



Year 6 Open Evening: Thursday 3rd October 5-7pm

Open Mornings on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th October at 9:00am and 9:50am

Book your place here <https://forms.office.com/e/8FPeQaFJPE>

Weekly Message from Mrs Clark

This week started off with taking the WHF media team around the site to show case our amazing school. We saw students practicing instruments in music, year 10s making pasta, some great science experiments as well of lots of other subjects. These photos will be up on our website soon. Our year 11 students have been fully engaging with the revision session, with over 60 students staying for English revision in the hall on Tuesday, which was great to see.

A big thank you to all the staff that volunteer to run these extra sessions, including Mrs Pearce, for organising the amazing Y7 trips.

Year 7 Thoulstone Park

I've had an exhausting but fantastic week with our Year 7 students who have attended Thoulstone Park for our activity days run by the Wiltshire Outdoor Learning Team (WOLT). It's been a real pleasure to spend time with them, to watch them grow in confidence over the course of just one day and to hear the encouragement and support given to each other throughout – showing that we are all a team within the wider Melksham Oak community. I've watched students push themselves well out of their comfort zones, try new things and discover new talents within the activities provided; climbing, crate stacking, car skittles, archery, pioneering and low ropes. Walking through the fields hearing their excited voices and watching them laughing and having fun has been amazing and despite the sometimes gloomy weather, thunderstorms and torrential rain, we've had smiles all round – I feel incredibly proud to work with these students and am excited to see how much they grow and develop over the course of the year.

Oh, and how could I not mention the cakes? For several years now, we've run cake competitions during our Year 7 activity days and I was so pleased to be able to run it again this year. The cakes and biscuits made by the students to share with their friends and the staff team were delicious and I'm appreciative of your support in this.





Interim Academy Board

The Interim Academy Board met for their first meeting of this academic year.

We were delighted to meet with the new Senior Leadership Team who gave us an overview of their roles and responsibilities. It is always useful to put faces to names and to know to whom to address any questions we have.

As last year we focussed on our priority areas of support and challenge namely:

Safeguarding, we were very reassured to note that the first external audit of the year on October 11th showed the school was compliant with statutory requirements. The safeguarding team in school is strong and posters around the school keep pupils and visitors aware of its composition.

Behaviour, governors were pleased to report that during their visits to school students were courteous in replying to greetings.

Attendance, which continues to need staunch support from parents in common with trends across the country

Quality of Education, we reviewed the summer exam results and systems now in place to support this year's exam students

We are now in a position to begin reconstituting a full Local Governance Committee much sooner than we anticipated. This is due to the hard work of the SLT and strong input to the school from TWHF and IAB members. We are currently talking to new potential governors in addition to those who were governors previously. You will hear more news about this over the coming months.

Best wishes

Dr Moira Laffey Chair IAB and SEND Link Governor

Sharon Adams Safeguarding and Careers Link Governor

Paul Berry Pupil Premium Link Governor

School Car Park

Whilst at busy times of the day it might seem small we are very fortunate to have a large parking area at school. Please can we ask that all car park users follow our school values and are courteous to others when using the car park and avoid blocking spaces. Please be extra mindful of allowing access to the disabled spaces.



Melksham Oak
Community School

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 3rd October, 5.00 - 7.00pm
NO BOOKING NECESSARY

Visit our Admissions Page

An opportunity for parents and children to tour the school, get involved in subject-based activities and to hear a presentation by our Head Teacher.

Melksham Oak Community School, SN12 6QZ

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Free School Meals

Families receiving support such as income support, job seekers allowance, employment and support allowance, child tax credit or universal credit may be eligible for free school meals.

Please apply online through the Wiltshire council website: <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-free-school-meals>

If you have recently moved into Wiltshire from another county you will also still need to apply even if you were entitled to free school meals at your child's last school.

Photo Permissions

We love to be able to share photos of students taking part in all the exciting activities we have going on at Melksham Oak. To do this we need your permission. If you haven't given permission or simply cannot remember and would like to give consent for us to use your child in any publication please send us an e-mail to admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

Year 11 Support—Autumn Term 2024

Subject	Support Offered - e.g. Revision, coursework catch up, drop in session	Day	Time	By invitation or All Welcome
Maths	Revision	Wednesday	Period 7	By invitation
English	Revision	Tuesday	Period 7	All welcome - sign up sheet outside L1
Science	Revision	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	Period 7	All welcome - sign up to sessions in lessons
History	Revision	Tuesday and Thursday	Period 7	All welcome
Art	Coursework Catch up	Tuesday or Wednesday	Period 7	Art students to attend one session per week
PE	Coursework Catch up	Monday	Period 7	All welcome
PE	Coursework Catch up	Thursday	Period 7	Invite only
PE	Badminton practical	Thursday	Period 7	All welcome

Year 11 English revision is every Tuesday, please sign up outside L1 by the end of the day on Monday. The focus this week will be on 'An Inspector Calls' and past paper exam questions.

