



As the first five weeks of term come to an end, I want to praise the hard work, commitment and focus of our Upper School students as they return to school life post COVID. The past year has been an incredibly challenging one for us all in varying degrees but seeing the resilience and positivity of our students as they return and walk through the gate to re-engage in their learning has been fantastic.

September has brought about a real focus for our students on building relationships and setting personal goals and aspirations. Our tutor programme has encouraged students to think carefully about where they see their future and what they need to get there. As we move into October our focus shifts to accessing goals and aspirations with a series of careers events, outside speakers and Post 16 and college introductions. We hope that families can get on board with this too and further support and encourage our students in setting their future goals and career aspirations. So please encourage your child to talk about what they want to do and where they want to be, as without this drive students can struggle to see why this stage in education is so important to us all.

Whilst students have been working hard on their studies whether it be starting their options routes or finishing their KS4 pathways, they have also been engaging in a range of extracurricular activities from art classes to sports fixtures, dance and drama rehearsals to independent studies and have been actively engaging in supporting their mental health and wellbeing. Again, as the months tick on and the nights draw in, we hope that our students continue to invest in themselves and their wellbeing as much as they do with their studies.

And finally, as Term 2 quickly approaches, on 1 November, we launch our new behaviour policy. For the vast majority of our students this will have no effect on their every day other than to continue to support their ability to progress and learn. However, for a small minority, we hope that the next few weeks give them the time to adapt and reflect on their behaviour choices and ensure we work together to develop and support the right choices to allow everyone the fundamental right to learn.

I hope you all have a well deserved rest as half term approaches, keep safe with Halloween festivities and please remember to respect our full and wider community at this time.

Our next Upper School newsletter will be published on Friday 5 November.

Kind regards.

Mr A Marshall-Aherne
Assistant Principal – Head of Upper School

Mock Examinations 1—12 November

Timetables are being finalised and will be sent to parents/carers and students before half term. This is likely to be the first time that our students have sat in exam conditions and we are ensuring that all students feel supported going into exams.

Revision

Miss Pearch and Mrs Side are running Revision Clubs after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3.10-4.10. We would really appreciate any encouragement to get students into a good revision pattern.

EAA

Testing students for Exam Access Arrangements is ongoing and students will be trialling their additional support during mock exams (where applicable).

Summer 2022

It has been announced, following a consultation by DfE and Ofqual that Summer exams in 2022 are expected to go ahead as normal with students and teachers provided with advance information about the focus of the exam (with the exception of English Literature, History and Geography where instead schools will be given a choice around topics/content). Exam boards are due to deliver this information by 7 February 2022. We will communicate this information once it has been published.

Virtual South West Careers Event

LikeToBe are running a FREE virtual South West Careers Event on **Thursday 21st October**. This is an INSET day at KOA and therefore students may want to access the event from home.

This event will be bringing together employers, education providers, and young people from all across the South West in our virtual South West Career Event. The event will run from 9 am till 7 pm and will showcase short, inspirational videos from a variety of industries (including Civil Service, Engineering, Technology and Education). Additionally, several live interactive workshops are scheduled during the day (schedule will follow soon). IT IS FREE TO ATTEND!

So sign up. Get Involved. Get Inspired. Register your interest now at www.liketobe.org

Year 9

This term has gone well for the Year 9 students. They have actively taken part in careers sessions, tutor challenges and discussed and read about current affairs issues in tutor time. They have also been introduced to the Duke of Edinburgh Award and been given the chance to take part in this exciting opportunity which improves teamwork, communication and problem solving skills. An information evening is taking place early next week for any parents and students interested. We are also concentrating on rewards this term in Year 9 with the opportunity for the tutor group with the highest reward points along with the top twenty highest achieving students in the year group, being able to take part in a rewards session on the final day of this term, please be on the lookout for your invites at the end of next week.

Well done so far this term Year 9, keep working hard.

Mrs S Holtby, Head of Year 9

Year 10

Year 10 have been working hard over the course of the last few weeks, particularly in their options subjects. The vast majority of students have shown great enthusiasm and commitment to their learning as well as increasing maturity.

In tutor sessions, we have been focusing on personal qualities associated with having a successful career and thinking deeply about areas that we are good at and others that we need to improve. Tutor time is also when we follow the national PSHE curriculum and we have looked at a number of topics such as liberty and dealing with grief. On Fridays, we have a tutor challenge that has been well received and the scores are currently very close. More information to follow in future newsletters.

In the last full week of term, we have additional sessions throughout the school day with an external work experience coach who will help Year 10 get themselves ready for this opportunity planned for the end of the school year. It is great that students get the chance to experience this and to start planning ahead, thinking of their future.

Well done for making a positive start to year 10. Keep up the good work

Mr A Heath, Head of Year 10

Year 11

It's been another productive few weeks in Year 11. We've been working hard at our revision skills in tutor time and had assemblies from CLF Post 16 and our wonderful exams officer Mrs Side. Lots of revision and study clubs are running and have been very well attended, particularly by girls so far, so come on boys! Letters have also been sent out to give you the opportunity to buy Science revision guides, and to invite you to our information evening at 5pm on Tuesday 12 October. Lots of you have already signed up, so we look forward to being able to support you further then.

Our KOA Year 11 Instagram is being well-followed, but don't panic, they are just reminders of things you are being told on our other platforms and in tutor time too.

Year 11 have started receiving a small token of appreciation in the form of a lollipop, with a gift tag thanking them for being amazing. Miss Pearch has seen so many little things going on that shouldn't go unrecognised, so well done if you've already received a lolly!

Finally, prom arrangements have commenced, so two dates for your diary:

Deposit deadline (£7.50) = Friday 15th October 2021

Prom date = Thursday 7th July 2022.



