

OASIS ACADEMY ARENA

AUTUMN TERM 2

2023 NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season I have been reflecting on the past term and although my time at Arena so far has been short, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we've already shared as a school family.

It has been wonderful getting to know your children and to meet so many of you at parents' evenings. I look forward to this continuing with other year groups in the new year.

Throughout this term, our students have continued to show resilience, adaptability, and unwavering enthusiasm for learning. The dedication of our staff remains truly commendable, and the support from parents and carers has been invaluable.

In the spirit of the season, we will be celebrating the achievements, both big and small, that make our school special with eligible students joining us at The Motive this week and every year group enjoying a rewards assembly on our final day of term.

I hope that this holiday season brings you and your families joy and peace, along with time to rest, recharge, and create cherished memories and moments of connection with loved ones.

Looking ahead to the new year, I am confident that together we will continue to inspire and nurture the potential within each Arena student.

Wishing you all a joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Jeanette Bell
Principal



KEY DATES

Autumn Term 2:

Thursday 21st December 2023

Last day of Autumn Term 2 - 3.00 pm finish time

Christmas and New Year holiday break:
Friday 22 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024

Spring Term 1:

Monday 8th January 2024

First day of Spring Term 1 - 8.30 am start time

Friday 9th February 2024

Last day of Spring Term 1 - 3.00 pm finish time

Half-term holiday: Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February 2024

Spring Term 2:

Monday 19th February 2024

First day of Spring Term 2 - 8.30 am start time

Thursday 28th March 2024

Last day of Spring Term 2 - 3.00 pm finish time

Easter Holiday: Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April 2024

ACADEMY UPDATES

END OF TERM MOTIVE

On Tuesday 19th December, our academy marked the end of term with an exhilarating and memorable event – the End of Term Motive. The occasion brought together students from both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, encouraging a sense of celebration. The highlight of the evening was the distribution of VIP passes, granting a select group of students early entry to the event. The atmosphere was exciting, a well-deserved break from their academic term. The End of Term Motive at Oasis Academy Arena not only recognised the hard work and dedication of the students but also created lasting memories of a fun ending to the term and year of 2023.



GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Year 7:

Year 7 students have been studying social and economic development. This has included looking at the four employment sectors, development indicators, and ways in which we can reduce the development gap. Next half term students will be studying natural hazards, such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

Year 8:

Year 8 students have been studying cold environments. This has included looking at glaciers and glacial processes, such as erosion, weathering, transportation, and deposition. As well, as looking at glacial landforms, such as corries and pyramidal peaks. Next half term students will be studying globalisation and superpowers.

Year 9:

Year 9 students have been studying future threats. This has included threats such as overpopulation, climate change, rising sea levels, and coral bleaching. Next half term students will be studying Biomes.

Year 10:

Year 10 students have been studying urban issues and challenges in London, including the impact of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Next half term, they will be studying coasts, including looking at coastal erosion, waves, and the formation of beaches.

Year 11:

Year 11 students have been completing their fieldwork. This has included a trip to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, where students collected data such as environmental quality surveys and interviews with members of the public. This was a fantastic trip and all students should be proud of how well they represented Arena!

