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January - April  
2015

Dear All,

The Spring Term has been a very busy one as you will see when you read our Newsletter. Staff at The Key are constantly looking for exciting ways of engaging pupils and rewarding them for their hard work.

We were very pleased to welcome new members of staff onto our team this term and you can see a full list of the staff members on our website. The new members of staff have settled in very well and are now hard at work bringing their various talents to the Centre.

The Spring Term is a very important one for our Year 11s as they prepare for their GCSEs in May and June. We hope that they will take all of the advice that has been given to them and that they spend time revising at home to ensure that they are well prepared for their examinations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents/carers who support us in the work that we do at The Key. We all want the very best for our pupils and if we continue to work together, then we will have an excellent chance of achieving that aspiration.

With all best wishes,

Mrs L Alavi  
Headteacher

January - April  
2015

# Art & Design



This has been a very successful term with twelve pupils certificated with 'Discover' and 'Bronze Arts' awards. The Key was also invited by the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth to attend a celebration of outstanding art work achieved in local schools. Pupils spoke to the Mayor about their work and took to the stage to show the amazing masks they helped to create with our artist in residence Tim Johnson. Shown below are some examples of work made by the pupils at The Key in particular their artistic responses to the terms project based on Masks.

Miss J Drew - Art Instructor



Since the start of the Spring Term we have continued our programme of cooking a variety of interesting meals from around the world, including Chicken Chow Mein; Pan-fried Bacon with Potato Rosti; Spanish Tortilla Omelette; Rich Chicken Curry; Spicy Chicken & Bean Enchilladas; Sweet & Sour Chicken Balls with Egg-Fried Rice; and Shredded Chicken Tacos with Green Pepper Salsa (see below).



## Food and Nutrition

During the Spring Term we also began working on Certificates in Food Safety and Hygiene (Level 1) and Food Safety and Hygiene for Catering (Level 2).

The younger pupils (KS3) who are studying Level 1, will learn:-

- How to keep yourself clean and hygienic
- How to keep your work area clean
- How food becomes contaminated and your role in reducing contamination

The KS4 pupils will additionally learn about the different laws which relates to food hygiene and safety and how businesses must implement and maintain a documented Food Safety Management system.



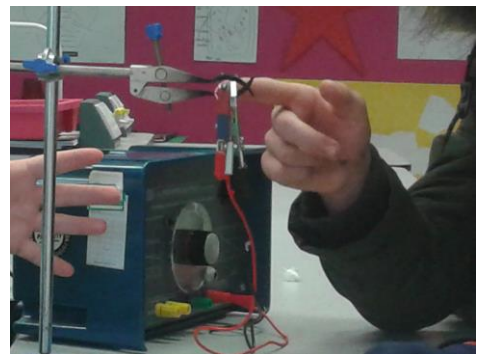
On both courses, the pupils undertake approximately 6 hours of in-class learning which are spread across the spring and early summer terms, alternating week about with the practical cooking lessons. They will then be assigned a "license" giving them the opportunity to take the online course on their own, on the Internet, in school (or at home in their own time). The pass-mark is 75%, and, if necessary, pupils may re-sit the test at no extra cost, by going back through the training materials.

Mrs A Hounam - Food and Nutrition teacher





KS4 are in the run down to their GCSE exams which start on 6th May. They have been covering how to rearrange chemical equations, building electromagnets and osmosis and diffusion.



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# PSHE

## Drugs

The pupils looked into the legal issues relating to drugs, including laws relating to the purchase and use of illegal drugs. The classification system (classes A, B and C) for drugs was also covered, with pupils invited to investigate the correct classifications and consider the associated legal penalties. The pupils also considered the health risks associated with drug use.

## Alcohol

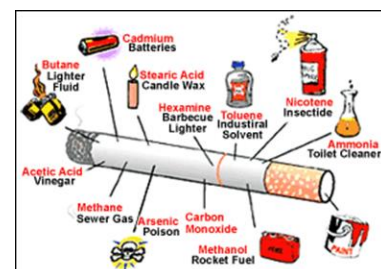
In studying alcohol the pupils spent some time classifying different alcoholic drinks according to their strength and alcoholic content, which included assessing the number of units of alcohol in different drinks. Government guidelines on safer drinking were also investigated so that the pupils were made aware what is considered reasonable drinking levels for adults. Health and social issues related to alcohol "abuse" were considered along with the various laws relating to the purchase and use of alcohol, especially in relation to age.

## Tobacco

While studying issues relating to tobacco the pupils researched the harmful chemicals found in cigarettes. The laws relating to tobacco, specifically around purchase and use, were investigated as were the main health risks associated with smoking. The pupils also surveyed people on why they smoke after first researching some commonly found reasons.

In addition to the lessons about drugs, alcohol and tobacco some of the Key Stage 4 pupils started writing CVs and considering college and training applications.

Mr D Clark - PSHE Teacher



# Maths

This term we have had some fantastic results in the maths department. In January the Year 11's sat their IGCSE maths exam. The results that came out in March were excellent. 89% of our pupils passed with a grade *G* or above. Special congratulations go to LP who got a *Grade C*. Lots of revision is now being done to prepare for the up-coming summer exams.

