



Oak Academy Newsletter 2022/23 – Term 4

Principal's Welcome

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Colleagues

It has been an incredibly busy term for students and teachers alike, with a huge range of opportunities across all areas of academy life. There is much to share, including celebrating everything that has been achieved.

As I finish this letter Year 11 are currently completing the last of their Easter revision sessions, as final preparations for their summer exams continue. They have now completed and received results for their final PPE exams and practical exams are now largely complete. It goes without saying that we wish them luck as they continue to prepare across this half term and as their final written exams start on Tuesday 16th May. We are in the process of finalising their exit timetable and we will be writing to Year 11 parents in the next two weeks to confirm this. Students will be expected to attend full time through until their final exam. This is to ensure we utilise time for revision.



Please do take a moment to read through our newsletter and look at what everyone has been up to over the last half term. The letter also includes important information about the term ahead, there is no doubt that it is going to be a busy one for all involved.

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

Monday 17th April is an Inset Day. The school will therefore be closed to all students other than Year 11 who will be expected to attend for a Science Practical carousel. Details of this have been sent previously and can be found at the following link [OA-Year-11-Update.pdf \(oak-academy.co.uk\)](https://oak-academy.co.uk/OA-Year-11-Update.pdf).

The school term will then restart for all students at 8.30 on Tuesday 18th April. All students should return wearing the correct uniform and equipped for learning. A reminder of our expectations with regards to uniform and equipment can be found later in this letter. Many thanks for your support with this.

Key Dates

Date	Details
18 th April	Year 11 Spanish Speaking Exams
18 th April – 12 th May	Year 9 Options Interviews
19 th April	Year 8 Boys STEM Day
	Kier Construction Workshops
21 st April	Year 9 Forensic Science Workshop
	Year 11 MHST Assembly - Managing Exam Stress
25 th April	Year 7 and 8 Mini careers fair
26 th April	Year 11 Geography field trip (date subject to change due to industrial action)
27 th April	Industrial Action (please see below)
1 st May	Bank Holiday – School closed to staff and students
2 nd May	Industrial Action
4 th May	Year 8 Consultation Evening (rescheduled due to industrial action)
	Year 10 Cosmos Resilience workshop
5 th May	Year 8 Robotics Workshop
8 th May	Bank Holiday – King's Coronation
11 th May	Year 7 Parent Consultation Evening – Information to follow
16 th May	Year 11 Final Written Exams begin Year 11 Exam Timetable
25 th /26 th May	Online Gambling Workshop Year 9 and 10
26 th May	Confirmation of Year 9 Options





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.

The recent pay offer from the Government has been rejected and there are therefore two further planned strike days this half term. As detailed above these days fall on **Thursday 27th April and Tuesday 2nd May**. In line with the union's commitment, I will be working to ensure Year 11 have a full programme of education on these days. In addition, I will be prioritising Year 10 students due to the large amount of guided learning hours already lost.

I will of course write to you with more details in the coming days however I would ask that for now you complete the following survey if your child is in Years 7 - 10. <https://forms.office.com/e/4aurJ64d3R>

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.
- **Fake Tan/False Eyelashes/Make Up** – Any make up worn by students should be natural looking. Students are not permitted to wear false eyelashes or fake tan. The only exception to this is where students are competing at weekends and competitions requires them to wear this. Please do advise us in advance if this is the case. Students wearing excessive make up will be asked to remove this.



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 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.

