



Oak Academy Newsletter 2022/23 – Term 3

Principal's Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Colleagues

The half term following the Christmas break always seems to go by in a flash and this one was no different. None the less, as always, we managed to fit a lot in and there were some fantastic opportunities for students to be involved in.

As I finish writing this newsletter, I am in school with Year 11s as they attend an English and Maths Revision Day, in preparation for their PPE's. It goes without saying that I wish all students the best of luck in their upcoming exams.



During the last half term I have been in a number of talks regarding our new build at Oak. This has included a visit to another Kier built school in Portsmouth, talks with BCP admissions to look at how we will manage our increasing numbers at Oak while we are decamped into one side of the building. Finally, a meeting with BCP planning, the DFE and Conor Burns, MP Bournemouth West, to ensure the project

remains on track for completion. I look forward to being able to share more information with you in the coming months.

Please do take a moment to read through our newsletter and look at what everyone has been up to. The letter also includes important information about the term ahead.

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.

Yours Sincerely,

Hayley Richley
Principal





Start of Term Arrangements

The new school term starts on Monday 20th February. Students are expected in tutor at the normal time of 8.30. We look forward to welcoming students back.

Key Dates

Date	Details
From Monday 20 th February	Year 11 PPE's
Wb 20 th February	Year 8 Arson Courtroom Drama
Tuesday 21 st February	Year 10 Southampton University Trip, UN Summit Debate. Selected students.
Wednesday 1 st March	Year 10 and 11 Poetry Live
Thursday 9 th March	Year 11 Parents Evening
Wb Monday 20 th March	Army in Careers week. Activities across years 7-11
Tuesday 21 st March	World Poetry Day
WB 27 th March	Performing Arts Showcase
Friday 31 st March	Term Ends at 12.30 Reports to parents Year 7 - 11

Industrial Action

During the last half term, you will be aware that the school made the decision to partially close, due to industrial action. The reason for the industrial action is detailed below.

- Pay for experienced teachers has fallen by one fifth in real terms since 2010. And now Britain is facing the worst cost-of-living crisis in a generation.
- Energy bills are soaring, inflation is at 12.3 per cent (August 2022) – a forty-year high. But the Government is suggesting experienced teachers' pay should only go up by five per cent this year. This is a seven per cent cut.
- Schools have been required to cover the pay rises without sufficient budget increases, resulting in real time cuts to budgets.
- Long hours and poor pay are the main reasons teachers are leaving the profession in their droves. The Government is presiding over one of the worst recruitment and retention crises ever seen in education.
- Children are losing out because there are not enough teachers. Even when there is a teacher in the classroom, increasingly they are not qualified in the subject they are teaching. Parents and grandparents hear their children and grandchildren talking about 'new' teachers in the middle of the school year; of lessons being 'covered' by supply teachers, of teachers leaving. Lack of qualified teachers harms the education that children and young people receive.





There is further strike action planned for 2 March, 15 March and 16 March. I will update you with further details on this if required, but as before please do assume there may need to be a partial closure of the school on these days. Please do know that I look to minimise students time out of the academy, especially those most vulnerable and those in their GCSE years.

Rewards at Oak

We continue to reward students for all the amazing things they do at Oak. As ever I loved watching students be rewarded for their hard work during the last week of term.

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. In the last week students will have come home with certificates recognising this. In total teachers handed out 1252 certificates for excellence (381), community (127), kindness (159), respect (193) and courage (324). I hope students shared their certificates with you.



Top achievers

This half term the following students have achieved the highest rewards points in each year group.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Judah A Hugo C Mohammad J Aabel S Leo L	Liam N Shana Y Christopher S Jack H Tilly H	John N Bem W Jessica A Keira H Archie B	William B Ellie-Louise M Cortanna B Dillon L Courtney S	Evie W Mickey S Madison S Emily P Tamia D

Harrison A was rewarded for his achievements this half term with his favourite food, roast potatoes and gravy, served during tutor time on the last day of term. Mrs Whitby is really proud of you.

Two students reached the highest level of reward level this half term. This means they have already or will on their return, receive both a Principal's certificate and a £10 voucher of their choice. This term we are celebrating **William B and Ellie-Louise M from Year 10**. A massive well done. It is worth noting that Ellie has reached this level every half term and William the last two. This is a huge achievement.

