



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 124



Dear Parents

The week got off to a great start as we welcomed our prospective Year 7 students to the College on Monday and Tuesday. The day started with a formal assembly from myself where I asked students to consider the following question, “What’s your story?” I shared with students the importance of both ‘dreaming’ and ‘doing’ in relation to their aspirations, and we talked about the need to dream big, work hard, and stay humble. The Year 6s had an action packed two days and had the opportunity to meet their tutor, as well as experience a range of taster lessons. By Tuesday evening when we met with parents, we had some happy but exhausted children!

You should all have received a letter by now which details our tutoring system from September 2017. From the start of the new academic year,

we will operate a horizontal tutoring system where students will be in tutor groups with students from the same year. The very many benefits of the vertical tutoring system which currently operates will be kept, with lots of exciting plans for student voice, peer mentoring, prefects, subject ambassadors and the renaming of our current houses. The decision to move to this tutoring system was made following initial feedback from our very own KC students and followed a series of discussions with all key stakeholders at the College. If you have not received this letter, please do call the College so we can ensure you have all the information you need. You should also have received a letter detailing arrangements for both the end of term and also the first day back in September. Again, please do get in touch if you need further information. As a reminder, the College breaks up for the summer holidays on **Friday 21 July at 12:30pm.**

One of the real highlights of this year has been the work that the College has undertaken in relation to working with the Prince's Trust. All our students who have participated in this programme have completed some excellent work despite this being the first year we have undertaken the project, and our students will receive formal recognition of their work in September. The difference that this programme has made to our students has been amazing, and many of them have really blossomed in terms of confidence and resilience. Huge thanks to Mr Campbell who has supported our students with the programme this year. You can read about the project in more detail later in the newsletter.

As we approach the final week of term, there are a couple of annual highlights to look forward to on Tuesday 18 July. Our art exhibition will take place from 6-7pm and having had a sneak preview of the work that the students have produced throughout the year, it promises to be a breathtaking exhibition. Following this, we will host our annual summer concert which this year has the theme "Best of British". Both the student and staff choirs will be performing, alongside a rich array of other musical and performing talent. We very much hope you can join us.

I look forward to updating you again next week.

Mrs Giovanelli

Headteacher



Cogheart by Peter Bunzl (BL 5.7)



From its opening scene aboard an airship harpooned in mid-air, Cogheart is filled with fabulous visual images and a tangible sense of adventure. It follows the story of Lily, whose inventor father is missing, presumed dead after the airship crash. What secrets was he keeping and why are others so determined to find them out? Lily is a great character but readers' hearts are likely to be won by her companion Malkin, a clockwork fox, one of many automatons created by her father.

This book is a fast-paced, action adventure story filled with the most marvellous and imaginative inventions. If you love books by Philip Reeve, Derek Landy and Terry Pratchett then this is the book for you.

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

Titas Kamarunas R8

The word of the week is...

“Esteem”

Definition: To think of with great appreciation and respect.

Try and use this word in a sentence this week. My sentence is,
He was a brilliant teacher. Students held him in great esteem.



Reading Hero of the Week – **Ellie Swannell - Year 7**

As we approach the end of term it is time to celebrate the success of our students who have participated in the Accelerated Reader programme. The award for the most books read by a student in Year 7 and 8 goes to Ellie Swannell, who on her first year on the programme has read an astonishing 97 books with a total of 5,021,876 words read. What a fantastic achievement, well done Ellie.

This week we also look forward to holding our ‘millionaires garden party’. This is to celebrate those students who have read over 1,000,000 words on Accelerated Reader. This year we have had the highest number of millionaire readers than we have ever had. Well done to all of you and next year we hope to see even more of our students achieve this goal in their reading.

To sum up our success this year and to show the impact of reading in school, our Year 7s and 8s have read an amazing 8,585 books which equates to a massive 139,506,622 words read. This is the most that the school has ever read since we began participating in the programme eight years ago. Congratulations to you all for your enthusiasm, hard work and the commitment that you have shown to reading this year. Well done and

remember to keep on reading in the summer holidays!

Well done to all of those students who participated in this year's book festival. Throughout the two weeks our Year 7 students participated with great enthusiasm and thoroughly enjoyed the activities. Unfortunately we could only have one winning team and this year it goes to Seb Tomlinson and Maciej Gruza 7p2. Congratulations to you both - your team earned the most points in Year 7.



