

Knowle DGE Academy

Term 1 September 2023-24



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All equal, all different, all achieving together



Information

Welcome back to a new term and a new school year. I hope you all had a restful summer break. It is wonderful to see the pupils return and I must commend on how smart they are looking.

It is wonderful to welcome several new pupils, we hope you will be very happy at Knowle DGE. One new middle school student told me at lunch last week "This is the best school ever, I feel really respected here" which was such a lovely positive way to feel about a big change such as changing schools!

Many of you will remember that there are big changes this term, we have now joined a new trust, the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership (MNSP). This means our new CEO will be Alun Williams and our new Executive Head will be Sophie Addison. You will be able to meet them at upcoming events.

Staff

We welcome some new staff this term:

Annette Banfield, Lower School LF

Emma Rodgers, Upper School LF

Dean May, Lower School Teacher

Ben Wheatley, Middle School Teacher

Maria Nixon Cammarata, Middle School Teacher

Ezra Caven, Bespoke HLLF for the House

Ruby Fleming, Art Teacher

Tracey Price, Receptionist

Louise Hunt, Estates Cleaner

We're delighted to have them as part of the team.

News and Celebrations

Exams

A MASSIVE well done to the Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils who sat exams over the summer terms. Pupils impressed us with their maturity and attitude over this period. Exams only count for a small amount of success and do not fully capture how well the pupils have done in other areas such as their kindness, confidence and social skills. Many pupils achieved well and we congratulate them on this. Some have moved on

to colleges but many are back for 6th Form this year ready for the next step in their education.

News

Congratulations to HLLF Emma Uppington who safely welcomed a baby boy and Cleaner Roxanne Dawes who welcomed a baby girl, both born during the summer.

Family Support

We aim to support our families in several ways. This year we have provided the initial polo shirt and a fleece or polo shirt free of charge, with more available to order through reception.

- **Parent and Carer group** who meet every Tuesday afternoon
- The **Community Pantry**, providing food bags and also the facility to 'shop' for food and toiletries in exchange for vouchers provided. Thanks to MCKS Charitable Foundation for the donations of toiletries.
- The **Community Wardrobe**, providing pre-loved school uniform, shoes, home clothes, underwear, special occasion clothes (such as for the Prom or job interviews). This venture aims to be environmentally friendly as we are re-using clothes as well as providing support to families.
- **Foodbank vouchers**. This is a new initiative, we can now provide foodbank vouchers (this is additional to free school meal vouchers that some parents and carers get over the holidays). There is a link HLLF in each area
Bespoke pupils Sara.Haines@knowledge.learnmat.uk
Lower School pupils Max.bidmead@knowledge.learnmat.uk
Middle School pupils Adam.romney@knowledge.learnmat.uk
Upper School pupils Kelly.moorcroft@knowledge.learnmat.uk
Or call the school office and ask to speak to one of the above

Dates

29th September McMillian Coffee Morning 9.15am

20th October Term 1 Ends

30th and 31st October Insets

1st November Term 2 Starts

Outdoor education continues this term and Becca Todd, Outdoor Education Tutor will send letters to families on dates and clothing for pupils for those taking part in this.

Clubs

Hannah Joyner, after school club lead will send out information for Clubs that will start in Term 2.

Communication

Staff will tend to call to relay key information. Additionally, In Lower and Middle school DoJo is used where you can see your child's points and get key messages.

If you use social media we also have a closed Facebook group and update news on twitter. If you would like to join please follow the link or use the QR code.

<https://facebook.com/groups/593380846091379/>



Warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KLW'.

Kate Lee-Wells, Head Teacher



Lower School

Welcome Back to our existing pupils and a warm welcome to all our new starters. In Lower school we want you to try your best and give everything a go! We want you to be brave, not perfect! Pupils have already been working hard to earn their dojo points. Please speak to your class teacher if you are not already connected to this.

The children can earn points for being safe, respectful and ready to learn in lessons. They can earn prizes for earning these points.



Class dojo rewards

100 points

Small treat



150 points

Prize from the box



250 points

Headteachers award



350 points

Silver trip



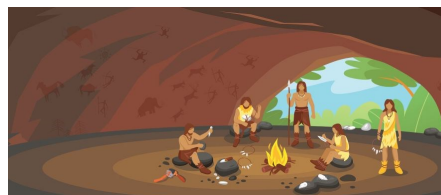
450 points

Gold trip



Learning

Our topic this term is the Stone Age. We will be learning about this throughout our lessons to gain a greater understanding of the past.



