



Newsletter

Summer 2023



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families,

I am honoured to bring you our final newsletter of the year.

The last few weeks have been the highlight of the year, from Oasis's Got Talent to Sports Awards Evening, Culture Day to Celebration Assemblies. It has been amazing to watch the talents of our young people and to celebrate their hard work. I have also had some brilliant conversations with students regarding their end of year exams, where they have been honest and humble, demonstrating really good understanding of their own learning. These last few weeks have been a joy and it has been wonderful working with your children this year. This newsletter celebrates their amazing achievements this term.

At the end of the year, we say farewell to a handful of staff. A huge thank you to Mr Seneviratne, Mrs Goodman, and Mrs Ahmad for your dedication over the years. Miss Dadswell is also retiring this year having taught at the school for 34 years, I know that she taught some of our current students' parents in that time as well! Miss Dadswell has served this community for a very long time and is so patient and understanding of our children, we wish her all the best in her retirement (although she may reappear for some supply days at some point!).

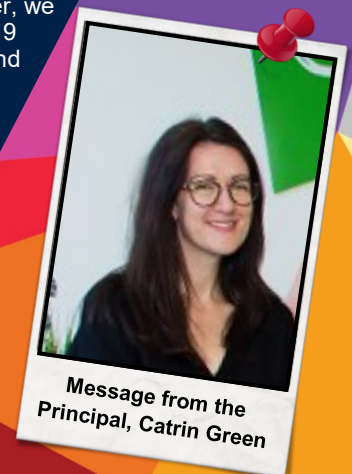
We also see a change in leadership of some areas, with Mrs Holt moving from her Family Leader role to now become Head of History. We are also pleased to confirm that Ms Kavanagh will be become our permanent Head of Geography, which does mean that she will be stepping down from her Family Leader position. However, we are pleased to confirm that after a rigorous interview process, Mr Gordon will now be taking over as Year 9 Family Leader when we return in September. We thank Ms Kavanagh and Mrs Holt for their dedication and commitment to their students during their time as pastoral leaders.

We will be welcoming some fantastic new staff in the new year. Mr Hodges, who is currently part time at our Academy, will return full time as Deputy Principal, and we have a new Assistant Principal Mr Uddin joining us and teaching Computing. Ms McGuire will also be joining us as Head of Languages, as Mrs Rivaldi will be becoming a part time teacher to enable to her to follow some other interests. Ms Amara, will be joining science, Ms Walker will be joining Maths and Ms Warren will be joining PE.

Finally, I want to thank our parents and carers, without your support and commitment to the Academy and to me personally, Oasis Coulsdon would not be the place it is today. Have a lovely summer and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Best wishes,

Ms Green
Principal



Message from the Principal, Catrin Green

OASIS'S GOT TALENT

On Wednesday 12th July, the Agora was once again full of friends, teachers, and family members, who awaited the performances of our very talented students in our annual Oasis' Got Talent show finals.

This year we were treated to the most eclectic and diverse mix of acts, from martial artists to musicians, singers, dancers, and magicians who had honed their performances over the last six weeks.

Ms Killeen, Ms Ellery, and Mr Falvey gave their warm and insightful comments as judges and the audience posted their votes of appreciation.

Cian Fenton compered the evening and danced in the intermission whilst the votes were counted and verified.

In 3rd place was a Year 9 Spice Girls tribute act. In 2nd place was the Year 8 crew of dancers..... and in 1st place was a trio of singers from Year 9 and 10 performing *First Burn* from the musical, *Hamilton*. Aisha Barry, Leah Dereje, and Zoe Henrick split the prize money and were so pleased with the result.

Thanks to all the performers, audience members, and helpers.



FOOD ROOM UPDATE – FROM MRS WARD

This summer term has flown by in the Food department, the students have been creating many different high-quality dishes that would tempt even the fussiest of eaters. Years 7 and 8 have been focussing on many new cooking skills and Year 9 have been mastering these skills to produce fresh coloured pasta, rich creamy roux based sauces, and light flaky pastry. I am so excited to be working with the Year 9 students that have chosen Food GCSE in Year 10 this September.