Well done to all of the pupils who attended on Tuesday. I was extremely impressed with their enthusiasm, positive attitude and excellent behaviour! - Mrs Robinson, Head of English



Careers

We are always looking for business professionals to support our Careers Education here at Melksham Oak.

Do you know of someone who can help engage, inspire and motivate our students? Please email Miss Tranter, Head of Careers tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

Our Collapsed timetable events are below – if you are an employer, ambassador or business professional and can spare any time, we would be most grateful for your time.

Please do sign up and save the dates as soon as you can <https://forms.office.com/r/ejL4xgQKbG>

DATE	Event	Employer Requirement	Times	TYPES of Volunteers
Post 16	W/C 23 September W/C 30th Sept W/C 7th October	Post 16 Providers to each deliver 1 assembly and a lunch time stand to Year 11's – 9 slots available Monday - Weds	12-2pm	FE Colleges Training providers Forces
10th December 2024	Year 8 Experiences of the Workplace	Inspire our Year 8's with an experience of your workplace workshop in lesson time – Sessions delivered on rotation to groups of 28	9am-3pm	Any Employers in STEM
4th Feb 2025	Apprenticeships, Apprentices and Alumni	Whole School Assembly on Rotation about Apprenticeships	9am-3pm	Apprentice Ambassador Apprenticeship Employer and apprentice from MOCS
5th March 2025	Employability Ready Programme Year 10 and 12	Recruitment and Selection Mock Assessment Centre – Mock Interviewers needed	9am-3pm	ALL Professionals as Mock Interviewers
15th July 2025	Next Steps Fair	Whole School business insights fair.	8am-2.30pm	ALL Employers, Providers, Charities, Skills, Work Experience, Uni's, Colleges

RUH Careers Evening

We are excited to let you know that the RUH is hosting our next Careers Evening on Thursday 17th October 2024. Please see attached poster for marketing with students.

Date: 17th October 2024

Time slot 1: 17:00-18:00 / Time slot 2: 18:30-19:30

Venue: Education Centre (E7), Combe Park, Bath, BA1 3NG

You can register here: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/royalunitedhospitalsbathnhsfoundationtrust/1322881>

Only one ticket is required per person and this will automatically include 1 parent/guardian.

The event is for students from Year 7-13 and provides them with the opportunity to speak to NHS colleagues, find out about careers in health care and take part in interactive activities. Just some of the departments attending will be Maternity, Vascular Studies, Radiology, Apprenticeships and Research & Development. There will be some questions to answer on the booking form including whether students give permission for photographs during the event. This question will be asked again on entry by our staff.

Only 1 ticket is required per person and will admit a parent/Guardian also. Tickets are limited due to the size of the building.

Bath College
OPEN EVENTS 2024/25

Transform Your Future at Bath College

UPCOMING OPEN EVENTS 24/25

- Wednesday 2nd October 2024 | 4pm-7pm | City Centre
- Wednesday 4th November 2024 | 4pm-7pm | Somer Valley
- Saturday 23rd November 2024 | 10am-1pm | City Centre
- Saturday 25th January 2025 | 10am-1pm | Somer Valley
- Wednesday 5th March 2025 | 4pm-7pm | City Centre
- Wednesday 26th March 2025 | 4pm-7pm | Somer Valley
- Wednesday 12th February 2025 | 4pm-7pm | City Centre & Somer Valley | Apprenticeship & T-Level
- Wednesday 23rd April 2025 | 4pm-7pm | City Centre & Somer Valley | Adult Skills
- Wednesday 7th May 2025 | 4pm-7pm | City Centre & Somer Valley | SEND Open Event (for those that want a quieter, less overwhelming experience)

Book Your Place Now!
www.bathcollege.ac.uk/openevents



PE Enrichment

PE Clubs for terms 1 and 2. Students are to come down to PE promptly after school. It's free to come and join.

Terms 1 & 2 Enrichment				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3.00pm – 4.00pm				
Multi-skills Club (invite only) CWI	Rugby Year 7-9 Boys HWA Rugby Years 7-9 Girls EPR	Netball year 7 RSA Netball Year 8 EPR Netball Year 9 CWI Year 10 & 11 Netball training	Badminton RSA Football Girls Year 7-9 NBA Football Boys U13 & U16 Squad training Self Defence Year 7-9 girls only Limited numbers each term Contact RSA to sign up.	

