



## Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and an excellent 2012



Dear Parents/Carers  
and Students

It has been a really busy term and students and staff have been working hard building up to Christmas! Our Year 11s have just completed their Trial Exams in preparation for the summer GCSEs. Earlier this term we were so lucky to have a visit from Henry Winkler ("The Fonz"). Henry is now a recognised author writing books for children. He spoke passionately to our Year 7s, 8s and 9s about how he had overcome all sorts of barriers and learning difficulties in order to learn his scripts and work hard to become successful. He was a massive inspiration and challenged us all about being positive about grabbing life's opportunities and not giving up.

Two weeks ago was our annual concert at the Colston Hall. Many, many of our King's Oak students joined forces with youngsters from St. Stephen's Junior, Beacon Rise Primary, Air Balloon Hill Primary, Courtney Primary, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary and Summerhill Junior Schools to perform in front of 2000 parents and friends. It was a magical evening and for me was a privilege to be there for my first Colston Hall concert, listening to such talented children who had worked so hard to produce such a memorable concert. Even the staff choir were good! Special thanks must go to Mrs. Holmes, Mr. Jones, our peripatetic teachers and of course our Team Leader of Performance and Participation, Mr. Warren. Their organisation, energy and passion created a brilliant opportunity for over 250 children to perform in such a magnificent venue.

Thanks to our willing band of volunteers in the sixth form we managed to raise a massive £915 for the NSPCC on the night. Thank you to all of you who were there and supported our children and this charity.

Finally, on behalf of all of us at King's Oak Academy, can I wish you all a very happy Christmas and an excellent 2012.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Frost, Principal



### Years 7/8 Golf Coaching

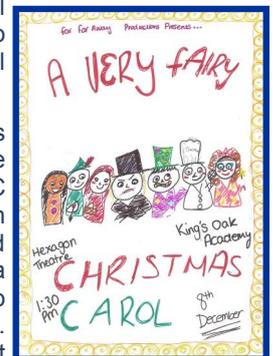


Throughout this term pupils from Years 7 and 8 have been receiving golf coaching from a visiting golf professional from The Windmill Golf Academy. These sessions have proved very popular, and due to the excellent attitude of the pupils attending, the final session was held on the new driving range at The Windmill Academy. In all, nine pupils benefitted from this great opportunity.

### News from Drama

The students have been busy in the Drama Department this term. Years 10 and 12 performed their devised dramas to an audience of parents and friends on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2011. Many thanks to all those who attended in support. It was lovely to see friends and family cheering them on, all students passed their unit.

On 8<sup>th</sup> December, 90 primary school students came to watch the Year 13 perform their Theatre in Education (TIE) Unit for the Level 3 BTEC course. This year they chose to perform their own version of "A Christmas Carol" entitled "A Very Fairy Christmas". The performance was a resounding success with the audience getting to their feet and dancing to "Music Man" at the end. We hope to repeat this next year with the current Year 12s.



The Drama Club and Film Club in the department are proving popular, news of which is on the VLE.

We had the KS3 Pantomime trip to see "Peter Pan" on 13<sup>th</sup> December and then in the New Year we have a combined Media and Drama residential trip to London.



### Free Bikeability training

This term all pupils in Years 7 and 8 were given the chance to take the Level Three Bikeability Award. This is a cycling proficiency course aimed at developing the skills and awareness to cycle safely on busy roads and cycle tracks. All the training is carried out off site under the supervision of at least two instructors

A small group of pupils have taken advantage of this opportunity and have started the three week course with the aim of getting their qualification. All those attending will get a bonus prize of some bike lights irrespective of passing.



A number of pupils have expressed an interest since seeing our current crop begin their lessons, and there is the possibility of running further courses.

The pupils attending this first course are Tyron Hayward, Albert Roberts, Jordan Davey and Joe Capel.

## Christmas Concert at the Colston Hall



Congratulations to all participants, on and off stage, for their valued contribution towards the success of the Colston Hall Concert. Over 400 voices and various ensembles presented an evening of fun and Christmas favourites.



Almost £1000 was raised for the NSPCC.



A special thanks for your support if you were in the audience.

### Uniform Voucher

The £10 voucher which was promised to parents from Uniformity is now available. These will not be sent home but can be used towards your next purchase.



A reminder that the Academy finishes on Friday 16th December (please see the website for finishing times) and re-opens on Tuesday 3rd January 2012 as Week 1 on the timetable.



If you would like a CD recording of the event and have not yet placed your order, do so now by contacting the Academy office.



### Upcoming Events in Term 3

You can find more information on the website calendar

5 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	Post 16 Presentation Evening
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	Year 11 Parents' Evening
23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2012	Year 7 Parent/Tutor Drop In
25 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	Parents' Forum Evening – Revision Workshop – hints for parents and students
26 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	BTEC Music Event
2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2012	KS4 Information Evening
7 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	Footlights Performance
8 <sup>th</sup> February 2-12	Footlights Performance
9 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	Year 9 Parents' Evening
13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Term 3 Holiday
21 <sup>st</sup> February 2012	Term 4 starts for students (Week 1)