The current Year 10 students are showing creativity and flare, producing high quality Dishes; they are already showing the high-level skills that they will need to demonstrate in their GCSE practical exam next year.

Year 11 have now flown the nest and I am so proud of their achievements. Looking back at their photos shows what amazing progress they made during their GCSE course. I know that every one of them are going to succeed in the next new and exciting stage of their lives.



APP DESIGN CHALLENGE

After weeks of hard work in the App Design Club hosted by City Year, Jenna Abbott, and Archie Prescott designed an app that aimed to encourage young people to stay active - an app which they called 'Rezult'. This app was then submitted and presented to a board of judges working with TATA Consulting Services (TCS) in collaboration with the London Mini Marathon, during a virtual culmination event. The judges were thoroughly impressed which resulted in Jenna and Archie coming in second place in the competition! On Saturday the 22nd of April, they received their well-deserved awards, whilst meeting the judges in person too. Well done to the team!!



Environment Council

This term the Council ran a craft sale for Friends of the Earth, raising an impressive £50.

The Environment Council were visited by a civil engineer to help them carry out an audit on the impact of the school on the surrounding area. Students have looked at energy use, water use, waste the school produces, the impact of how we travel to school and our impact on biodiversity. The work replicates that of those employed to minimise the environmental impact of organisations of all sizes.

It has informed schemes that will be run throughout the next academic year which include planting to improve biodiversity awareness campaigns to reduce energy waste, and schemes to encourage reuse and recycling.



Heartstone Project – Ms John reports

Year 8 students recently attended Braithwaite Hall in Croydon and are pictured here with the new Civic Mayor of Croydon, Tony Pearson. This is a small sample of the artwork based on the book The Heartstone Odyssey.

Our students were excellent ambassadors for the Academy and an inspiration to the numerous primary and faith schools that were in attendance. The art showcased at the event will now be part of an exhibition at Croydon library.



TEXTILES GCSE

Mrs Booth has been extremely impressed with the standard of work from her GCSE classes this year. Here she has shared some of the fantastic work from her Year 10 students Isabelle, Maddie, Savannah, and Zahra, as they finish up their end of term projects.

Well done, we can't wait to see what they make in Year 11!



ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

The English Faculty are pleased to share the many successes and great news stories from its' clubs this term. All are welcome to join next year, we look forward to seeing some new faces in September!

Creative Writing Club (with Mr O'Reilly):

The weekly creative writing club is very well attended by students from across the year groups – it is a lively and productive group that enters short story and creative writing competitions. This year one of our Year 7s (Tilly Charles-Edwards) was one of five student winners out of over 8000 entries in the "Integer Short Story" national entry.

Cross Talk (with Mr Shiells):

The Cross Talk group has raised the Christian profile in Oasis Academy Coulsdon this year through charity raffles, Easter assemblies, and themed discussions on prevalent topics always seeking wisdom from God's word to guide the way.

Debate Club (with Mrs Nel):

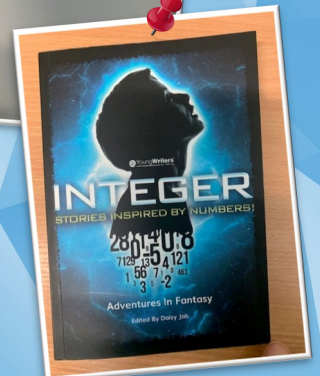
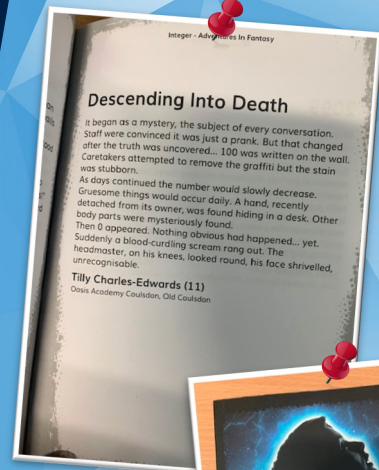
Over the past year, Debate Club has been going from strength to strength. We have had a core group of students who always attend and look forward to participating with many other students who attend when they can. Some high achieving Year 10 students have engaged with the debate club with a mind to help run and support it. We were delighted that Nic Deeks from Year 10 represented the school at the National "Speak Out" challenge. - he got to the final 15 from 30,000 entries – and was in competition at the Cambridge Theatre in the West End - fantastic achievement.

