

WEEK ENDING 20TH JANUARY 2023

# KINGS ACADEMY BINFIELD & OAKWOOD NEWSLETTER



## MESSAGE FROM MRS MOORE

Dear Parents Carers,

As I am sure you are aware, the fire alarm has sounded a number of times at KAB this week. Clearly, these false alarms cause significant inconvenience and disruption to students, staff, and visitors. They compromise everyone's safety in school, present a significant risk and cause distress to some of our younger and more vulnerable students. Action is being taken to sanction those who have been involved in this dangerous and irresponsible behaviour. A letter has been sent to parents at [KAB Secondary](#) and [KAB Primary](#) with further information, and you can view a copy of these letters by clicking on the links.

I also wish to offer an apology for the error made in the dates concerning the end of the Spring term. The paragraph should have read as follows:

***It has been brought to my attention that at the end of this term, the calendar shows a full day when we break up for the Easter holiday on Friday 31 March 2023. As usual, we will provide further information on this nearer the time, but please note that Friday 31 March 2023 will be a half day.***

*In advance of the first of the teachers strikes announced by the NEU on 1st February 2023 please see your email for a separate letter with initial information. Further information will be sent to you in due course.*

Best wishes,  
Mrs Moore

## BRACKNELL FOREST SEND CONSULTATION

Bracknell Forest Council are reviewing their strategy for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). They are holding three online sessions for parents, carers and young people to find out more and share their views on the draft strategy.

- Monday 30th January 1pm – 2.30pm
- Wednesday 1st February 1pm – 2.30pm
- Thursday 2nd February 6pm – 7.30pm



## CONTACT INFO:

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### King's Academy Oakwood

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586399

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Dare To Be Remarkable



This will be complemented by an online survey to gather your thoughts and views. If you would like to participate in one of these sessions, please send an email to [marc.o'hagan@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:marc.o'hagan@bracknell-forest.gov.uk) by Thursday 26th January and indicate which dates/times would be preferable.

## PRIMARY UPDATES

### OPEN AFTERNOON - KAB PRIMARY AND KAO

We are very excited to welcome our current primary phase parents and carers into the primary classrooms and share your child's learning with you. Will we dismiss the children at 3:30pm as normal. Please wait a few minutes on the playground and we will open the doors again at 3:50pm until 4:30pm.

You will have the opportunity to look around the classroom, look in your children's books and the teacher will be in the classroom to answer any questions about the curriculum. You are also welcome to look around the other classrooms in school to see the learning that will take place in future years for your children.

The open afternoon dates are:

- KAB (primary phase): Tuesday 7th February 3:50pm - 4:30pm
- KAO: Wednesday 8th February 3:50pm - 4:30pm



### INTERNET SAFETY MESSAGE

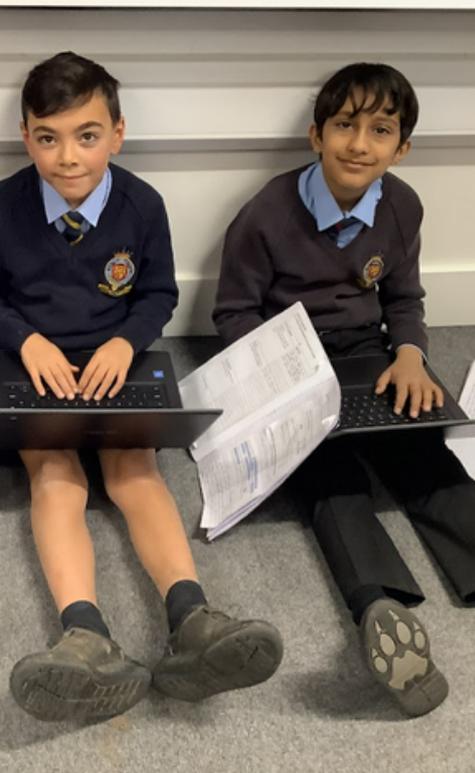
In the primary phase, the children are talking about characters such as Huggy Wuggy who are from a computer game called Poppy Playtime. Whilst many of the children know these characters due to the merchandise on sale in shops rather than from the computer game itself, please can you ensure that they are only accessing Kids YouTube and be mindful that they may try and search for these characters or this game if they are interested.

This might be a good time to check your internet safety settings and to encourage your children to use safe search engines designed for children. For further information and ways to support your children to access the internet safely please visit: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

### PRIMARY PE UPDATE FROM MR FISHER

This term will see a lot of activity for Primary PE across both schools with a whopping 12 events across the next 2 and a half months. We have already hit the ground running with a Year 5/6 Indoor Athletics event at Bracknell Leisure centre last week. It was the first-time children at King's Academy Oakwood have entered into an Indoor Athletics event but it was safe to say they thoroughly enjoyed it. As the only school who had just year 5 attending, the children performed brilliantly and represented the school respectfully showing some of the school's DARE values. Aspiring to win their





events and determined to do their best. Even one of the host coaches, who knew we were only year 5, came over and said to the children how well they performed and how great it was to see such effort.

