

OASIS ACADEMY ARENA NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and carers,

As we approach the holiday period and the end of another calendar year, I would like to thank all parents and students for their continued support and hard work.

I'd like to say a special welcome to our 42 new students from 14 different countries, who have joined our school during this Autumn Term. A warm welcome to you all!

Please do encourage your child to take part in our extracurricular activities, these form an important part of being a student in secondary school.

I would like to invite you all to follow our Facebook and Twitter accounts. You just need to search '[Oasis Academy Arena](#)' on Facebook and [@OasisArena](#) for our Twitter page. Here you will find exciting school updates and announcements that we would like to share with the community.

If parents or guardians have any questions regarding anything in the end-of-term newsletter, please contact the academy directly.

Finally, I wish you all the best for the festive break and a peaceful and safe new year.

Mr. Raymond
Principal

KEY DATES

Autumn Term

16th December - Last Day of Term
3.00 pm finish time

Christmas Break:

19th December 2022 - 2nd January 2023

Spring Term

3rd January - Start of Term 1
9.15 am School gates open
9.30 am start time

15th January - World Religion Day

22nd January - Chinese New Year

24th January - International Day of Education

27th January - Holocaust Memorial Day

10th February 2023 - Last day of Term 1
3.00 pm finish time

Spring Half Term:

13th February to 17th February 2023

20th February 2023 - First day of Spring Term 2

10th March 2023 - INSET Day
Academy Closed to Students

Friday 31st March 2023
Last day of Spring Term 2

ACADEMY UPDATES

YEAR 7

Year 7 have had an excellent half-term. Several Year 7's went on a wonderful trip to Wembley Stadium to watch The National Football League (American football). This was their first half term in their new sets and lots of fantastic learning has taken place. In English, we've been studying Antigone, while in maths they've been introduced to algebra and in science, they've been exploring chemical structures.

The Year 7's have settled into school well and know what's expected of them. It's been a real pleasure to see them using their knowledge and actively exploring ideas in their lessons, as well as laughing and smiling with their friends. We've covered a number of assembly topics, such as the importance of laughter, Remembrance Day and how to listen effectively.

Mr. Sutherland
Head of Year 7

YEAR 8

At the end of the summer term 2021/2022, eight students from our current Year 8 group, visited Jamie's Farm on Wednesdays for 6 weeks between June and July 2022.

The team at Jamie's Farm assigns students different jobs for the day. These included cooking with resources from the farm and vegetable patches in the garden. They were also given the job of cleaning out animal pens and feeding animals, as well as, composting and watering the plants. We were very proud of our students.



Every student took on the responsibility of the farm work exceptionally well, benefitting hugely from the scheme. The eight students loved being able to contribute to the farm and felt that their work was valued. They took pride in what they had been doing on the farm, most notably those in the kitchen when they made food for the rest of the group to eat at the end of the session.

Breaking off into smaller teams also encouraged teamwork and taught the students how to work together when completing their tasks. They really enjoyed working with the animals and spending time with the lambs and guinea pigs was beneficial to their wellbeing.

Jamie's Farm was a hugely positive experience for the students who looked forward to attending the farm each week.

Mrs. Salmon
Head of Year 8

ACADEMY UPDATES

YEAR 9

Year 9 have been studying Shakespeare's Othello in English. We study Othello to understand that all forms of prejudice lead to corruption of the oppressors and mental instability of the victims. Students are learning to write about the key themes in Othello with a range of sophisticated vocabulary and sentence structures.

In geography Year 9 students have been studying about global threats and have explored some of the world's biggest issues such as waste, energy security and overfishing. Students have engaged superbly in this topic and have a better understanding of the challenges we face, but also the solutions to some of these global threats!

Mr. Wardman and Ms. Polyviou
Year 9 Teachers

YEAR 10

Year 10 have now settled into the first year of their GCSE's. Staff have delivered assemblies and presentations during tutor time to share ideas and discuss potential future pathways. This has been a great way to give students information on the different options available to them before deciding what their next steps are after secondary school.

We've had a few careers trips this term which have included Speed Mentoring in Canary Wharf. A group of Year 10 students had the opportunity to speak with professionals in the corporate world about their work and ask them questions. It was great to see our students engaged and asking lots of questions that their teachers hadn't even thought of!

Year 10 students also attended a careers fair at Selhurst Park Stadium to meet with different representatives from various industries to gain some insight about the organisations and sign up for newsletters and programmes. Some of our students also took this opportunity to see if they could do work experience with a few of these organisations which was fantastic!

Fourteen students were selected to attend a mentoring training day at Selhurst Park Stadium where they will become mentors to over twenty-five Year 7 students, starting in 2023! I'm very proud of our Year 10 students. They are working very hard and have had a good start to Year 10.

Ms. Aldonza
Head of Year 10

YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS

In October our Year 11 students completed their first set of mock examinations. Students got to experience full GCSE papers and the demands that GCSE examinations bring. Students sat exams in English Language, English Literature, maths, biology, chemistry, physics as well as their options subjects.

Students have received feedback in their lessons on how they can move forward and a mock results day will follow in early December. The next set of mock exams will take place during February 2023 where we expect students to have used the lessons learned from the 1st set of mock exams and addressed their areas for development in the push to the real exams in May/June 2023.

