# King's Oak Academy: Middle School Newsletter

Work Hard Be Kind

16 November 2022





I am so happy to be writing to you for the first time when we are all together, on one site!

Year 5 have settled in amazingly well and are sharing some fantastic ideas on how we can

improve our area. Thank you to all of you, our children's parents/carers, who have also been getting involved in developing the best provision by popping along to see us, share ideas and give us feedback. It is much appreciated.

Thank you to our older Middle School children, as well as some of our Upper School children, who have been showing our Year 5s that they belong in their new home!



Emma Watts Head of Middle School

### **Website Update**

I am pleased to share that the Middle School area of our website (www. kingsoakacademy.clf.uk) has been updated! Please check back regularly as we continue to develop this.

We are working on this to include Middle school information about our curriculum, the clubs that our children take part in, wider opportunities and experiences. If you have any requests for information to be included, please let your Head of School/Head of Year know.

# **Upcoming Events**

The PTA are organising a Middle School disco for children in Years 5-8. This will be taking place in December and communications will be coming out to you shortly. Teachers and Tutors will explain the expectations for attending as we are expecting excellent behaviour for learning from those who would like to come and enjoy this special event.



# **Dates for the Diary**

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Year 7-11 Christmas Concert	Tuesday 6 December
Year 5-6 Carol Singing and Treats	Thursday 15th December 2pm-3pm
Years R-11 Christmas Jumper / Festive Dress Day	Thursday 8 December
Year 5-8 Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 14 December
Years R-11 End of Term	Friday 16 December
Years R-11 First day of Term 3	Wednesday 4 January



# A Focus on FOCUS!

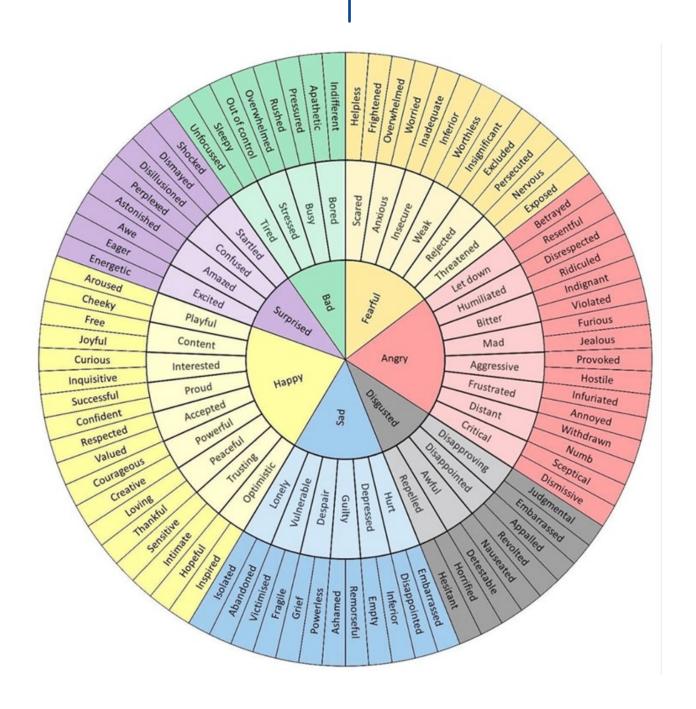
In Middle School our current focus is ... FOCUS! In Years 5 and 6, we know this as *Sapphire Power*. This is what we are looking out for in school; it would be awesome if you could notice your child when they are showing excellent focus at home too!

- I can manage distractions
- I listen to others
- I stay focused
- I don't procrastinate
- I focus on the most important things in the moment

We are breaking these targets down slightly as it can be really difficult to manage distractions! So, for the next couple of weeks, I have set a challenge:

- 1. Notice when I am distracted
- 2. Identify the emotion I am feeling, which led me to being distracted
- 3. Tell a home of school adult about a time I became distracted and the emotion that led to this.

Here is an emotion wheel which might help your child in widening their emotional vocabulary and better-identifying what leads to distraction!



## Years 5 and 6



We are holding our first Open Door Event for Years 5 and 6 next Wednesday (23 November 2022).

### What?

This will be an exciting opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom from 15:05-15:30 to look at your child's recent learning and explore it alongside them. You can visit more than one classroom during that slot. You will also have the opportunity for your child to show you around other areas that they regularly use, such as their play-spaces, the canteen and the LRC. Some of our children visit The Hub for support; they will be able to show you this and introduce you to the famous Mrs Spicer!

