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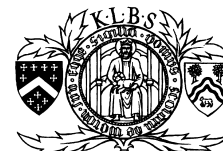
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FOUNDED 1384

KATHARINE LADY BERKELEY'S SCHOOL

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A Specialist School for
Languages

Newsletter - 30 August 2011

Academy Status

During the period from Easter to the end of last term, we were working with our legal team at Rickerbys in Cheltenham to achieve conversion to Academy status. We received a letter from the Secretary of State for Education, Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, on Friday 29 July confirming that Katharine Lady Berkeley's School would open as an Academy on 1 August 2011.

The conversion process has been very complex and time consuming but I am confident that the funding and other arrangements will help us to continue to at least maintain range of courses and quality of provision through the forthcoming period of financial constraint in the public sector. In our application for Academy status, we have also committed to continuing our work with our neighbouring partner primary schools in Languages and Sport which may have been under threat if we had continued as a local authority maintained school.

While the description of Academies as state funded independent schools, each established as their own company limited by guarantee, may give the impression of organisations working in isolation, that will not be the case in Gloucestershire. It is anticipated that over 25 of the 39 secondary schools in the county will be operating as Academies in September 2011. All secondary schools, whether academies or maintained schools, are committed to working together in order to secure the best possible provision for secondary age pupils across the county through mechanisms such as shared professional development and the joint procurement of services. Like other Academies in this county, we will also continue to work with Gloucestershire Local Authority, through purchasing their services and in supporting vulnerable pupils.

Governor Vacancies

As part of the academy conversion process, we have reconstituted our governing body. While most of our governors have remained in post (and those who have left us have done so for other reasons), we now have three vacancies. Elections for a staff governor will take place in September and we will be advertising a parent governor vacancy and seeking proposals for a co-opted post once the new term is underway. More details will be sent out in due course and posted on our website. Meanwhile, thank you for your support over the last few months.

Outstanding GCSE results

Pupils from Year 11 have achieved outstanding GCSE results. The commonly used statistic of 5 or more passes at GCSE grades A* to C is 90.8% and the percentage gaining 5 or more passes at Grades A* to C including English and Mathematics is 76.4%. The key statistics are as follows with the 2010 and 2009 figures in italics:

	2011	<i>2010</i>	<i>2009</i>
% 5 or more grades A* to C	90.8%	<i>83.6%</i>	<i>78.3%</i>
% 5 or more A* to C inc En and Ma	76.4%	<i>74.4%</i>	<i>71.9%</i>
% 5 or more grades A* to G	99.6%	<i>98.8%</i>	<i>98.4%</i>
% entries resulting in grades A*/A	34.6%	<i>33.6%</i>	<i>30.8%</i>
% achieving English Bacallaureate	41.6%	<i>34.6%</i>	<i>n/a</i>

Many pupils have attained outstanding results. These include:

Joseph Cridge	11 full course passes at grade A* and 1 short course at grade A
Lorna Rowe	11 full course passes at grade A* and 1 short course at grade A
Sarah Appleton	10 full course at grade A*, 1 full course at grade A, 1 short course at grade A*
Emma Travis	10 full course at grade A*, 1 full course at grade A, 1 short course at grade A*
Charles Patteson	8 full course at grade A*, 3 full course at grade A and 1 short course at grade A*
Harriett Noviss	8 full course at grade A*, 3 full course at grade A and 1 short course at grade A

The following achieved 7 full course passes at grade A*:

Rebecca Stokes, Grace Bailey, Alasdair Gibson, Matt Jones and Emma Poole.

Excellent GCE A Level Results

A2 results

Excellent results have been achieved by our Year 13 students who took their A level examinations this summer. The provisional key statistics are shown below, with the 2010 and 2009 figures in brackets. (The points scores used follow the QCA scale used by the DfE - 300 points for A*, 270 points for A, then in steps of 30 points to 150 points for grade E.)