Keep up the good work Year 11. You've got this!

Miss H Pearch, Head of Year 11

Year 11 GCSE Science Revision Guides

This year the Science department would like to extend the opportunity to our Year 11 students to buy a CGP Revision Guide and/or Exam Practice Workbook through us to help them with their revision at home and in School for Science.

We can offer these books at a reduced cost than buying them from retail. The cost of the Revision Guide and Exam Practice Workbook is £5.60 each for Combined Science and £2.85 each for Triple Science. This is lower than the RRP of £9.95 each for Combined Science and £5.95 each for Triple Science! We would recommend, if able, for students get both sets of books, as this will help guide their revision both at home and learning in school.

As this will be a bulk order, we would need to have names of those interested before a purchase can be made. If you would like to take us up on this offer, please complete payment for the relevant items on SCOPay by **Wednesday 13 October**. The relevant products can be found under "Trips and Events".

Mr B Gribble

Science Halloween Competition

This term students from students in Years 7-11 have been invited to participate in the Halloween Science Competition! There are two competitions taking place which include:

- Students have the challenge of bringing in a spooky science pumpkin. The winner's pumpkin will be host to Elephant's Toothpaste; a chemical reaction that creates a foamy substance which will be 'puked' out of the winning pumpkin! We cannot wait to share this video throughout school and online!
- Students have also been asked to decorate their faces or draw a decorated face as a disease! Year 10 students have learnt about Health and Disease this term, so we are anticipating many excellent entries from this year group!

Winners will be announced at the end of term and receive a science prize with Halloween sweets!! There will be an after school session for students to engage in the competition in school on Monday 11 October. The deadline for the competition is the Monday 18 October.

More science extra-curricular to come next term! Well done KOA students!

Miss K Cleaves

French GCSE

à vos marques, prêt, feu! (ready, steady, go!)

Need a boost or some challenge to prepare for your French GCSE? We have a range of strategies to support you in achieving your best possible outcomes in next summer's French exams. To be successful, you must be preparing for these exams NOW.

"Little and often" now will build your knowledge, increase your confidence, and reduce stress. We strongly advise you to:

- Learn your French vocabulary regularly (clickety click).
- Practise questions for your speaking exam "little but often".
- Practise Listening skills independently (Listening booklet - MP3s available on school VLE).
- Complete all homework as set on Insight.
- Create and follow your own revision timetable and track your progress.
- Attend **French Period 6 (Thursdays 3:15 – 4:15pm in EG4)**

Period 6 Sessions will be focused on addressing areas of weakness identified in lessons, mock exams, building exam technique and revising content from the KS4 French curriculum. Please do not hesitate to ask for specific revision topics you are struggling with. Period 6 is the best place and time to ask for clarification and help if you're unsure about anything in French language. The sessions will be as follows:

7/10 - Foundation	14/10 - Higher
21/10 - no Period 6	
4/11 - Foundation	11/11 - Higher
18/11- Foundation	25/11 - Higher
2/12- Foundation	9/12 - Higher
16/12 - no Period 6	
6/01- Foundation	13/01 - Higher
20/01- Foundation	27/01 - Higher
03/02- Foundation	10/02 - Higher
17/02- Foundation	3/03 - Higher
10/03- Foundation	17/03 - Higher
24/03- Foundation	31/03 - Higher
7/04 - Foundation	

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email Mrs Marie-Anais, Leader of MFL.

Coffee Morning

Our Upper School coffee mornings are held on the last Thursday of every month. All welcome and no booking required.

However, because of the half term holidays and INSET days, the next one will be on **Wednesday 20 October**. We look forward to seeing you then



The poster features the King's Oak Academy logo at the top, which includes a stylized oak leaf. Below the logo, the text 'King's Oak Coffee Mornings' is written in a large, serif font, with 'ACADEMY' in a smaller, sans-serif font underneath. A dark blue rounded rectangle contains the schedule: '1st Thursday of each month - Lower School' and '9:00 - 10:00 am' in the first column, and '2nd Thursday of each month - Middle School' and 'Upper School' in the second column, with 'Last Thursday of the month - Upper School' and 'Reception' in the third column. Below this, a white box with a blue border contains three paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states the academy's commitment to working with parents and the community. The second paragraph describes the coffee mornings as an opportunity for parents to share ideas and challenges, with staff members Miss Ogden, Mrs Baker, and the Heads of School also present. The third paragraph mentions that visitors like Local Community Police Officers, Council Housing, Job Centre Plus, and adult education services are also invited. Below the text are two photographs: one of three female tennis players in blue uniforms holding their rackets, and another of four students in blue uniforms sitting on a stone bench outdoors. At the bottom, a dark blue footer contains the academy's name, address (Brook Road, Bristol, BS15 4JT), telephone number (01179 927 127), email (KOA.principal@cf.uk), website (www.kingsoakacademy.org.uk), and the logo for the Cabot Learning Federation.

King's Oak Coffee Mornings
ACADEMY

1st Thursday of each month - Lower School	9:00 - 10:00 am
2nd Thursday of each month - Middle School	Upper School
Last Thursday of the month - Upper School	Reception

At King's Oak Academy we pride ourselves on working closely with parents and the community.

Our parents' coffee mornings are a wonderful opportunity for parents to get together, share ideas and challenges over a cup of coffee. Miss Ogden, Mrs Baker and the Heads of School are also on hand to talk about issues relating to school. It is also an opportunity to meet our parent councillors.

At other times we invite visitors to these sessions such as Local Community Police Officers, Council Housing, Job Centre Plus and adult education services.

Look out for visiting speakers in your child's school newsletter.

We look forward to meeting with you soon!

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Email: KOA.principal@cf.uk Website: www.kingsoakacademy.org.uk

Cabot Learning Federation

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