

Principal's Update

Can I start by thanking you for your support and commitment to the Academy over the past two terms. Every evening the building is full of students and parents getting involved and bringing a real energy and vibrancy. I have already written to share our recent **Ofsted success** with you, it really is a shared success, and in choosing to send your son or daughter to this Academy you are making an enormous contribution towards ensuring that we become established as one of the very best schools in Bristol.

The last term has once again been relentlessly busy, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of Oasis, the Year 7 Independence Day, our students have visited Cardiff and London, performed at Stages and in the Angels Dance Showcase; we have also hosted students from Oasis Academy Lords Hill. I know that you will enjoy reading about everything that has been happening!

As we move into the summer months, we enter an important time of year for all of our students as we strive to offer support to ensure that they all achieve 100% of their personal best. Year 8 have recently completed their Options choices in what was a really positive process for all involved, Year 9 will be given the opportunity to review their Option choices next term. Year 10 are preparing for their Graduation, and of course Year 11 are finalising their BTEC assignment portfolios whilst moving into the final phase of preparation for their GCSE exams.

We are very keen that we concentrate our

efforts on the issues that you as parents, and students tell us matter most to you. I have had many conversations with parents and staff about how to raise the profile and expectation of homework. Over the next term we will be working very hard to develop our Virtual Learning Environment, with a determined focus on homework. If there is something you think we could do better, or need to focus on more, please tell us! **The Parent Drop In** takes place regularly on a Wednesday evening, please

see the website for dates and further information.

We recently held a really interesting series of Student Conversation Days, please look out for our new "You said.....we did" noticeboard

in the Internet Café. I was so impressed by the students who participated in the Student Panel throughout our recent Interview process for new teachers, they each took their responsibility very seriously, and were confident in their own opinions. Over the summer term we want to encourage all our students to believe in themselves, enjoy school, actively engage with their learning, and make a positive contribution to the Academy community. We will be holding elections for the new Board of Directors and Year Group Forums, and I would encourage everyone to get involved.

Have a lovely Easter!

Rebecca Clark, Principal

"Academy is improving at a fast rate Results are improving rapidly and current students are on course to maintain this upward trend"

Ofsted

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Website

Please check our website for information on the following:

After school enrichment Programme

Lunchtime enrichment Programme

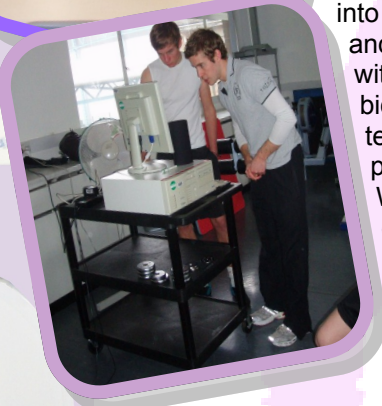
Year 6 Transition Information

News articles

Students Visit UWIC



During February Miss Williams & Miss Smith took seven Year 12 BTEC PE students and seven Year 11 GCSE PE students to UWIC (The University of Wales Institute, Cardiff).



Students were taken into a physiology lab and had a session with a tutor on aerobic fitness and VO2 testing, anaerobic power and the Wingate test. Students were given the opportunity to ask and answer questions during the session.

Nick Perrott took part in the VO2 max test. This is a test requiring all-out effort in order to measure maximal oxygen uptake. Following this, students took part in the Wingate Test which measures anaerobic power. Again, this is an all-out effort test and students worked together to collect and interpret their results.

Once the lecture had finished, students had a tour of the University, including at all of the sporting facilities on offer, including the Tennis Centre and the National Indoor Athletics Centre.

The visit was highly beneficial for all students, particularly in acquiring information for the BTEC assignments. The students were engaged throughout the visit. Many of the students are considering studying Physical Education as a career and found the university facilities and opportunities of great interest as they consider their future.

Reading Buddy Scheme

Utilizing the talents of our Year 12 and Year 13 students we have started a reading buddy scheme incorporating students from Year's 7, 8 and 9. Each student is buddied up with a Sixth Form student and they read during Learning Mentor time on a Monday.

