



Mrs B Thielen
Head of Middle School

Welcome to Term 2.

Middle School students are embracing their learning and we look forward to welcoming our Year 7 and 8 Parents and Carers to the Tutor information evenings on the 18 and 23 November. There is information on how to make bookings on Insight at the end of this newsletter.

The meetings are with Tutors and designed around a pastoral focus, however if you have a specific academic query please do use your child's planner to communicate with the Tutor so that they can gather information prior to your meeting.

Middle School coffee morning is from 09:00 - 09:50 on the Upper School Site on 11 November - all welcome to attend.

Year 5 Aspen have started their learning with Miss Franklin (Monday and Tuesday) and Ms Redwood (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday) as their lead teachers.

Miss Franklin will be working with Years 5 and 6 again in Term 2.



Year 6 SATs Tests

As you are probably aware, in May of Year 6, students sit SATs tests to assess their learning from KS2. The government have confirmed that these will be happening this year on the timetable shown below.

Monday 9 May	Spelling, punctuation and grammar (Grammar/Punctuation Test) – 45 minutes Spelling, punctuation and grammar (Spelling Test) – 20 minutes
Tuesday 10 May	Reading Test – 60 minutes
Wednesday 11 May	Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) – 30 minutes Maths Paper 2 (Reasoning) – 40 minutes
Thursday 12 May	Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning) – 40 minutes

In order to make sure children are familiar with the format, timings and typical content of these tests, we will be running some mock SATs sessions in November and February/March this academic year. The November mocks will happen in the week beginning the 15th November. These sessions are also aimed to relieve any nerves as the children will have already experienced what SATs week is like ahead of time.

Students might find it useful to spend a little time over the next few weeks using the revision guides to recap some learning before the mocks but as we still have a number of months of Y6 left, we will remind the children through the process that there may be some content they have not covered. If you missed the deadline to order these at a discounted rate but would like to order them at £2.50 each, please pay through Scopay by Friday 5 November. In December, we will also hold a SATs information evening for parents but please get in contact with Mr Blake or Miss Southcott if you have any questions in the meantime.

Farewell to Mrs. Collett

The Year 8 Tutor team say a fond farewell to Mrs Collett. We wish her all the best in her new Academy.

The Tutor group 8.1, and Food Technology lessons will be taken by Mr Cash who joins us in Term 2.

Lunchtimes

To allow for children in Years 5 and 6 to return to eating their lunch in the hall without disrupting their specialist lessons, we will be moving Year 5 and 6 lunchtime to 12.50 - 1.35pm. This will mean a slightly shorter lunchtime and, therefore, this will be made up with an extra morning break so they don't miss their recreation time. We are really looking forward to being able to have everyone eating in the hall again.

South Glos Cross Country Trials

Two of our students, Lacey in Year 6 and Kayleigh in Year 5 participated in the South Glos Cross Country Trials on Saturday 23rd October.

Both of our students made the top 10 and at this stage we know of Kayleigh in Year 5 being asked to represent South Glos in an upcoming inter-area competition.

I hope you can join us in congratulating the students on their achievement and we look forward to see where their sporting careers take them.



If you have a child that you would like support encouraging them to partake in more sporting activities please do communicate with us and we can work together to get them involved.

The Big Award



We are proud to have signed up to the BIG award. The BIG award has been running for 10 years and students, staff and families work together in order to ensure all are educated about bullying, challenge bullying and to reduce the number of instances in the Academy and society.

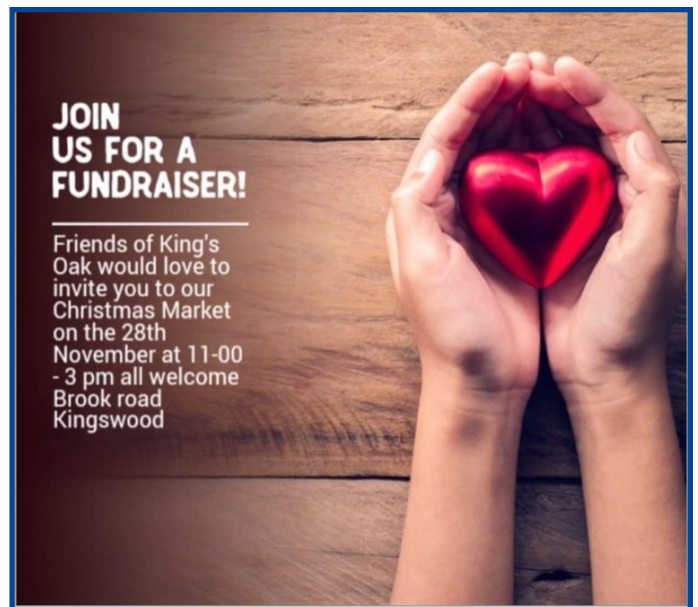
We will work with Year 7 in the first instance and both PSHE lessons and Tutor time will have a large focus on this in Term 2.

