

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## RE: Principals Update – Term 3, Week 3

This week it was lovely to welcome Year 9 parents onto the school site for their first look at their GCSE options process. It has always been one of my favourite parts of the academic year, as our young adults begin to take some control of their futures. Many thanks to those parents who were able to come along on the evening. If you were unable to attend the presentation can be found at the following link [PowerPoint Presentation \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://www.oak-academy.co.uk). This includes important dates in the process. Next Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January we look forward to welcoming you back for our Year 9 parents evening. It is not too late to make an appointment using our online system at the following link. [SchoolCloud - Oak Academy](#).

## Ten Tors Training

It would seem the weather has cleared up just in time for our Ten Tors training team to hit Dartmoor for the first time to see for themselves just what the moors has to offer. The sun shined, although it was still bitterly cold and with some snow still on the ground students were even able to build snowman, albeit a minature version 😊



## Achievement Points

As always I am proud of students earning achievement points. Below are the top three students in each year group since we returned from the Christmas break. A massive well done.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Violet M	Chelse E	Leland S	William B	Billy S
Aabel A	Jack H	Heidi F	Cortana B	Megan P
AJudah	Mason T	Harry B	Ethan C	Tamia D

## Strike Action

Many thanks for everyone who has completed the survey, sent out with the letter regarding the upcoming strike action. I am expecting to be able to inform you no later than Wednesday of this week about our plans for possible closures. I am hoping once the plan has been put in place there will not need to be any last minute changes on the day. The letter including initial information can be found at the following link. [OA-Strike-Action-1st-February.pdf \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](#)

### Oak Academy

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

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### Pasta King

This week, on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January a number of our students will be attending a tasting event for a new range we will be introducing to the school canteen. We are excited to be able to offer students an increased range of grab and go food that is both tasty and nutritious. We are still looking for a few more students to get involved. If your child would like to get involved and is prepared to attend between 3.15 and 4pm on this day please ask them to see Mr Garza for a letter, which includes a consent form. [Pasta King - Good food that fuels learning](#)



### Uniform Reminders

Many thanks to those parents who have worked with us over the last two weeks in correcting students uniform. Over the last week I spent time visiting two other local secondaries and spent time looking at their uniform. There is no doubt that schools are setting high expectations for their students when it comes to uniform and I am determined to ensure that Oak is no different. The large majority of students are now looking extremely smart. The following things appear to be an issue.

- **Leggings** – girls cannot wear leggings to school. Girls can wear black trouser or a black skirt only.
- **Jumpers** – students are allowed to wear an oak branded jumper **under their blazer**. This cannot be plain black and cannot be worn instead of the blazer.
- **Trainers** – A very small minority of students continue to arrive in trainers that do not meet my criteria. A reminder that I expect any trainer style show to have.
  - A plain black, leather style upper.
  - A plain black flat bottomed sole.
- **Nose studs** – Students cannot wear a visible nose stud. Please do not allow your child to have their nose pierced in term time or during any holidays other than the start of the summer. Where students currently have nose piercings I expect the following.
  - For piercings done in the last 6 weeks, students must cover the piercing with micropore tape covered by yourself. We will not supply.
  - For piercings done more than 6 ago, any metal stud must be either removed or replaced by a very small clear retainer as in the picture.



### A reminder of the following guidance to schools around uniform.

- Schools have the right to enforce students wear a school uniform.
- Schools can discipline students who do not comply with the rules on uniform.
- Schools are allowed to send students home to enable them to put the right uniform
- Sending the student home should NOT be an exclusion or an unauthorised absence unless the student persistently breaches the uniform or deliberately takes advantage of the time given to fix their uniform.
- Suspension is justified for repeated uniform breaches.

New uniform can be ordered at Price and Buckland at the following link [Oak Academy \(pbuniform-online.co.uk\)](http://OakAcademy.pbuniform-online.co.uk)

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](mailto:hayley.richley@oak-academy.co.uk).

Yours Sincerely,



Hayley Richley  
**Principal**

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