

# OASIS ACADEMY ARENA NEWSLETTER



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that 2023 has started well for you and your families. It has been a busy but exciting half-term at Oasis Academy Arena which has, as always, gone very quickly.

I am very impressed with the ways our students work in class and the standard of the work which is produced across a wide range of subjects within the school. We have continued to see both high standards of academic work as well as having been impressed at how our students conduct themselves. We continue to focus our students on being "Ambitious, Kind and Professional" as part of the Arena way.

It was lovely to see students take part in the "Motive" evenings prior to Christmas which reflected the superb work and determination that our students showed each and every day during the Autumn term. We look forward to many more of these.

This spring term we have had a number of events, including the first "I love Croydon" event which saw students celebrating their town and community. Croydon is the London borough of culture for 2023 and we know how important it is that we celebrate our local area. I look forward to more student-led events over the course of the year.

We have set up a student equality and diversity group this term, which focuses on providing additional leadership skills for our students. Enabling them to share their experiences and ensure that everyone within Oasis Academy Arena has equal opportunities. I have been impressed with the assemblies planned for our academy and look forward to hearing about the LBGTQ+ assembly after the half-term break.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers about the importance of high levels of attendance at school. Please ensure that your child is in school each day. We aim for each child at Oasis Academy Arena to have attendance over 96%.

Any questions regarding anything in the end-of-term newsletter, please contact our academy directly.

**Mr. Raymond**  
Principal

## KEY DATES

### Spring Term

**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

**Easter Holiday: Monday 3rd April to Friday 14th April 2023**

### Summer Term 1

Monday 17th April First day of Summer Term 1

Monday 1st May 2023 -  
May Day Bank Holiday: Academy Closed

Friday 26th May 2023 - Last day of Summer Term 1

**Summer Half Term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023**

### Summer Term 2

Monday 5th June - First day of Summer Term 2

Friday 21st July 2023 - Last day of Summer Term 2

# ACADEMY UPDATES

## YEAR 7

Spring term 1 was fantastic! We enjoyed celebrating the Year 7 achievements, and were pleased to kick off with the rescheduled awards assembly. We celebrated the students' academic achievement in their subjects, and their outstanding attendance alongside fun awards to celebrate the students.

Furthermore, it has been great to see the students involved in after-school clubs including the Crystal Palace Multi-Sport, academy choir and even a bit of restorative yoga. Year 7's work in class has been fantastic, especially in art and music where their creativity is shining. It is one of the highlights of my days seeing them play the instruments and clap out to a beat. As an English teacher, I have enjoyed the stories the students created using their Abrahamic references.

It has been a really enjoyable half-term, and it's a pleasure to see the students enjoying themselves.

**Mr. Sutherland**  
**Head of Year 7 and English Teacher**

## YEAR 10

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the students for their amazing efforts in the lineups. It was so great to see the dedication and enthusiasm this spring term with which Year 10 students approached finding work experience placements. Moreover, their inquisitiveness and engagement during the assembly on bullying, delivered by Mr. Litchmore (Head of Behaviour), was really inspiring.

Thank you all for your hard work, I am proud of their growth!

**Ms. Aldonza**  
**Head of Year 10 and P.E Teacher**

## YEAR 11

Spring term 1 has been a critical period for our students as they sit mock exams to prepare for their GCSE exams in the summer term. It can be an incredibly daunting time for them, but here at our academy, we try to make it as stress-free and manageable as possible. Our motto is "Ambitious, Professional, and Kind", and this is reflected in the way our students approach their exams. Year 11 students are maturing very fast lately and they are working extremely hard towards their targets. We encourage them to work hard, prepare diligently, and seek help from their teachers whenever they need it. With the right attitude, support, and determination, our Year 11s can rise to the challenge and achieve their goals.

