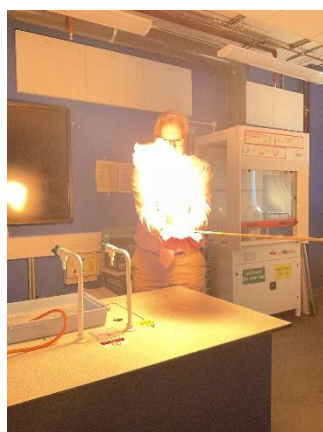




### A message from Mr Mitchell, Assistant Headteacher

It's been another busy and exciting week at Melksham Oak!

Our Rise Event on Tuesday saw 70 of our Year 9 students take part in a brilliant skills-building event focused on teamwork and creativity. Students tackled a range of fun, curriculum-linked challenges designed to build essential skills like problem-solving, communication, and collaboration – all of which are highly valued by employers.

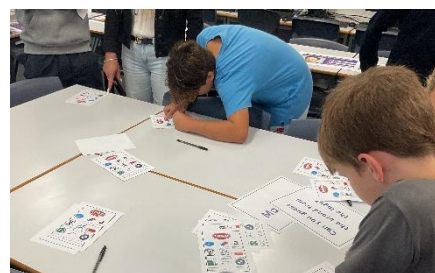
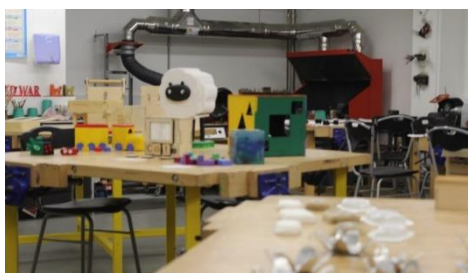


On Wednesday evening, we were thrilled to welcome many prospective families to our Open Evening. It was fantastic to see so many of our students proudly showing visitors around the school. Families had the chance to meet our dedicated staff, explore a variety of subject areas, and experience first-hand the warm, friendly, and welcoming community that makes Melksham Oak Community School so special. If you missed out would like to find out any more information about our school please do e-mail [admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)



Finally on Friday, we had school photos, so look out for the QR codes coming home.

Wishing you all a restful weekend – we're looking forward to another great week ahead!







## Year 11 Triple Scientists

Our Year 11 Triple Science class have been learning about polymers and polymerisation this week, which culminated in the 'slime-off', where each group competed to make the best slime.

Not all of the slime was a success and some students managed to get more colour on their hands than in the slime, but all had fun!



## Year 12 Art & Photography



This week, our talented Year 12 students have been pushing the boundaries in their Art and Photography masterclasses — and the results are seriously impressive!

In Art, students ditched the paintbrushes and picked up *6-foot bamboo sticks* to create bold, oversized ink portraits (yes, it was as fun and messy as it sounds!).

Meanwhile, over in Photography, students turned their images into custom stamps using the laser cutter, exploring new ways to bring their photos to life through printing. Incredible creativity all around — keep it up, Year 12



## Become a Parent Governor

We have one vacancy for a parent governor. More information can be found in the attached brochure or on request to [admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk) Nominations can be made here: <https://forms.office.com/e/YpvBkxuvaa> the deadline is 12pm on 25 September 2025.



## Careers Education

Our Careers Education Programme has kicked off this week in Tutor time – will the roll out of Unifrog for all students. All students have been given a licence to this complete careers platform. Simply log in on [www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org), use student's school email address and re-set their password if forgotten.

unifrog

Careers Education in tutor time will be following the content as below:

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11		YEAR 12	YEAR 13
15-Sep-25	Who am I?	What are my interests?	What are my skills?	Exploring employer profiles	Post 16 – Choices, Choices		1. What is career development?	Post 18 Choices
22-Sep-25	What is a career?	Challenges and rewards of work	What comes after school: the main learning pathways	What type of career is best for me?	Decision making: choosing your post-16 pathway		2. Personality type	How to choose your university subject
29-Sep-25	What is an entrepreneur?	Creating the life you want: making a vision board	Taking control of your career journey	Preparing to go on work experience	Is a T level right for me?		3. Learning style	Using the apprenticeships tool to find the best fit
6-Oct-25	What is a work-life balance?	What does success mean to me?	Working and earning: managing your money	Wellbeing in the workplace	Are A levels right for me?		4. Motivators for work	Drafting your Personal Statement
13-Oct-25	Careers and the future	Careers and the climate	What is the labour market and why is it important?	In person, hybrid, and remote: what works best?	Are BTECs right for me?		5. Job Sector quiz	Using the UK universities tool to find the best fit
20-Oct-25	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY	HOLIDAY		6. How to research career options	<b>YEAR 13 21st OCT</b> <b>Post 18 DAY with Devices</b>

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September, Miss Tranter (Head of Careers) organised for a group of 70 of our Year 9's to be engaged in a skills development workshop; delivered in collaboration with the talent Foundry and Rise Project.