Coulsdon Chronicle (with Mr Hadley):

The Coulsdon Chronicle has published two termly editions this year, capturing the key events in our dynamic, vibrant school. Our team of journalists and editors are looking forward to sharing our final 'Culture Day' edition later this month. We were incredibly proud that the editor last year (Keira Grierson) was the overall national winner for the "New Views" dramatic competition at the National Theatre – her winning entry was performed on the Olivier Stage: the youngest writer to ever have received the highest of acknowledgements.

Mr O'Shea's Symposium:

This is a weekly Socratic Debate Club attended by over 30 regular Year 11 attendees. It serves as a discussion/revision group for philosophical argument concerning the themes and characters of the GCSE set texts. Students that regularly attend invariably perform at top grade in their final GCSE English papers.



Drama- New Views 2023

Between November and April, the following students **Keira Grierson, Zaara Bartlett, George Bradford, Olivia Cullen, Nicolas Deeks, Ellie Lowry, Kriyaa Ramnath-Dhanau and Erin Wager** took part in National Theatre's playwriting programme, **New Views**. They worked with a professional playwright **Christopher William-Hill** to develop their own play as well as their own voice.

Well done to you all for taking part, the plays went through a rigorous process where a longlist, and then shortlist, were generated and eventually a winner chosen. Congratulations to Keira on **winning** the New Views competition! Over 450 plays were submitted this year, and to win is a phenomenal achievement. I watched Keira's play being performed at the Olivier Theatre on 6th July where she received rave reviews along with a standing ovation.

Drama- Connections 2023

From October through to March, the following students **Amelia Storey, George Bradford, Nicolas Deeks, Kriyaa Ramnath-Dhanau, Jack Vines, Jessica Eeles, Shiva Aucharagram, Zoe Henrick, Alice Weller, Erin Wager, Isabella Taylor, Stephen Strong, Eddie Quick, Ellie Lowry, Meira Crosley-Lo, Cian Fenton and Daniel Hickson** took part in this year's National Theatre **Connections Festival**.

Students performed **A Stranger Like Me** by Ed Harris, a play about a young teenager trying to process the loss of a friend and deal with his grief. Our students' hard work and dedication culminated in a final performance at **Theatre Peckham**, and here's what **Theatre Peckham** had to say *'I would like to congratulate your company for their amazing performance at NT Connections. We were blown away by their amazing talent and energy. We enjoyed having the young people in our space; they are a talented group and have the potential to go far in life.'*

MESSAGE FROM YEAR 10 FAMILY LEADER, MS OGUNDELE

Well done for the completion of a successful Year 10! A huge congratulations on completing their end of year exams, they really rose to the challenge and did the best they could.

Firstly, I would like to say a huge well done to Nicolas Deeks for making it to the grand finals of The Speakers Trust Speak Out Challenge.

The Year 10s have had a visit to East Surrey College, where they engaged in two workshops in the day. It was lovely to see the students demonstrate their passion. The visit was very helpful, as some students gained clarity with regards to the courses they wanted to study. This was supplemented with interviews from our careers advisor, and as I write this report, the students are about to go on work experience to get first-hand experience of the working world.

We have also had the Geography trips and the Maths trip, where the students visited Disneyland Paris, the ski trip and many more. I would like to thank all of the staff that have been involved in arranging these trips and providing students with these opportunities.