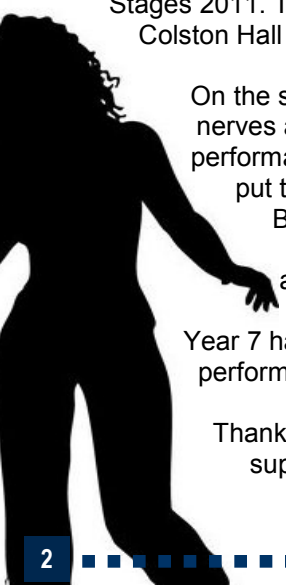
To see the library full of students reading together is an awesome sight! This benefits both our lower school students by raising their reading ages, giving them confidence in their learning within the classroom and our Sixth Form students who are able to add this skill to their CV if and when they apply to places of further education.

Year 7 Dance

The Year 7 dance group have had great success this term at Stages 2011. This long established event is held at the Colston Hall alongside other schools in Bristol.

On the stage students were able to overcome nerves and emotions to put in a fantastic performance. The hip hop routine has been put together by Dance Teacher, Charlie Bedford; both he and the students have put in a tremendous amount of hard work and deserve huge praise. Out of nearly 100 schools, and in our first year of entering, Year 7 have got through to the final matinee performance.

Thank you to all the parents and staff who supported us at the Colston Hall.



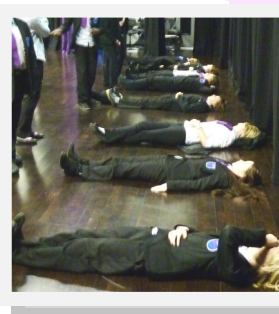
Play Your Part



Year 8 students spent a fantastic day in the Academy hosted by Play Your Part. The Good Citizenship Workshops encouraged the students to respect others and the law and to have the courage to stand up for what is right.

There were five different workshops from various agencies including Avon Fire and Rescue Service in

which students were told about the effects and dangers of hoax and nuisance calls, setting fires and the dangers faced by the Fire Officers. Students participated in an interactive and hands on session taken by the Red Cross, where they were shown how to apply the recovery position. Anti Gun Crime provided a very informative gun



awareness workshop, discussing the similarity between imitation and real firearms.

At the end of a very full and enjoyable day, each student received a bag with useful information and helpline numbers provided by the partnership.

Year 6 Transition

We were extremely pleased to welcome the Year 6 pupils and their parents during the first of many events. This is part of our on-going commitment to partnership working with parents and the community and the evening proved to be invaluable for us in terms of hearing and sharing questions and thoughts about next year.

A summary of the information shared and discussed during the evening, the Principal's presentation and the Transition Support Programme can be seen on our website www.oasisacademyjohnwilliams.org

For further details please contact Andrea Rea on 07967 808442 or email andrea.rea@oasisjohnwilliams.org

Year 10 Sociology Research

By Cizia Lewis, Nicola Taylor & Rosa Jones

During Term 3, as Year 10 Sociology students, we had to conduct a piece of research to help us with our exam. With permission from Learning Mentors, students from various years were participants. The investigation tested instant and deferred gratification, which involved us placing a plate of marshmallows in a Mentor Group lesson, leaving the mentor to tick any student who took a marshmallow

before the end. If they waited until the end they could have two!

This event went well and we retrieved the results we were looking for. One of the things we liked most was the independence we were given to conduct the whole experiment by ourselves and the responsibility to get our own results. We all enjoyed it and there was a lot of team work and cooperation as we had to stay after school to make sure we were prepared for our research investigation.

Our Sociology Teacher, Miss Wolyn, gave us a lot of support and made sure we were capable to do the investigation independently. We now look forward to going to Sociology as it is an adventure; we are able to find information out for ourselves through our primary research.

Thank you to everyone that helped and supported our investigation.

25th Oasis Anniversary



Oasis Academy John Williams is part of the wider Oasis global charity which this year is celebrating being 25 years old.

On 9 February the whole Academy took the opportunity to mark this occasion with a very special assembly with students from every year group taking part. Speeches were made by Steve Chalke, founder of Oasis, Rebecca Clark, Principal and Noah Williams (eldest son of our first Principal, John Williams).

Sixth Form students spoke about being part of the Stop the Traffik campaign and encouraged everyone present to work to bring an end to human trafficking. We also heard from two Year 10 students about the work of Oasis in Uganda and Kyrgyzstan.

Through the use of dance, music, film and speech everyone was reminded of what it means to be part of the Oasis global family and the role each of us can play in bringing hope to other's lives.



Dark Angels Hip Hop Competition

The Dark Angels Hip Hop Dance Group have qualified to represent the UK in the World Dance Championships in Orlando, Florida.

The competition is a two day event where they will compete against other competitors from across the world. The first day is the preliminaries and the second day is the finals, held at Epcot, Disney World Resort.