Mr. Nash
Head of Geography

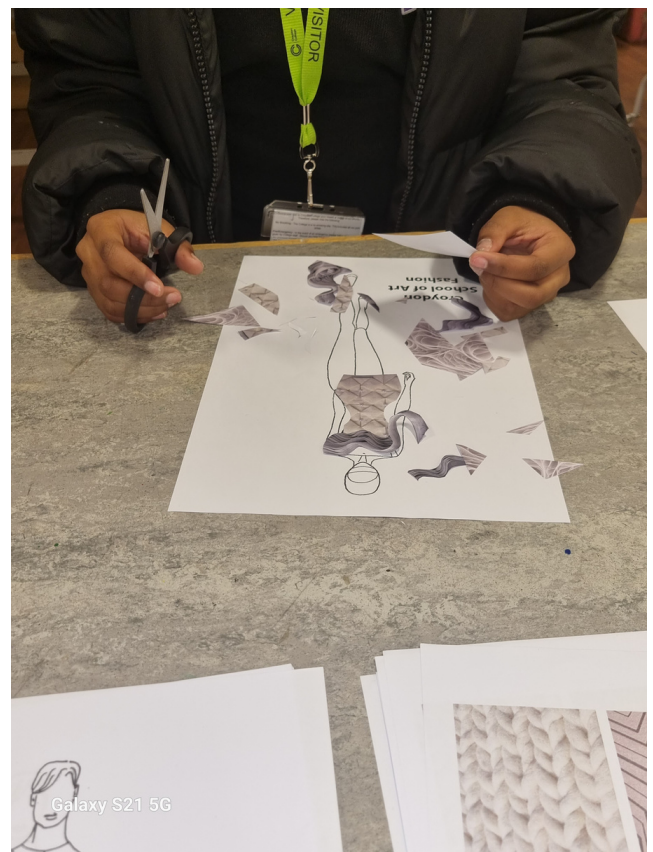
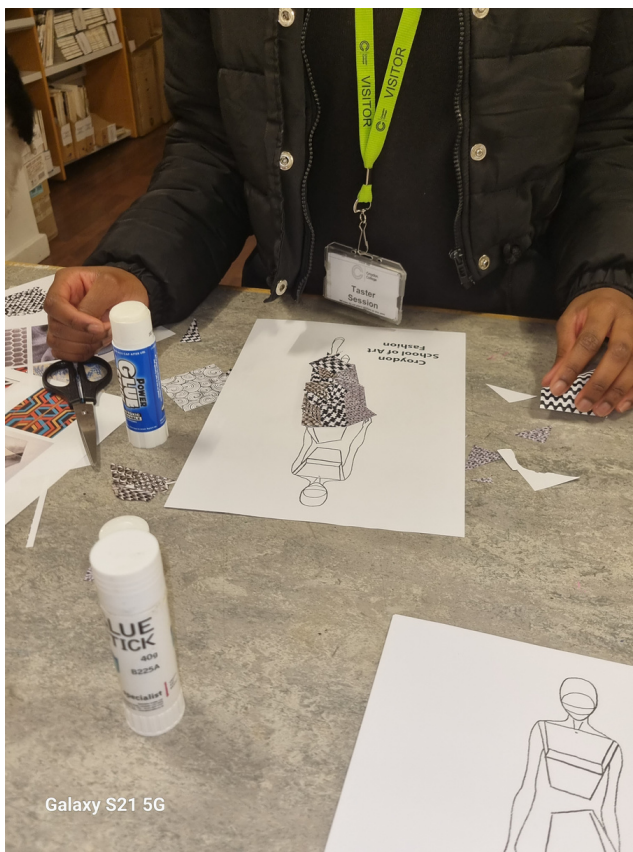


EXCITING COLLABORATION: CREATIVE ARTS AND BUSINESS DEPARTMENTS EXPLORE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT CROYDON COLLEGE!

Our Creative Arts and Business departments joined forces for an enriching careers visit to Croydon College, providing 55 GCSE students with a valuable opportunity to explore various academic paths. The interactive tour of the college and engaging workshops in Art, Ceramics, Music, Animation, Printing, Photography, and Business allowed students to gain firsthand experience in their areas of interest.

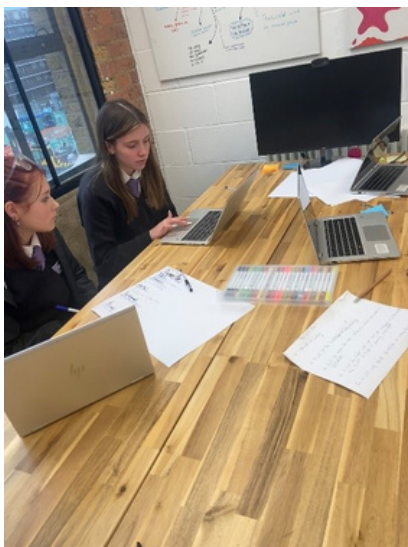
For instance, in the Fashion workshop, students unleashed their creativity by designing outfits using textured patterns, as showcased in the attached images. The Art workshop was equally inspiring, and our students thoroughly enjoyed the exceptional guidance from the college staff. This successful visit has solidified our commitment to making it an annual event, ensuring that our students continue to benefit from such invaluable experiences as they pursue their academic and career aspirations.

