



Work Hard - Be Kind

Dear Parents and Carers,



I hope that you, your families and friends are well. It has been another extraordinary term and it has required all our staff to undertake new tasks to ensure that King's Oak Academy could support children during Lockdown 3.0; notably on-line live teaching and planning and operating a CV19 lateral flow testing centre.

Our wider opening of the academy has gone as well as we could possibly have expected. It has been wonderful to hear about the joy with which our young people have returned and the way in which our staff have enabled them to return to learning in school so quickly.

Although we have only been back for a short time, we have already achieved a huge amount and this newsletter is a reflection of the memorable moments and brilliant learning from our students and staff. Next term, we look forward to continuing to work closely with you so that together, we can support your child to continue to make good academic and well-being progress.

Thank you once again for everything that you have done and the support the local community have provided King's Oak. I hope that you all manage to enjoy the Easter break and that you all continue to keep safe and well.

K. Ogden
Katherine Ogden, Principal



Art work produced by those students in the academy during lockdown. One year on today since the first lockdown and covid-19 has affected us all in so many ways. But as a community we will stay strong and continue to support each other.

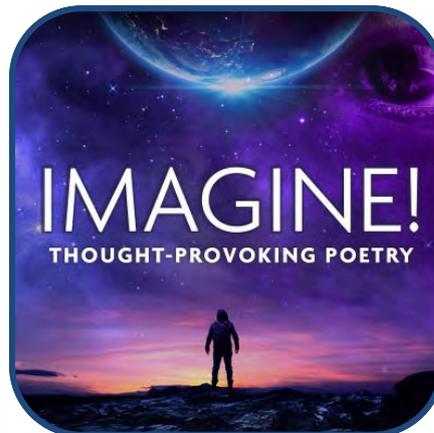
The Stairs to Scafell Pike Point

During lockdown Joe Cooksley (Year 10) set himself a challenge to raise money for Marie Curie because he wanted to help the charity and nurses during COVID. He climbed the stairs at home 371 times (only counting the ascent, not the descent!) which is the same height as Scafell Pike! He set up a Just Giving page and has so far raised £380. If you would like to support Joe, please visit his Just Giving page



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/joe-cooksley>

Poetry Success



Before our last lockdown, a number of our students entered a poetry competition being run by Young Writers. Although the winners of this competition have yet to be announced, 23 of our students have been invited to have their work published in an

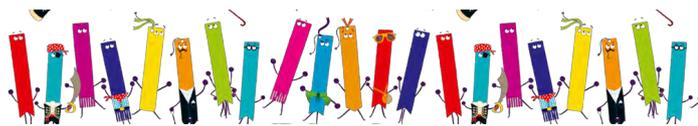
anthology produced by Young Writers. The English Department want to say a big thank you to all those who took part and well done to all students who will now get the opportunity to see their work in print.

Young Carers at KOA

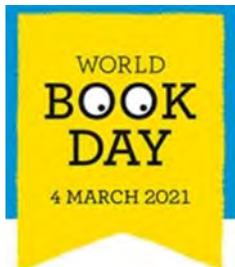


A reminder that Term 4 finishes on Thursday 1 April. Term 5 starts on Monday 19 April.

LRC at KOA



World Book Day



Well done to all those students who took part in the virtual World Book Day Quiz and Book Jacket Competition. I hope all students enjoyed using their World Book Day voucher in exchange for one of the World Book Day Books or using it for £1 off their own choice of book.

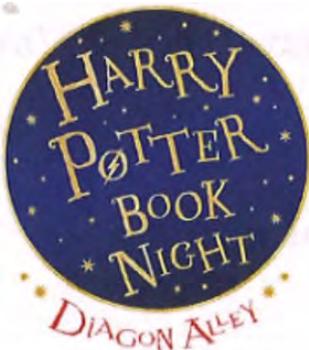
Staff Toilet Roll Challenge

As part of our World Book Day celebrations we held a challenge for staff to decorate a toilet roll as a book character. Congratulations and well done to Mrs Penn-Bull, Mrs Marie-Anais, Mrs Bryant, Miss Pearch and Mrs Gilardoni who took part. Their cute designs depict the book characters very well!



Harry Potter Book Night

Congratulations to those who took part in the Harry Potter Book Night Celebrations including the Harry Potter Quiz. Certificates and prizes were sent out through tutor groups – I hope you enjoyed the event!



British Science Week at KOA

Between the 5 and 14 of March students in Science celebrated British Science Week 2021.