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

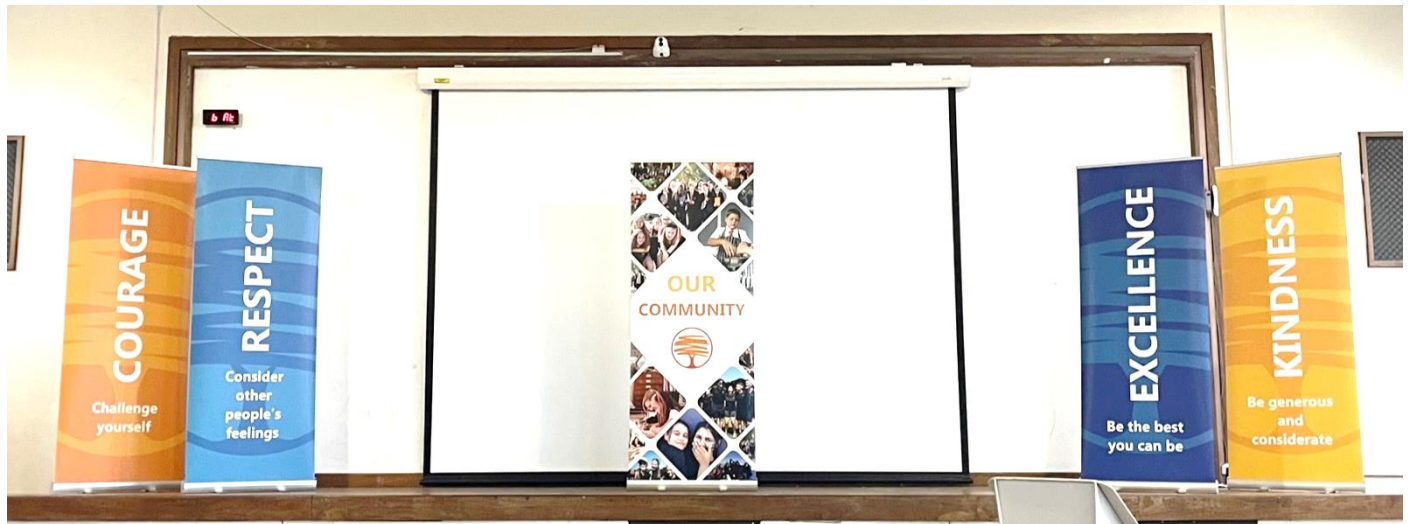
Equipment for Learning

Students are expected to bring basic equipment for learning to school with them. This includes a black pen, pencil, ruler and eraser. Packs will be available to buy from the school. Many thanks for your support in ensuring students have the correct equipment for learning.





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 on the last day 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 1590 certificates for excellence (531), community (171), kindness (214), respect (204) and courage (469). I hope students shared their certificates with you.





Head of Year Awards

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Courage	Nicholas A	Catherine F	Heidi F	Ella G	Roxanne H
Excellence	Fiona Y	Holly C	Raquel D	Dillon L	Aimee T
Kindness	Gracie S	Amy S	Vanessa N	Marnie A	Caitlin P
Respect	Jophiel R	Daniel	Ben S	Aimee B	Lauren R
Community	Joshua	Shana Y	Charlie M	Sam H	Patrick U

Subject Awards

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English	Conner De-Ath	Tilly Haynes	Benjamin Shears
Maths	Filip Szyszka	Gracie Simpson	Jesica Adamczyk
Science	Kevin Abraham	Daisy-May Hubbard	Archie Bushnell
Geography	Filip Szyszka	Holly Carter	Radiyyah Abdulrahman
History	Ella Price-Wake	Holly Carter	Raquel De Souza
RE	John Pante	Alice Allen	Chloe Hoolian
Computing	Ruby Perkins	Brad Sheehan	Heidi Ford
Spanish	Charlie Varney		
PE	Oliver Griffiths	John Mavazhe	Maddie Whitmore
Catering	Jake Williams	Gracie Simpson	Paris Masters
Performing Arts	Jophiel Ransom-Sharma	Tilly Haynes	Shanice Edwards

	Year 10	Year 11
English	Ella Griffiths	Jessica O'Mahony
Maths	Onari Lenora Robolge	Patrick Underwood
Science	William Bushnell	Caitlin Penn
Geography	Jayden Lee Saunders	Chloe Morris
History	Chloe Vallier	Lauren Rogers
Computer Science	William Bushnell	Harry Lancaster
Creative iMedia	Dillon Legg	Hayden Russell
Spanish	Ahlam BAKKALI TALLAL	Caitlin Penn
PE	Jessica Harverson-Phillips	Tia Dixon
Catering	Sam Harley	Jessica Cox
Health and Social Care/Child Care	Marnie Ames	Ellie Horey
Sociology	Suzi Cox	Evie Wetherell
Sports Studies/Sports Science	Ethan Chivers/ Scott Ellis	Jessica O'Mahony/ Logan Boyd
Business	Onari Lenora Robolge	Megan Pidgley-House
Film Studies	Katie Grubb	Roxanne Hammett





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
Najah Mhanna Elise Wallage Hugo Curtis Filip Szyska Lewis French Aabel Skariah	James Ward Shana Young Lucy Curtis Tilly Haynes Samuel Ogbu Chelsea Edwards	Heidi Ford Archie Bushnell John Nkosi Jesica Adamczyk Keira Hangl	William Bushnell Ellie-Louise Miller Cortanna Biddle Katie Grubb Scott Ellis	Isbael Hough Charley Phillips Logan Boyd Amber Columbier Roxanne Hammett

Principal Awards

Due to their ongoing commitment across the academic year, my Principal's Award were handed to the following students.