With a longer half term ahead of us, I am sure more students will reach this level and therefore more students will be rewarded.





Year 11

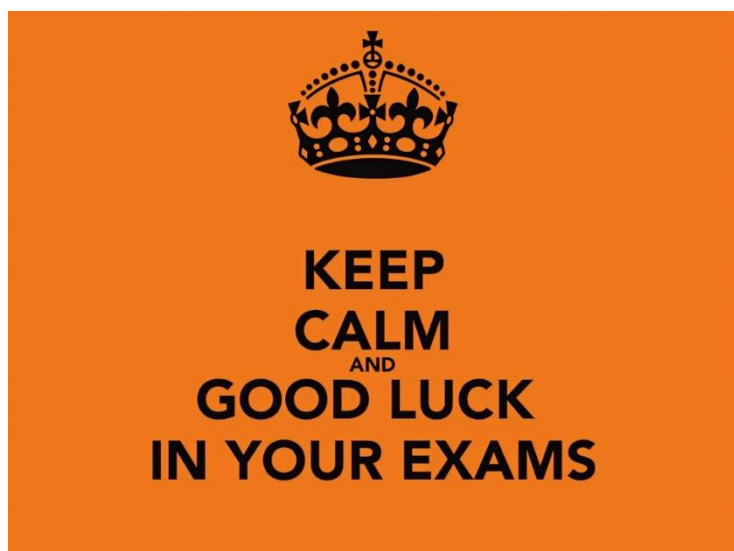
With their final PPE exams starting on Monday 20th February, there is no doubt that those final GCSE exams are approaching quickly. Student's minds will begin wandering I am sure to their final day and of course that special moment that is their prom. I cannot stress enough however the need for all students to make the most of all opportunities over the next few months including lesson time and additional revision sessions. It has been fantastic to see so many students on site today for our Maths and English Revision Day.



Until the end of the PPE exams revision classes after school will continue as normal. Following the PPE's we will be looking where some classes need to become compulsory. There will also be some extended days to support students in preparing for their exams.

Students will have now been in receipt of their skeleton timetable for the summer exams. The timetable can be found at the link below. This allows you to plan any holidays for once the exams are finished. Please note students will be expected to continue to attend full time until the end of their exam period.

[GCSE Exam Timetable Summer 2023](#)



Soon in the new term we will be releasing an Easter Revision programme. Students across England will follow similar programmes during their holiday periods and therefore if students wish to achieve the grades they are capable of, it is vital they take the additional opportunities given to them.

Finally, in the run up to exams it is vital that all lessons remain disruption free. With this in mind, please be reassured that where a student repeatedly disrupts lessons, they will be removed from the class for an extended if not indefinite period of time. This gives students who want to achieve every opportunity to do so.





Uniform

During last half term we worked with a number of parents to ensure our uniform is smart and in line with policy. Many thanks for working with us on the following.

- **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 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 **supplied 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.



We have supported a number of parents where financial difficulties have been a concern. Do please be in contact if you need our support and where we are able to we will support.

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 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.

On return after the half term students not in correct uniform will be placed in isolation while we work with you as parents to correct this. If you are aware of issues in advance of your child's return please ensure you have emailed their relevant year team.

Year 7, 8 and 9 InclusionKS3@oak-academy.co.uk

Year 10 and 11 InclusionKS4@oak-academy.co.uk





T3 at Oak Academy

In the rest of the newsletter, I am keen to share with you some of the extracurricular activities' students have been up to this half term.

Ten Tors Training

As ever, our Ten Tors Team, led by Mr Turner, remain committed to the cause of getting to and completing the full Ten Tors later this year. With the competition of last years team completing our Year 10's are really rising to the challenge, and have already had to face some bitterly cold conditions. The question this year is how we will find our final six with so many fantastic students taking part in training. I think the students will continue as a team and make the right choice between them before the event. Regardless of who ends up taking part and how many Tors they complete, the whole team, including staff should be commended for the commitment they have shown.





