

# The Key News

September—December 2015

Issue 4

## Special points of interest:

- Curriculum Highlights—Pages 2-4
- Centre News—Page 5
- Exams— 5
- Term Date—Page 6

## A message from The Headteacher

Dear all,

The Autumn Term is always a long one and everyone is very happy when the Christmas holidays finally arrive! However, the term has been an exciting one with lots of great things happening in the Centre, I hope that you enjoy reading about them in this Newsletter.

It is now 2 years since we moved into this building and we are really settled here now, making the

most of all the fabulous resources it has to offer. Parents/carers are always welcome to pop in and have a look at what is going on. Most people who visit us leave feeling quite excited about the learning that they have seen taking place and they are impressed by the enthusiasm shown by the pupils.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a won-

derful New Year filled with love, peace and good health!



## Key Reps make changes

This term has seen the introduction of The Key Reps, our new school council. Pupils have met with both Mr Clark and Mrs Alavi to discuss their ideas and opinions of the school and are working together to make it a better school all round. Two of our council members were interviewed to let us know of their experience so far.

### Why we became Key Reps:

CR- I wanted to help the pupils with their issues and

also my own.

TR- No-one else in my tutor group decided they wanted to do it so I said I would to get our points of view across.

### Our duties as a Key Rep so far:

CR- I have talked to pupils and attended two meetings, one with Mr Clark and the other with Mr Clark and Mrs Alavi.

TR- I have had two meetings so far. One meeting with the other rep and Mr Clark and a second meeting that in-

cluded Mrs Alavi where we discussed our ideas.

### The issues we discussed and the outcomes:

CR- So far we have been able to persuade Mrs Alavi to have a trial where we are allowed to the shops during our two breaks. We have also introduced jacket potatoes to our lunch time menu on Wednesdays.

TR- We discussed three main things in our meeting with Mrs Alavi. We wanted to have our break time toast cooked for longer, which Mrs Alavi agreed to pass on,

and we asked for a vending machine to be installed so that we can buy snacks and drinks from. This is now being looked into. We also discussed being able to have our mobile phones on us all day but Mrs Alavi explained that this would cause too many difficulties in the centre.

## The Key News



## This term in ..... Science

Years 10 and 11 have recently been tackling their GCSE coursework investigation. Pupils have to plan fully, carry out and analyse their data in order to prove or disprove a hypothesis. Pupils have really put in a lot of effort in their work and are looking like real scientist in class.

Our younger pupils have been looking at key physics topics such as density, pressure and heat transfer. Many pupils have been wowed by the ideas behind why oil and water don't mix, how you could create a lava lamp and have

investigated the effects on the body of deep sea diving after making their own Cartesian Diver.

Green group have begun the mammoth task of building 3 radio controlled cars ready for racing after Christmas. It is proving fiddly and frustrating at times and it is certainly giving them a challenge.



*“When you talk,  
you are only  
repeating what you  
know, but when  
you listen, you may  
learn something  
new”*

## This term in ..... Religious Education

This term in RE we have focused on Religion and Planet Earth. We have discussed a range of issues affecting our planet such as climate change, pollution and deforestation and looked at how we are able to reduce the effects of the modern lifestyle on the world. We have also studied several conservation projects and questioned our own responsibility of looking after

the world. We have thought about a number of religious teachings surrounding these issues and considered each of their perspectives.

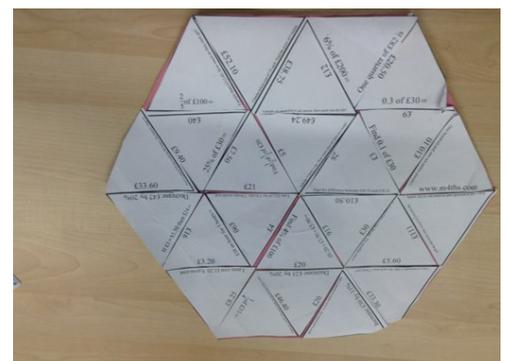


## This term in ..... Maths

This term the Year 11s have been sitting their mock exams. This is in practice for the upcoming maths exam in January. All Year 11s will sit the iGCSE Maths on 11th and 19th January. This is a real GCSE which they could use for their college or job applications. Results are due out in March 2016.

In addition to this, Key Stage 3 have been working hard on their maths work. Some have

completed the tarsia puzzles (right). This work was done by ZA, great work!

