



OAKFIELD ACADEMY
BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE

Edition No 4 22/23

September 2022

FROME CARNIVAL 2022



Saturday afternoon saw the return of the 'Frome Carnival' for the first time since the pandemic and Oakfield Academy pupils and staff were very excited to be taking part once again. This year our theme was 'The Bare Necessities' from the well-loved 'Jungle Book'. The costumes on a jungle theme were spectacular with panthers, bears, monkeys, elephants, flamingos and many more. There was even a life-sized tree AND a banana - BRILLIANT! Our staff and pupils danced and sang their way around Frome with infectious energy bringing smiles to many faces and cheers from the crowds lining the streets. Congratulations to everyone involved for all their hard work, energy and enthusiasm. The judges were clearly impressed and awarded our pupils a 'first prize' certificate in their class. A huge 'thank you' to parents for all the support with costumes and to those who carried the water bottles around the route - you were lifesavers! Huge thanks also to our fabulous staff helpers Mr Oates, Miss Crowther, Miss Davel, Miss Manvill, Mrs Cross and Mrs Wells for all their support painting faces, inflating and carrying balloons, holding banners and music speakers. It really was a special afternoon to remember! Ms C Parsons



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If you would like further information on any of the items in the newsletter, please contact the school office.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter via our website.





REQUEST FROM RESIDENTS OF STOODLEY TERRACE

Kindly do not park inside or in front of this private carpark when collecting or delivering pupils to the academy.

The road is a private road and cones have been placed out to remind motorists, please therefore do not move them.

THANK YOU.



ParentPay®

Kindly check your child's paypal balance regularly to ensure there are sufficient funds for your child's meals and breaktime snacks.


Thank you.



Oakfield Academy Choir returns Tuesday 4th October from 3-4pm in the Hall (everyone welcome). Come along, make new friends and sing your heart out every Tuesday with Ms Parsons!

Sign up via Edulink.

Geography News

If your child is keen on geography, they may be interested in a festival of events running during October to celebrate the  awe-inspiring 450-million-year geology of the Mendip Hills.

Please click on the link for more information.

Disruption to School Transport services in Somerset

We are currently experiencing disruption to school transport services across several routes in the County. This is due to the ongoing shortage of bus and coach drivers in the market. This is not unique to Somerset and is a countrywide issue at present, with many operators struggling to recruit and retain Public Service Vehicle (PSV) drivers. There are also similar shortages of taxi drivers in the county at present.

There are many reasons for this, including: qualified drivers leaving the industry to take up other driver roles such as Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) driving or delivery driving where wage rates are very competitive; a number of qualified drivers retiring or taking early retirement; and the lack of training undertaken during covid which has created a backlog in getting new drivers onto the road.

Our bus, coach and taxi operators are doing all they can to retain and recruit staff, but in the volatile employment market that exists at present, staffing levels can change very quickly, and operators can suddenly find themselves unable to meet their commitments and are being faced with difficult decisions affecting their businesses.

We are working closely with operators and schools to look at how we mitigate the effects of their driver shortages, both in the short term by doubling up on contracts so that two routes are operated with the same vehicle and driver to more longer-term solutions with the aim of returning reliability going forward. This work is continuing on a daily basis with the support and co-operation of our operators to restore services to normal as soon as possible. Rest assured that all options are on the table.

Our staff in Transporting Somerset are working hard to find solutions and to keep both schools and parents up to date on any changes to routes and services, some of which may occur at very short notice. We are aware that some parents have experience issues with communications and we are working to address this. There should be arrangements in all affected schools to ensure pupils are not disadvantaged by the disruptions (for example, due to lateness being recorded).

We apologise for the current disruption and assure you that we are doing all we can to restore reliability and thank you for your patience in these challenging times.

SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL



ATTENTION YEAR FIVE PARENTS

The deadline for placing orders for the recent school photographs (with free delivery) is Friday 7th October. After that date, orders placed will incur a postage charge.

Invitation for Parents: Success Beyond School

How to coach teenagers towards a successful career



We are delighted to announce the first events in our *Success Beyond School* series for this academic year. **These are live online seminars featuring career experts, designed to help parents amplify their children's career potential.** The events are for parents of students aged 12-18 and are free to attend.

[12th October: Making it in Medicine](#)

Expert advice on how to get into medical school

[16th November: Future-Proofing Students](#)

Preparing students for the jobs of the future

[30th November: Finding a Future in Finance](#)

Gaining the skills for a career in Finance

Message from the PE Department

The PE department would like to thank parents for their support in endeavouring to provide the correct PE kit for pupils so far this year. It has helped the PE department to have a really positive start to the academic year.



Our core purpose is to inspire all pupils to believe in their abilities and to achieve their highest level.



If you are considering sending your child to join us at Oakfield Academy, please contact the academy office to arrange a tour.

Telephone:- 01373 462539

Email:- oakfield@oakfieldacademy.co.uk

Secondhand Sweatshirt Sale

The Sweatshirt Sale raised a fabulous £61 for the **FRIENDS OF OAKFIELD ACADEMY** yesterday. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for details of the next sale.

Thank you for your support.

Diary Dates

3 Oct	KS3 Parents' Evening
3/4 Oct	Bikeability Training
18 Oct	Year 5 visit Stonehenge (2 classes tbc)
21 Oct	INSET
w/c 24 Oct	Half Term Holidays
31 Oct	INSET
7 Dec	Yr 5 Christmas Show 2pm
8 Dec	Yr 6 Christmas Show 2pm
13 Dec	Year Six Panto Trip— Bristol Hippodrome
15 Dec	Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day
16 Dec	Last day of Term (close 2pm)
17 Dec-2 Jan	Christmas Holidays
3 Jan	INSET
4 Jan	Pupils return, Term 3
12 Jan	Yr 6 Subject Evening
19 Jan	Yr 8 Subject Evening
26 Jan	Yr 5 Subject Evening
2 Feb	Yr 7 Subject Evening



Please check out the new canteen menu from CLEVER CHEFS on our website. There are some exciting new dishes. Click on the following link to see the menu:-

<http://oakfieldacademy.co.uk/academy/dining>

Thank you.



A big welcome to new Teaching Assistants Mrs Laura Davies and Mr Rory Rumming.