I am pleased to announce Meira Crosley-Lo and Nicolas Deeks as our Student Leaders and Nevaeh Zeini-Mclean, Preet Thethi, Noah Emery and Ramyaad Adeel as our Deputy Student Leaders. I would also like to say a massive well done to all the prefects too. They should be really proud of their achievement.

The Year 10s have had an incredible year and I look forward to seeing them demonstrate excellence and determination for their final year. We just have a bit of work to do with attendance...

Have a good summer and I look forward to seeing you all in September for our final stretch.

2023-2024 HEAD STUDENT LEADERS



Gardening Club – Summer in the Science Garden

It's always nice this time of year, day by day, week by week, we see more and more green in the gardens. The new beds were totally empty a few short months ago and are now full of herbs, fruit, vegetables, and flowers thanks to the hard work of the gardening club members.

It's not all hard work though, the members have also benefitted from (the literal) fruits of their labours, taking home gooseberries, blackcurrants, mint, lettuce, beans, and any spare plants left over. The potatoes were harvested today, along with some mint to go with them, the club members will be enjoying them for their tea tonight. The onions are usually ready in the first couple of weeks of the summer holidays and will be waiting for the members when they return in September. Leek, cabbage and kale seedlings are being raised to take the place of the potatoes and onions and provide crops for us in the autumn term.

We've planted loads of sunflowers this year, they'll also be at their best during the summer holidays but will provide seeds both for us to plant next year and for the birds to feast on before the winter.



Pictures by
Harvey
Hockton

JACK PETCHEY AWARD WINNERS

Jacob Innis	For continuing to try exceptionally hard in his Maths lessons despite not finding Maths easy and working endlessly on SPARX Maths Homework to reach Level 4.
George Wilson	George is one of the kindest pupils who strives to make a difference around the academy. A group of his close friends have autism and George wants to raise awareness of their personal experiences and also raise money for the National Autistic Society. George has been proactive in creating posters and advertising the cake and badge sale. Whether it is recruiting teachers to bake or donate cakes, or spending the weekend baking himself. He is a community champion advocating for others and deserves to be celebrated!
Caitlin Wilson	Caitlin is naturally a timid young lady, however, this does not prevent her quiet determination to fight for social justice. Caitlin has is determined to be a champion for her peers and raise awareness for causes. She has worked in collaboration to fundraise for the National Autistic Society. Caitlin has designed badge cards to be sold to raise money. Each card has a fun or important fact about Autism to raise awareness. Caitlin has also rallied staff to bake cakes for the fundraising event.



We are pleased to share the Jack Petchey Award winners for the Summer Term. Students will get a £200 grant to spend on a school project of their choosing.

Congratulations to all winners! Nominations will carry on termly into the next academic year.

Expressive Arts News

Arts Showcase

On Thursday 8th June the Arts Showcase took place. To an appreciative audience of friends, family, and staff we saw students across Years 7-10 performed a range of musical items. The audience were treated to 90 minutes of music, from more experienced GCSE students to relative beginners in Year 7 – some of which had only started having instrumental lessons this year!

There was a range of instruments and styles performed. Everything from classic rock on guitar, classical music, a jazz standard by orchestra, violins, talented vocalists, woodwind, a viola and piano duet, and some impressive pianists. We were also treated to a contemporary dance performance by Cian Fenton, who is off to the BRIT school in September to study dance.

We are incredibly proud of every student who took part in the showcase, especially those who were performing to an audience for the first time.

We were also treated to an exhibition of artwork, curated and presented by Mr Jarvie. The work on display was of incredibly high quality and is sure to have inspired students as to what is possible if they take art further.

Year 7 Instrumental scheme

This year all Year 7 students had the opportunity to have a term of instrumental lessons paid for by the academy to give them a chance to experience learning an instrument beyond the classroom. Students had a chance to have lessons on piano, guitar, flute, saxophone, clarinet, and violin.

We were extremely proud of the dedication that many students showed in making sure they attended their lessons each week. A number of students have chosen to continue learning after their lessons ended, which has been lovely to see.