### How?

Please enter via the Middle School gate as usual. Year 5 classroom doors will open at 15:05 and Year 6 classroom doors will open at 15:10. Please leave site via the Middle School gate by 15:30.

### **Forest School**

If anyone has any old/spare wellingtons, pots, pans or sinks(!), please bring these in and give them to your class teacher as we would love to be able to use them in our time in Forest School.



## Years 7 and 8



Parents' Evenings are always a great opportunity to meet the adults who support your children in their learning, find out what they are learning about, learn more about their strengths and understand the next steps in their learning.

Years 7 and 8 Parents' Evenings this term will be focussed on English, Maths and Science. In Term 4, you will have the opportunity to meet with teachers across the curriculum.

Year 7 have their Parents' Evening **tonight** (Thursday 17th November 2022). Bookings can still be made on Insight so please do make appointments with teachers if you haven't already!

Year 8 have their Parents' Evening on 8 December 2022. Further information will be shared in due course.

# **Books**



We would really appreciate it if you could have a little search for any AR Books as we are currently running low! Please have a look in bags/in cupboards/under beds and pop these onto Mrs Gilardoni's desk in the LRC. Thank you!

# **Clubs**

Many of us have begun attending clubs! If anyone else would like to join us, please let your Head of School or Head of Year know as we would love to have more friends join us. Watch this space for updated club lists as these change from term to term.

# King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 5

## **After School Clubs**

**Daily**: After-School Club (Teddy Bears) **Monday**: Football for Years 5/6 **Tuesday**: Football (Sporting Chance) **Thursday**: Athletics (Sporting Chance)

# King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 6

### **After School Clubs**

Daily: After-School Club (Teddy Bears)

Monday: Netball, Warhammer, Music Performance

and Art Club

**Tuesday**: Football (Sporting Chance)

Thursday: Athletics (Sporting Chance), Dodgeball and

**Production Club** 

Students in Years 5 and 6 have the great opportunity to attend Sporting Chance after-school clubs. Please visit https://www.sportingchance-csp.co.uk/ to book on to Football on Tuesdays or Athletics on Thursdays. If you are a PP family you have access to funded spaces—speak to your class teacher who will be able to share the code to put in at check-out for this.

# King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 7

### **Lunchtime Clubs**

**Tuesday:** Blue Peter Badge **Wednesday:** Girls' Singing Group **Thursday:** Boys' Singing Group

### **After School Clubs**

Monday: Rugby, Netball and Warhammer

Tuesday: Girls Football

Wednesday: Homework Club with Miss Pearch

Thursday: Table Tennis and Dodgeball

# King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 8

### **Lunchtime Clubs**

Wednesday: The Morrellodies (choir)

Thursday: Show Choir

### **After School Clubs**

Monday: Netball, Warhammer, Music Performance and

Art

**Tuesday:** Girls' Football

Thursday Table Tennis, Dodgeball and Production Club

# **Club information**

The Morrellodies on Wednesday lunchtime with Ms Morrell. This is a vocal group more suited to female/higher or unbroken voices. Students should bring their lunch straight to MU3 if they have packed lunch and if they are using the canteen, they should get to MU3 by 1.15pm. A packed lunch would be ideal on this day to make the most of the rehearsal time

**Show choir is** on Thursday lunchtime with Ms Morrell and more suited to male/breaking or broken voices. Students should bring their lunch straight to MU3 if they have packed lunch and if they are using the canteen, they should get to MU3 by 1.15pm. A packed lunch would be ideal on this day to make the most of the rehearsal time

**Production club** is on Thursdays after school until 4.30pm with Ms Morrell, Mrs Free and Mr Warren. This is a Performing Arts club for drama and musical theatre production. If you are interested in any aspect of production - acting, singing, dancing, costume design, make up, set and props or set design then this is the club for you.

Music performance club is on Mondays until 4.30pm with Ms Morrell and Mr Warren. If you are interested in performing in the Christmas Concert and other school events or if you want to learn more about playing the keyboard or developing your musical skills, come along to find out more.

