



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 115



Dear Parents

Despite it being a shorter week than usual, we have still managed to pack in a tremendous amount this week.

Thank you to all those parents who came to the College on Thursday night to join our staff for Year 10 Parents' Evening to discuss their son or daughter's current progress. If you left us feedback on the evening with any specific queries you wanted us to get back to you about, someone will be in touch this week. As always, if you have any feedback for us on how we can improve any aspect of the College's provision, we would love to hear from you.

We also welcomed some of you to the College at the end of this week to

discuss ways in which we can continue to help ensure all our students are attending College all of the time to give them the best possible chance of success. As you will know from previous newsletters, our College attendance target is for all students to attend at least 96% of the time. This is because we know that students who have 96% attendance achieve much more highly than those students who do not. Our daily KC lotto which rewards our students who are in school meeting our high expectations day in, day out will be starting again from Monday. We had some really positive feedback from students in relation to this, and we have been given some tweaks to the system which we will be implementing this term!

The final run up to examination season is very much upon us, and we continue to offer a range of supportive mechanisms and opportunities for our students in year 11 and 13. I can't emphasise enough how important it is that students make the most of these and listen to the advice of our staff. Before the Easter holidays, I wrote about the importance of testing in helping students remember information, and I would again encourage you all to get your son or daughter to create flashcards, or use online programmes such as GCSEpod, and quizlet to test knowledge.

You may or may not be aware of the latest 'craze' to appear in school playgrounds across the country – fidget spinners. As well as being used as a toy or stress-reliever, fidget spinners are also used to help people with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), or autism. However, schools across the country are seeing a rapid increase in the number of students bringing these into schools with no diagnosed reason for doing so, as part of a national and international trend. At KC, we are keen to ensure that all students are able to learn in a calm and supportive environment. However, some students are using spinners unnecessarily and this can cause problems with distracting noise and behaviour, as well as potential injury if misused. For this reason, the College has taken the decision to ban them from the College site. Students will be informed of this during tutor time on Monday. Of course we recognise that for some students, strategies or items recommended by a medical or educational professional to aid their concentration can be of huge benefit, and the College will continue, as it always has, to adopt a personalised approach for these students. Should you have any queries in relation to this, please contact your child's tutor

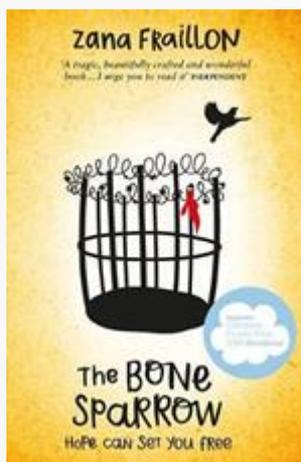
in the first instance.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support.

Mrs Giovanelli
Headteacher



The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon (BL: 4.9)



Shortlisted for the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize and this year's CILIP Carnegie Medal. Perfect for fans of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*. This is a beautiful, vivid and deeply moving story about a refugee boy who has spent his entire life living in a detention centre.

Born in a refugee camp, all Subhi knows of the world is that he's at least 19 fence diamonds high, the nice Jackets never stay long, and at night he dreams that the sea finds its way to his tent, bringing with it unusual treasures. And one day it brings him Jimmie. Carrying a notebook that she's unable to read and wearing a sparrow made out of bone around her neck - both talismans of her family's past and the mother she's lost - Jimmie strikes up an unlikely friendship with Subhi beyond the fence. As he reads aloud the tale of how Jimmie's family came to be, both children discover the importance of their own stories in writing their futures.

This novel reminds us all of the importance of freedom, hope, and the power of a story to speak for anyone who's ever struggled to find a safe

home.

This week's literacy challenge winner is....

Louise Hor B5

The word of the week is...

“Success”

Definition: To achieve well. Try and use this word in a sentence this week.

My sentence is:

He experienced great success on results day after all his hard work.



We are really excited this week as we have had another amazing reader to add to our growing list of millionaire readers. This week Grace Ingram (year 7) became our newest “millionaire”. Since joining us in September Grace has worked extremely hard on the Accelerated Reader programme. She has read a wonderful array of fiction novels, which have included some of our future classics stories: The Nest, A Monster Calls and Dreaming the Bear just to name a few. Well done Grace we are really

proud of you, keep up the good work.



Project Take Flight



My journey at Kingsthorpe College started in September 2016 as an external student. Having moved from Danetre and Southbrook

Learning Village (DSL) to Kingsthorpe College, I have distinguished a vast contrast between the schooling and myself so the difference between here and the US schooling is beyond imaginable. I aim to continue to help the school build connections with the US by taking part in this project and therefore be able to share the political matters, environmental differences and schooling that I experience with those in the US. I stand by the belief that continuing Project 'Take Flight' and working with those in Chicago will encourage greater awareness and appreciation of cultures but also provide KC and the US schools with gratifying connections and links that will potentially impact the future students and the schools

forever.

After our quiz evening on the 28th March, which raised us a total of £450, we are now busy organising and planning our next big fundraiser, the 'Take Flight' dinner dance which will be held at Sedgebrook Hall on the 30th of June (tickets are being sold now at Finance, deposits of £10). Together we have been organising the venue details, spreading posters that students and staff will notice around the school and sorting out the invitations in preparation for the big event.

We are currently doing tuck shops at breaks and lunches as we continue to work towards our overall target of £11,000 in order to pay for all the expenses of the trip. This week we will also be finishing our Vlog Project where Abigail Medland, Corey Churchman and a lower school student will have parts of their school days and any other extra curricular activities filmed in order for us and the American students to witness a difference between schooling and lifestyles. This includes their transportation to school, lessons, studies, breaks, lunches, clubs and work.

We are extremely appreciative of all the support we are being given and hope to continue to build the legacy of the original project.

Thank you for reading,

Olivia Boyce

Urban Strides – Street Dance



All our students have recently received an assembly run by Andy Instone from Urban Strides. Urban Strides is the UK's leading Street Dance educator. The assemblies aimed to motivate our students to lead healthier lives and give them the confidence to achieve a higher level of

success for themselves.

Urban Strides is the UK's leading Street Dance educator and have been seen in 128 countries, viewed by a global audience of 1.73 billion, performed on 129 arena stages and their qualified teachers have taught "Diversity", Sir Richard Branson and James Corden.

Urban Strides will now be offering the students at Kingsthorpe College an opportunity to participate in a weekly Street Dance class on a Monday evening. The class is open to all abilities, from complete beginners to street dance experts. The main focus of the sessions is to develop confidence and self-belief by providing a positive space for students to be themselves and have fun.

For more information on the classes please click here:

<http://www.urbanstrides.com/street-dance-classes-choose-your-age-beginners-welcome/street-dance-hip-hop-classes-for-teens-beginners-welcome/>

Places in the class are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. To book a place please go to:

<http://www.streetdancestore.com/street-dance-classes-for-beginner-intermediate-and-advanced-street-dancers/All-Classes/Northampton-Senior>

The cost of classes is £29.75 per month with a full money back guarantee in case it turns out not to be the right fit for you and your child. If think your child would like to take part, please take the time to click on the links above and reserve your place.

Please note that we do not endorse any external companies and any contract or payment is made directly with the organisation itself and not with Kingsthorpe College.

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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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