



Message from Mrs Watts (Head of Middle School)

Can you believe that we are already one month into the new school year?! I have been so impressed with how quickly all our middle-school children have settled with new classes, new teachers and in new learning environments. It has been such a joy to have been getting into the learning alongside your children: seeing how focused and determined all our students have begun the year has made me so proud and I am looking forward to watching as this enables them to make fantastic progress this year.

Thank you to everyone who managed to attend our 'Meet the Teacher' / 'Meet the Tutor' evening back in the first week of term. We hope that you found the information useful and that it helped in answering some of the questions around routines, curriculum and how you can best support your child at home.

It has been a pleasure to meet so many parents on the gate this year and has been great catching up with those of you who I worked with last year. Thank you for your continued support and feedback as we work together to enable your children to grow.

Our focus so far this term has been on creating a culture based on our school values: Work Hard, Be Kind. Part of our work in Middle School this year will be unpicking what these values mean; we will focus on one aspect every three weeks.

One of our foci this term has been based on Being Kind (in Years 5 and 6, we know this as Ruby Power). This is what we are looking out for in school; it would be awesome if you could notice your child when they are kind at home, too!



- I know the power of a smile
- I listen to and value others
- I show respect and tolerance
- I praise and help others
- I perform acts of kindness
- I show empathy to others

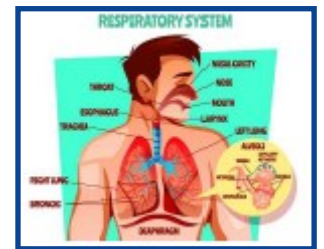
Looking forward to seeing lots of you soon and I hope that you enjoy reading about what your children have been up to so far this term.



Mrs Watts

Year 5

In Year 5, we have settled really easily into our new classes. Our teachers have loved getting to know us and say that they are excited to watch as we grow this year. For lots of us, this is the first time that we have had walls so it is a little strange – but we like it! The peace and quiet of our new spaces is helping us to really focus on some new and tricky learning. We have enjoyed writing our own stories in English, based on Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. Some of our favourite learning so far this term has been in Enquiry, where we have loved learning about the respiratory system. We even made lungs and hearts!



Our teachers were wowed with how much we already knew about the human body, and it has been so interesting learning more how our organs all work together to let us be us!



We have been going on little trips over to the upper site every week and have been learning Music and PE with different teachers. Though this felt a little scary at first, we are getting used to it already and love having the amazing music rooms and PE spaces which we can use. We have also been having our assemblies on the upper site.

Our teachers, Mr Blake and Mrs Watts all say how beautifully we walk into our assembly spaces and listen to the adult sharing learning and celebrating our friends' achievements. We are now looking forward to going to have a look at the classrooms and outside space that will be ours! Miss Southcott and Miss Guy have said they will show us very soon.



King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 5

After School Clubs

Daily: After-school Club (Teddy Bears)

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 and Music Performance Club

Tuesday: Football (Sporting Chance) and Girls' Football

Thursday: Athletics (Sporting Chance), Dodgeball and Production Club.

Students in Year 5 and Year 6 have the great opportunity to attend Sporting Chance after-school clubs. Please visit <https://www.sportingchance-CSP.coluk/> 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.

<https://www.sportingchance-csp.co.uk/>



A few of us in Year 6 have begun attending clubs this term. If anyone else would like to join us, please let Mr Blake know as we would love to have more friends come with us! Watch this space for updated club lists as these change from term to term.

Year 6

In Year 6, we have had much excitement since the beginning of term! We were one of the first year-groups in the school to go into the canteen, have waited very patiently as our play-space is developed and are getting more and more confident in finding our way around site. Some of us have popped into The Hub to meet the wonderful Mrs Spicer and her team of adults who can support us in our learning, but also if we are feeling a little wobbly!



We have been talking to our teachers lots about how we can improve our break times and lunch times, and really make the space ours. This week, we have expanded our area as something that we shared with our adults is that we felt the space was a little too small. We are now able to play football on the upper section of our playground! The floor marking company have said that they will be with us this week to mark the pitch out for us, as well as marking other games on the lower section of our playground, so this is really exciting. Other exciting news is that Miss Southcott has ordered the equipment that we have requested; we now have a wider range of activities to enjoy at break and lunchtimes, including colouring, games and books; our forest-school teacher is continuing to develop our forest-school area for us, and we are even being allowed to go into The LRC to enjoy this lovely space during some of our lunchtimes. Though we are enjoying having all of the space to ourselves, we are also looking forward to when the Year 5s come over to join us. We have heard that they keep asking their teachers when it's their turn to come over, too!