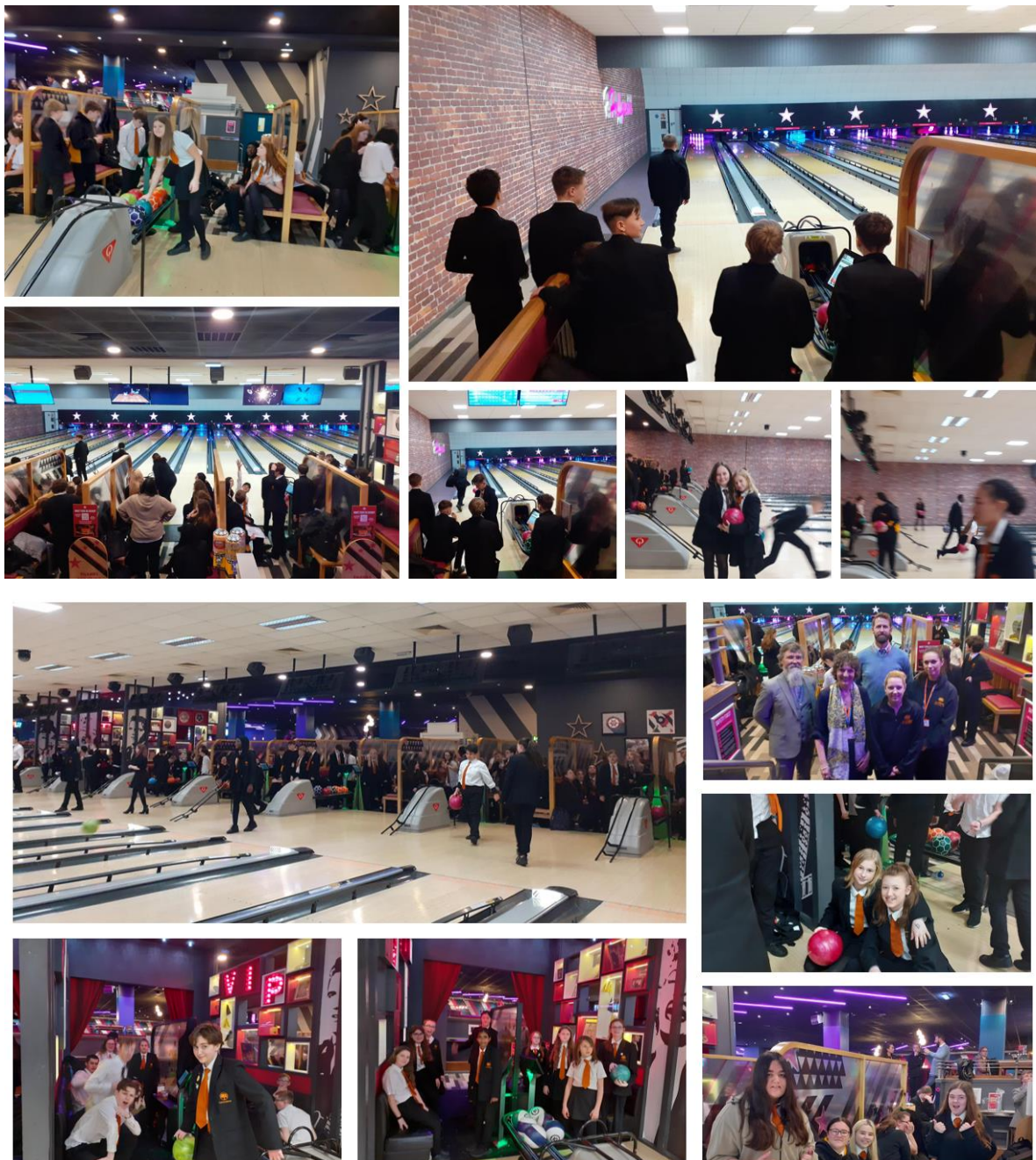
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Najah Mahanna	Sam Ogbu	Harry Beale	Ellie-Louise Miller	Madison Stanners





Rewarding Attendance

Our attendance rewards trip was a huge success with two coach loads and a mini-bus full of students. A fantastic time was had by all, and Oak students represented the academy in a fantastic way. We are looking forwards to our next trip.





