

# Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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(A Company Limited by Guarantee)  
Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

Our Ref: AB/SM

22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the half-way point in the summer term, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our Year 11 and Year 13 students on the fantastic start they have made with their exams. They have behaved responsibly in accordance with the exam regulations and are dedicating large amounts of time to revision, even attending breakfast sessions.

The exam season continues for another few weeks after the Whitsun break, all our exam students need to take time to rest over half term but keep up the hard work – it will be worth it! As Year 11 move towards the end of their exams, it is time for Year 10 to step-up and become the role models for the other year groups. They too will have end of year exams in the Hall later in the term. Year 7 also have their Assessment Week starting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Following the exams, my team will analyse the outcomes; this may result in us inviting some Year 10 students and their parents to meet with us to explore additional support measures if these are felt necessary.

I apologise for the length of this letter, however there are several important reminders and new information I must share with you.

## Outstanding Items

I am aware that some students in Year 11 and Year 13 may not yet have handed back their textbooks or library books. Please can you ensure your children return these to school as soon as possible. I would also be most grateful if you could also ensure that catering fobs are returned, and all outstanding debts settled. Thank you.

## CIF / Building Works Update

Our extensive building works are almost complete, with the majority of areas around the school now being fully accessible again. As you will probably be aware, our Reception and Attendance Teams have now relocated back to the White House and the front entrance is now in use.

Due to extensive water damage and drainage issues, the Chapel will remain closed for the remainder of the academic year.

Thank you to all parents, carers and students for their patience during these essential works – both the White House and Sports Hall look amazing!



Community Unity Opportunity



## Curriculum After Half Term

After half-term, the timetable will change to allow Year 9 to begin their GCSE option courses. As such, their finish time will now match Year 10 and will be at 3.30pm. All students will be issued with a new lesson timetable in readiness for these changes. New homework timetables will be issued after half term, if necessary.

## KS3 into KS4 Induction (Year 9), Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 5.00pm

The KS4 Transition Evening is an important event that all Year 9 parents are strongly advised to attend. In addition to the important curriculum information about the GCSEs, we will be talking to you all about work experience for students in the summer of 2027. We have written to Year 9 parents with more detail via separate letter, a copy of which can be found on the school website via [this link](#).

## Uniform – PE Kits

In previous years as the weather gets warmer, we have allowed students to wear their PE kits to school if they choose. If this decision is taken again next half term, I will write to you separately, but until then all students must return after half term in full school uniform.

## Food Consultation

The Government launched a [consultation](#) on updating the School Food Standards. The consultation closes on 12<sup>th</sup> June.

To ensure schools follow the new standards, the Government is committed to developing a national enforcement system, including monitoring schools' compliance. Full details will be announced this September.

Proposals subject to consultation include:

- All schools are required to publish their food policy and menus on their website.
- A lead governor is appointed with designated responsibility for school food.
- A separate set of food standards will apply specifically to the school breakfast service and food served before the school day starts.
- Fruit juice and fruit-juice-based combination drinks will be removed from the list of permitted drinks.
- Deep fried foods will no longer be permitted.
- Grab and go options must also contain or be accompanied by vegetables or salad, and all second courses should be accompanied by or contain a portion of fruit.
- Changes will be implemented from September 2027 and September 2028.

The Government's press release is [here](#).

## Year 10 Events in the Final Half Term

The final half-term will be very busy for Year 10 with their Professional Day occurring on the Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June and then moving into internal examinations. A separate letter has been sent to parents with full details, a copy of which can be found via [this link](#).

From Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, Year 10 will be out of school for their Work Experience week.

## **Other Calendar Events in the Final Half Term**

### Waterlooville Music Festival, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Our musicians and choir will be performing at the Waterlooville Music Festival at St George's Church, Waterlooville, on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June from 12.30-13.15pm. Everyone welcome! More details about the Music Festival can be found via this link, [Waterlooville Music Festival 2026](#).

### Art Exhibition, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June

Work created by our GCSE and A Level Art, Photography and Textiles students will be on display at the Art Exhibition on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June from 4.30-6.30pm in the Gym. All parents and students are invited to come along and view the amazing items that our talented students have produced.

### Drama Showcase, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June

Talented actors from all year groups have been attending our weekly Drama Club. On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm they will be performing extracts from the scripts they have been working on. All parents, students and staff are warmly invited to come along and enjoy a fantastic evening celebrating their hard work.

### Summer Music Concert, Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June

Our talented musicians and singers from all year groups will be performing at the Summer Music Concert on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm. This year we are planning to hold the event outdoors in the marquee on the sunken lawn (weather depending), and all parents and students are invited to come along and enjoy an evening of wonderful entertainment!

## **Challenge Week and Year 12 Enrichment Week**

This year our Challenge Week runs from Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, with Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> being a normal timetabled day. Mr Bamford has sent out information for Year 7-9 students on ClassCharts and on year group Teams pages. The information booklets that were sent out can be found on the school website by following [this link](#). Please ensure that you have made the requisite payment by 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Running in tandem with the school's Challenge Week, Year 12 will have their Enrichment Week. During this time, Year 12 students undertake work related learning and research post-18 pathways. The Sixth Form will have already outlined arrangements with students and parents via letter.

## **Oaklands Friends and Parents' Association (OFPA)**

Can you spare a few hours a month to help the OFPA support the school community?

If your answer is yes, potentially, or even maybe, then you have three options – you could join the OFPA, join the A-Team or even be part of both!

The A-Team help on an ad hoc basis at key school events such as Parents' Evenings, School Concerts, the School Show etc, serving refreshments from the kitchenette, and holding 50:50 raffles. Volunteers are needed to join this important team - you can help as much or as little at any event you can.

The OFPA are also a group of volunteers who commit to meet once a month during term time, to support the school community in a more formalised way. They plan and host events for the community, run fundraising events, and are also responsible for the second-hand school uniform store.

If you would like to find out more or would like to join either of the group of volunteers, please email [opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org](mailto:opa@oaklandscatholicschool.org) and they will be back in touch with you. Thank you in advance for any support you can give.

## Term Dates for 2026-2027

Dates for next academic year can be found on our website following this link, [Term Dates 2026-27](#).

There will be a Staff Inset Day on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, students in Years 7 and 12 will return on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and all students from Years 7-13 will return on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

## Key Dates

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June, 7.30pm	OFPA Meeting in Sixth Form
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June, 12.30pm	Waterlooville Music Festival
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June, 5.00pm	KS4 Induction Evening
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June, 8.00am	Community Mass, St Peter's Catholic Primary School
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June, 4.30pm	Art Exhibition
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June, 7.00pm	Drama Showcase Evening
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June, 4.30pm	Year 12 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June, 6.00pm	Year 10 Post-16 Event
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June, 6.00pm	Summer Music Concert
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Challenge Week
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am	Year 5 Open Morning
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July, 7.00pm	Year 11 Prom
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	New Year 7 Induction Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July, 6.00pm	Year 7 Parent/Carer Induction Evening (no students)
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day for students
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Staff Inset Day

I hope you all have a good Whitsun holiday when it arrives and thank you for your continued prayers and support.

Yours sincerely



Mrs A Bonnington  
**Head of School**