Some of these students also had a chance to perform at the arts showcase after only having lessons for a short time. Some particular standouts were violin students who performed after only having five lessons, and guitar students who performed having only starting lessons in September.

We hope that all the students involved enjoyed their experience of instrumental lessons and are excited to see how those who have continued lessons will grow and develop as musicians.



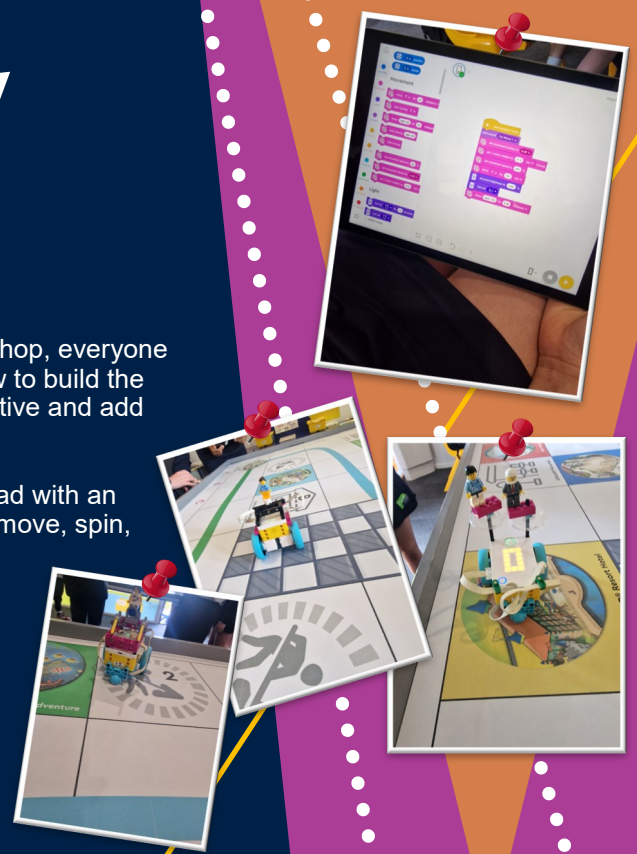
Legoland- Year 7 Maths Coding Trip

Report by Eirini Terzi:

The Lego land trip was both educational and fun. During the workshop, everyone was very friendly, supportive and inspiring. The instructions on how to build the robot were very clear and there was also some freedom to be creative and add some accessories and designs of your own.

Once everyone had finished with their project we were given an iPad with an app similar to *Scratch* where we could code the robot and make it move, spin, turn, and more. At the end of the workshop, before we left, we were given some time to show the rest of the group our robot.

The Lego land trip was an overall wonderful experience, and I am delighted to have had the privilege to be exposed to such innovating technology.



MESSAGE FOR YEAR 9 FROM MR GORDON

The Year 9s have finally reached the finish line after a hectic summer term at the Academy which has seen a multitude of events occur.

We started off this term with an excellent attendance reward event to Thorpe Park with the Year 10 students. It was great to see all the students having fun in the sun and going on so many rides. This day demonstrated how many students understand the importance of attendance to ensure that they are reaching their full potential.

It has been a great pleasure to watch so many students take part in the Matilda production, Art Showcase, and Oasis's Got Talent. There was such an array of talent from the year group which I hadn't had the privilege of seeing before. A massive thank you to Ms Richardson, Ms Laurent and Mr Jarvie for their time and effort putting these performances on.

As a member of the PE team alongside the Family Leader for Year 9, Sportsfest at the Academy is a great way to demonstrate the large number of sports leaders at the Academy. Our Year 9 students were excellent role models to over 300 visiting Year 5 students from local primary schools. The students really demonstrated so many of the Oasis Nine Habits over the course of the day with different challenges they faced. Mr. Attenborough and I were blown away by the level of care and attention they demonstrated.

On more academic news there has been an increased level of attendance across the year group. As a year group we are pushing close to the achievable 95% year group attendance. This really shows the level of commitment of students towards their academic progress in preparation of their options subjects next academic year. Thank you to all the Mentoring team and Ms. Psaltis for their hard work this term.