Self-Defence

We have had great interest in students wanting to attend our self-defence course. The lasts a term, approximately 6 weeks and is delivered by a specialist self-defence instructor, Helen Llwyn. The course focuses on supporting girls in developing:

- Practical self-defence techniques.
- A focus on movement, breath work and relaxation and posture.
- Enhance self-awareness and resilience.
- Help equip them to handle various situations effectively.

Please email Mrs Sawyer sawyerr@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk to sign up. Courses will run throughout the year each term so please email interest to secure your daughters place in one of the courses.



Melksham Oak
Community School



Newsletter

Friday 27th September



Self Defence half day workshop

MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER
BRADFORD ON AVON
2PM - 5PM. SECONDARY AGE
COST £25

Mighty Girls & Helen from Systema bring you:

- **Practical self-defence techniques**
- **A focus on movement, breath work, relaxation, and posture**
- **Enhance self-awareness & resilience**
- **Help equip you to handle various situations effectively**

www.mightygirls.co.uk or QR Code to book





Year 11 Careers Assemblies

Year 11 students have been gearing up with information, advice and guidance about their post 16 options this week with assemblies and interactive stands delivered from Wiltshire College, Bath College, Bath Royal, Army, Navy and RAC.

If your child would like to have an individual guidance session, they can email Miss Tranter directly for an appointment to be scheduled :-
tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk



OPEN DAYS 2024/2025



October		
Thurs 3 October	5pm-7pm	Trowbridge
Sat 5 October	10am-12pm	Lackham
Tues 8 October	5pm-7pm	Salisbury
Thurs 10 October	5pm-7pm	Chippenham

November		
Sat 9 November	10am-12pm	Chippenham
Sat 9 November	10am-12pm	Lackham
Sat 16 November	10am-12pm	Salisbury
Sat 23 November	10am-12pm	Trowbridge

January/February		
Wed 22 January	5pm-7pm	Trowbridge
Thurs 23 January	5pm-7pm	Salisbury
Wed 29 January	5pm-7pm	Chippenham
Sat 1 February	10am-12pm	Lackham

April/May		
Wed 30 April	5pm-7pm	Chippenham
Thurs 1 May	5pm-7pm	Trowbridge
Tues 6 May	5pm-7pm	Salisbury
Sat 10 May	10am-12pm	Lackham

Scan the QR code to sign up or register at wiltshire.ac.uk



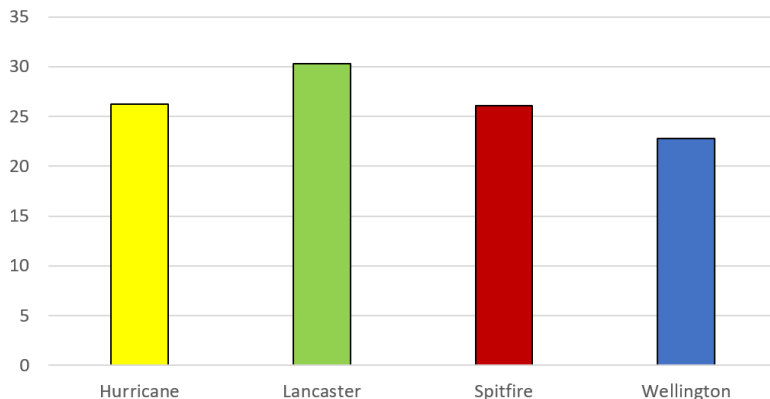


Merits

Over 30,000 merits have been awarded since the start of term.

Lancaster house are still ahead with an average of over 30 merits per student!

Average Merits per Student



Key Contacts

In the first instance please contact your child’s tutor, who will be best placed to answer your query or direct you to the best person who can give you an answer. Details of the pastoral team are below:

Pastoral Team

- Year 7: Mrs H. Pearce pearceh@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk
- Year 8: Mrs H. Johnson johnsonh@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk
- Year 9: Mr L. Ballinger ballingerl@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk
- Year 10: Mrs C. Hughes hughesc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk
- Year 11: Mr J. Oatley oatleyj@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

KS5 Leads

- Mrs K. Jones jonesk@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk
- Mr C. Butter butterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

Head of Careers Education

- Ms C. Tranter tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk

Early Closure

Please be aware that on **Thursday 3rd October the school will be closing at 2:10pm** to allow the school to prepare for Open Evening.



Upcoming Events

- Thursday 3rd October:** Yr 6 Prospective Parents’ Open Evening & Yr11 Business Studies trip.
- Thursday 10th October:** Yr7-13 Meet the tutor evening 16:00 - 19:00 (booking information to follow)
- Monday 14th October:** Start of Yr11 & 13 Mocks