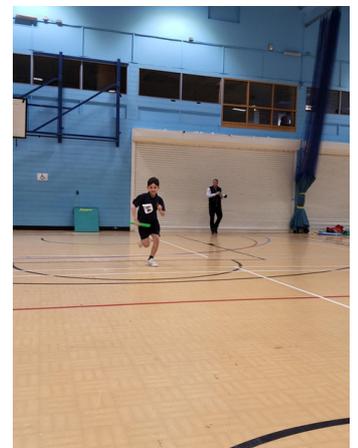
Yesterday I had the opportunity to take a team from both Oakwood and Binfield to a Boccia tournament at Kings Academy Easthampstead Park. This was a great chance for children who don't like large crowds to try something new and represent the school. Again, the children that attended played brilliantly and epitomised all the values that we share at King's Academy. They were quite happy to have all received a medal each as well!

What has been fantastic to see over the past term and start of this term is the opportunity the children have taken to take part in competitive fixtures/events and also non-competitive skills events. The skills events are mainly played at Year 3/4, encouraging children to take part and learn new skills. Year 5/6 are the more competitive competitions and league fixtures. However, in just over a term, we have had excellent coverage and opportunities for children in KS2. Using King's Academy as a statistic, the following percentages of children have represented the school so far:

- **Year 5** - 24/30 children - 80% of year 5
- **Year 4** - 15/30 children - 50% of year 4
- **Year 3** - 30/30 children - 100% of year 3

That is a huge coverage in just over 1 term! This includes events such as the whole of year 3 attending the Bouldering Festival as well as skills event, Year 5's entering competitive leagues and competitions and there will soon be a KSI event coming after half term.

Binfield numbers have been slightly less due to only having a year 3 but with events for them such as Bouldering, Badminton and Indoor Athletics to come, they will have fantastic experiences ahead of them.





## SECONDARY UPDATES

### VIRTUAL ROUTES INTO STEM

During February half term 2023 there is a Virtual Routes into STEM course which is aimed at students in Year 9 & 10. This unique course offers a content for students in England, Scotland and Wales covering:

- College Life, University Life as well as Apprenticeship routes in the different settings of college, university and industry.
- Live sessions to meet and ask questions to STEM students, ambassadors and industry professionals.
- Workshops in various sectors such as:
  - Design and the Built Environment with Arup, Murphy, Balfour Beatty and others.
  - Transport and Flight with BAE Systems, Network Rail, Leonardo etc and Studying Aerospace Engineering at University.
  - The future of Technology by WCIT, studying IT at college and university, Phyton Tutorial and more!
  - The Future of Medicine at University, GSK and NHS Careers.
  - The Electric Revolution and Net Zero Explained by Innovate UK, Siemens, Rolls-Royce and many more!
  - Energy including Babcock International, Cory Riverside Energy, Bechtel etc.
  - Problem Solving – Maths and Forensics including Maths at University, Maths Careers, Forensic Science etc.

Places are limited so if you haven't applied yet, do not delay and apply by the 23rd January! For more information and the application form please click [here](#).

### VIRTUAL CAREERS EVENT

[Rate My Apprenticeship](#) invites students to a free virtual careers event on Tuesday 21st February (after school). This information-packed online event is perfect for students in years 10-13 (and their parents) who are considering their options and want to learn more about what apprenticeships really entail.

By joining, your students will:

- Meet employers, including Deloitte, Mazars, BDO, Accenture and PwC
- get face time with current apprentices to find out what life as an apprentice is really like
- quiz recruiters on how to be successful when applying
- get an exclusive employability session with The University of Law.

[Click here](#) for further details.

### SPORT IN MIND ACTIVITIES

Please see the poster on **page 5** for details of Berkshire NHS Sport In Mind sessions which are designed to offer secondary age students activities to promote mental wellbeing and boost self esteem.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

Thursday 26th January	Year 8 Parents Evening
Wednesday 8th February	End of half term - normal finish time
Thursday 9th February	INSET Day (school closed to students)
Friday 10th February	INSET Day (school closed to students)
Monday 20th February	Start of new half term (all students in school)
Thursday 2nd March	Year 9 Parents Evening

### East Berkshire



# Sport In Mind

FREE!

Registered Charity 1161323

## Youth Activities for Mental Wellbeing

Sport in Mind provides **free sport** and **physical activity** opportunities for children and young people to help build confidence and self esteem, meet new people and support low mood and other mental health challenges.

#### East Berkshire Sessions (Spring term)

Day	Time	Activity	Age	Venue
Mon	4-5pm	Sports & Games	10-14 years	Braywick Leisure Centre, Maidenhead
Thurs	4-5pm	Sports & Games	10-14 years	Bracknell Leisure Centre, Bracknell
Thurs	5-6pm	Sports & Games	10-14 years	Singh Sabha Sports Centre, Slough

Please note: Slough sessions will return on 23rd February 2023. You can still sign up in advance!

@sportinmind  
 info@sportinmind.org  
 www.sportinmind.org  
 01189479762

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FREE!

## Sport & Games - for Youth Mental Wellbeing

**Time**   Thursdays 4:00- 5:00PM (10-14 years) during termtime

**Venue**   Bracknell Leisure Centre, Bracknell

**Description**   Fun, free and interactive sessions to help improve the mental wellbeing of young people. A great way to help build confidence, support self-esteem and meet new people. To book please email: youth@sportinmind.org

This group is provided **FREE** by mental health charity Sport In Mind for the benefit of local young people. Your local representative is Hannah.

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