Students will be receiving their option subjects before the summer break. I hope this will be a great drive to have a great start to Year 10.

I can't believe how quickly this academic year has gone! I would like to thank all the students and parents/carers for their support this year, it has truly been memorable.

Have a fantastic summer break.



MFL Reports on the Summer Term

As we bid farewell to another incredible academic year, we reflect on the experiences that our students have had in the Modern Languages Department.

European Day of Languages

We started our year with a wonderful celebration of European Day of Languages. As ever we were in awe of our students' creativity in the European Bake Off competition.

Their excellent grammatical and linguistic knowledge was on show in our scavenger hunt and their problem-solving skills were shining through during our special lessons that day. Throughout the year, our students have worked hard in lessons showcasing their linguistic prowess and have gained great insights to the cultures of the languages they have studied.

Onatti Theatre

We have ended the year with fabulous shows from the Onatti Theatre group and a trip to the Flamenco festival at the Sadler's Wells theatre. We were delighted to host Onatti at Coulsdon to perform in both French and Spanish. The plays offered a unique opportunity for our students to see a production performed in the language they study. The plays were written in a style that allowed the students to understand the dialogue and to enhance their listening and communication skills. Well done to the students who also took an active part in the plays!

Flamenco Festival

The Flamenco Festival at Sadler's Wells did not disappoint – it was a breath-taking display and the students were fully immersed in an evening of feet stamping and castanet snapping to the sounds of flamenco; a great cultural experience for all.



YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY RIVERS TRIP

REPORT BY DANIEL COLEMAN

This half term we went on a Geography trip to look at rivers. We go onto the coach and went to our first destination, Crossways Farm. There we put our wellies and went to the first river. It was a meander and we measured the width and the depth of it; then did a velocity test (speed at which it takes to get one side to the other) using a cork and a stopwatch. We put the cork in the water and let the current take it for three metres and then we stopped the stopwatch. Our time was six seconds. This shows you how fast the current is.

Next we got back on the coach and headed for the second river. The second river was a straight river that had a very fast current. We did the same as last time; checking the depth, width and velocity. But this one was harder because when we were measuring it we had to be careful not to let the measuring tape go in the river because the current was very strong. Then to measure the depth we had to find 20cm, put a ruler into the water and place our finger on where the water ends on the ruler - that gave the depth.

Finally we went to the last river, this river was a straight like the previous one but it was extremely deep. The current was the strongest yet. We repeated the same tests as before and found out that the time was half as fast as the previous one for velocity. And the depth was twice as deep.

It flowed fastest on the outside and pushed it towards the outside of the meander.



MESSAGE FROM YEAR 8 FAMILY LEADER, MS KAVANAGH

Year 8, what a year it has been! We have seen you grow into such fantastic friends and students who are eager to do well. This was clear for all to see during our graduation ceremony last week where you were cheering each other on and looked so grown up in your blue ties! There have been ups and downs and lots of shifting of friendship groups, which always happens in Year 8, but you continue to be the year group that makes me and your Mentors smile and laugh every single day (even if I have a few more grey hairs towards the end of the year!).

Have a wonderful summer break, spend time with your friends and families. Enjoy the outside, read a book, draw, or paint, and get involved in a hobby that you love to participate in... and stay off of social media! Enjoy the world around you and spending time with those that mean the most.

It is with great sadness that I step down from being your Family Leader, however, the opportunity to become a permanent head of department means that I still get to be a part of your journey at OAC and I am still here for you all. I have so enjoyed working with you and your families in a pastoral role and look forward to watching you grow into the mature young people I know you are.

Thank you to all your Mentors for their work and support this year and we all look forward to seeing you in September.



YEAR 7 MESSAGE AND RESIDENTIAL REPORT FROM MR CLARKE, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

In September 2022, approximately 180 students from various different primary schools arrived as virtual strangers. Now, in July 2023, I am proud to report that the cohort has transitioned seamlessly into our community, establishing meaningful relationships with both peers and staff. The growth that has been demonstrated from our Year 7s in their first year at Oasis Academy Coulsdon has been nothing short of incredible.