Launching Pasta King

As we look to grow the choice of nutritious 'grab and go' options available to students in our canteen, this half term we launched 'Pasta King'. With the help of our student body, during a tasting event, we selected the most popular options that we would launch with. Pasta King is the leading provider of nutritious branded grab & go meals in the foodservice sector within the UK. With over 25 years of experience, they have developed a mouth-watering range of meals and snacks to suit all students including vegetarians, vegans and those following a Halal or gluten free diet. Feedback so far from students has been extremely positive with the carbonara and pulled pork tortilla's proving to be favourites.





Year 7 Team Building Day

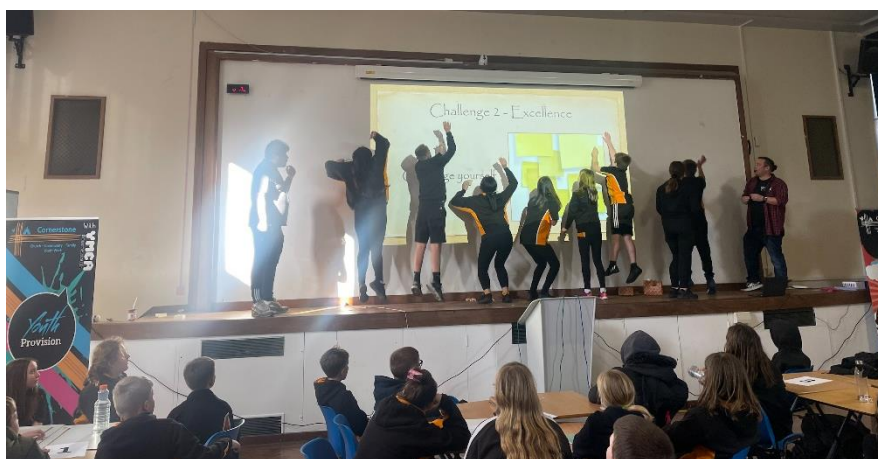
On February 1st February, Year 7's timetable was collapsed for the day to give them the opportunity to come together as a Year group, for a team building day.

Students were split into groups of six to eight. In the morning they competed in a number of PE based games, before coming together in the Hall to explore what our core values really mean to them and our community.



Students really got stuck in on the day, working with staff both from Oak and our local Youth Provision from Cornerstone Church, in partnership with the YMCA.

A number of students got involved in challenges presented to them, from eating doughnuts from a string to our 'share/steal' challenge there was an opportunity for everyone to be involved. We are looking forward to more events like this, across all year groups, in the near future.





Fit4Life

Our extra-curricular offer in sport at Oak continues to be popular, before, during and after the school day. On Tuesday 31st January Oak invited Dan Desmond from Fit 4 Life into PE lessons to discuss the link between mental health and PE. Dan shared his life story and struggles with students, allowing him to explain to students how exercise, and weightlifting, helped him overcome a number of personal battles. The talk by Dan was followed up with a weightlifting competition involving several students. Conduct of all was exemplary throughout and the feedback from students was that they thoroughly enjoyed the session.





Anti-Bullying Campaign

We have previously communicated with you about the wonderful opportunity we have had this year to train up 10 of our students to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, with the Diana Award. The students have put so much time and effort into our campaign and have successfully been awarded their first badge in recognition of their work within the Oak community. They have delivered assemblies, a staff briefing, created a Kindness Pledge and held a very successful Bake Sale, just to name a few of their achievements.

Our ambassadors hard work and dedication has been phenomenal and are clearly having a positive impact on their peers. Congratulations for this fantastic achievement!



Bake Sale

Students organised a super successful Bake Sale during the last week of term to raise money for Dorset Mind and our Easter showcase. In just over half an hour students managed to raise £145.24.

From cupcakes to, chocolate cakes and cake pots there was something for everyone. Students created posters, promoted the and ran the event, working closely as a team. Contributions from students, parents and teachers were fantastic and went a long way to support this event.

An excellent example of all our core values coming together as a community. Thank you!



Thursday 9th
February

Hall A – Break
and Lunch



All proceeds will be going to Dorset Mind in support of Children's Mental Health Week and the Performing Arts Department to fund our Easter Showcase.



BAKE SALE





Options at Oak

Year 9 students spent the end of this half term, beginning to consider what choices they will take for their GCSE's. An initial parents' information evening was followed by an options carousel where students were able to gain an insight into what our different option courses would have to offer.

