

27th February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Principal's Update - Term 4, Week 1

The start of the second half of our academic year was certainly a busy one. Year 11 students started their final PPE exams, a group of Year 10 students attended a Sustainability Competition at Southampton University, all Year 8 students were involved in a Courtroom Arson Drama, and there was much sporting success across the different year groups. In particular it is worth mentioning that 14 students from Year 8 and 9 went over to Avonbourne to take part in the Dorset School Games Indoor Rowing competition. Despite not using the Concept 2 rowers before our Year 9 girls all won their heats and our Year 8 team won the whole competition. Students now progress to the County Finals at Bryanston School in the Spring. A massive well done to everyone involved.

**Teaching and Learning Newsletters, Term 4**

Teaching and Learning Newsletters for this term can be found at the following link [Term 4 - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://www.oak-academy.co.uk/term-4). This includes information about what your child will study in each subject this half term. Please do take time to read this and talk to your child about what they are studying.

Home Learning

Students in **Years 7 – 9** have now been issued with new home learning booklets. These can also be found at the following link. [Home Learning - Oak Academy \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://www.oak-academy.co.uk/home-learning) Booklets also include details of home learning expectations and a timetable for when home learning is due each week. Many thanks for all those students taking time each week to ensure their home learning is completed. Students who do not meet deadlines for home learning, or who need additional support will be invited to a home learning support sessions on Tuesday evenings.

Following student feedback, we have adapted the format by which students in **Year 10** are being set home learning. In many subjects' students have been given revision guides to support them with their work. Home learning support for Year 10 will be Wednesday evenings.

Year 11 students will be set home learning/revision appropriate to the exam prep/coursework completion they are currently working on.

Parents Evenings

Year 11 parents evening will take place on Thursday 9th March. Appointments can now be booked. Details can be found at the following link [OA-Year-11-Parents-Evening-09.03.22-.pdf \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://www.oak-academy.co.uk/oa-year-11-parents-evening-09.03.22-.pdf).

At the end of this half term all students will receive an academic report. Parents evenings for other year groups will take place as follows.

Year 8 – Thursday 27th April**Year 7 – Thursday 11th May****Oak Academy**

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

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Year 9 Options

A letter was sent last week confirming an adjusted timeline for our options process. This can be found at the following link. [OA-Options-2023.pdf \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://oak-academy.co.uk/Options-2023.pdf)

Industrial Action

I confirmed last week that on Thursday 2nd of March I have had to make the difficult decision to partially close the school. Oak will be open to Year 10, 11 students only. Students in Years 7 – 9 will be set work to complete remotely. If your child is vulnerable, or if all adults in the house are critical workers we are happy to accommodate them at school. A reminder you will need to complete the following survey by the end of Tuesday 28th February <https://forms.office.com/e/4aurJ64d3R>. We will be unable to accommodate any students where the survey is completed after this day.

Toilets

Unfortunately, during this academic year, there has been much damage done to our toilets. This is being done by a small minority of students who have been sanctioned appropriately for this action. Last week, much time and money were spent ensuring all toilets were fixed, painted and in good working order. I will be speaking to students this week about the following.

1. Students should not be using the toilet during lesson time. Only one male and one female toilet will be open during this time for students with medical passes and for emergencies only.
2. At lesson change over all Science toilets will be opened. Toilets should be used quickly.
3. At break and lunch time all toilets will be opened. KS3 should use toilets in A Block and KS4 the science toilets.
4. Students should use the toilets **one at a time. Any student found in the toilet with another student will automatically have an extended day, 3-5pm the next day.**
5. Toilets are being checked hourly for graffiti and damage. Any students who notice graffiti or damage should report this to reception. When graffiti is found in toilets at the hourly check, CCTV will be used to identify students who have used the toilet during that time. If this wasn't reported students will receive community service. The length dependent on damage.

I am hoping that the above actions will improve the experience of all students in the toilets.

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

Oak Academy

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