We will let you know how they got on in our next newsletter and wish them very good luck!

Lords Hill Visit

We had the pleasure of welcoming a group of students, staff and parents from Oasis Academy Lord's Hill in Southampton to Oasis Academy John Williams on 16 February.

Oasis Academy Lord's Hill is just beginning its new building project, which is very exciting for all the students and staff in Southampton. They wanted to come and spend some time with us in order to learn from our experiences and to see our new Academy building and all the incredible equipment and resources we have. Students from both Academies talked in great detail about the improvements that have come about as a result of the new building and staff were asked for their thoughts as well.

Everyone agreed it was a very successful visit and some great friendships were built between the students of the two Academies. It was fantastic to see our students connecting with fellow Oasis students from another city and sharing their stories and experiences in such a positive way. We wish Oasis Academy Lord's Hill all the very best as they begin this phase of building their new Academy.



Year 7 Independence Day



As an Academy we strive to not only promote our students' academic wellbeing but also their social and experiential wellbeing, exposing them to a variety of activities and providing them an education that is 360 degrees.

The students were outstanding throughout the day, with members of the public complimenting staff on the maturity and manners of our students. The day was concluded back at the Academy with the students celebrating their day by producing collages of their experience, once again working independently.

The day was summed up by one enthusiastic student as "the best school trip ever" as they left the Academy at the end of Independence Day.

This approach comes in the form of Bristol 5: Creativity, Independence, Global, Performance and Exploration. Thursday 17 February saw the latest instalment of the Bristol 5 - Independence Day.

A massive thank you must be shared for all of the staff and students who made the day a success and the stores kind enough to take part in the day: Frankie and Benny's, Explore Learning, GAME, Jungle Rumble and Cabot Circus.

Our youngest year group were faced with the Cabot Circus Challenge! Independently they completed an orientation of Cabot Circus, having to locate a selection of stores and services points, whilst also completing a variety of other tasks. The main rule being that at no point could they ask for help. This challenge encouraged their ability to work at length without specific guidance.

We look forward to the next Bristol 5 instalment!



Information & Dates For Your Diary

Academy Calendar Term 5

Tuesday 26 April	-	Start of Term 5
Friday 29 April	-	Royal Wedding Bank Holiday
Monday 2 May	-	Early May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 3 May	-	Year 7 Subject Consultation Evening
Thursday 12 May	-	Year 6 Parent Drop-In 6.00 - 7.30pm
Friday 27 May	-	End of Term 5
Monday 6 June	-	Start of Term 6
Tuesday 28 June	-	Year 11 Prom
Friday 22 July	-	End of Term 6

Holiday Activities

For further details of holiday activities within the Academy and locally, please contact Andrea Rea on 07967 808442 or email andrea.rea@oasisjohnwilliams.org

Year 11 Easter Revision Workshops

During the Easter holidays we will be running Year 11 Subject Specific Revision Workshops, which will run from 10.00am - 3.00pm. Please check our website to see further information and the full revision programme www.oasisacademyjohnwilliams.org

For further details please contact Andrea Rea on 07967 808442 or email andrea.rea@oasisjohnwilliams.org

Parent Drop-In

4 May & 18 May, 6.00 - 7.30pm

An informal opportunity for all parents and carers to drop in, find out more about what's happening at the Academy and how to get involved, talk through any issues or concerns and have your say.

For more information contact Andrea Rea on 07967 808442 or e-mail andrea.rea@oasisjohnwilliams.org

Café Church

You are all very welcome to join us for great conversation, coffee, pastries, music and some space to reflect. Join us at the Academy on the following dates:

22 May 2011 - 11.00 - 12.15pm

22 June 2011 - 11.00 - 12.15pm

24 July 2011 - 11.00 - 12.15pm

For more information please email jill.rowe@oasisuk.org

Zumba Dance Fitness Classes

Tuesday Evenings

Exciting new fitness classes inspired by Latin dance, which is a fusion of Cumbia, Reggiton and Merengue.

Session 1: 5.15 - 6.15pm

Session 2: 6.15 - 7.15pm

The cost will be £3 for staff and £4.00 for guests.

If you would like to attend please contact Tracy Bedford on 01275 894680 or email tracy.bedford@oasisjohnwilliams.org

Youth Club

Wednesday Evenings, 6.00 - 8.00pm

For further details contact Andrea Rea on 07967 808442 or e-mail andrea.rea@oasisjohnwilliams.org