Congratulations also go to our competition winners. They are:
Sweets in the jar winner - Blake Kent who guessed correctly with 56



- Detective Quiz Winner – Adam
- Alien Code Breaker Winner– Selina
- Horrible Histories Winner - Joseph
- Cathy Cassidy Competition Winner - Briana
- Runner up prize Arani
- Book Quiz winner– Robson

- Tom Gates Competition Winner– Luke
- Bali Rai Competition Winner– Shannon

Join us on Wednesday 13th September to celebrate Roald Dahl Day



K.C Library are really proud to announce that we will be holding a special afternoon tea party on Wednesday 13 September from 3pm to 5pm. This is to join in with events that are happening across the U.K. and the world to celebrate the world's number one children's story teller Roald Dahl. We have set aside this afterschool event to celebrate Roald Dahl and his books. We will be hosting a Phizz-Whizzing Treasure Hunt, you will be able to play glorumptions games, create dream jars as well as enjoying quizzes and readings from his books. Places are on a first come first served basis so please see your librarians to sign up and get more information.

The Prince's Trust Achieve Club



The College recognises the diversity of our students and aims to provide something for everyone. One aspect of this provision this year has been the introduction of the Prince's Trust Achieve Club, a personal development programme which offers a practical approach to learning which supports young people to fulfil their potential.

Over the course of twelve weeks, our students - ably supported by Mr Campbell and Miss Madden - produced work to meet the criteria for two units; 'Planning for Personal Development' and 'Teamwork'. Last week, Mr Campbell and Ms Haines attended a verification meeting at the Prince's Trust offices in Birmingham. This allowed us the first opportunity to compare our students' work to others from around the country. Feedback was complimentary, including the following statements:

"Good evidence, love the 'Hand' activity." (Thanks to Miss Madden for inventing that one!)

"Good work, nicely written."

"Really good evidence and some super work."

Following this positive feedback, we are confident that our students will be rewarded with their Prince's Trust Achieve Level 1 certificates in the autumn term.

Overall, our students have shown a good deal of progression through their self evaluation 'journey' sheets, which asked them to assess how they felt at the beginning, during and at the end of the programme. Comments received from students include:

"I personally think that the programme has a lot of potential to help

people...It can help people that are not as confident as others at their skills and can help them gain skills that they didn't realise they had. I personally saw some shy people come out of their shells. I also saw some people calm down a lot and become more organised and started to improve their attendance and behaviour." Year 10 student.

"I enjoyed the teamwork activities because they're active and fun. I didn't enjoy writing down lots of information. We should have more time spent on it!" Year 9 student.

"I think the Prince's Trust programme is good and it worked very well to improve my attendance." Year 9 student.

"From the Prince's Trust, I set a target to revise more for my lessons. My teachers helped me gain methods to revise and have helped me a lot. Due to this, I have got a Level 7 in my history mock and moved up a set in maths. This has improved my confidence which was something I was lacking. I now also feel comfortable with talking in a small group and sharing information, thanks to my teachers and peers on the Prince's Trust programme." Year 10 student.

"I am in Year 9 and Prince's Trust has helped me a lot with my work, behaviour and attendance." Year 9 student.

"It was all enjoyable, Mr Campbell was great! It improved my day to day life with some of the feedback that they gave me and they also improved my behaviour at school – I got all my stamps one week!" Year 10 student.

Further information about the programme can be found here:

<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people/unlock-your-potential/explore-your-potential>

Kings For Gold Festival 2017



The annual Kings For Gold Festival took place on Friday 30th June. We had over 200 children attend from 6 local primary schools, with each school representing a different country. The event kicked off with an Opening Ceremony, with performances from each of the schools linked to the country they were representing. These ranged from Spanish dancing and cheerleading, to a fantastic performance of the Haka!

All the schools then took part in an inter-school athletics competition, with children from Reception to Year 6 taking part. Each child took part in a jumping, throwing and running event. There were some absolutely outstanding performances throughout the day. All the events were officiated by our Young Leaders who did a brilliant job.

After the formal competition was over, the schools enjoyed a picnic on the field. Everyone then gathered around the track to watch the very competitive teachers' race. It was a very close race, but in the end Mr Foster from Kingsthorpe Village managed to get the victory!

We finished off the event with our Medal Ceremony. We announced the team results for each year group and the children stood on the podium to receive their medals. A huge congratulations to Sunnyside Primary who received the trophy and won the event overall (for the third year running!).

The Kings For Gold festival has been running every year since 2012 and continues to grow each year. We are looking forward to Kings For Gold 2018 already!