The recent residential was the perfect demonstration of the attributes that this cohort has cultivated across this academic year; a love for their school, a respect for all members of the community and a willingness to give everything a go. On this residential, students had an opportunity to exhibit all of the 9 Habits of Oasis with activities such as building shelters, making fires, cooking, and living in the wilderness. All members of staff who accompanied the students were proud of how our students represented the Academy, and we hope they enjoyed their time with the Bushcraft Company.

In the last few weeks of the academic year, we have had multiple events celebrating the achievements within the Year 7 cohort. From our athletes being celebrated in the Sports Awards Evening, our artists being celebrated at Oasis's Got Talent, to the dozens of students who received awards for 100% attendance this academic year. It is clear to all that this cohort has the potential to go on to be a standout year group within the Academy.

What is most impressive is that such fantastic progress has been achieved with changes in Mentors, Family Leaders, and the Academy Leadership Link. We are excited to announce Ms Clark as the new Family Leader and are confident that she will provide the students with the exceptional pastoral care that is a hallmark of Oasis Academy Coulsdon. Ms Clark, the Mentors, and I are honoured to have the opportunity to work with this cohort for the next four years as they progress in their journey towards young adults.



Geography Trip to Eastbourne

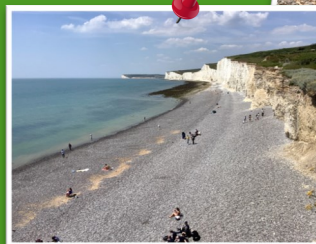
Report by Jacob Phillips + Ashana Rose, Year 8

We started off our day at Pevensey Bay where we reviewed the coastal defence system they use, (groynes), and what condition they are in. We also counted the number of people and cars present to see how attractive it is to tourists so we could work out if many people were attracted to the site or not.

After this, we headed off to Eastbourne and also reviewed their coastal defence strategies of groynes, to stop longshore drift, and a sea wall, plus how many tourists were in Eastbourne. We then had lunch on the pier before we went to our last destination.

Finally, we arrived at Birling Gap where we looked at their coastal defences of beach nourishment and saw rocks on the beach from rockfall. We were then allowed ice cream before we came back!

The most popular Beach for tourists was Eastbourne, probably due to the pier and the shops nearby. However, we thought the most interesting one was Birling Gap because of the chalk in the rock and the view along with the grassy area it was surrounded by.



Academic Year
2023–2024
Term Dates

TERM DATES

Click on the below links
to view downloadable
term dates for 2023-2024

[Term Dates 2023-2024](#)

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2023

- Friday 1st September: **INSET Day**
- Monday 4th September: **First day of Autumn Term: Year 7 & 11**
- Tuesday 5th September: **First day of Autumn Term: Years 8, 9 & 10**
(Year 7 & 11 also in attendance)
- Friday 13th October: **INSET Day**
- Monday 23rd October - Friday 3rd November: **Half Term**
- Wednesday 20th December: **Last Day of Autumn Term**
- Thursday 21st December - Monday 1st January: **Christmas Holidays**

Spring Term 2024

- Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd January: **INSET Days**
- Thursday 4th January: **First day of Spring Term**
- Monday 12th - Friday 16th February: **Half Term**
- Thursday 28th March: **Last day of Spring Term**
- Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April: **Easter Holidays**

Summer Term 2024

- Monday 15th April: **First day of Summer Term**
- Monday 6th May: **Bank Holiday**
- Monday 27th - Friday 31st May: **Half Term**
- Friday 21st June: **INSET Day**
- Wednesday 24th July: **Last day of Summer Term**

t: 01689867366
e: info@playplace.org
w: www.playplace.org



Where
Everyone
Counts

'Tollers Summer of Fun'

Community Room, Tollers, Goodenough Way, Old Coulsdon CR5 1DY

24th July - 17th August

(Monday to Thursday)