After half term, students will complete an initial expression of interest survey, which will allow us to build the options blocks ahead of our Options Evening.

[Year 9 Options - 2023 - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](http://oak-academy.co.uk)



Year 8 students were also given an opportunity to consider the options process in the last week of term. An external theatre company visited Oak and allowed students to take an hour to consider the options that will lay before them over the next 18 months before they reach Year 10.

Year 8's thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon and our visitors spoke very highly of our students.





Dance at Oak

Our dance offer at Oak continues to grow and more and more students are choosing to be involved both through lessons and as part of our extra-curricular offer. Below is a small insight to what has been going on the last few weeks in.

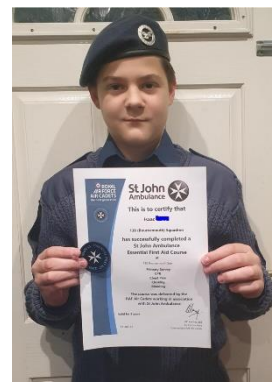
- Dance auditions for Dance Beats Cancer
- Extra-Curricular Clubs
- BTEC Dance contact workshop



Celebrating Student Success

As mentioned during previous newsletters, there is nothing we like more than celebrating the success of our students outside of the Academy. This half term it has been fantastic to hear Isaac talking about how proud he is of the work he is doing with the cadets. Keep at it Isaac, and please continue to share your successes.

Please continue to share your child's successes with us so we can share them with our wider community.





Visit to Oak – Conor Burns, MP Bournemouth West

As already mentioned, Conor Burns visited Oak during this half term to meet with Mrs Richley, Ms Thomas, CEO AAT, the DFE and Bournemouth planning to discuss the next stages of the new build.



After the meeting Conor took a walk around Oak and met with students during their lunch break. Students really enjoyed their opportunity to speak to Conor. We thank him for his visit and for his continued support of Oak and its new build.





Year 10 and 11 Trip to Disneyland Paris

Students in Year 10 and 11, studying Business and Health and Social Care had the opportunity to visit Disney Land Paris before the half term break. Students and staff had a fantastic time as you will see in the photos and the short write up below.

'After an early departure from the school we headed towards Paris. The only thing we were lacking was Mr Nicholl, who was running late.

The journey to Dover begun and then to Calais by ferry. Excitement overpowered the tired feelings from the early start we all had.

Upon arrival at the hotel, we all found our rooms and began to unpack and get ready for the days ahead. Later we had dinner and went to the Disney village to see the shops and get warm drinks.



After a long sleep we woke up and went to the continental breakfast, and gathered the things we needed for the day in Disneyland Paris. At 8:30 we set off to the park, from there we spent the day riding rollercoasters, viewing parades and seeing all the Disney characters.

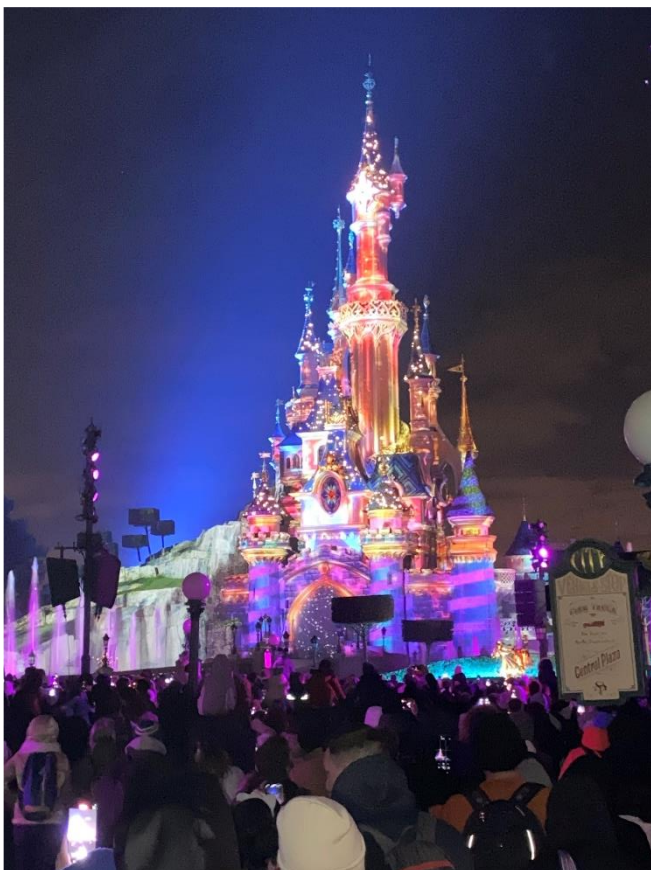
In the evening we attended dinner at BillyBobs, which is a Mexican style buffet.