# WHO'S WHO ON THE MIDDLE SCHOOL GATE?

Miss Ogden Principal

Vice Principal Mr White





Mr Blake

Head of Year 8

Head of Year 7 Miss Pearch

Mr Nathan





Head of Year 5/6







Mrs Worth

Mr Blake

Year 6 Teachers











Miss Barrett



Mr Warren

Miss Hibbert

Ms Hicks

1:1 Teaching Partners

Ms Cains

Miss Harris







Mental Health and

Wellbeing

Miss Jackson







Mrs Roscoe SENDCo



































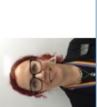




Pastoral Lead

Safeguarding and



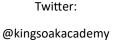






# Follow KOA on Social Media







Facebook: https://w.facebook.com/ kingsoakacademy/



Instagram: @kingsoakacademy

# SEN newsletter information

JIGSAW have a <u>brand new</u> series of training and awareness sessions to help parents and carers support the wellbeing and development of their young person, called 'Connect.' We are delivering a series of 6 individual sessions covering the following topics: Sensory Awareness, School Anxiety and Avoidance (EBSA), Behaviour Regulation, Speech Language Communication, Recognising Emotions and Sleep.

These sessions have been fully funded by South Gloucestershire Council and are free for all parents and carers. There is no need to be a JIGSAW <u>member, or</u> be a parent of the hosting school to attend.

The Connect sessions will be led by the JIGSAW training team at different schools and venues across South Gloucestershire.

Our next sessions are available to book now, they are:

- Connect: School Anxiety and Avoidance (EBSA) 23<sup>rd</sup> January at Crossways Junior School
- Connect: Speech, Language and Communication 28th February at Almondsbury C Of E Primary School

The additional session dates are still to be confirmed and will be added to our website as soon as possible www.jigsawthornbury.org.uk/events

Connect: Sensory

New Information Workshops





Connect: School Anxiety and Avoidance (EBSA)

Monday 23rd January

10:00am - 11:00am

Emotionally based school avoidance (EBSA) is on the rise, so what can we do about it?

This session will explore what might cause EBSA and what we can do to help. We look at the first signs of EBSA, the triggers that cause school avoidance and how we can guide our young people through this challenging time. We will think about ways to support and communicate when things get tricky, with a closer look at anxiety.

If your young person or a young person in your class has experienced EBSA, come along to this interactive session at Crossways school.

Places are limited. Please book your place in advance.

Connect: School Anxiety and Avoidance booking link



Connect: Speech, Language and Communication

# Tuesday 28th February

10:00am - 11:00am

Do you observe difficulties in attention, listening and following instructions; a difficulty in making sense of language heard around your young person?

Does your young person find it difficult to follow or engage in social conversation?

Do you have a young person who finds it difficult to express their ideas, wants or feelings?

Speech, language and communication are central life skills. These are linked to learning, attainment, behaviour, social and emotional development as well as mental wellbeing. This awareness session will help you to identify speech, language, and communication difficulties experienced by your young person and will introduce you to the foundations and tools for supporting them.

Places are limited. Please book your place in advance.

# Connect Speech and language booking link

Our Project 5 programme continues to connect with families to help a child or young person experiencing anxiety, worry and stress.



Project 5 Family Resilience Toolkit

# Starting Monday 14th November

1:00pm - 2:30pm

The next course of Project 5 Do It! starts next term on Monday 14th November at Oldbury-on-Severn Primary School during school hours.

Project 5 is our early resilience programme for health and life tailored for children in school year 5 and above with any additional needs or disabilities, including mental health issues such as anxiety. Alongside Mind's 5 ways to wellbeing we look at sleep and relaxation, strengths, problem solving and journalling.

JIGSAW Thornbury have now connected with over 100 families to help a child or young person experiencing anxiety, worry and stress through our Project 5 programme. Outcomes show young people reporting lower scores on a general anxiety measurement scale and a better awareness and understanding about their mental wellness and what may be affecting it, alongside what they need to do to support it.

Watch our new promotional video aimed at young people Project 5 video

There are 4 fun workshops introducing the themes of Project 5:

Week 1: The Brain and anxiety + Introduction to Journals and Journaling.

Week 2: Managing and supporting stress: Mindfulness Sleep & Relaxation.

Week 3: Managing and supporting stress: Connections and Communication.

## Week 4: Owning strengths and building Resilience to move forward.

All sessions have an opportunity to chill and chat before starting the content of each session at 1:30pm. There will be a small thoughtful activity and a chance to talk about how things are going over a drink and biscuit.

Through games, and craft linked to the themes the family have chance to build confidence, encourage communication, learn skills, share and connect with peers over the 4 weeks.

All sessions are inclusive of all materials and includes a copy of our popular Project 5 Journal.

Booking your place is essential.

The full cost of tickets is £90 which covers all four sessions and a free copy of our Project 5 journal (usual retail price of £13.99!)

Subsidised places are offered at £20 for all four sessions, thanks to Cluster school SEND funding - check the event booking form for qualifying schools

Please speak with your school SEND coordinator to arrange working off-site arrangements for these 4 weeks