T4 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 in coming weeks. Students have persevered through tough conditions to complete training walks and stand a great chance of completing the full Ten Tors. This year Mr Turner will receive a Ten Tors Silver Award for 15 years' service. His commitment is unwavering, even with a broken boot 😊 I know the students are extremely grateful for his support. Mr Turner, I know would also like to thank the staff members who join him and support the students. Without all of them this just wouldn't be possible. Good luck Team Oak in your upcoming event.





African Drums Workshop

Students in Year 7 and 8 enjoyed an African Drums workshop this half term to compliment their music curriculum. A fantastic time was had by all, including the teachers.



Arson Courtroom Drama

Our students in Year 8 had the opportunity to work with the Urban Heaths Partnership. During this "courtroom drama", students assumed different roles such as barristers, judges, firefighters, and police officers to determine who was responsible for committing an arson in a local heath. This was an opportunity for our students to gain an understanding of the importance of our heaths, and wildlife that uses the heath as its habitat.

Students really enjoyed the experience and learned a lot about the importance of taking care in our heathlands.





Army Event

This term, 60 of our Year 9 and Year 10 students participated in a career's presentation and a teambuilding and resilience workshop with the British Army. Six soldiers in the Army were present and shared their experiences and the incredible opportunities for apprenticeships, funding for university and other training opportunities that can be earned while in the Army.



Year 9 Outdoor Education

The OAA technology rotation conquered their fears this term when they completed the crate stacking challenge. Students were given harnesses and were attached to self-belaying machines. Students piled two stacks of crates whilst another student climbed them. The objective was to try and balance on a stack of crates without falling off or the crate stack toppling over. The highest stack that an individual completed was Vanessa who completed 20 crates before they toppled. The highest team completion was Ash and Dylan who completed over 25 crates. The instructor said she had not seen a pair balance on that many crates before.

Well done to the group for completing the challenge. **Miss Tap**





Speakers Trust

On Friday 24th March, Mrs Bradley welcomed Alastair from the Speakers Trust to work with a group of Year 10 students. The programme empowers young people to speak in public by building their confidence and skills. It is a valuable session for **GCSE Speaking and Listening and develops vital employability skills**. The programme is delivered by [Speakers Trust](#) and is generously funded by [Southern Universities Network](#).

Every student pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone during the day. The resilience and determination shown by everyone really was outstanding. Well done!



Your Time to Lead

Six of our Year 9 girls have been part of a leadership programme, Your Time. On March 14th they got the opportunity to lead a class of reception students from Heathlands. They decided to choose activities that focused on three fundamentals for children aged 4 and 5, looking at activities involving Balance, Agility and Coordination. Though a challenge to lead children considerably younger than them, they did an incredible job, gaining high praise from the staff at Heathlands and our School Games Organiser, Sarah Dunsford. They will be on the road again after Easter, with a number of other leadership opportunities at some of our other feeder schools.

Well done to Chloe, Kacie, Hiro, Leah, Heidi and Jesica.

A special thank you to Cortana and Courtney in year 10 who took part in the programme last year and acted as mentors on the day.





British Science Week – Sports Science Trip

Oak Academy continued their positive relationship with further education settings with a trip to the Anglo European College of Chiropractic. The Year 10 Sport Science students as part of British Science Week, took part in a number of workshops that allowed them to explore how our body and mind worked during sports performance. Students worked with some of the highly specialised staff at the AECC to look at Sports Physiology, Biomechanics and Sports Psychology.



Students were exemplary throughout the day, and really took the opportunity to explore the field of sport science and what it may be like to attend university in the future.

Carlisle Fluid Technology



15 Year 10 Students participated in a trip to the Carlisle Fluid Technology manufacturing plant. They explored careers regarding manufacturing and were able to explore the machinery and take a tour of the plant. They also were able to bring home their manufacturing suits that they were given during their tour.





Sustainability Challenge

Our Year 10s took place in the UN Sustainability Challenge at the University of Southampton. They completed the challenge and were highly praised for their hard work by representatives from the University.