Transition Days



On Monday and Tuesday this week we welcomed our new intake of students that will be joining us in Year 7 in September. We put on a fun packed couple of days for the Year 6 children.

On the Monday morning the students were formally welcomed to the KC family by Mrs Giovanelli. Mrs Giovanelli spoke to the children about the importance of having dreams, and also having the confidence to go out and achieve those dreams. Students were encouraged to think about their aspirations and what they want to achieve during their time at Kingsthorpe College.

Across the two days, the Year 6 students took part in a variety of taster lessons including Art, Humanities, Science, PE, English and Maths. They also received a tour of the school given by some of our 6th form students. Our Performing Arts team put on a fantastic show for them with some outstanding music and dance acts. Year 7 ambassadors helped out on the transition days and they did a brilliant job of providing encouragement and support to the Year 6 students. It was great to see the children leaving on Tuesday afternoon with big smiles on their faces and chatting away to their new friends.

On Tuesday evening, many of the Year 6 pupils were back again with their parents for our 'Parents Welcome Evening'. Parents were given the opportunity to meet an array of staff and ask any questions they may have. There was a huge turn out so it was a great chance for us to begin to get to know lots of our new parents.

We look forward to seeing many of the Year 6 children over the summer

holiday at our Summer School. We have lots of exciting activities planned including science experiments, treasure hunts and team building activities.

Cycling Champions



Over the last few years, cycling has grown immensely at Kingsthorpe College. In 2014 we acquired our own mountain bikes, and since then cycling has been added to both our curricular and extra-curricular activities. Students have also been given the opportunity to take part in cycling competitions, with last year's year 7 team becoming the County Champions.

This year we entered a new team of Year 7 students into the Northampton Level 2 Cycling Competition. Our team won the competition and progressed to the County Level 3 finals at Moulton College. It was a tough competition, with students competing against 8 other teams in a variety of sprint and endurance races. We are delighted to announce that our Year 7 cycling team won the gold medal, making Kingsthorpe College the County Champions for the second year running! Well done, we are very proud.

Important information from Northants Police, Fire and Highways about Parking

Parking outside schools is a significant problem across the county. With the new school year fast approaching, parents are reminded to be mindful when dropping off or picking up their children and not to fall into the habit of parking illegally or in a thoughtless or dangerous manner.

The area outside school entrances must be kept clear to allow an unrestricted view for approaching drivers and riders or children wanting to cross the road. Road markings are there for a reason and drivers must not wait, park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers on school entrance markings.

Parents are also reminded not to park inconsiderately and in a way which will inconvenience residents, other road users or in a way that obstructs the road.

Parents are advised to not stop or park:

- Near a school entrance
- On any zig-zag road markings
- Anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- At or near a bus or taxi rank
- Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction
- Where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and mobility vehicles
- In front of an entrance to a property
- On a bend

Please see link below which contains important information regarding holiday and online safety.

Applying for a school bus pass

It is the responsibility of parents and carers to ensure that their child gets to and from school safely. The government recognises that, for some families, this represents a financial hardship. In certain circumstances, your child may qualify for free transport.

Does my child qualify for free transport?

- Your child may qualify for free transport to school (usually in the form of a bus pass) if:
- They are not in walking distance of their nearest school (a safe route of under 3 miles)
- You are on a low income
- Your child has a special educational need or disability
- You have moved house
- They are aged 16-24, have a disability and you are on a low income.

Further information regarding eligibility criteria can be found on the Northamptonshire County Council website here:

www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk

Once you have checked your eligibility for free transport, you may apply directly to Northamptonshire County Council using forms available on their website here:

www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk

Should you require assistance accessing an application form, please contact Student Services where someone will be pleased to help you.

Once you have completed the form, you should pass this to Student Services in order for us to certify your child's attendance at College. The form will then be returned to you for submission directly to Northamptonshire County Council.

Should your child require free transport for September 2017, we recommend that you make an application now. Please allow time for your form to be certified before the end of term, Friday 21 July.

Please note that a skeleton office staff will operate over the summer holidays. Should you require your application to be stamped during the holiday, it may be worth telephoning the school to ensure that someone is available before arriving in person.

Please see link below to application form:

www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

KC PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

BEST OF BRITISH



Tuesday 18th July 2017

@ 7:15pm

In the Main Hall

£3 adults / £2 concessions

Available from the finance office



**BBC One's
Eat Well for Less?
is back on the hunt for
families looking to
save on their food
shop!**

**Email:
eatwell@rdftv.com**

**Or Call:
0117 970 7661
To Apply**



Key contacts

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