**Mr. Carnoy**  
**Head of Year 11 and French Teacher**

## MATHS SPRING CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

### Year 7

During the Spring term, students have been learning about 2D Geometry. This involves angles, classifying 2D shapes, and constructing triangles and quadrilaterals.

### Year 8

During the Spring term, students have been learning about proportional reasoning. This involves ratios and problem-solving, real-life graphs, and direct and inverse proportions.

### Year 9

During the Spring term, students have been learning about 2D Geometry. This involves constructions and Loci, congruence and similarity, bounds, triangles and quadrilaterals.

### Year 10

During the Spring term, students have been learning about Algebra applications. This involves quadratics, quadratic graphs, algebraic fractions, and simultaneous equations.

### Year 11

During the Spring term, students in the higher tier have been learning about Algebraic proofs, Functions, Transformation of functions, Recurrence relations and further graphs (area under curves, gradients of tangent on curves). Students in the foundation tier have been revisiting topics that they have been finding difficult based on the Autumn Mocks. Most recently students have been doing 'walking talking' mocks and practising working on past exam papers.

This is where teachers go through the thought processes of solving exam questions, working on targeted most frequent AQA questions prior to the Spring Mock examinations.

More AQA past exam papers are uploaded on Teams. Students are expected to continue their work on Sparxmaths during the half term. Please encourage your child to continue to revise throughout the half term.

### Sparxmaths: Independent learning platform for Maths homework

Years 7, 10 and 11 are currently doing their independent learning on Sparxmaths. Years 8 and 9 are working on Hegarty maths and will be moving onto Sparxmaths from the start of Spring 2. Sparxmaths homework is set automatically based on individual progress and it is fully differentiated. Emails will be sent to parents automatically if the student has failed to complete the homework on the due date.



Spring 1 winners for the highest number of points for Sparx completion are:

Sameer K. (Year 11): 9778 points

Vivian B. (Year 10): 7925 points

Robin G. (Year 7): 6338 points

They will each receive a brand-new calculator as a reward for their hard work this half term. The leadership display will be updated every week as well.

Sparx is set every Thursday and due every Wednesday.

**Mr. Phuntsok**

**Head of Mathematics and OCL National Lead Practitioner for Mathematics**

## ENGLISH SPRING CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

### Year 7

Year 7 students have been studying a selection of Abrahamic Tales from the Bible. They are reading interesting and important stories such as: The Creation in Genesis, Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Moses, and the Ten Plagues of Egypt. Students will learn how to write well-crafted complex sentences, which include a range of appropriate sophisticated vocabulary. Students will have the opportunity to write their own stories with Abrahamic references.

### Year 8

This term, year 8 students have been studying poetry by the Romantic poet William Blake, who deals with the important themes of innocence and corruption, childhood, oppression, and duality. Students have been developing their analytical writing including a topic sentence, quote, explanation, and consideration of the writer's language choice and purpose. This poetry unit will familiarise students with the beauty and mystery of poetry, including the experience of choral reading, form, and structure.

### Year 9

Year 9 students have been studying poems from the Harlem Renaissance including Claude McKay and W.E.B. Du Bois. The Harlem Renaissance was a revival of African American art and literature in the 1920s, with themes including the experience of racism, oppression, liberation, and rebellion.

This unit builds well from Shakespeare's Othello, which they studied last term. Students have been developing their analytical writing including a topic sentence, quote, explanation, and consideration of the writer's language choice and purpose. This poetry unit will familiarise students with the beauty and mystery of poetry, including the experience of choral reading, form, and structure.

### Year 10

This term our year 10 students have been studying Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. This famous novella, set in Victorian England with its rigid social hierarchy, enables students to explore themes such as society's attitude to the poor and the capacity of everyone to become kinder and more considerate.

Students will build on their work on Macbeth earlier this year to craft thoughtful essays responding to the text. They will continue to develop their use of topic sentences, quotes, explanations, and consideration of the writer's language choice and purpose.