Poetry Live

Year 10 and 11 visited Poetry Live today. A fantastic day had by all including a meet with Poet Dame Carol Ann Duffy and according to students seeing Simon Armitage who they reported to be the Eminem of GCSE poetry.





Year 11 Spanish Tapas Trip

On Thursday 16th March the year 11 Spanish class took a trip to the restaurant Tapas + in Bournemouth.

Here they learned about some typical Spanish food and what tapas is. The staff were great and provided us with many delicious tapas including "Albondigas" "Pollo al ajillo" (the favourite) , " calamares" and of course the famous "Tortilla Española"

We had a very enjoyable afternoon trying the different dishes and I'm pleased to say year 11 Oak students displayed their natural curiosity and weren't afraid to try the new tastes.

Good food, great company! Best trip ever. 😊



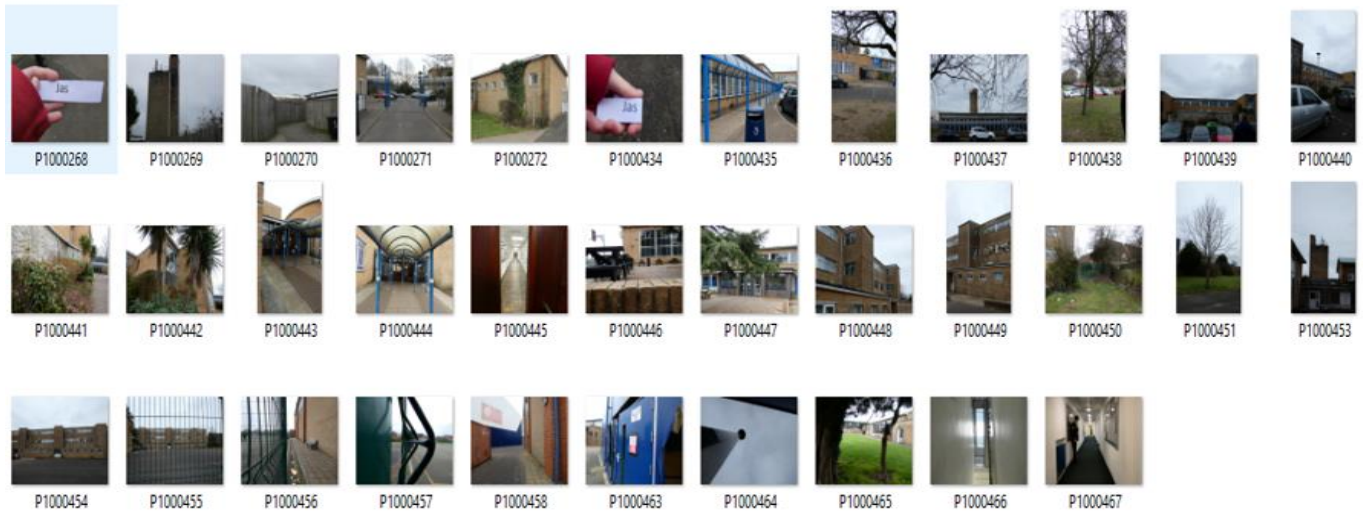
Year 11 Creative iMedia

Year 11 Creative iMedia students are currently completing their final of three NEA (Non Examined Assessment) coursework projects, centred on Digital Photography and the theme of *the built environment*. Students have been tasked with photographing a range of architectural styles across the local area, including an on-campus photoshoot studying the architectural forms found at Oak Academy. Jasmine C showed great flair for identifying bold compositional elements in her portfolio of images from the on-campus photoshoot.