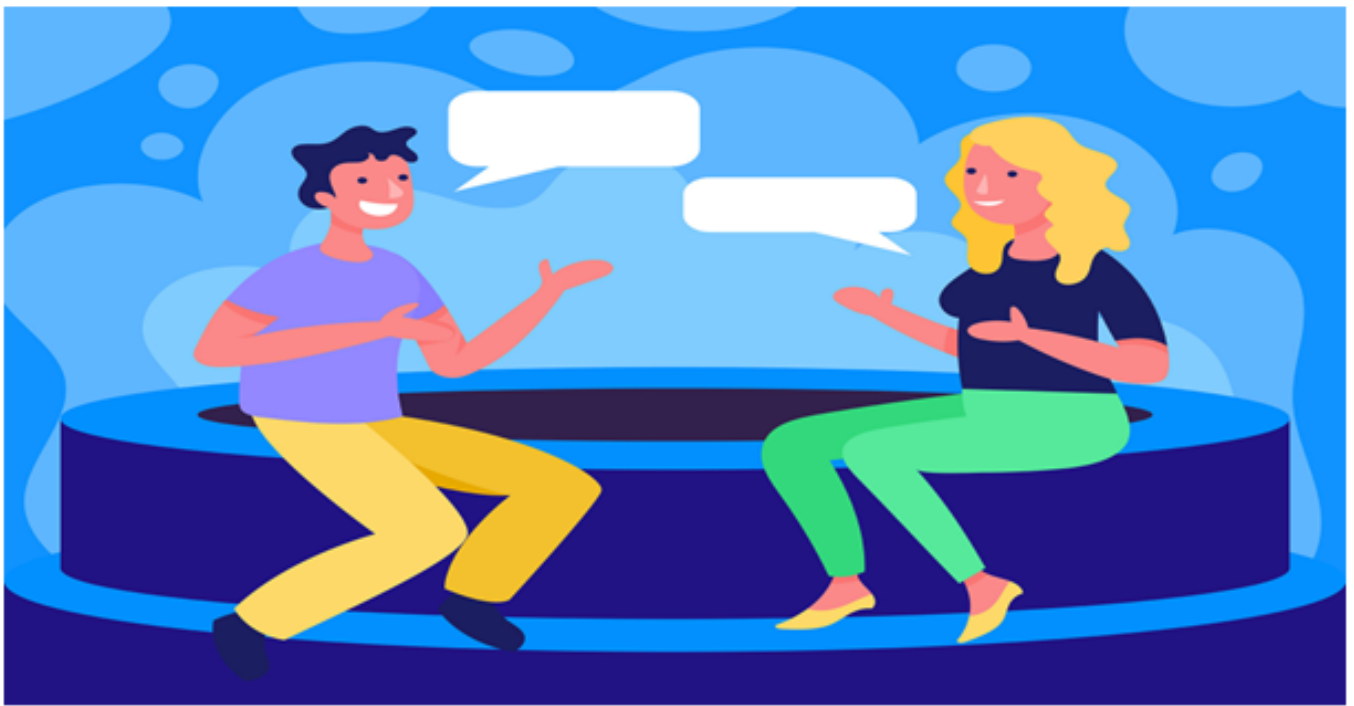
10am - 2pm

To register please use the code and link that your child's school have given you and search for us on the HolidayActivities site. Limited spaces are available for those who are not eligible for free school meals. Get in touch with us now for more information.

A summer filled with fun such as arts & craft, music, sports, Playfest trip, games and so much more!

8+ years (under 8's with parents)

Lunch provided



**A free English language
Family Learning Course
for
mums, dads and carers
ESOL at Oasis Arena**

Start: September 2023

Finish: February 2024

Time: TBC

- *Improve your English**
- *Practice speaking and listening**
- *Work towards a reading exam**

**To register interest contact:
Jenny.Aarons@OasisArena.org**



Croydon Adult
Learning And
Training



Contact: Jenny Aarons

jenny.aarons@oasisarena.org