Interventions are ongoing after school in the lead up to February and we encourage all our students to engage in school and at home to prepare for all exams this coming summer.

Mr. Shaw
Deputy Principal

S.E.N.D CLUBS AND PROVISIONS

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Department (SEND) works with students who have special educational needs within any one of the four categories of need: Communication and Interaction; Cognition and Learning; Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties and Sensory and/or Physical Needs. These categories can include Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Anxiety, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Oppositional Defiance Disorder (ODD), dyslexia, dyscalculia and physical disabilities such as visual and hearing impairments or wheelchair bound students.

We have a specialist Autism unit (the Matrix) that has its own classrooms, specialist teachers and resources, although most of these students attend mainstream lessons in line with our inclusive approach to teaching and learning.

We run a number of key SEND interventions to support the learning that is taught within the classrooms. These include Reading Programmes, Nurture groups, Vocabulary Groups, touch typing and Prince's Trust, to name a few. More information about our clubs and provisions can be found [here](#). If you'd like to read more about our SEND program please visit our [academy website here](#).

Ms. Manderson
SEND Manager

CAREERS

The Autumn term has seen many exciting elements of our careers programme taking place for students across the school. Our Year 11 students have all been having their second one-to-one interview with Ms Carroll, an independent careers advisor, to support them in making their decisions about which post-16 pathways to pursue.

Our Year 10 students were all offered the opportunity to attend the careers fair taking place at Selhurst Park football ground. Students got to meet and speak with employers, higher education providers and charitable organisations from across the country. We have launched this year's work experience programme with our Year 10 students who are all looking forward to getting an experience of the working world in July.

All students continue to take part in our weekly, 'Future Focus Friday,' tutor sessions. These are focused on themes such as goal setting and aspiration to decision-making and considering influences. We are looking forward to the many inspiring and interesting career events still to come from employer talks, BAE systems STEM roadshows, Post -6 taster days, and mock interview days to mention a few.

Ms. Maguire
Careers Lead

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

We're delighted to let you know that we are about to launch the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Oasis Academy Arena and wanted to let you know more about what's involved.



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is non-competitive and a powerful way for every young person to build belief in themselves, whatever their background, interests and abilities. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award provides individuals with values and experiences that are highly sought after in the workforce.

There is a range of opportunities available from service and volunteering to the adventure of completing an award giving students valuable skills that employers are seeking from well-rounded employees.

We hope you'll agree that the DofE is the perfect way for your child to feel ready for their future. You can find more information online at www.dofe.org

Ms. Evans

Head of Year 9 & The Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator

MUSIC AT ARENA

The music department is a bustling creative zone offering students a range of after-school club activities. On Mondays, our after-school Gospel Choir is open to all year groups in KS3 and KS4. Arena's Gospel Choir had their first major Christmas recital on Friday 9th December.

The music department students also took part in performances for our End of Year Motive, which is a celebration for KS3 and KS4 successful students on the 13th and 14th of December. Rap Club will also be performing their original compositions for the first time to the entire school.

Next term we will be doing our first school Musical, Shrek The Musical.

We'll share more information about the show next term, including dates and times you can watch the performance.

Ms. Crawford

Music Department



MUSIC CLUBS ON OFFER:

MONDAYS – GOSPEL CHOIR
TUESDAYS – RAP CLUB
THURSDAYS - BAND CLUB/
GUITAR CLUB
FRIDAYS – BEAT CLUB

ACADEMY UPDATES

SPORTS AT ARENA

This term, our students have come back to school thriving after the summer and are incredibly enthusiastic about taking part in extracurricular activities and fixtures.

We have played our first ever Girls KS4 FA CUP match and we also played a KS4 boys FA CUP match, which sadly we did not succeed in either competitions, but it was a great chance for our students to play some high-level teams across South London.

Our KS4 boys competed in a badminton tournament, where they placed 2nd out of 6 teams and missed out on 1st place by 1 point!

As a department, we are incredibly proud of the hard work, determination and perseverance from our students and are all incredibly optimistic about what more our students at Oasis Academy Arena have to offer.

Mr. Rothwell
P.E Department



Family Language (ESOL) Classes at Oasis Academy Arena

A free Family Learning Course
for mums, dads, and carers.

Start: February 2023

Finish: June 2023

Time: Mondays 9:30 am -12:00 pm

- *Improve your English
- *Practise speaking and listening in English
- *Work towards a reading exam

To book, send an email to Jenny:
Jenny.Aarons@OasisArena.org





RH FUSION

COMMUNITY MEAL

YOU'VE BEEN INVITED!

Date: 15th December 2022

Time: 6:00PM - 8:30PM

Location: Oasis Academy Arena,
Albert Road, Croydon London,
SE25 4QL

Doors will open from 5:45PM



**SCAN TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE!
FOOD AND DRINK WILL BE PROVIDED**



WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOU!

Reaching Higher is holding a FREE Community Meal open to all ages from all backgrounds! Join us on the 15th of December 2022 for a time of gathering, fun, festivity and delicious hot food!

Have the chance to bond with your family and friends and the wider community as you participate in the different sessions and entertainment happening on the night:

- Cultural Arts and Crafts
- Cultural Games Room
- RH Exhibition
- Open Mic
- Dance

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CONTACT US:

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REACHING HIGHER 
CHALLENGING YOUNG PEOPLE TO
BE LEADERS OF THEIR OWN LIVES

