

Welcome to the Kingsthorpe College newsletter.



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 95



Dear Parents

Once again, at the end of only the first week back after the half-term break, College life is well and truly back in full swing.

This week, we have been talking to students about 'Team KC'. One of the real strengths of being in a team is the support and challenge that other members of that team can give to one another. This is true for everyone involved with the College whether it be students, staff or the

community. We shared with students the four ways of working which we value highly from everybody at the College – optimism, determination, thoughtfulness and clarity – and we looked at what this meant for our students. We took the opportunity to remind students of just how important the right attitude is in ensuring success at any task, and how determined they need to be to do their best - particularly with all of the events coming up this half-term in terms of their studies. Mr Jackson also reiterated our expectations of students at all times throughout the school day including on the way to and from the College. As the weather becomes colder, we would appreciate your support in making sure that your son or daughter still adheres to our uniform expectations, particularly in relation to footwear and coats.

For me, this half-term is the most important half-term of the academic year. This is the term where good habits are consolidated, and where decisions which are made will impact hugely on the success of our young people at the end of the year. For those students who will take examinations next summer, this is the term where coursework is often completed, where practice mock examinations are sat, and where students need to make the most of the fact our staff always go that little bit extra. We will be publishing shortly the extra support which is on offer for our students and we have already been inundated with our students asking when they can start their revision!

For those students who are not taking exams this year, this term is also important for a number of reasons. Our year 10s and 12s are settled in to their GCSE and A level courses, and it is worth remembering that these are two year courses, so work and content covered now will be vital when students finally sit their examinations. Our year 9s will soon be choosing their GCSE option subjects, and it is important that they start to think now about what their longer term ambitions are so we can ensure that they take the most appropriate courses for their aspirations. Our year 8s are working hard on consolidating their success in year 7 to make sure any gaps in their knowledge or skills are closed as quickly as possible. And finally, our year 7s are well and truly part of our family

now – they can all find their way about the College site, have all made friends, and all know their teachers and support staff who work closely with them. Their challenge now is to make sure they carry on the excellent start they have made with us and continue to make the right decisions and do their best to help make sure that everything is possible!

We also welcomed Steve McShane, Director of School Improvement for The Collaborative Academies Trust, this week, and I was really proud to talk to him about the work we are doing, and for him to meet some of our staff and students. We really do believe in the philosophy of our Trust that we are here to develop successful learners, confident individuals, and responsible citizens. On this note - it was really good to hear that Joely Wright, tutor group B9, has successfully auditioned for the Kettering Lighthouse Theatre production of Beauty and the Beast this year – we can't wait to see what she does next. Please do keep letting us know of all the many and varied successes which our students experience outside of the College – we really do love hearing about these.

Mrs Giovanelli

Acting Principal

Stars of the week

Red House - Toby Hillyer Year 7 R3

Toby is an absolute star and has shown just how resilient he can be. At the beginning of the academic year, he was struggling with the transition from primary to secondary school. In recent weeks, he has risen to the challenge and is now embracing all that KC life has to offer. Toby has helped his tutor group and Red house in achieving full stamps for the past four weeks. Toby we are so proud of you. Keep up the good work!

Green House - Stan Hitchcock Year 7 Gr5

Stan is a model green house student who has thrown himself into life at

KC since joining us in September. He has 100% attendance and has been awarded 17 commendations this term. Stan has shown his determination and optimism to make KC an even better school by taking on the role of representing Green House at the School Senate. Well done Stan - keep up the great work!

Gold House - Orlando Blackmore Year 7 G01

Orlando is our star of the week this week after achieving 9 commendations throughout his first half term at KC. The transition from primary school to secondary school can be a very difficult experience, for some students, and it is always great to see our new year 7 students making such a positive transition into secondary school. Orlando has had special recognition within his English lessons. Well done Orlando, keep up the good work!

Blue House - Grace Melay Year 10 B3

Our star of the week this week is Grace Melay for consistently meeting and exceeding expectations on a day to day basis. She has 100% attendance, no behaviour points and is a real asset to her Tutor and Blue House.