Mrs Sherwood - Maths Co-Ordinator

All groups have been focusing on a research project. Pupils were asked to research and produce an information booklet on a subject of their choice. Pupils have been engaging in exam skills such as reading and summarising, using presentational devices and writing appropriately for a certain audience.

Pupils have completed excellent pieces of work on a wide variety of subjects. One pupil's work on Bob Marley was particularly well presented and detailed. Pupils have also enjoyed reading through the final copies of the information booklets and learning about new and interesting topics such as The Bermuda Triangle, Greek Gods and Sports.

Miss K Shrubbs - English

# English

# Design Technology



Many artefacts of varying shapes and size have been made recently. Everything from traditional bird tables, using a mixture of materials, to more intricate turned wooden boxes have been made by the pupils at The Key.



The pupils are really beginning to think about how the user will interact with the object and make changes to it, to make life easier and more pleasant. They are also thinking more carefully about how the design, material and making of the object will alter its visual appearance.

The quality of the projects continues to rise and more pupils are coming to lessons with ideas of their own about what they want to make.

Also, more pupils are making artefacts for other people to use. Red group are currently making items to sell at a car boot sale to help raise money for treats, when out on trips.

Mr Hiscock - Design and Technology Teacher



# Meet the Staff

## Helen Smallwood - English Assistant

I have been a teaching assistant at The Key since the end of November 2014. Before then, my encounters of working in education had been very different: as a college leaver I began working for a music organisation, delivering music workshops to various adults and young people in challenging circumstances. At the other end of the spectrum, I gained experience of working in a more formal education setting through working in a university, supporting students with disabilities and learning differences.

I now mostly work within the English department, and support other subjects where needed. Despite being a subject that many of our pupils find challenging, I enjoy trying to find ways in which they will engage and discover their potential, using English both creatively and as an essential life skill. The way in which every day is different means that I too am learning new skills every day!

During my time here I feel that I have been made to feel welcome and have received a lot of support, especially as a member of the team who is younger, and has never worked in secondary education until now. It has been a privilege to get to know the pupils and to see them progress, both academically and as young adults.

## Cilla Cummings - Science Assistant

I came to The Key, at the end of September, whilst undertaking temporary work with a local teaching staff agency. I felt so inspired by the good work that is done here that when a post for teaching assistant was advertised I applied. I was fortunate enough to be offered the post and was taken on permanently before the Easter break. I am mostly in the Science department, but am often required to cover in other lessons covering both behaviour and EV.

My previous working experiences have been based around education and social work. I have completed 2 years of my degree in social work and aspire to complete my final year whilst working at The Key.

I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to work with the pupils in our care and hope to be a positive influence on them during their time in education. The staff have a real sense of team spirit and pull together and work immensely well under pressure.

Thank you to staff and pupils for making me feel so welcome.

# Year 11 Exam Dates

All staff at The Key  
would like to wish Year  
11 pupils the best of  
luck with their  
forthcoming exams

Combined Science GCSE Paper 3 - 6th May PM

Physics GCSE Paper 3 - 6<sup>th</sup> May PM

Biology GCSE Paper 3 - 7th May PM

RE GCSE Paper 1 - 13th May PM

Biology GCSE Paper 1/2 - 14th May PM

RE GCSE Paper 2 - 18th May RE PM

Combined Science GCSE Paper 1/2 - 20th May PM

Physics GCSE Paper 1/2 - 20<sup>th</sup> May PM

Mathematics IGCSE Paper 1 - 21st May AM

English IGCSE Paper 1 - 2nd June AM

Mathematics IGCSE Paper 2 and Linear Paper 1 - 4th June AM

English IGCSE Paper 2 - 5th June AM

Mathematics Linear Paper 2 - 8th June AM

**All Year 11 pupils must be in the Centre by 8.45am for morning exams and 12.45pm for afternoon exams. Pupils will NOT be allowed to leave until the full exam time is over!**

## Further Information and Useful Contacts...

### Mobile Phones and I-pods

Carers/Parents, please can you remind your children that mobile phones and I-pods etc. must be placed in lockers on their arrival at The Key. Pupils will be provided with a key.

**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.

Thank you

### Parentline Plus

Tel: 0808 800 2222  
[www.parentlineplus.org.uk](http://www.parentlineplus.org.uk)

### Childline

Tel: 0800 1111  
[www.childline.org](http://www.childline.org)

### Spring Term Reports

Your child's Spring Term report was sent to you on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2015 to your home address and you should have received this by now. If you have not had sight of this report please contact Reception and they will arrange for you to receive a copy, either by email or post. You are also welcome to pop in to the Centre to collect a copy.

### INSET Days and Term Dates

Please note the following INSET days and holidays for your diary:

4<sup>th</sup> May 2015 Bank Holiday

25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May 2015 Summer Half Term Holiday

1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 INSET Day - children are not expected in school

6<sup>th</sup> July 2015 INSET day - children are not expected in school

All holidays and INSET days are also noted on the Centre's website.

### Motiv8

Tel: 02392 834027  
[www.motiv8south.org.uk](http://www.motiv8south.org.uk)

### Italk

Tel: 02380 383920