Ms. Regis
Head of Year 10 and Art Teacher



IGNITING THE FUTURES PROGRAMME

Five of our Year 10 SEND students had the opportunity to participate in our 'Igniting the Futures programme'. Sculpt (an advocacy charity who are one of our careers education partners) ran a 3 week, Igniting the Future, programme with 5 of our Y10 SEND students. The programme focuses on supporting our students towards readiness for work and improving communication and presentation skills. Students had 2 sessions in school and 1 afternoon visiting the Sculpt offices in Bermondsey, near Tower Bridge. The sessions focused on customer service, personal finance and project-based work on Business Planning and Mock interviews. The students engaged well and were delighted to have this opportunity, as they start thinking about what they would like to do after they leave school.



SENDIAS COFFEE MORNINGS FOR PARENTS

We have been holding free SENDIAS Coffee mornings for parents, every month. SENDIAS works with thousands of families across the country each year providing a wide range of services. SENDIAS works with thousands of families across the country each year, providing a wide range of services.

This includes:

- Impartial and confidential advice and information for families on SEND around Education, Health, and Care
- Support with Education, Health and Care Plans, personal budgets, person-centered planning, and how to use the Local Offer
- Support with writing letters and completing forms, and assistance with discussions and meetings with schools, the Local Authority, SEN team, and SEND professionals
- Support with resolving disagreements, helping families to consider the best way forward
- Information and signposting to support services in the area
- Support with Transition and preparing for Adulthood
- Support with signposting to the specialist mediation team
- Weekly SEND drop-in sessions
- Free monthly workshops for parents on SEND subjects.

Every workshop that we host at the school focuses on different areas for parents of SEND students. Please do contact Atlanta Crawford, our SENCO atlanta.crawford@oasisarena.org, if you wish to attend any of these sessions and we will let you know when the next coffee morning is being held. The last session we had was on the application process for Education Health and Care Plans.

YEAR 7 NURTURE GROUP

We run a Year 7 Nurture group for students that may find it difficult to manage their emotions and cope with the rigours of a normal school environment, on a day-to-day basis.

The students in these groups may have had a difficult start in life or may simply be finding school life more difficult than most. The activities in these groups include group discussions, role-play, team building communication exercises, building games, such as Lego, quizzes, bingo, word puzzles, video clips, painting, drawing, and news stories. Topics we cover, include bullying, peer pressure, internet safety, self-esteem, and also social communication, including body language.

All of our nurture groups are set up with the underpinning of the six founding (Marjorie Boxall) principles. These are:



As we are a secondary school, the nurture group activities are often linked to the core curriculum. The activities take place in a safe and secure environment where students can build trusting relationships with adults. The group is always run by myself and another staff member.

This term, we have focused on bullying, and the students produced posters to 'concrete' the information that they have learned in the Nurture Group. Some of these are shown below:





Amazing.....!!!!

Beverley Manderson
SEND Manager

beverley.manderson@oasisarena.org

PARENTS LEARNING ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE AT ARENA



Learning never stops for families at Oasis Academy Arena. Here is a picture of some of our fantastic parent learners at Oasis Academy Arena.

The next opportunity to begin these classes will be in February. Contact jenny.aarons@oasisarena.org if you are interested in joining us.

Ms. Aarons
Assistant SENCO

CROYDON STANDS TALL

We are thrilled to have shared our giraffe with Oasis Academy Ryelands as part of the Croydon Stands Tall project. Our giraffe has been proudly displayed at Marks and Spencer as part of the giraffe trial in Croydon Town Centre and we can't wait to welcome it back home after its public showcase. We are proud to have been part of this exciting initiative hosted by Croydon Stands Tall for the London Borough London of Culture.

Ms. Aarons
Assistant SENCO



ACADEMY UPDATES

COMMUNITY MEAL

On 14th December, Oasis Academy Arena hosted a heartwarming Community Meal in collaboration with Reaching Higher and Oasis Ashburton Park Hub, bringing together 150 members of our vibrant community. The event was a resounding success, filled with joy, laughter, and delightful moments captured in our photo booth.

