



“It has been an excellent beginning to King’s Oak”



Dear Parents/Carers and Students

It's wonderful to see the way our students have made such a great start in the new academy, and how fantastic they all look in their new uniform. It has been an excellent beginning to King's Oak and we have been really impressed with the pride with which the new uniform is being worn, the focus students are putting into their learning and the team involvement in their new houses.

Can I take this opportunity to welcome all our new Year 7 students who have joined us this year and I look forward to the contribution they are going to make to the academy over the next five or seven years.

This term we held our first open evening in the new academy. We had over 400 parents on the night, and it was a very successful evening. Our student ambassadors who showed parents around were exceptional young people – smart, confident and extremely helpful. We were really proud of them. We have also run a number of open mornings in the last three weeks which have been very well attended.

Our mission statement is *In Pursuit of Excellence* and I expect all of our students to respond well to their teachers. Classrooms at King's Oak should be characterised by outstanding, respectful relationships between students and staff. There has been a real improvement in this area in a short time and the atmosphere around the academy in the first few weeks has been excellent.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Frost, Principal

New Academy, New Council!

Now we are an academy we have a new structure for our governance. At the top is the Cabot Federation Board of Trustees. What we once called The Governing Body is now King's Oak Council, which has a special focus on Teaching and Learning, and their members are:

Academy Councillors:

Mr Tim Anderson—Staff councillor,
Mr Ian Frost—Principal,
Mr Martyn Pursey—Parent Councillor,
Mr Tom Taylor—Staff Councillor

Sponsor Councillors:

Mr Bryan Berry—(Director of Science Learning Centre South West),
Mrs Diana Burt—Student Advocate,
Mr David Carter—Executive Principal CLF,
Ms Susannah Hill—Chair (Deputy Head for Quality Standards at South Glos.),
Mrs Diane Owen—Sponsor Councillor,
Mr J Sheppard—Sponsor Councillor.

For further details about this new structure go to:

<http://wwwcabotlearningfederation.net/index.php/federation/governance/>
Please contact us if you wish to help govern the academy!

Enterprise at King’s Oak

As part of the BTEC Business course, Year 13 students are busy running their own enterprises. They have been conducting market research which involved questionnaires, focus groups and secondary research. Now they are starting to put their findings into practice.



The research has helped them to find a suitable product which they can sell at the right price. These photographs show one group selling home made jewellery and another who opened a small tuck shop in the Sixth form area. All profit will be given to a local charity.



Raising Attainment

Raising Attainment is what we are focussing on at King's Oak. We want our students to be prepared for Post 16 education, apprenticeships or the world of work; to achieve this we have put each Year 11 student into a group specific to their academic needs. Each Raising Attainment (RAT) group has a coach (member of staff) who will meet with the students on a regular basis to discuss strategies to help them achieve their very best.

You can see which group each student belongs to on our VLE (follow the link from our KOA website) under the heading 'Raising Attainment'. The aim over the next six months is for students to move up a group where appropriate/possible.

ECDL Congratulations



Our community adult computer evening classes have been very successful again this year with 12 people passing the ECDL Extra Microsoft Word module and 5 passing the ECDL Essentials IT User Fundamentals module. Several other people who do not want to take any exams enjoy attending the classes and have learnt many new skills.

Free Maths for Adults Evening Classes

New for November 2011—Adult maths courses start on Monday 7th November. Do you lack confidence with maths and want some help? Would you like to improve your numeracy skills and/or would like a nationally recognised qualification? (Edexcel Level 1 or 2 Adult Numeracy Award) If so, this course could be for you. All abilities are welcome. For more information contact Charlotte Webb on 01454-862251 or email: office@koac.org.uk.



Rock Band visits King's Oak



with a Q&A session focusing upon working hard to achieve your goals in life.

The group 'The Good Natured' visited King's Oak on 19th October and took a song-writing workshop with the Year 11 BTEC Music group. They then performed to the whole of Year 11 and the Year 10 BTEC Music groups finishing

Post 16 Evening

On 12th October John Cabot Academy opened its doors to all Year 11 students from the Academies in the CLF. 90 King's Oak students with their parents attended to gather information on Post 16 courses that appeal to them.

So why should a KOA student choose the CLF as their first choice of Post 16 education? The staff know the students well and students are familiar and comfortable with the teachers at KOA; relationships between the two are very positive. If students prefer a college campus 'feel' they can study at any of the other 3 academies (Bristol Brunel, John Cabot or Bristol Metropolitan).

One of the largest benefits of studying in the CLF Post 16 is the access to over 58 courses and transport between each centre is provided free of charge. By working together the CLF can offer more choice, more diversity, more support and more guidance to help students make the most of their potential.

Post 16 facilities at the centres are modern and with the latest technologies. A Level results are excellent with a 94% pass rate at KOA and across the CLF 28% of the grades awarded being A* and A. 99-100% of students at KOA who applied for university got a place.

Year 11 students are starting a round of interviews with Ms Suart, Phase Leader for Year 11 and Miss Sroka, Director of Post 16, to discuss their choices to follow up an exciting Post 16 evening

A reminder that school finishes on Friday 21st October and re-opens to students on Tuesday 1st November as Week 2 on the timetable.

U15 Girls Football – National Competition

The U15 Girls Football team have progressed to the third round of the English Schools National FA competition. They played Merchants Academy in the first round beating them 2–1 with Shania Lindsay-Powell scoring both goals. The second round was against The Grange so there was local rivalry. The Grange scored first from a penalty but our girls worked well as a team and the final score was a win for King's Oak 4–2. Once again Shania showed what a dependable striker she is by scoring all four goals. The next match is on 1st November against Brimsham Green School where hopefully we will carry on our winning streak.



U15 Team: Summer Artman, Shania Lindsay-Powell, Sara Marques, Fayth Mealing, Steph Hobbs, Laura Payne, Lauren Brown, Amy Rodwell, Monet Edghill, Mollie Curtis, Bridie Iles, Makayla Stedman, Lisa Hobbs.

KOA Carnival

Parents of Year 6 students had a great time watching their children perform as part of samba groups at the KOA carnival. There were also performances from KOA students including some fantastic vocal performances and dances.



The Year 6 students were also treated to a guitar workshop led by Year 10 students Kane McEvoy and Ben Mahoney. We hope that we can have a similar event later in the year!



Christmas Concert at the Colston Hall



Preparations are now under way for the Colston Hall concert of the year! If any parents/carers would like to join with us please contact Mr Warren—warrant@koac.org.uk. We would like to invite all members of our local community to join with us at the Colston Hall on Thursday 1st December 2011. For more information and tickets please contact the school.

Contact Details

If there have been any changes to your contact details recently, i.e. telephone number, address or e-mail, please let the school office know as soon as possible (01454 – 866538) or e-mail office@koac.org.uk