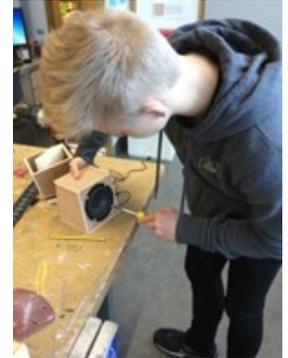
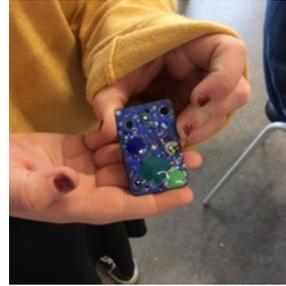


## This term in ..... Design and Technology

The pupils continue to design and create amazing artefacts and are developing their skills by using a wide range of tools and machines. Many pupils have taken their first steps into metalworking by making a copper key fob and enamelling one side using the recently purchased kiln. We have also purchased other metal working tools and equipment to enable all pupils to vary the materials that they use in their practical and design work.

A great deal of furniture has been designed and made this term which is part of the NCFE course that all Key stage 4 pupils have the oppor-

tunity to enter. Chairs of all descriptions, bedside cabinets and tables are being realised by lots of proud pupils. We have also had a child's workbench, boxes, bowls, picture frames, wooden toys, speaker cases and skateboards made. Generally the standard of work is improving and the pupils are asking more questions using technical language. It's very good to see pupils thinking about options of ways fo take their work forward and analysing the best option to pick.



## This term in ..... Food and Nutrition

All pupils have been progressing in Food Technology this term, revising hygiene awareness, health and safety in the kitchen and refining their culinary skills such as precise chopping techniques, using a bain marie to melt chocolate and getting to know authentic ingredients from around the world. The term culminated in a well earned Christmas dinner for each class, with the

pupils spending all day helping to prepare and cook, before sitting round together and enjoying the festive treat!



*“Experience is simply the name we give our mistakes”*

## This term in ..... Art

Pupils have been researching artists and craftspeople

This pupil likes the Pop artist Lichtenstein and has started her study into his work

Tie dye project

This pupil has studied Hussein Chalayan a famous fashion designer.

They have copied the artists style to help them to make their own work more interesting and colourful

## The Key News

## This term in ..... PSHE

The Autumn term has seen the pupils focusing on different issues depending on which group they are in.

### Blue and Orange groups

Blue and Orange groups have focused on sex and relationships education and alternatives to paid work. Sex and relationships lessons included undertaking activities relating to assessing the qualities of an ideal partner, managing relationships, the timeline of a relationship, relevant legal aspects, myths and facts, contraception and sexually transmitted infections. Alternatives to paid work have been investigated, including identifying the transferable skills and qualities gained through participation in those unpaid alternatives.

### Purple group

Purple group have been working on a project intended to both develop and demonstrate their organisational skills. They have also been working on a unit looking into alternatives to paid work. This has included identifying opportunities for unpaid alternatives

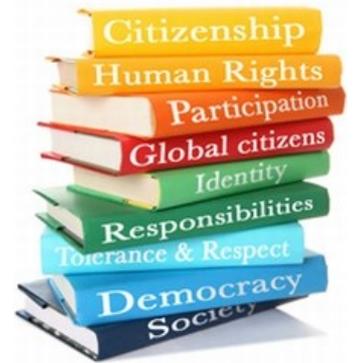
and assessing the transferable skills and qualities gained through participation in those unpaid alternatives.

### Green group

Green group have been working on a project intended to both develop and demonstrate their organisational skills. In addition they have focused on sex and relationships education. This has included undertaking all of the activities described earlier.

### Red and Yellow groups

Red and Yellow groups have mainly focused on issues relating to friends and friendship plus Human Rights. This has included considering the qualities of a friend, dealing with friendship issues, where human rights come from, children's rights in school, understanding human rights violations and issues related to migration and refugees.



*“In order to  
succeed we must  
first believe that we  
can!”*

## This term in ..... English

This term, the Yellow group have been studying 'The Raven', a gothic poem by Edgar Allan Poe. We have discussed techniques used within the poem to build atmosphere and tension, and we have also discussed setting, characters and genre and their importance to the feel of a poem. The group has also tried their hand at writing their own piece of gothic poetry.

This term Key Stage 3 pupils have been focusing on improving their reading skills and reading for pleasure. The pupils were taken to Waterstones in Fareham where they were able to choose a book as a class reader. The pupils enjoyed their reading lessons

and keeping reading logs. They completed a book review and used new writing skills. Since half term they have been studying Goodnight Mister Tom and have been researching WW2.

Year 10 pupils have been learning about The Freedom Writers. They have studied the Holocaust and Anne Frank. SD and ZA completed some fantastic work on the topic.