From engaging games to mouthwatering dishes, including the unforgettable duck bread featured in the photos, it was an evening to remember for all who attended. We are grateful for the opportunity to foster connections and create lasting memories with our Oasis Academy Arena family.

Ms. Aarons
Assistant SENCO





Place2Be is a specialist school counseling service which has been in operation for over 25 years supporting mental health and well-being for school students, parents and families.

The service is based here at Oasis Arena on a Tuesday and Wednesday.

We offer counselling for students and also a drop in service called Place2Talk which the students can refer themselves to talk over issues, for example, loss, exam stress, anxiety, fitting in and to support general well-being, confidence building and self-esteem.

All students (Year 7-11) have direct access to the service by using their school email

Place2talk@oasisarena.org

We also run support and wellbeing app based services for parents and these can be accessed via the main P2Be website

Please do get in touch if you want any more information about any of the Place2Be Services.

Thanks, Best Wishes,

paula.mckee@place2be.org.uk



A fresh approach to parenting

Let us be your 'bringers of hope'



HOW WOULD YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

Have your relationships with your children broken down?

Have you tried everything under the sun and feel like giving up, or have you?

Do you feel like no one really understands how hard it is?

Are you willing to try something new to restore your relationship with your child?

IF YOU ANSWERED, 'YES'...



YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US

The ENCOUNTER course is based on an internationally recognised approach by Haim Omer to help support parents and care-givers within their home. The course provides a safe space for people to come together and look at what some of the challenges you face are and provide some tools and techniques to help you when things might be tough.

We will teach you these techniques over 10 weeks and offer real support to make a real success.

You can select one of the online courses to attend:

Monday: 7pm-8:30pm

Monday: 7pm-8:30pm
(Specialist group for children who struggle to attend school)

Tuesday: 12:30pm-2pm

Thursday: 10:30am-12.30pm

Courses begin January 15th 2024

THE ENCOUNTER COURSE

Week One:
Introduction & Overview

Week Two:
Parental Presence & Self-Care

Week Three:
Reconciliation & Relational Gestures

Week Four:
De-escalation

Week Five:
Supporters & Siblings

Week Six:
Accommodating Behaviour

Week Seven:
Baskets & Announcements

Week Eight:
Announcements

Week Nine:
Sit-ins

Week Ten:
Review and Graduation

Looking after any child is difficult and when there are extra challenges this can at times become overwhelming and we can all do with a bit of help. This programme will look at the reason behind behaviours, how we can learn from them, what is the best way to approach some situations and how we can diffuse them with the least amount of resistance from our young person. We will also look at the relationship you have as a whole and where you would like to be so we have something to help you work towards.

This approach has helped thousands of families all around the world, and we would like to invite you to take part.

Change and transformation is not easy, but it can be achieved - one step at a time.

You will have the support of a team of experienced practitioners and other parents who are experiencing similar issues to you. We will walk with you every step of the way

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO OR TO REFER YOURSELF:

click the link below or scan the code to complete a referral form and the team will be in touch shortly:



<https://forms.office.com/e/6a80UaDeZT>

oasisencounter@oasisuk.org

I have found it helpful to pause, reassess and reconsider our son and his behaviour and the best way to support him, in a fair but compassionate way.



This course is online and free to attend but requires full commitment to the 10 weeks. We will celebrate all achievements no matter how small



Useful contacts whilst your child is waiting for an assessment

If my child is unwell what can I do? Who should they see?

