



Trust - Respect - Inspire



Dear Parents/Carers,

As another year comes towards a close, in true King's Oak spirit, the final weeks of term have been extremely busy with a plethora of Christmas performances and concerts across the Academy. These events offer a real show of community support for the Academy and I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the staff, students, parents and Friends of KOA who have been involved in our Term 2 events.

On Friday, we will also be saying goodbye to a number of staff and welcoming a number of new teachers at the start of Term 3. Firstly Sue McEvoy, after 27 years of service at KOA is sadly leaving us to take up the post of Head of Geography at Badminton School. Becca Lansdowne (Science) and Ellie Fox (Acorn) are also moving on to new opportunities within the education profession. We would like to thank Sue, Becca and Ellie for their help, support and guidance for our students over several years and wish them all the best for the future.

Finally, this week, I have spent time reflecting with our students, parents and teachers on our achievements in 2019. The Academy has made progress in many areas, especially in improving attitudes and approaches towards learning. There have been many high points and lots to celebrate since September and our students have been a credit to you and the Academy. They continue to make us proud every day and in every way, be it through their participation in local and national events, their campaigns to make a difference in the Academy community, or simply in the continued hard work and dedication they illustrate in their lessons. The following sections of this newsletter give us a small insight into some of the excellent work our students have produced this term. I do hope you enjoy reading about some of these accomplishments.

Having said that, we still have much to do. When we return in January, together we will be embarking on a new decade. 2020 will mark an opportunity for the Academy to further develop and enable our students to grasp the opportunities a new decade will bring them. In Term 3 we will be starting our journey by focusing on improving the quality of teaching and learning, progress and achievement for every student.

Please may I take this opportunity to remind parents and students that the Academy will re-open on Tuesday 7 January 2020 at the normal time, 8.30am.

Once again thank you for your support and I wish you a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Katherine Ogden, Associate Principal

Garden Club

Thank you to everyone who helped run, or bought from, the Garden Club Christmas Fayre. We made a record amount of money, which will enable us to put into place the next phase of improvements.



In the spring we will be installing large planters to the old beds, having first covered them in weed suppressing membrane. This should give us a much better chance to grow lovely produce next year. So, unglamorous as it is, we will be spending the money on good quality top soil (weed free, which is the main problem with the old beds!)

Art at KOA

The Art Department has been very productive in Term 2. Year 11 did a great job of producing very individual work for their mock exams. Each student chose their own theme and subjects ranged from family portraits, Tim Burton movies, cars, shoes and artwork inspired by students' favourite bands and singers. In January Year 11 start their exam project, worth 40% of their final grade.



Year 9 have been learning about the Pop Art artist, Roy Lichtenstein. They have created their own paintings inspired by advertising. These share the same characteristics as Lichtenstein's style: primary colours, dots and black outlines. They have worked so well on these compositions!



Well done to all the KOA artists who have been using their imagination and creativity this term!

Artwork by Louise and Mia

A reminder that Term 2 finishes on Friday 20 December . Term 3 starts for students on Tuesday 7 January 2020

Music at KOA

We come to the end of a very busy term culminating in the Christmas concert on Tuesday 17 December in which we raised a good sum of money for our chosen charity YOUNG EPILEPSY. Congratulations to all the performers and a special thanks to pupils from Year 5 of Two Mile Hill Primary School who joined with us.

Mr Warren really enjoyed visiting Two Mile Hill and working with pupils and staff in the preparations for the concert.



We featured three of the songs from our forthcoming musical, Sweeney Todd -the 'Shock 'n' Roll' show in the Christmas concert as a showcase for what is to come. The cast and staff have been working hard in preparing this musical and

look forward to presenting the full show in April 2020. Watch out for further information about tickets etc. in future newsletters.

Over the past two terms we have held six YAMAHA road shows and met in excess of 800 pupils and staff across six different primary schools. A large number of these pupils then came into the Music Department and had a free taster lesson on either the Keyboard, Drums or Electric guitar. Many of these have now joined with us, receiving lessons here at KOA and we wish them success in their playing.

The Music Department played host to a day of 'Rock School' practical Music examinations; fingers crossed that we maintain our 100% pass rate!

Finally a big congratulations to Asha, Year 11 for achieving DISTINCTION in her recent Grade 2 violin exam.

A reminder that we currently have spaces for music tuition in many instruments - this is a brilliant opportunity to make music, have fun and enjoy something which will stay with you forever.

Contact Mr Warren or Miss Sibley for further information.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 13 December we held a Christmas Jumper Day. Students wore their Christmas jumpers in place of their school jumpers, shirts and ties for a voluntary contribution of £1.

We raised a total of £91 for Save the Children.

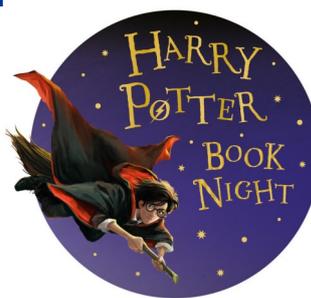


Save the Children
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Students who have had items of clothing confiscated for not being correct school uniform are expected to collect them from the school office at the end of the day. Many items of clothing are never collected. Two weeks after the start of every new term the unclaimed items of clothing will be donated to charity, so please encourage your child to collect their non-uniform clothing as soon as possible if it has been confiscated.

Calling all Harry Potter Fans

Thursday 6th February 2020 is Harry Potter Book Night.



Come and join the celebrations during the day in the LRC with quizzes, dressing up and other Harry Potter activities.

Fly into the LRC to collect the first book in the series "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" or pop into your local library to reserve a copy to read over the holidays.

"Wands at the ready...let the magic begin!"

Thrive Christmas Tree

We would like to say a huge thank you to **Brent and Kevin at B&Q Longwell Green**, for assisting and supporting our Thrive Room by donating an amazing Christmas tree.

'Thrive' is an intervention we use to support the needs of our students and has a massive impact on so many of our students at King's Oak, most of whom have had a breakdown in their emotional development.



Exam Invigilators needed

Our academies need exam invigilators, readers and scribes to assist with scheduled exams. This is a casual position, you will be advised when you are needed and you advise if you are available.

Work is usually available in November, January, March, May and June, with other opportunities throughout the year to support mock exams. You can choose to work in a single academy of your choice or we can allocate you to any of our academies.

The position is paid on an hourly rate plus holiday pay.

To apply or find out more about the role please visit www.clf.uk/examsjobs to apply. If you would like to discuss the role with an Exams officer, please email info@clf.uk and an Exams Officer will contact you.



Upcoming Events

You can find more information on the website calendar

Friday 20 December	Last day of Term 2
Monday 6 January 2020	INSET DAY
Tuesday 7 January	First day of Term 3 for students
Tuesday 7—Friday 17	KS3 Online Assessments
Wednesday 8 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening 15:45 -19:00
Monday 13—Friday 24	Year 10 Mock Exams
Wednesday 29 January	Year 9 Parents' Evening & Guided Choices
Friday 31 January	Year 9 MENACWY/DTP vaccinations
Friday 31 January	Year 8 and Year 10 Careers Event
Wednesday 5 February	Year 9 Raising Aspirations
Tues 11—Weds 12 Feb	Footlights Dance Performance in Hexagon
Friday 14 February	Year 11 mock interviews
Friday 14 February	Last day of Term 3
Monday 24 February	First day of Term 4