King's Oak Academy: Lower School Newsletter

Work Hard Be Kind

10 September 2021





Dear Families,

I hope that you had a fantastic summer break - it has been lovely to see everyone back this week. We have really enjoyed welcoming the children back and beginning to return to some kind of 'normal' with a little bit of sunshine too! All across the

lower school this week, children have been exploring what it means to be a KOA citizen. I have seen some amazing learning about our academy values and really enjoyed listening to year 4's song. There have been some very proud adults and children! I hope that you all have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week.

Thank you for your continued support,

Kind regards

Miss Sarah Franklin Assistant Principal

Term 1 dates

Monday 13 September: Year 2 visit from Explorer

Dome

Wednesday 15 September: Meet the teacher from

3pm - 3.30pm

Wednesday 29 September: Year 1 and 2 story time

and reading information session

Wednesday 6 October: Tulip Photography

Thursday 14 October: Parents' evening (option 1)

Tuesday 19 October: Parents' evening (option 2)

Thursday 21 October: INSET day
Friday 22 October: INSET day

Have your say

Parent/ carer voice is important to us and we value the feedback that we receive from families. We would really appreciate it if you could complete the following questionnaire to give your views on the academy: https://forms.office.com/r/mXJeYgq7av

Morning drop off

Please be aware that although the gates are now open from 8.20am, children must remain supervised until the classroom doors open at 8.25am.

End of Day Timings

In 2020-21 we worked closely with South Gloucestershire Road Safety Team to explore how we can encourage more students to walk or ride to school to:

- A. promote healthy living in our community
- B. improve pedestrian safety on Brook Road
- C. reduce air pollution and congestion outside the Academy.

Whilst we have made positive steps towards target A and B, there remains a large amount of traffic congestion on Tennis Court Road at the end of each school day and we have received feedback from several parents in our community about this concern.

Furthermore, this year we reached full, all-through status, therefore there will now be up to 1170 students / families arriving and leaving the site each day. As a result, to manage both student safety and traffic congestion leaving the academy site at the end of the school day, we need to stagger the finish time slot for the Lower, Middle and Upper School.

We understand that for some families who have siblings in both the Lower and Middle School, the 10-minute staggered finish might be less convenient and that you would prefer to be able to collect both children at the same time. We hope that you understand the rationale for why the staggered time slot needs to remain in place, however, to support you and your collection arrangements, our Lower School Class Teachers are able to supervise your child until 3.10pm.

To help us know which Lower School children are likely to remain on-site to wait for their sibling to finish school, it would be helpful if you would be able to let your child's class teacher know that you would like to take up this offer so that they are aware of this arrangement.



Meet the teacher

We would like to give you the opportunity to come and meet your child's teacher. Therefore, teachers will be opening their doors to parents on Wednesday 15^{th} September from 3pm-3.30pm so that you can see your child's learning zone, meet with their teacher and ask any questions that you may have.

SMSA recruitment

We are looking to recruit two more lunchtime supervisors to join our team at King's Oak Academy and support our children during lunchtime. If you are interested in applying or would like some more information, please come and talk to us.

Casdon Toys 75th Anniversary

Casdon toys are celebrating their 75th year of trade. To celebrate this they held a give away competition for free home corner goods worth over £150. Mrs Waldron entered for our school and won! We are very excited for our new Reception children to be able to use all of the new toys!



Teachers are Learners too!

During our recent Inset days and afterschool training sessions, teachers have been practising techniques to enable our students to 'Learn Like a Champion'. So far this term we have focussed on routines to build relationships with students and maximise learning time during lessons. You can learn more about the two techniques 'Threshold' and 'Do Now' in the short clip here by Vice Principal Mr White: https://youtu.be/dnkVFQiDLsc







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