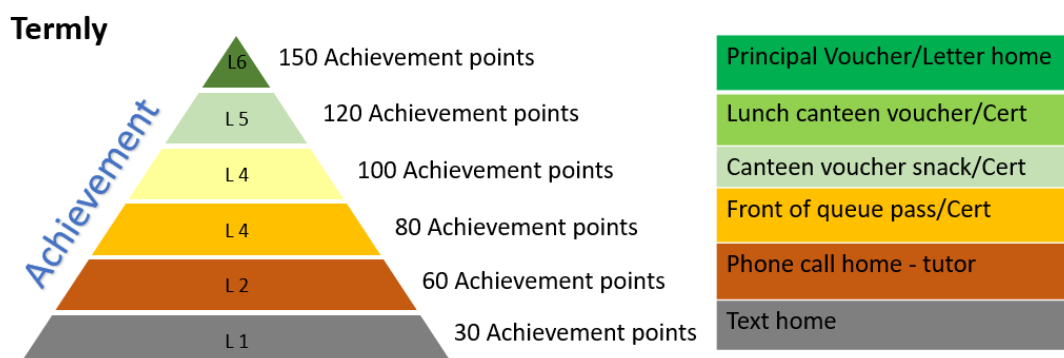
Celebrating Successes Inside the Academy

We continue to review our rewards policy at Oak to ensure we are rewarding students for the amazing things they are doing inside the academy. It has been fantastic to see students coming into the canteen with front of queue and food vouchers as a result of reward points earned across the term. One student, Ellie M in Year 10, even reached the top rewards level by the end of term and will receive a £10 voucher on our return. Below is our top 5 students in each year group.

| Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Year 11 |
|---------|-------------|----------|----------------|-----------|
| Hugo C | Cleo R | HT A | Ellie-Louise M | Evie W |
| Elise W | Amy S | Jack J | Courtney S | Madison S |
| Filip S | Liam N | Heidi F | William B | Jessica C |
| Lilly C | Emily K | Jesica A | Cortana B | Megan P |
| Najah M | Daisy-May H | Harry B | Suzi C | Patrick U |



To ensure we are rewarding even more students we have reviewed our thresholds as below.



Teacher Certificates

At the end of each term all teachers are given the opportunity to nominate students who they recognise as loving by our core values during lessons. Over the last few days students should have come home with certificates recognising this. In total teachers handed out 1193 certificates for excellence (404), community (195), kindness (214) and courage (380). Students were proud to show these to me both in the canteen and on the gate.





Principal Awards

Heads of year nominated students who they really felt displayed all our core values each day, and went above and beyond in supporting/representing the academy. The following students therefore received this terms Principal's Awards. Students received certificates, a chocolate treat and an invite to lunch with me at the start of the new term.

| Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Year 11 |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Ethan E Isobelle G | Ella KC Liam N | Remi O Kai Z | Courtney S Dillon L | Megan P Leo P |

Upcoming Events/Key Dates

| Date | Details |
|----------------------|---|
| 31st Oct | Inset Day. Academy closed to students |
| 2nd Nov | An Inspector Calls trip Year 10 and 11 |
| 3rd Nov | Anti-Bullying Ambassadors – SAA |
| | Disney Trip – Parental Meeting 6-7pm |
| 7th – 25th Nov | Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations |
| 2nd Dec | Inset Day. Academy closed to students |
| 8th Dec | Christmas Jumper/Non-uniform charity day |
| 13th Dec/14th Dec | Peter Pan |
| 16 th Dec | Final Day of Term Reports home to all students |

Reminders

When students return, as always, I will be reminding them of some of our key expectations that support us as a community in living out our core values. Below are just a few things that I would ask you to support us on to ensure students return to Oak ready to learn and in the correct uniform. Many thanks in advance for this.

- A reminder that girls should wear either school trousers or a pleated skirt. Students are not permitted to wear leggings or a tight pencil skirt.
- All students must wear the full school uniform at all times. This includes.
- An academy, logoed blazer.
- An academy tie.
- An academy bag.
- A white shirt with a button to the neck. No open neck blouses please.



- Students can wear an academy logoes jumper underneath their blazer. No other jumpers are permitted.
- Students should come to school equipped for learning.
- Students should not wear more than one earring in the ear. Any facial piercings should be removed or covered. Where piercing were done in the summer, we will no longer allow students to cover these. They may wear a small clear retainer at the discretion of the academy.
- Any trainer styles shows should be plain black, leather upper and cannot have a bubbler in the heel.
- Long, false eyelashes and and long, false nails are not permitted in the academy.

Many thanks to the large majority of parents and students who support our high expectations on uniform. If as a parent you do not agree with some of our policies, please do request a meeting with me to allow me to explain why they are so important to us at Oak and why we will work relentlessly to ensure they are delivered consistently.