Students saw an exciting assembly about all sorts of scientists and inventions. Our KS3 students took part in the Big Beam In where they met an engineer and discussed the impact of their role.

Many students had lots of exciting questions and left feeling inspired!

Louka PM shared his thoughts on the Big Beam In: At the Big Beam in... we first drew how we thought an engineer looked like. Then spoke with an engineer on call. Then we looked at other engineering jobs then picked our favourite!

I was inspired by... their knowledge of engineering! The most enjoyable part was... all of it! 5 Stars out of 5!

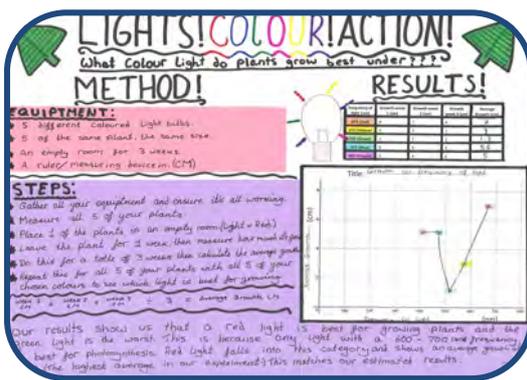
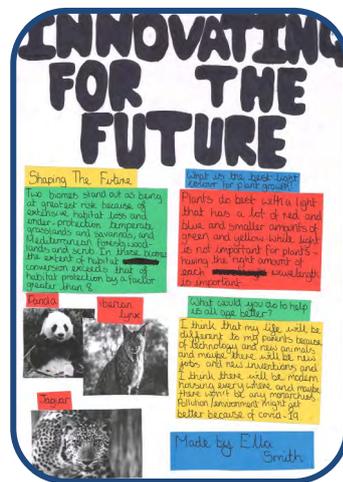
Throughout British Science Week the Science Department also ran two exciting competitions. We are pleased to announce our winners for the poster competition:

Ella S (Year 8); Connor L (Year 8); Hanna F (Year 8); Raluca P (Year 7); Kiera M (Year 7)

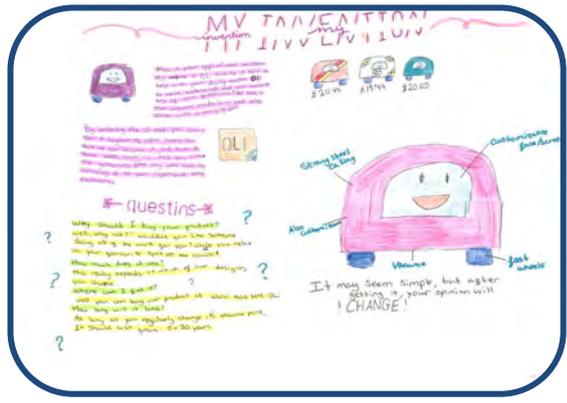
A very big well done! These entries will be passed onto the national British Science Week competition!

We are also pleased to announce our winners for the Investigation competition:

Lucy B (Year 10); Megan B (Year 10); Illona S (Year 10)



A very big well done! See our winners' posters on Twitter at @KOAScience



Music at KOA

Well done to everybody for returning to making music in their music lessons. We have enjoyed 'keeping music live'!

Year 7 are being introduced to (and playing) Ukuleles, Bass Guitar and Drums/Percussion.

Year 8 are playing Hooks and Riffs and will be composing their own. (Parents/carers of Year 8 students please ask your son/daughter what is the difference between a hook and a riff!).

Year 9 are studying the drama (acting), music (performing) and promotion for songs from GREASE the musical - hopefully leading to a summer performance.

Year 10 and 11 students are continuing with their BTEC studies (and doing really well!!) .

Year 11 are hopefully presenting a KOA Talent show in the summer term, with profits going to The Mental Health Foundation.

Instrumental teachers are now returning to teach in the Music Department and if any students are interested in receiving lessons please see Mr Warren or Miss Sibley.

Term 5 extra curricular activities in Music

Lunchtimes: Monday—Year 7, Tuesday—Year 8, Wednesday—Year 9, Thursday—Year 10, Friday—Year 11.

After school: Monday Year 11 (course work time), Wednesday— Year 7 Performing Arts Group. Thursday— Year 8 Music Technology Club. Friday— open to soloists/groups (TBC with Mr Warren).