Well done and keep it up Grace!

Purple House - Jess Adshead Year 12 P3

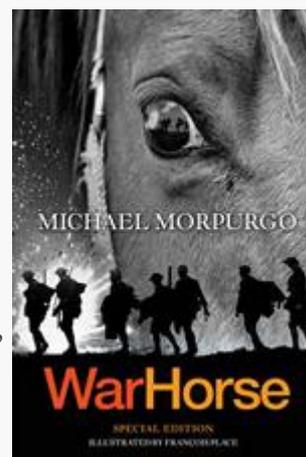
Purple House's star of the week is Jess Adshead. Jess has been extremely enthusiastic about organising and running the House Council for Purple House. She has run the meetings and fed back the ideas to the Purple House Staff. Jess is a motivated and reliable student, and it is clear that she is enjoying the responsibilities that being a Prefect brings. Well done Jess.



Book of the Week

War Horse by Michael Morpurgo BL 5.9

During this week of remembrance, our book of the week is the stunning novel War Horse. In 1914, Joey, a young farm horse, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges towards the enemy witnessing the horrors of life on the frontline. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the lives of the soldiers around him. This book is a classic story of animal courage and bravery.



The word of the week is...

“Flamboyant”

Definition: a person or their behaviour, tending to attract attention because of their exuberance, confidence, and stylishness.

Try and use this word in a sentence this week. My sentence is:
"He always wears *flamboyant* clothes to make people notice him".

The literacy challenge winner this week is...

Josie Nutt GR4

Please come to the library to collect your prize.



**Reading Hero of the Week – Mansur
Chowdhury (year 7)**

We are really pleased to award Mansur this week's Heroes of Reading title. He has worked extremely hard on the Accelerated Reader programme. He has been coming into the library before school every day and taking quizzes, he has achieved 100% pass rates on every quiz that he has taken which is a fantastic achievement. Congratulations Mansur, we have really enjoyed listening to you talk so enthusiastically about the books that you have been reading. Keep up the good work and don't forget to collect your reading hero prize.

Michaela Morgan Event



On Tuesday, all of our Year 7 students attended talks and workshops held by the award-winning author and poet Michaela Morgan. As we lead up to a week of remembrance and to mark the centenary of the Battle of the Somme, Michaela spoke to our students about her acclaimed book Walter Tull's Scrapbook. Her talk was extremely informative and interesting and we were all given a sense of who Walter Tull was, his links with Northampton, and about how much he accomplished in his lifetime.

Michaela's visit coincided with Children's Book Week and during her

workshops students were able to ask lots of questions about what it takes to become a successful writer. Michaela also shared lots of useful hints and tips for students to use in their own creative writing and they were even treated to some new poetry that will not be published until next year. Our year 8 students who attended the workshop had the wonderful opportunity of recording and acting out some of the poetry that Michaela had been working on with them with.

In addition to her talk and the workshops, on the lead up to her visit we had been running a competition for students to enter to win signed copies of her book *Respect* and congratulations goes to Jodie Finnis and Orlando Blackmore who were our chosen winners.

Overall Michaela's visit was a wonderful treat for our students and I am sure that they each found it very informative, thought provoking, and will have learnt new skills to take away and apply to their own work.



We are really excited to announce that we have secured tickets for some of our year 7 and 8 students to attend this year's Into Film Festival. This festival is supported by the British Film Institute and the National Schools Partnership. It is the world's largest free film and education event for young people and its aim is to inspire the next generation of film makers.

We will be taking selected students to the Vue Cinema in Northampton on the 16 November to watch one of this year's chosen films. Watch this space for more information.



Jamie Dunkley (sixth form charity organiser) and his colleagues held a Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 21st October during their break and raised a staggering £80.46 in the space of 20 minutes. They would like to thank everyone who contributed with cake, assistance, and time for making the sale successful.

Tuesday 22 November 2016 –

Post 16 open evening

Don't throw out your old uniform!

If you have KC uniform that you no longer need or use and it is still in good condition, please bring it in to school. We can use it for emergencies and for our second hand exchange programme. Thank you!

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