Attendance

As a school, we want to promote great attendance! Please try to attend every day. If you can't attend, please call the school Office. The children can earn additional dojo points for attending every day!

Dates:

End of term: Friday 20th October

Insets: Monday 30th October and

Tuesday 31st October

Children back in school: Wednesday

1st November

McMillian coffee morning: Friday 29th September

Uniform

As a reminder, the children in Lower school are expected to wear the following:

- Knowle DGE T-shirt
 - Black bottoms
 - Black shoes
- Knowle DGE jumper or fleece

We have new and pre-loved uniform available if your child needs more.

Reading

We will be encouraging reading in the school and want everybody to move up a reading level and develop a love of reading.

Children will access reading activities everyday! If they wish to bring a book in to read for pleasure they can.



The **more** that you read, the **more** things you will know. The **more** that you learn, the **more** places you'll go.

Dr. Seuss

Knowle DGE Academy News

Middle School Term 1

The Middle School team welcome you back after what was hopefully a fantastic break for you all.

I hope that after a well deserved rest you are all raring to go!

We have enjoyed welcoming back all of our existing students, as well as the many new faces that have recently joined us.

Thanks to all parents and carers for attending induction meetings.

These meetings are vital to starting the year positively and it is always great to be able to meet you all in person.

We are having a real push this year on our extended learning and with our presentation. We really do appreciate the support from home with ensuring that the students are best positioned to achieve their full potential.

Please refer to key dates and notices below and should you have any questions or require any more information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your child's tutor.

Here's to what I'm sure will be a fantastic year with many, many successes - The Middle School Team

Key Dates

29th September - Macmillan coffee morning

20th October - Last day of term

30th October - Inset day

31st October - Inset day

1st November - First day of term 2

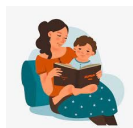


Class Dojo's are now up and running in Middle School. Please contact your child's tutor if you are having difficulties accessing



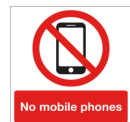
Coming soon!

We will be inviting parents and carers into the Academy later in the term for a 'read with your child' session. Keep your eyes peeled for an invitation.



Reminders

Please ensure mobile devices are either left at home, or handed into staff upon arrival.



Please support us by encouraging your child to wear the correct uniform (they are rewarded handsomely for doing so!)

Knowle DGE Upper School Newsletter

Welcome Back!

We have enjoyed welcoming back our existing students as well as a few new faces (students & staff) to Upper School. Thanks to all parents and carers who attended induction meetings it was great to see you in person. Many Upper School students will be sitting exams this year so we really appreciate your support with attendance and engagement.

Key Dates

29th September - Parent / Carer Coffee morning

30th September - Careers trip for some of Year 11 and Year 13

4th October - Sixth form open evening

20th October - Last day of term

30th October - Inset day

31st October - Inset day

1st November - Students back in for term 2

Uniform

Students in year 10 and 11 should wear school uniform. You will have been given a polo shirt and jumper or fleece at induction. Please ask if you need more. Extra raffle tickets are awarded for those wearing uniform.

Staying Safe

Phones should not be seen in lesson time. If unsure please read the phone policy, given at the induction day.

Reminders

Anyone who wants more information on the schools new Pantry please contact school.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday Oct 4th

3pm - 4.30pm

- Meet staff
- Discuss subject options
- Subject taster sessions
- Career advice
- See our new Sixth Form



Knowle DGE Pantry

KNOWLE DGE PANTRY IS
OPEN FOR ALL FAMILIES
AND PROVIDES A RANGE OF
FRESH FOODS, DRIED FOODS
AND TOILETRIES



OPENING

TIME: 1.40-2.30PM

DAY: TUESDAYS

LOCATION: LODGE

VOUCHERS ARE PROVIDED

CONTACT INFO:

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR
CLASS LF





Hi everyone,

My name is Natalie. I'm the Education Mental Health Practitioner at Knowle DGE. I work with individuals, groups, classes, staff and parents to help promote positive mental health in school. Each newsletter, I'll include a short segment with a wellbeing tip and signposting links.

If you want to know more about our service, you can find more information on our website here:

www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/mhst/

If you see me around the school,
come and say hello :)