Careers at KOA

Celebrating Success

This term we have been celebrating success of ex-students. We have created many posters of what some of our ex-students are doing now, why their job is cool and what advice they would give to their 15-year-old self, now. They are really encouraging and we hope that this will raise aspirations of our current students. We also hope that we will be able to publish these posters on our website and that there will be opportunities for others to get involved in sharing their success stories and give something back to education.

Traineeships and Apprenticeships

In the news, the Chancellor has unveiled £126 million to boost job opportunities for traineeships and for firms to take on new apprentices. Traineeships can help students by acting as a stepping stone to finding a suitable apprenticeship. Many firms take on apprentices in accountancy, law, engineering, construction, administration, retail and many more job sectors. An apprenticeship means you can earn money while you are working, but also be released to college for one day a week to train for qualifications linked to the job. For more information on apprenticeships and careers please look on our website:

<https://kingsoakacademy.clf.uk/secondary/careers/>

PE at KOA

Extra-Curricular Clubs

With students returning to the Academy earlier this month, we were excited to announce the resumption of our popular extra-curricular clubs. These have been incredibly well attended with nearly 1 in 4 students attending one of these clubs over the past three weeks. As before, there is a prize available in each year group for the tutor group with the most attendees. The picture below shows the clubs that have been running this term. Next terms clubs will be announced on Instagram over the holidays. To stay up to date, please give  KOAPEDEPARTMENT us a follow.

KOA Sport Clubs			
Day	Year Group	Activity (Staff Member)	Location
Monday	8	Football (AHH)	Astro
	9	Table Tennis (AMA)	Gym 1
	11	BTEC Sport/CNAT P6 (SHY/JCR)	E13/E14
Tuesday	7/11	Football (CNN/JCR)	Astro
	8	Table Tennis (NWR)	Gym 1
	10	BTEC Sport P6 (SHY,AHH)	E13/E14
Wednesday	7/8/9/10/11	Netball (SHY/ESE)	Netball Courts
	9	Football (AHH)	Astro
	10	BTEC Sport P6 (JCR)	E14
Thursday	10	Football (JCR)	Astro
	7	Rounders (ESE)	Astro

BikeAbility

As we did earlier in the year, we have been able to announce another round of BikeAbility courses for our Year 7 and 8 students and have received a positive response. These courses will be held towards the end of next term during the school day and will teach students important issues such as how to plan routes, being safe on the road and ensuring that your bike is maintained properly. With the increase in outdoor exercise and students coming to school on bikes, this becomes more important than ever. We hope to run further courses like this in the next academic year.

Step Challenge

This term, Mrs Salvage launched the KOA PE Department Step Challenge. This is a competition between staff and students to see who can record the most amount of steps as we go about our daily exercise and continuing on our return to the Academy. The Staff have recently taken the lead. Step counts are submitted using our online form sent out via Insight.

Lockdown Voucher

On their return to the academy, students who engaged the most during the latest lockdown were entered into a competition to win Sports Direct vouchers and received their prizes earlier this term. Well done to all those students who managed to win one of these prizes.

Community links

Once again, KOA PE Department are looking to build on our community links, enabling students to be signposted towards local clubs, benefitting both the club and students. This has been successful in the past and with the resumption of grass roots sport, now is the right time to promote this further. Please contact alex.heath@clf.uk

Art at KOA

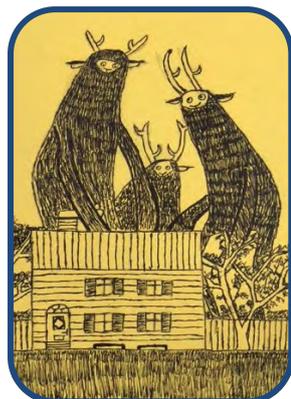
Year 7 Colour Wheel

In art, Year 7 students have been developing their knowledge of colour through making a colour wheel with 72 different colours mixed by hand. Student should now know what the primary and secondary colours are and how to mix them. Year 7s have also had a collage homework task where they fill a whole page with many different materials in one colour.



Year 8 - Creatures and Characters

In art, Year 8 students have been studying the famous illustrators John Kenn Mortensen and Emma Larson. Through making detailed copies of Mortensen's art, students are developing mark making skills, using fine liners on yellow paper. Students have also been experimenting with ink creating large A3 pieces inspired by Emma Larson.



Year 11 Personal Projects

We are really enjoying seeing the Year 11 personal projects develop!

Here is a small selection of images (currently work in progress). Every student has chosen their own theme!