Friends of King's Oak Christmas Fayre

Friends Of King's Oak are holding a Christmas Fayre in order to raise money for our Academy.

There are over 20 stalls and Rachele Lindsay, our Forest School expert will be on hand to toast marshmallows with the little ones.

There will be a Tombola and Raffle with lots of prizes to be won, as well as games to keep children entertained and refreshments to purchase.



Times Tables Rockstars

After the success of our Times Tables Rock Stars “Battle of the Bands” tournaments last term, we have some new tournaments set up for the term ahead.

These tournaments run from Monday morning to Sunday evening and every child who uses the website to practise their times tables in this period contributes to their class’ scores. This is a fair competition, even between Year 6 and Year 3 classes as points are calculated based on the highest average score per pupil and the children will only be given times tables that they have learnt in school.

Each week in Monday assembly, the winning classes will be rewarded with certificates to display in their classrooms. Teachers will also be able to reward individual children for exceptional engagement with TTRS.

Also, I’d just like to remind you that as part of home learning for your child, we ask that the children spend at least 15 minutes a week using this program. We recommend a “little and often” approach; 3 minutes practice a day, 5 times a week is a good target for this.

Here are the tournaments for this term.

Week Beginning	Competition
1 st November	Y3 vs Y5, Y4 vs Y6
8 th November	Y3 vs Y5, Y4 vs Y6
15 th November	Y3 vs Y6, Y4 vs Y5
22 nd November	Y3 vs Y6, Y4 vs Y5
29 th November	Y3 vs Y4, Y5 vs Y6 (whole year groups)
6 th December	Vs other class in the same year group

KOA Sport Clubs (Term 2)



Day	Year Group	Activity (Staff Member)	Location
Monday	7 and 8 7 and 8	Footlights Dance (SHY) Girls Football (ESE)	Gym1/Gym2 Astro
Tuesday	7 7 and 8	Rugby (JCK) Benchball/Dodgeball (ESE)	Grass Gym1/Gym2
Wednesday		Fixtures – Rugby/Netball/Cross Country/football	
Thursday	7 and 8	Table Tennis (AWN) Fixtures – Rugby/Netball/Cross Country/football	Gym 2

Upcoming learning for Year 5

Next term we will be starting our Romans topic, learning why Britain was so important to the Roman Empire and what the Romans taught us.

We will also be offering a trip to experience life as a Celt in Britain during the occupation, as well as learning how to march like a Roman as we try our hand at joining the legion.

Below is some key information for Term 2.

Reading: Reading will continue to be a strong focus for us this term. Students have been given a reading book which they should take home with them and read from every day. Please do remember to include entries in your child's reading record. Once the students have completed their book, they are asked to take a reading comprehension quiz on the book (in class) and will be able to change their book for a new one in our year group library. Please ensure books and reading records are brought back into school everyday as students will be given times throughout the day to read independently.

Spelling: Our weekly spellings test will be on Mondays, with new spellings lists going out on Tuesdays. Please do encourage your child to practise their spellings throughout the week in their spellings book. These books should come to school every Monday and Tuesday.

Homework will include:

Reading: Students are expected to read at least 4x per week. Please fill out your child's reading record.

Spelling: Students will be sent home with weekly spellings to practice at home. These will go out on a Tuesday and they will be tested on the following Monday.

Timestables practice: Students are expected to practice their timestables 4 times a week to help develop their fluency and mental recall. We have provided a tutorial in class about how to access TT Rockstars and all children have been given their logins.

Year 6 News Notices

Timings of the school day: Doors to the classroom are opened from 8.30am and children are dismissed at the end of the day from 3.10pm.

P.E: This term, PE continues to take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays and children will be required to attend school in their PE kits on these days. REMINDER – please ensure your child is not wearing any jewellery, including earrings, for PE and that hair is tied back.

Homework: We will be setting optional homework tasks from the CGP revision guides via Seesaw each week linked to learning in the classroom. These are still available to purchase at the price of £2.50 via Sco Pay.

Times tables: We encourage children to continue to practise their times tables regularly using Times Tables Rockstars accounts. Look out for the email coming soon that shows which tournaments the children are taking part in!

Reading: Children **should** be reading 4 times a week at least. Home school reading records are expected to arrive soon and will be distributed for pupils to record their reading. Once your child receives them they will be collected daily to check reading. Each time a child reads they will receive a reward point as recognition of their efforts.

Wet weather: Please ensure your child has a waterproof coat in school EVERY DAY. We are outside every day, whether this be break and lunch or walking to upper school lessons.