Year 11 pupils have been working very hard in preparation for their January 2016 GCSE exam. They have been improving their writing skills and have been working on past exam papers to help improve their confidence with GCSE questions. They have

also completed mock exams and I was very impressed by the efforts of CR, KR, LK and MB.

I have been so impressed with the effort, hard work and dedication of the pupils that I now have an 'English Legends' display in my classroom. Each week I put up the names of those pupils who have worked incredibly hard. I am pleased to report that CR, SD, KG and LK have appeared regularly. Well done to those 'English Legends'.



# Miss O'Toole brings Christmas to EV

Over the last half term, there have been a few changes in the EV Unit. With several new additions to both the Yellow and Pink Group, all of the pupils have tried very hard to make our new pupils feel incredibly welcome. We have all worked together to create a festive feel in our common room with everyone joining together to decorate the tree, make paper chains and create magical snowflakes.

Miss O'Toole loved working at The Key so much last year, that she has returned to cover for Miss Eveleigh whilst she is on maternity leave. Miss

O'Toole has previously worked in a variety of Education sectors, teaching a number of different subjects including A Level Psychology and Sociology, Health and Social Care, and most recently as a Year 3 Primary School teacher in Emsworth. She has loved getting to know all of the wonderful pupils on the EV Unit, and already has some exciting things planned for the New Year! So watch this space!

Miss O'Toole wishes all of the parents and pupils of the EV Unit a very Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year.



## Centre News

### New Arrival

All staff and pupils at The Key would like to congratulate Miss Eveleigh on the birth of her son on Saturday 5 December. We are hoping for a visit soon.

### PiXL Edge Award

Congratulations also go to SD and KG of Year 10 who will be visiting London soon to receive their Alternative Edge Award. The girls have worked very hard for this award over the last term and both are very excited about their day out in London.

### GCSE Exams

With their mock exams over Year 11 are now busy revising for their first attempt at real GCSEs in January

The dates are:

7th January—English

13th January—English

17th January—Maths

19th January—Maths

### Lateness

If you are late for an exam the Centre will try to give you the full time allowance as long as an invigilator is available. If you are more than an hour late your exam paper may not be accepted by the Exam Board. If you are late for an exam please report to Reception.

### Bags and personal belongings

Only items you require for your exam are to be taken into your exam room. Bags and other materials, including mobile phones and electronic devices must be handed in to Reception on arrival at The Key Education Centre.

### Mobile Phones and other Electronic equipment

Any unauthorised materials or equipment e.g. iPods, mobile phones, MP3/4 players, pen drives, wrist watches (which have a data storage device) or

any products with an electronic communication/storage device or a digital facility must not be taken into the exam room. Possession of unauthorised material is breaking the rules and you will be subject to a penalty and possible disqualification. Therefore mobiles/electronic devices must either be left at home, or given to Reception on arrival.

### Food and Drink

You are only allowed to take water into the exam room in an unlabelled clear bottle. Chewing gum and any other food and drink are not permitted. Please ensure you have enough water for the duration of your exam as you will not be allowed to refill your bottle during the exam and invigilators cannot do this for you.

*“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts”*



## The Key Education Centre

Tukes Avenue  
Gosport  
PO13 0SG

Phone: 02392 528653

E-mail:

[adminoffice@thekey.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@thekey.hants.sch.uk)

Web:

[www.thekeyeducationcentre.co.uk](http://www.thekeyeducationcentre.co.uk)

## Information for Parents/Carers

**Mobile Phones and iPods** Carers/Parents, please can you remind your children that mobile phones and iPods etc. must be given in to reception on arrival where they will be kept safe until the end of the day.

### Reminder to Carers/Parents

If your child is not going to be attending The Key for any reason, please can you ensure you inform us by phoning: 02392 528653 before 8.15am.

### Emergency Contact Details

In the case of an emergency, it is important that we have your most recent contact details. Please notify us of any changes of address and telephone numbers.

## Useful Telephone Numbers

### Parentline Plus

Tel: 0808 800 2222

[www.parentlineplus.org.uk](http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk)

### Motiv8

Tel: 02392 834027

[www.motiv8south.org.uk](http://www.motiv8south.org.uk)

### Childline

Tel: 0800 1111

[www.childline.org](http://www.childline.org)

### Italk

Tel: 02380 383920

## Term Dates for your diary

**4 Jan 16** - INSET day; no lessons for Key pupils; One To One teachers will advise pupils if lessons are taking place.

**5 Jan 16** - first day of term for Key pupils

**15 Feb 16 - 19 Feb 16** - half-term break

**24 Mar 16** - last day of term

All term dates can be found on our website. Please check this regularly as they can be subject to change.