Reception News



Reception children have had an exciting Term 4, brimming with joy-filled learning and memorable moments. The children particularly enjoyed an exciting day of bushcraft activities in our forest school area, making dens from natural resources and toasting marshmallows on the campfire. They even braved it out through a short hailstorm and we were very proud of their responsible attitude. Another highlight has been exploring our brand new music station and the children have spent time in groups making music, experimenting with sound and learning about rhythm. Well done, Reception!



Year 1 News

What a busy term we have had in year 1. As designers, we have been creating our own dream catchers, learning how to weave, wrap and knot. We have explored waterproof materials as scientists and designed a new umbrella for Mrs Thorn. We have also been writing our own stories, full of amazing adjectives, based on the book 'After The Fall'. We have really enjoyed being back with our friends and teachers and getting to play together again.



Year 2 News

Year 2 finished their tie dye projects in their recovery curriculum and these are some of the final products.



Year 5 News

Year 5 have been working on a DT project of create a feelings friend using their textiles skills.



Sunny Rose, Year 5, was on BBC Breakfast on Saturday 13 March having made 50 cards and cookies for the residents of Avon Valley Care Home for Mothers' Day.

What a lovely kind gesture to mark a special day.

Well done Sunny.

Year 3 News

We have been very busy in Year 3 since returning to school! A particular highlight was a visit from Mendip Outdoor Pursuit. We had to complete different challenges and obstacles by working together as a team. It was great fun and we all felt exhausted afterwards!

We have also been busy being designers and making our 'feelings friends'. Firstly, we designed our creatures, then practised our sewing skills, before eventually finishing our creations! We thought about what they would be useful for and how they are going to help us with our emotions and feelings.



Year 7 News

Term 4 has seen the return of students into classrooms, and I was delighted to see how well Year 7 students transitioned back to "normal" after weeks of remote learning. Many have been wearing their full uniform with pride and have started to wear their face masks, as part of their daily routine. I wish to thank Year 7 for being so mature, responsible, and supportive towards the nation's endeavour to fight Covid-19. Attendance has been very strong despite colds and flu and I hope the return of warmer temperatures will allow Year 7 to maintain this, and perhaps get back into pole position, as they were back in Term 1 and 2. Come on Year 7, we can do it!



Around and above our world in 80 pictures...our daily challenges have taken us into space, and we have seen beautiful satellite images of Italy, Australia, Africa, and England.

Zoom a bit closer...now we are back on Earth, at Bristol Zoo, in Paris inside the Eiffel Tower and more recently in London! Our five Tutor Groups have been battling for the chocolate prize, guessing where these wonderful places are located on planet Earth. At the time of writing, four tutor groups and myself are competing for the prize with two stars each! Ms Stansfield, our referee, will update us on Thursday 1 April to reveal who has won the prize... (good luck everyone, and good luck to me!).



In tutor time and assemblies, we have discussed the importance of fund raising for charities (Red Nose Day on 19 March) and how the money is collected and spent (2-year cycle). We have also explored careers education and learnt the meaning of key words like Labour Market, Enterprise, Entrepreneurship, Career Provision, Higher Education (HE) and Further Education (FE). Finally, as part of Global Money Week, we have started to talk about money and why it is important to learn about budgeting when we are young, so we can make informed decisions about finances when we are older.

Well done Year 7 for what has been a successful "back to ON-SITE school". I wish you all a relaxing and well-deserved Easter break.

Mrs Marie-Anais, Year 7 RAL.

Year 8 News

Firstly, I would just like to start with how lovely it is to have the students back in school. Year 8 have made a very positive start back into school and I am looking forward to this continuing after Easter and into Term 5.

Tutor Challenge

So, the tutor challenge has continued for Year 8 again this term. We have reverted back to tutor groups participating in this in person every Friday tutor time which has been a great way to finish each week. We have had riddles for pupils to work out, logos for pupils to guess, Where's Wally pictures and a puzzle to work out who ate which cake!

At the end of term 4, the scores are as follows:

8.1 – 174 pts; 8.2 – 119 pts; 8.3 – 142 pts;
8.4 – 176 pts; 8.5 – 124 pts

Congratulations Mr Nathans's tutor group who are now in the lead for Term 4. However, Miss Sibley's tutor group are just behind you so everything still to play for to win the trophy at the end of the year.