Students participated in a series of curriculum-linked challenges which encouraged them to work collaboratively, in ways that are both familiar to the classroom and relevant to the workplace, utilising the Skills Builder Framework. Well done Year 9's 😊



## Volunteers Needed for our Careers Education – Can you support?

Do you work for a company that could support our Careers Education events and help inspire our young people of the future?





We are in constant need for employers and employees across all subjects and sectors to align curriculum learning with employer engagement.

If you know of anyone that can help, please contact Miss Ceri Tranter, Head of Careers Education on [TranterC@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:TranterC@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk) or call 01225 792700 Ext 712

Careers Events 2025-2026 sign up here: - <https://forms.office.com/e/TebUjfu023>

MELKSHAM OAK	Event Dates	Employer Requirement	Times	Types of Volunteers
Post 16 Pathways Year 11	Oct Assemblies	Post 16 Providers		Post 16 Providers Post-16 Assemblies
Post 18 Pathways Sixth Form	21/10/2025	Post 18 Providers - Collapsed Timetable Afternoon with workshops rotation for Year 13's and parents	12-3pm	Workshops on rotation for students - Providers Uni's, Gap years, employment agencies, apprenticeship providers
Experiences of the Workplace Year 8	9th December 2025	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	Inspire our Year 8's with an experience of your workplace workshop in lesson time – Sessions delivered on rotation to groups of 28
(NAW)Apprenticeships Insight - Apprenticeships, Apprentices and Alumni Whole School	10th Feb 2026 (NAW)	Assembly on Rotation about Apprenticeships	9am-3pm	Apprenticeship Employer and apprentice that attended MOCS (Alumni)
Employability Ready Year 10	10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Recruitment and Selection Mock Assessment Centre – Mock Interviewers, CV workshops, Team Activities and Psychometrics	9am-3pm	ALL Professionals as Mock Interviewers, Observers, Seminars and Application / CV workshop delivery



MELKSHAM OAK	Event Dates	Employer Requirement	Times	Types of Volunteers
Next Steps Fair Whole School	30th June 2025	Business insights fair. Careers Fair style with interactive years.	9am- 3pm	ALL Employers, Providers, Charities, Skills, Work Experience, Uni's, Colleges
Work Experience	6-10th July	Year 10 and 12 Work Experience	1 week	

## INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL MUSIC LESSONS

HAVE YOU LISTENED TO A SONG OVER THE  
SUMMER AND THOUGHT I WANT TO  
PLAY OR SING THAT?

WHY NOT SIGN UP FOR LESSONS WITH OUR  
VISITING MUSIC TEACHERS?

TO SIGN UP PLEASE EMAIL REQUESTS TO:  
EMAIL [THOMASMI@MELKSHAMOAK.WILTS.SCH.UK](mailto:THOMASMI@MELKSHAMOAK.WILTS.SCH.UK)





## 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 Manager

Ms A. Berry

[berrya@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:berrya@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)

### Heads of Year

Year 7	Mrs H. Pearce
Year 8	Mrs C. Hughes
Year 9	Mr J. Oatley
Year 10	Mr L. Ballinger
Year 11	Miss S. Abraham
6th Form	Ms R. Cooper

[pearceh@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:pearceh@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
[hughesc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:hughesc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
[oatleyj@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:oatleyj@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
[ballingerl@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ballingerl@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
[abrahams@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:abrahams@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
[cooperr@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:cooperr@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)

To e-mail any other staff member  
please e-mail  
[admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)  
with a subject line of FAO: <staff  
name>

### Head of Careers Education

Ms C. Tranter

[tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:tranterc@melkshamoak.wilts.sch.uk)



## Upcoming Events

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September:** Year 7 Tutor Trips

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October:** Meet the Tutor evening (more details to follow)

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October:** Year 11 Mocks

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October:** Year 13 Post 18 Pathways Event





Melksham Oak  
Community School




Newsletter

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September


# YOUR TOWN YOUR VOICE

Calling all parents and carers  
Help shape the future of Melksham  
by completing our short survey

Scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/mfhp5azm](https://tinyurl.com/mfhp5azm)



**MELKSHAM**  
Town Council





## MIGHTY GIRLS ART CLUB



### MONTHLY MEET UP

**Come and join us for fun, relaxed evenings where we'll explore different art forms and open up conversations about things that matter most to you.**

First Wednesday of the month commencing Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 25

**Stone, Paper, Scissors, Tithe Barn Workshops, 4 Pound Lane,  
Bradford on Avon, BA15 1LF**

**Open to girls aged 12 + ( Year 8 upwards)**

 **6:00 to 7:30 PM**

 **Learn more: [www.mightygirls.co.uk](http://www.mightygirls.co.uk)**



**Positive  
Relationships**



Art Facilitator  
Sharkey