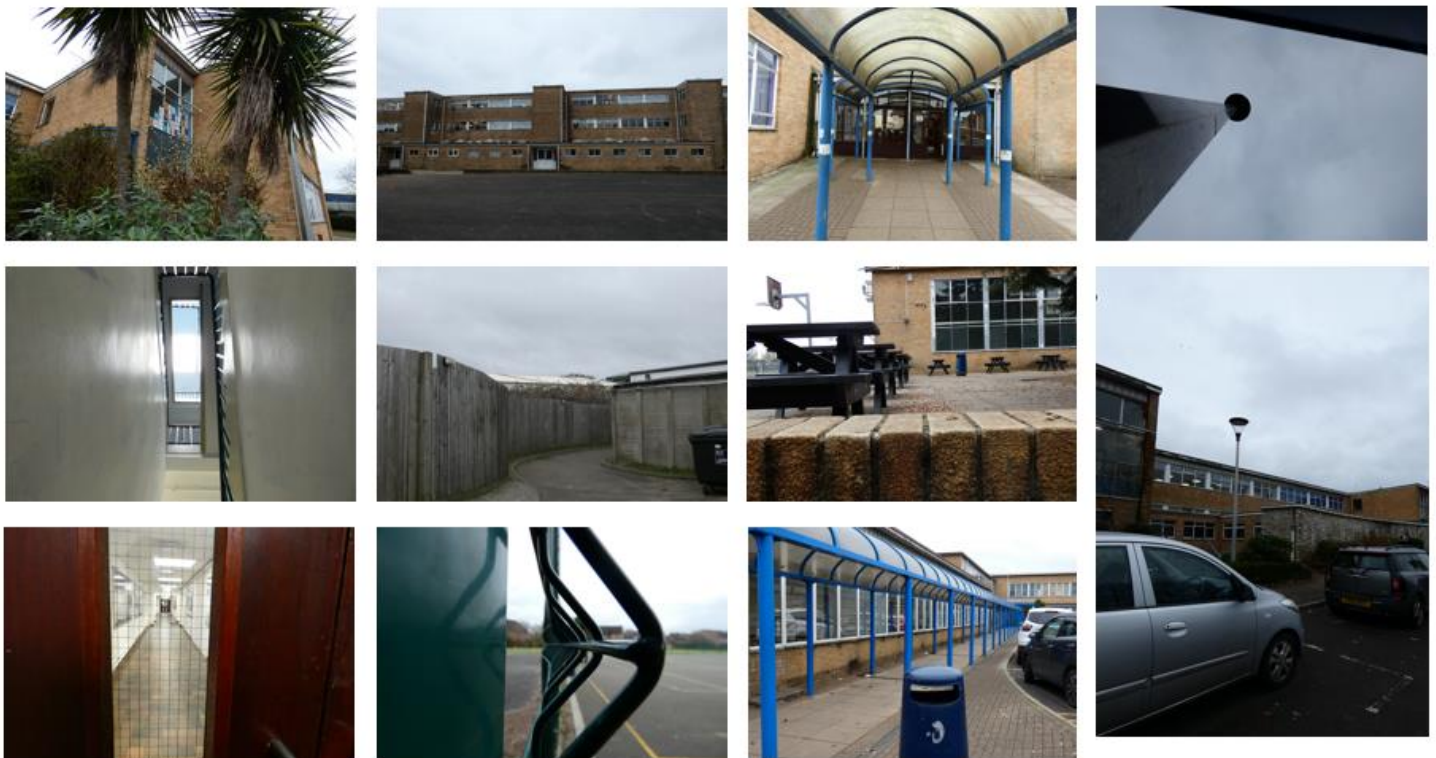




Initial photographs:



First round selection:





Final selection:





Year 11 Health and Social Care – First Aid

As part of their final piece of coursework, students completed an e-learning exam and practical training on First Aid from Atlantis Training. Students were assessed on the recovery position, CPR, bandaging as well as learning how to use a defibrillator and epipen.

All students are now qualified first aiders and the assessor praised them on their maturity and depth of understanding. A massive well done to all students involved



Year 11 Catering – Final Practical Exam

Mr Wacker and Mrs Shinton were extremely proud of the skills and effort for Year 11's final practical exam.





Chess Club

The Battle for the 2023 the Oak Academy Chess Trophy is On!



Oak Academy's Chess Club is proud to announce that the second annual Chess Tournament is underway, and this year's competition promises to be even more exciting than last year's. Sixteen talented students are competing for the coveted trophy and the title of Chess Champion 2023. The players have already shown impressive skills on the chessboard, and we cannot wait to see who will come out on top.

The Chess Club has been a thriving part of Oak Academy's extracurricular activities for a couple of years now. Our club currently has 39 members, and we are always looking for new players who want to join the fun. It doesn't matter if you have never played before or are a seasoned player; everyone is welcome to join the club and improve their chess skills. We provide lessons for beginners and opportunities for more advanced players to hone their skills.

Playing chess has many benefits, such as improving problem-solving skills, memory, and concentration. Chess Club members not only get to develop these essential skills but also make new friends and have fun. There is a

great sense of camaraderie and sportsmanship in our club, and we all support and encourage each other.