### Year 11

Our year 11 students have been studying poems around the themes of power and conflict and including poets such as Simon Armitage and Wilfred Owen. Students will develop their knowledge and skills of how to write a comparative analytical essay, including using topic sentences, quotations, explanations, and consideration of the writer's language choice and purpose. They have also considered several "unseen poems" and practised interpreting a poem with growing independence. In doing this they have built problem-solving skills, resilience, and curiosity.

**Mr. Wardman**  
**Head of English**

## S.E.N.D CLUBS AND PROVISIONS

We have replaced the old Student Passports, with Learning Plans.

### Why do We have Learning Plans for Our Send Students?

Our Learning Plans provide general information on your child's background and area of need. This helps us to improve our general knowledge and understanding of your child. We include for example, what your child's hobbies or interests might be outside of school. Next, we aim to support your child in achieving their academic potential, depending on their own area of need.

### How Do We Do This?

We have specific targets that are unique to your child, that we have in place for each term. These targets are set in conjunction with the classroom teachers. Alongside these targets, we have the success criteria (which measures how we know the student has achieved the target) and strategies that we as a department, together with teachers use to help your child access the learning. It could be for example, making sure your child is seated at the front of the class, to avoid distractions or breaking the task down into bite-sized chunks, and/or providing immediate and constant feedback.

Our targets are not just academic-based, as we want our students to feel happy and secure in our school. So, we may also have some targets that relate to your child's general well-being, self-esteem, and confidence or the developing of friendships and the management of their general emotions. These Learning Plans are shared with teachers, students and now, also parents. This is so we can all work together, in partnership to help our students achieve their targets. It would be fantastic if you had a discussion with your child on their specific targets, to encourage them to work towards them.

**Ms. Manderson**  
**SEND Manager**

### Supporting your child with Reading Plus

As part of our goal to develop our student's interest in reading, Oasis Academy Arena has enrolled in the 'Reading Plus' program. This online program runs three times a week in school for selected KS3 students and aims to assist them in improving their fluency, comprehension, use of vocabulary and the speed at which they read.

This is achieved by students continuously meeting, and exceeding, their weekly assignments which consist of completing a vocabulary task and reading 5 books.



## S.E.N.D CLUBS AND PROVISIONS

The students will each have a quiz to check their understanding of the book. By improving these reading skills, students can transfer this knowledge to other classes, such as English and Science, to better understand comprehensive work, giving them an advantage when they get to GCSE level.

### How do we motivate our students?

Each week, students are scored on a visible leaderboard in the library based on how many words they have read and how many books they have read above 80%. For each book completed above 60%, students receive Arena Points. These accumulate with other lessons and help students to receive rewards, such as doughnuts, throughout the term. In addition to this, students who have completed the highest number of books above 80% across each term will receive certificates and a grand prize.

### How can you motivate your child?

We need your help at home to encourage our students to continue their reading outside of school. Please remind them of their weekly assignments and the potential rewards they can receive.

### How can Reading Plus be accessed?

Students enrolled on this program can access the site from home via tablet or desktop and are encouraged to do so, details of how to do this have previously been sent in a letter. Parents can also access the student's account using the same details to check their progress via the dashboard.

**Ms. Myers**

**Teaching Assistant and Reading Plus Lead**

## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESOL) AT ARENA

We would like to say a big 'Thank you!' and 'Bon voyages!' to Sue Takwani who has been the ESOL teacher for various Arena parents' groups since September 2020. In her time with us, she has taught 46 parents, which is an amazing number. Sue has just retired and is planning a very exciting trip around the world. So, thank you Sue, and enjoy your retirement.

As a result of this, the next ESOL class for parents will begin in September 2023. If you would like to register for a place, please email [jenny.aarons@oasisarena.org](mailto:jenny.aarons@oasisarena.org) for more details.