In Lower School, we used to have 'Crew'. This was a time where we worked as a class to discuss developments for our school community. We do that in middle-school, too! School Councillors will soon be chosen by us, to lead class discussions around school-community improvements and to take our thoughts and ideas to School Council meetings. As well as this, in middle-school we are taking part in the Eco Committee (this is just like School Council, but we focus on our physical environment and how we can work together to save the world)!

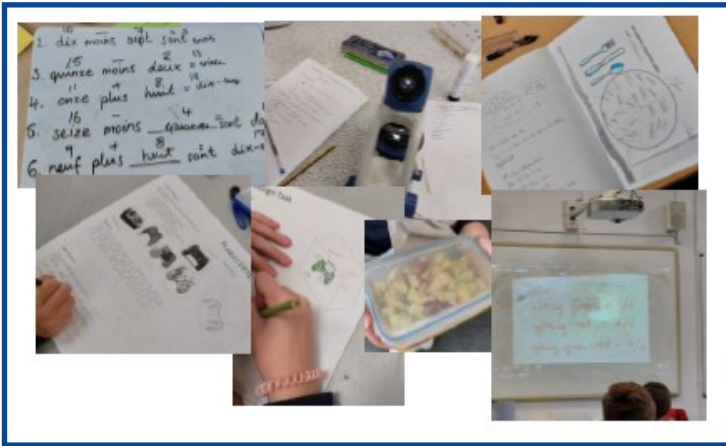
In learning time, we have really enjoyed writing stories based on our book, 'Holes'. Our teachers have been really impressed by how well we have described our characters and used accurate speech punctuation to show when they are speaking. We have also enjoyed learning more about the classification of animals; we even got to go to the science labs to look at plant and animal cells – how cool?!!

Year 7

Year 7 have settled in fantastically well and are an incredible asset to our King's Oak family. I have seen such beautiful reading, writing and participation across a range of lessons, and I think I've learned everyone's names!

I've seen reading and writing in English; we've been doing Maths in French; learning about probability in Maths (which included Miss Pearch learning from her mistakes in reading the question properly!); looking at microscopes in science; analysing products in DT and learning more about healthy eating in Health and Wellbeing, which included making a fruit salad!

I am super proud of all of you, and hope you continue your excellent behaviour, attendance, and work ethic!



Miss Pearch Tutor Time

Our Tutor time activities are going well and next time I will be able to share a tutor group league table with you, showing our competition results from tutor challenges, which happen on Fridays.

Monday

Reading or writing about the book we are reading

Tuesday

Assembly

Wednesday

Punctuality payback

Thursday

Numeracy or grammar ninjas

Friday
Tutor



King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 7

Lunchtime Clubs

Tuesday: Blue Peter Badge

Wednesday: Girls' Singing

Thursday: Boys' Singing

Friday: Board Games

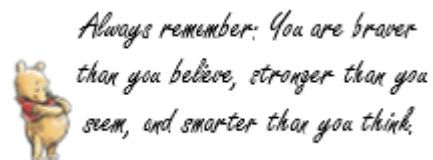
After School Clubs

Monday: Netball, Warhammer and Music Performance

Tuesday: Girls' Football

Thursday: Table tennis, Dodgeball and Production Club

Daily: After School Club (Teddy Bears)



Year 8

Year 8 have started with great motivation to have a successful year at the uppermost part of Middle school. The improvement I have seen in writing and oracy skills across a range of lessons has been outstanding.

Our Year 8s have had new tutors who have been building relationships with all of our students: we know how important it is for our children to have key adults who they trust and who 'get them' in school. Tutor time activities are going well; we are especially enjoying our Debating Challenges!

I am excited for all of your development, and know we have improvements to make, but we continue to make huge steps toward becoming a top year group with great behaviour, attendance and attainment! **Mr Nathan**

Tutor Time

Monday

Assembly

Tuesday

Reading our class book and completing comprehension activities together

Wednesday

Punctuality payback

Thursday

Debating Challenge

Friday

Maths Challenge

King's Oak Academy | Clubs for Year 8

Lunchtime Clubs

Wednesday: The Morrellodies (choir)

Thursday: Show Choir

After School Clubs

Monday: Netball, Warhammer and Music Performance

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 cCub 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.

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