Contact the duty worker at Croydon CAMHS

- 020 3228 0000
-

If I cannot reach the team and I am worried about my child's safety, I can phone:

- GP
 - NHS direct: 111
 - Go to my local Accident and Emergency department, or telephone 999
-

Outside of office hours, if my child needs support or I am worried about their or someone else's safety, I can phone:

- GP
- CAMHS Crisis Line: 020 3228 5980 - Weekdays 5pm to 11pm, Saturday, Sunday and bank holidays 9am to 11pm
- SLAM crisis line: 0800 731 2864
- NHS direct: 111
- The Samaritans: 0845 790 9090
- Child line on 0800 1111
- Go to my local Accident and Emergency department, OR
- Telephone emergency services on 999

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- My local GP
- CAMHS Crisis Line on 020 3228 5980. Lines are open weekdays from 5pm to 11pm, and weekends and bank holidays from 9am to 11pm
- SLAM crisis line: 0800 731 2864
- NHS Direct: 111
- The Samaritans: 0845 790 9090
- Child line on 0800 1111
- Go to my local accident and emergency department, or telephone emergency services on 999

Parents in Partnership (PIP)

Website: pipcroydon.com

Email: office@pipcroydon.com

Telephone: 020 8663 5626

Address: Carers Support Centre, 24 George Street, Croydon, CRO 1PB

Parents in Partnership supports parent carers of children and young people with additional needs and disabilities aged 0-25 living in Croydon.

Carers Information Service

Website: www.carersinfo.org.uk

Email: enquiries@carersinfo.org.uk

Telephone: 020 8649 9339, and then option 1

Address: Carers Support Centre, 24 George Street, Croydon, CRO 1PB

Provides support, advocacy and advice on a range of carers issues including accessing short breaks, benefits, grants and social support groups

Centre of Change

Website: www.centreofchange.org.uk

Email: centreofchangeproject@hotmail.com

Telephone: 07758 702 452 / 01689 847444

Address: 111 Chertsey Crescent, Central Parade, New Addington, Croydon CR0 0DH

Centre of Change provides support to young people aged 10 – 25, adults and families. Through counselling, coaching, mentoring, education, and relevant projects.

Croydon Drop-In

Website: croydondropin.org.uk

Email: enquiries@croydondropin.org.uk

Telephone: 020 8680 0404

Address: 132 Church St, Croydon CR0 1RF

Free, confidential, advice, advocacy, information, health support and counselling to young people aged 11 to 25 who live, work or study in Croydon.

Family Lives

Website: www.familylives.org.uk

Email: askus@familylives.org.uk

Helpline: 0808 800 2222

Family Lives offers a confidential and free helpline service for families in England and Wales (previously known as Parentline).

Call 0808 800 2222 for emotional support, information, advice and guidance on any aspect of parenting and family life.

Other support services you can access

Family Navigators

Website: cvalive.org.uk/empowering-the-community/croydon-family-power/family-navigators

Email: cva@cvalive.org.uk

Telephone: 020 8253 7060

Address: CVA Resource Centre, 82 London Road, Croydon CR0 2TB

Family Navigators have been working in six Croydon voluntary sector organisations to help families navigate the maze of local services and find the help and support they need. Free one to one support is provided, usually short term, in a place that suits the family best.

Off the Record: Croydon

Website: www.talkofftherecord.org

Email: info@talkofftherecord.org

Telephone: 020 8251 0251

Address: 72 Queen's Road, Croydon, CR0 2PR

Our Online Counselling service is open to young people aged 11-25 from Croydon, Sutton and Merton.

If you are a young person signing up for online support, please visit our website at talkofftherecord.org and follow how to sign up/register. If you are a parent or professional wanting to know more information, please email onlinecounselling@talkofftherecord.org

Exciting news: Online Workshops are now running! Take a look at our programme and sign up for free via the 'Workshops' tab located at the top of the same web page.

More important news: Our online drop-in service runs from 4.00 - 6.00pm every Monday. You can register via our website between 2.00 and 5.30pm every Monday (just click on the 'Drop-In Support' box between these hours). We aim to offer everyone who registers a live chat session of at least 20 minutes with one of our counsellors.

Kooth

Website: www.kooth.com

Email: contact@kooth.com

Kooth is a free, online chat service that works on your phone or computer. It's anonymous, free and open up until 10pm 365 days a year. There are no waiting times and it integrates with face-to-face local services to ensure a seamless transition when needed.

Qualified counsellors, therapists and support workers provide guided, outcome focused help for each individual. Children and young people can visit www.kooth.com to chat to professional counsellors, read articles written by young people, receive peer-to-peer support and keep a daily journal.