Water bottles: Please ensure your child has a water bottle with them every day at school.

Communication: As ever, communication between staff and parents is very important. Please feel free to reach out to your class teacher either by messaging on Seesaw, calling the office or grabbing us on the door at the end of the day. Some days your children will be dismissed by the specialist teachers that take their lessons. This will allow you to speak to those adults as well if needed.

Year 7 News

Year 7 will embark on a series of challenges put on by the British Army. All students will have the opportunity to team-build and test their skills through tasks such as 'Build a tank' or 'Create and navigate Jungle Maps' . These exciting activities will happen on 2 December with students split into 8 groups of 18 pupils with each group assigned a soldier and a teacher.

Historians

This term as Historians we are going to explore the Ancient Egyptians. As we have learned about this topic before in Year 3 we will extend our knowledge by focusing on the achievements of the Ancient Egyptians during the Old Kingdom. Students will explore artefacts and evidence to understand what made this period successful and how it got the name "Age of the Pyramids". Students will present their learning through a debate and discussion text.



Geographers

The term as Geographers we will study Natural Disasters and the impact that these events can have on physical and human geography. We will learn about what causes different natural disasters and produce an information text to present our understanding.



Maths

As mathematicians this term students will be extending their prior knowledge of division. Following this students will explore multiples and factors before moving on to fractions. In our maths lessons they will use Big Maths Best That to assess and practice their key mathematical skills twice a week. This also allows pupils to track their own maths learning as well as set their own targets. As well as this students will take part in Numeracy Ninjas practice to support practice of mental calculation strategies and develop their numeracy skills once a week.



Specialist Lessons

Students began to take part in specialist lessons last term and truly enjoyed this experience. This will continue this term with pupils having PE, Art and DT, Music and Drama and French with secondary specialist teachers. They will continue to experience use of different facilities and resources to allow them to be fully immersed in these wider curricular subjects.

Authors

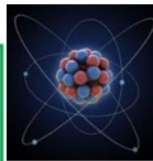
As Authors students will study the story Escape from Pompeii which is closely linked to our natural disasters learning. They will study characters and events and produce some narrative writing using their literacy skills.

We will continue to study SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) across the curriculum in preparation for the SATs test that focuses on this. We will revisit our understanding of words classes and develop this into clauses and sentences skills.



Scientists

As scientists students will be focusing on Chemistry and studying States of Matter. They will develop their understanding of atoms, molecules and compounds as well as physical and chemical change.



RE

As Philosophers this term students will look more closely at Christianity. They will think about how Christmas is celebrated by different individuals and how modern Christmas celebrations reflect Christian beliefs of Jesus being born.



Term 2
Year 6
How does the natural world affect our lives?

JIGSAW

The Jigsaw topic this term is titled Celebrating Difference. Through this we will be exploring what it means to be different and individual as well as how to celebrate our differences.

Parents Evening Bookings - Insight

How to make a booking:

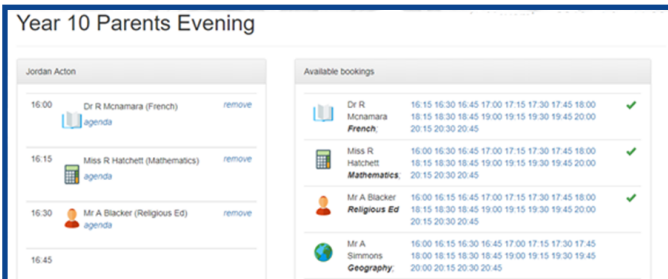
Log onto your Insight account. Go to the Parents Evening booking page (General > Parents Evening).

Select the appropriate Parents Evening event. You will see a list of available staff on the right of the page and a list of your own bookings on the left, see below.

A list of available appointments will appear next to each staff member's name.

Click on an appointment to reserve it. A green tick will appear next to each staff member that you have an appointment with.

If a booking was made by a staff member on your behalf, a 'Confirm This booking?' Option will appear beneath the appointment.



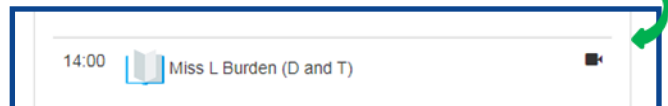
How to join a Video Appointment:

**** Video appointments cannot be started until the date of the parents evening ****

For best results, use a modern browser (Chrome) on a desktop or laptop computer.

First go to the Parents Evening page (General > Parents Evening).

There will be a video icon next to each appointment.



Teachers will have a corresponding icon when they view their bookings.

Click the video icon and the video meeting will open in a **new tab**.

When both the parent and the teacher have clicked their video icon, a green connect button will appear below the video, clicking this will start the meeting.

Please be aware that meetings may be recorded for record-keeping, quality assurance and training purposes.

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