The Chess Tournament is the highlight of the year for our club. It is a highly anticipated event that brings excitement and healthy competition to the school community. This year's tournament will be especially interesting as we have several new players who have shown great promise in practice matches.

If you are interested in joining the Chess Club, please feel free to come along to the Maths room 3.6 on Wednesday or Thursday lunchtime or afterschool on Wednesday from 3pm to 4pm. We welcome everyone, and you never know; you might be the next years Chess Champion!





Football Club

As the football season comes to a close, the PE department want to congratulate our Year 7 and 9 Girls Football Teams this year. Combined, they have managed to complete 5 fixtures, 1 Bournemouth tournament, and a Dorset Schools Games Tournament this season.

The resilience and dedication they have shown this term has gone above and beyond, demonstrating such brilliant sportsmanship in all the games they have played. Their skill level and group cohesion has developed incredibly quickly, and I look forward to having them back in September to bring them up to the next level. Thank you for a great season!!!

Miss Tap



Not to forget the effort and progress made by our boy's teams across all year groups.





Extra-curricular Participation

We are thrilled to announce that Catherine F, Oliver G, Cortana B, Ben W, and Patrick U have achieved the highest attendance rates among all students in our Extra-Curricular Clubs this term. These students have displayed exceptional dedication to their clubs, and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on their outstanding commitment.

Through their consistent attendance and enthusiastic participation, these students have not only made a significant impact on their clubs but also inspired their peers to engage in extracurricular activities. Their leadership has led to the growth of the clubs, and their presence has helped create a welcoming and supportive environment for all members.

We are proud to have such exemplary students at our school and are excited to see how their dedication and commitment will continue to benefit their clubs and the Oak Academy community as a whole.

We encourage all students to follow in their footsteps and strive for excellence in their extracurricular activities. Once again, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Catherine F, Oliver G, Cortana B, Ben W, and Patrick U for achieving the highest attendance rates in all Extra-Curricular Clubs this term and for their outstanding commitment to their clubs.





MyTime

This term, 17 of our young carers had an amazing time at Adventure Pirates, sponsored by the MyTime charity. This was an amazing opportunity for our young people to participate in outdoor activities: including trampolining, fire building, clay art and they enjoyed hotdogs and smores.





Easter Showcase

On Wednesday night, 34 of our talented students from years 7-11 took to the stage to perform in our Easter Showcase. There was a wide range of different acts that took place.

We opened act one with our KS3 band who performed 'Living on a prayer' followed by an introduction from our three presenters Tilly, Shanice and Natalie. Moving onto our Dance troupe's choreography to 'Move More'.

Other performances in this act were Jophiel and Elise singing living on a prayer, Penelope singing Lovely by Billie Eilish. Tilly, Fiza and Natalie performing a short drama scene around antibullying, which led nicely into our dance troupe's antibullying dance piece.



Next we saw our dance trio consisting of Emily, Macey and Lucy present a choreography to a remixed version of 'Lovely'. Emily then presented her version of 'Hopelessly Devoted to You' from the hit musical Grease.

We closed this act with a performance by our resident KS4 band Electric Youth who rocked out with their version of 'We Will Rock You' accompanied by the vocals and body percussion of the whole cast.

A short interval saw the students reaching for bottles of water to rehydrate ready for act 2.

Act two was opened by Lucy and her solo dance 'Showstopper' – and it really was! Next Courtney and Alice hit the stage with their rendition of 'Rewrite the Stars' from the Greatest showman.

Emily followed on with her solo dance and then Jordan jumped onto the piano to accompany Sage and Georgina whilst they performed 'A million Dreams'. This was a magical moment for all as the cast filled the stage with electric candles and torches.



Later We saw Ellie perform a solo dance and also a duet with Chelsea and then Chelsea performed the song 'Shallow' from the film 'A Star is Born'.





Elise then performed 'Dreams' by Fleetwood Mac whilst a few of the dancers presented a choreography alongside it.

Jordan serenaded us all with his beautiful piano skills – goosebumps were felt by many.

Finally, to end the show the whole cast filled the stage and invited the audience to sing along to 'Spaceman' by Sam Ryder.

The cast of the showcase were absolutely brilliant and have been such talented, committed and professional young performers throughout. Thank you to everyone that has supported the Performing Arts department.