Assemblies

In assemblies this term Year 8s have been looking at how we can support others who have had a different experience during lock down and found it hard. We worked in tutor groups and lots of students really benefitted from sharing their experiences. We also looked at why we have a 'Red Nose day', what happens with the money that is collected and how it is spent. Lots of Year 8s chose to take part in our 'Step up for Comic Relief' by wearing their choice of footwear and brightly coloured socks on that day. Thank you to all of you who contributed to the school total of £332. We also looked at how to budget and the benefits of saving money. This was based on Global Money Week and students found ways they can budget themselves as well as starting to acquire the knowledge, attitudes and skills to make sound financial decisions themselves.

Celebration

The term was finished again with a rewards assembly, but it was so good to have the students back in school for this one. Once again, it gave me a chance to celebrate success over this term and highlight individuals from the year group who have been working well, made good progress and been kind across the range of subjects here at Kings Oak. Congratulations to everyone who achieved an award. Make sure that you keep working hard and being kind so that you continue to make good progress in Term 5.

Youth Sports Trust - Healthy Lifestyle Champions

Year 8 have carried on with this exciting opportunity that they started with Mr Webber in Term 2. This group have been meeting three times a week during tutor time to develop their ideas to enable them to run a successful festival in May. This festival is to support mental health and these healthy lifestyle champions have been planning what to do with help from the Youth Sports Trust. This will be a festival involving all of the Year 8 students with activities planned by these students. So far, they have made a shopping list of prizes to give during the festival and come up with ideas such as obstacle races to engage the year group. Our Healthy Lifestyle champions are Thomas M, Ewan R, Harry H, William C, Harvey C and Liam H. I shall look forward to reporting back on the festival that they set up next term.

I hope you all have a fantastic Easter break and I shall look forward to welcoming you all back into school for Term 5.

Mrs Holtby, Year 8 RAL

Year 9 News

It has been great this term to be able to welcome the majority of Year 9 back to our Academy after the enforced extended absence. The positivity from students having been working from home since December was a pleasure to witness and generally students have settled back in well. As we go into Term 5, it is important to ensure that we continue to get the basics right, such as being equipped, on time and ready for learning.

Raising Aspirations

In early March, Year 9 had the opportunity to "attend" the virtual Raising Aspirations event. This is an annual event that is held for Year 9 students traditionally at UWE. Due to the circumstances, this couldn't happen in the usual format this year and was instead hosted online. Students had the opportunity to interact with leaders from a variety of different job sectors and understand further the requirements and opportunities for multiple career paths. The feedback submitted by students through the Forms questionnaire showed fantastic engagement and a genuine interest in their future.

GCSE Dance

As we come towards the end of our options process, following earlier interest, an opportunity has arisen for students interested in dance to complete an extra qualification. This is a two-year course and will be run together with Hanham Woods Academy and John Cabot. It will involve an additional 2 hours of lessons per week after school, as well as time on future inset days. Please speak to Mr Heath or Mrs Holtby if you are interested.



Celebration

As usual, the term finished with our rewards assembly. This gave us a chance to celebrate the success of students over the term that we returned to the classroom. It gave the opportunity to highlight particular students from Year 9 who have worked well, made good progress and been kind to others since their return. Students were rewarded with a certificate and chocolate. Well done to all students who received an award. I look forward to seeing who will receive these awards in Term 5.

Mr Heath (Year 9 Raising Attainment Lead)

Year 10 News

Year 10 have been working hard and made a great start back on site. It has been great to see so many students happy to be back and producing high quality work.

Special mentions so far have included high praise for both the Food and Nutrition classes, Health and Social care, and French classes. I have also witnessed some high-quality coursework being produced in BTEC subjects, and the Year 10 boys getting involved with football club after school.

In tutor groups we have been competitive with some general knowledge and academic quizzing, as well as learning about revision techniques and thinking about budgeting in Global Money Week.

Year 10, keep working hard and being kind in Term 5 - we will continue to achieve great things.

Miss Peach, Year 10 RAL

Year 11 News

Year 11 have had an exciting term settling back into on-site school life.

Students have come back and are ensuring that they are making the most of every available moment in the classroom and this has shone out through the work being produced. The Hegarty and Seneca weekly challenges have become more competitive as the term has progressed. Students have taken part in core subject and revision masterclasses which is greatly supporting their learning.

Well done for all the great work this term Year 11, let's keep it up as you are so close to the finish line. We know you will do brilliantly over the end of this year.

Miss Burden, Year 11 RAL