% entries resulting in grades A*/A/B	61.4%	(69.3%	63.0%)
% entries resulting in grades A*-E	98.9%	(99.4%	99.0%)
average points per candidate	870.9	(923.5	872.1)
average points per entry	221.9	(232.6	222.2)

This is the second year that the new A* grade has been available at A level. To receive an A* students must achieve a mark of above 90 per cent in their A2 examinations in the Year 13. Overall, 14% of entries at this school resulted in a grade A*.

4 students achieved 3 passes at Grade A*:

Ross McLaren	Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry (+ Grade A Spanish)
Oliver Morgan	Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry
Alana Pain	Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry (+ Grade A Geography)
Peter Thurlow	Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry

8 students achieved at least 3 grade A passes which included 2 passes at Grade A*:

Harriet Allman-Carter	Biology, Chemistry + Grade A Mathematics
Ruth Appleton	Graphic Art, Psychology + Grade A English
Olivia Digby	English, Textiles + Grade A Art
Jamie Evans	Economics, Sociology + Grade A Geography
Isobel Pennaligon	English, Textiles + Grade A History
Hannah Reeves	Biology, Mathematics + Grade A Chemistry
Lucy Robbins	English, Sociology + Grade A History
Emma Sankey	English, Mathematics + Grade A Further Mathematics, Spanish

6 students achieved at 3 grade A passes which included 1 pass at grade A*:

Sam Cross	German + Grade A History, Spanish
Annie Gordon	Film Studies + Grade A English, History
Flora Gordon	Geography + Grade A English, Sociology
Alastair Johnstone	Photography + Grade A Geography, Product Design
Gavin Pillinger	Mathematics + Grade A Chemistry, Music, Physics
Katie Wilkinson	Graphic Art + Grade A English, Spanish
Abi Woods	Mathematics + Grade A Further Mathematics, Psychology

A further 7 students achieved results which included 3 passes at grade A:

Thomas Jellings, Lily Jones, Tilly Martin, Joseph McKivitt, Rosie Summers, Elizabeth Watt, Chloe Weaver,

AS results

The provisional key statistics are as follows. The grade A* which has been introduced for overall A level grades is not available at AS. The statistics below show the equivalent 2010 data in brackets:

% entries resulting in grades A/B	48.5%	(49.3%)
% entries resulting in grades A-E	91.5%	(94.2%)

One student achieved 6 passes at Grade A:

Mark Green	Chemistry, French, General Studies, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics
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A further 3 students achieved results which included 5 passes at grade A:

Olivia Gale	Business Studies, English, Geography, General Studies, Psychology
Sam Rice	Chemistry, General Studies, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics
Stephanie Spreadborough	Drama, French, German, General Studies, Mathematics

A further 3 students achieved results which included 4 passes at grade A:

James Gallagher	Biology, English, General Studies, Sociology
Becky Hall	Geography, Graphic Art, General Studies, Psychology
Emily Schofield	Biology, Geography, Graphic Art, General Studies

The above results are clearly very impressive, as are the results of many other students not listed here. They represent the hard work and determination of the students and of their teachers. The vast majority of students from Year 13 will be starting

university courses next term and I am sure that their efforts at A level will provide an excellent foundation for success in their degree courses.

New Teaching Staff

A number of new members of staff will be joining the school at the start of next term as follows:

Miss L Corfield	Physical Education
Miss L Williams	Mathematics
Miss C Hall	Art and Design

There are also some changes in key responsibilities as follows:

Miss H Khan	Continues as Deputy Headteacher but will include Head of Sixth Form in her responsibilities
Mr R Warren	Continues as Assistant Headteacher but will include Head of Year 8 in his responsibilities
Dr J Brown	Head of Mathematics
Miss K John	Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO)
Miss S Upton	Head of Girls' PE

Premises work during the summer break

The main focus during August has been the renewal of windows in the Technology and administration areas.

Dates for your diary

The school calendar for 2011/12 can be accessed from the front page of the school website or directly at:

<http://calendar.klb.org.uk>