**Ms. Aarons**

**Oasis Ashburton Park Hub Chair**





## Extra-Curricular Timetable – Spring 2023



Day	Club	Who for?	Location	Teacher in Charge
<b>Monday</b>	Arena Gospel Choir	7,8,9,10,11	Music Room	Ms Crawford
	Football in the MUGA	7,8,9	MUGA	Mr. Muldoon
	Badminton	11	Sports hall	Mr. Rutherford
<b>Tuesday</b>	KS3 Art Club	7,8,9	Art Room	Mrs. Regis
	KS4 Art Club <i>Lunch</i>	10,11	Art Room	Mrs. Regis
	STEM Green Car Building Club	7,8,9	F007	Mr. Boxall
	American Football	7,8,9,10,11	Muga	Paul Barquinha
	Football Club	7,8	Sports Hall	Reaching Higher
	Rap Club	7,8,9,10,11	Music Room	Ms. Crawford
<b>Wednesday</b>	Creatives (arts/crafts)	7,8,9,10,11	Art Room	Reaching Higher
	Basketball Club	9,10,11	Playground	Reaching Higher
<b>Thursday</b>	Duke of Edinburgh	9,10,11	F014	Mrs. Evans and Mr. Carnoy
	Crystal Palace Foundation – Multi sports	7,8,9	Sports Hall – limited to 32 spaces	Crystal Palace Foundation
	Football in the MUGA	10,11	MUGA	Mr. Muldoon
	KS3 Stage Production	7,8,9	F020	Mr. Wardman
	Cricket Club	7,8,9,10,11	Playground	Mr. Bayliss and Mr. Clark
	Yoga (4 weeks only – ask Mrs Polyviou for dates)	7,8,9,10,11	Drama Studio – limited to 16 spaces	Urban Yogi's
<b>Friday</b>	Volleyball	Year 11	Playground	Ms. Matsouka
	Scrabble Club	7,8	S006	Ms. Simons
	Football Club	9,10,11	Sports Hall	Reaching Higher

# Matthews Yard

CROYDON

(On the corner opposite West Croydon Bus Station)

## Warm Space Sessions

**Parents & toddlers sessions**

**Complimentary tea and biscuits, soft play**

Tuesday 11am - 3pm

Wednesday 11am - 3pm

**All welcome**

**Complimentary tea and biscuits, charging points, board games, big screen TV**

Thursday 2pm - 5pm

Friday 2pm - 5pm

Kindly supported by the Matthews Yard Community and  
Co-operative Warm Spaces Fund.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/keep-my-west-croydon>



**FEB 13th**  
-  
**FEB 16th**  
**2023**

# RH HANGOUTS

**CALLING ALL  
YOUNG PEOPLE**

**AGED  
10 - 16**

**OASIS ACADEMY ARENA**  
Albert Road, Croydon, London, SE25 4QL

**REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!**

[www.reachinghigher.org.uk](http://www.reachinghigher.org.uk)



**RH  
HANGOUTS  
TIMETABLE**

## MON 13

9:30 Register  
10:00 Baking Chocolate Muffins  
12:00 Bench Ball  
Basketball Tournament  
12:00 Lunch  
13:00 Drama Workshop  
14:00 Four Corners  
Teqball  
15:00 Pick - up

## WED 15

9:30 Register  
10:00 Cooking Pitta Pizzas  
12:00 Obstacle Course  
Teqball / Rounders  
12:00 Lunch  
13:00 Mindful Art Workshop  
14:00 Team Building Games  
Basketball  
15:00 Pick - up

## TUE 14

9:30 Register  
10:00 Photography  
12:00 Dogeball / Badminton  
FA Cup Football  
12:00 Lunch  
13:00 Drama Workshop  
14:00 Benchball  
Handball  
15:00 Pick - up

## THU 16

9:30 Register  
10:00 Affirmations Workshop  
12:00 Badminton  
Basketball / Teqball  
12:00 Lunch  
13:00 Sip 'n paint  
14:00 Table Tennis  
Football  
15:00 Pick - up