Finally, we watched the fireworks over the castle and headed back to the hotel.

On the final day we went to the park for the last time on our trip and did our last minute shopping, then we boarded the coach heading back home.

An amazing time was had by all and there is no doubt that memories were made.'

We cannot wait to announce some other residential trips, in the near future.







Oak Academy

Supports Mental Health!



kooth

Need someone to talk to?
Kooth.com. This is a free online service

Articles | Discussion Boards | Chat with the team | Daily Journal

Teen Sleep Hub

Having trouble sleeping? Phone or visit the website teensleephub.org.uk. This is a free service

If you're looking for advice on how to sleep better, would like tips on tweaking your routine or help to understand the science behind your sleep patterns, you'll find it all here.

YOUNGmINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

Visit youngminds.org.uk or text YM to 85258 for urgent mental health crises. This is a free service.

Shout
Text YM to 85258.

Shout provides free, 24/7 text support for young people across the UK experiencing a mental health crisis.

All texts are answered by trained volunteers, with support from experienced clinical supervisors.

childline

Visit childline.org.uk or phone 0800 1111. This is a free service.

Bullying, abuse, safety & the law
You & your body
Deaf zone

Your feelings
Friends, relationships & sex
Cynhor yn Gymraeg

Home and families
School, college & work
Childline for under 12s

NATIONAL BULLYING HELPLINE

Alongside Kindness Champions support in school, do you still need further support? Here is a free service that can help.

Helpline: 0300 323 0169
Telephone: 0845 225 5787

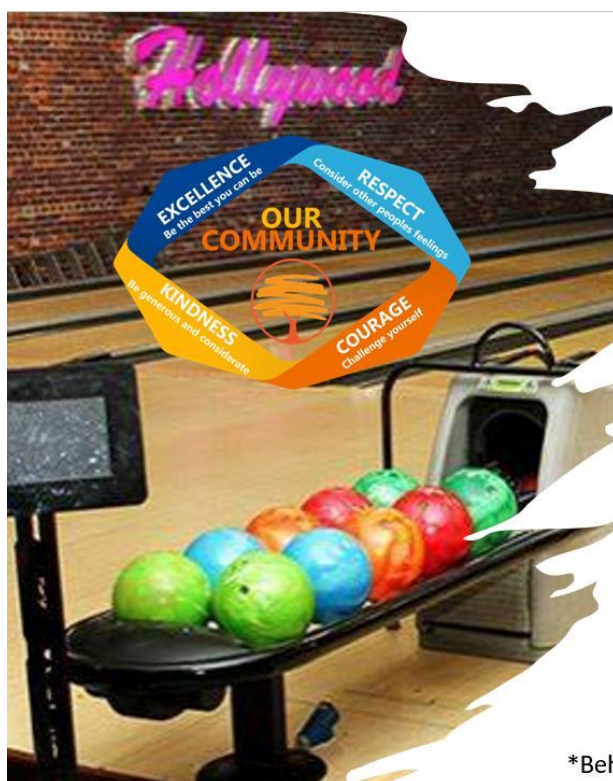
We are open from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday

ChatHealth

If you're aged 11-19 (over 13 and almost 18) your School Nursing Team 07480 635511

If you want to talk about:

- Problems with friends or family
- Relationships
- If you are feeling sad or angry
- Bullying
- Drinking alcohol or smoking
- Changes to your body



Attendance Reward Trip

- Students who have **98% + Attendance** over the **4 week period of 6th February to 11th March** will be invited to attend the Attendance Rewards Trip.*
- Date of the Attendance Reward Trip is 30th March.
- Students will enjoy 1 hour of bowling at Hollywood Bowl plus a meal.
- The cost for the trip is £10.

*Behaviour may influence students being invited to attend the reward trip

