



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 101



Dear Parents

What a wonderful week to end the term on!

The week started with a brilliant production of *Bugsy Malone* which was enjoyed by students, parents and staff alike. There were some exceptional individual performances but the whole cast did a great job of bringing a well-loved stage classic to life at KC. Particular thanks go to the Creative Digital Media and Performing Arts Faculty who created and oversaw the production.

We held our termly rewards assembly on Thursday where we recognised the contribution of our students who have displayed excellence in terms of their attendance, academic performance, extra-curricular contribution

or wider contribution to Team KC. The daily commitment and dedication shown by these students is commendable. As part of the celebrations, these students were treated to an early release of our staff Christmas video which was ably directed and produced by Mr Baines, Assistant Principal. This saw representatives from every team at KC sing along to Mariah Carey's Christmas classic – All I Want For Christmas Is You. The video typified the positive relationships which exist across all teams within the College and the students were suitably entertained! It was a truly festive way to end the term.

The end of term is always a time for reflection and we have taken the opportunity this week to celebrate our achievements, as well as review our performance against our College priorities for this academic year. We have continued to achieve much since our very positive OFSTED inspection in September 2016, particularly in terms of establishing and promoting ways in which our students can contribute to our College. Our Head Boy and Head Girl, supported by Miss Bennett, have led developments within our student council to ensure that all students at the College have a forum for sharing their views. There are further plans to enhance this aspect of our work in the New Year, and I look forward to sharing these with you in due course. Our staff have also been working hard on continuing to provide learning experiences which support our aim of raising the achievement and narrowing the gap for all. This has meant the development of several assessment practices within the classroom which are making a real difference to helping students understand specifically what skills and content gaps they need to close, and how they can do this. Attendance continues to be a priority and I would remind you of the significant impact that absence can have on a student's success. We will be looking next term at ways in which we can further help students catch up on work if they are absent, including the use of technology, as it is important to us that we do not allow absence to become a barrier to learning.

As we end this term, we say goodbye to several valued members of staff who leave us to explore other opportunities in different schools, or take up promoted posts. All of the colleagues leaving us have contributed to the KC journey and I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one for the part they have played in the College's pursuit of excellence.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support and challenge over the last term. We will continue to seek your feedback as the academic year continues and together, with our College governors and our Trust, we can look forward to a very promising 2017. A reminder that the new term starts on Thursday 5th January 2017 for all students.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and New Year with your family.

Mrs Giovanelli

Acting Principal

Stars of the week



Red House

Masoud Masoud Year 9 R6

This young man is an embodiment of what it truly means to be resilient, when he first started at KC he struggled with the expectations set out by the College. It has been a journey which has seen him in situations where most students would give up, but Masoud has risen to the many difficult and challenging experiences and has grown to be both a mature and trustworthy student. Masoud, you really deserve this and I hope you cherish this award and continue to flourish.

Green House

Selina Ye Year 7 Gr6

Selina Ye is a truly deserving star of the week. Selina came to KC with minimal English, she has worked incredibly hard to understand the English language and has learnt very quickly to participate with her peers, understand instructions and has developed her skills in reading and writing. She recently did a fantastic presentation about festivals in her country (China) and presented the information in front of her EAL class. Even though she finds her timetabled lessons challenging, she always has a radiant smile and is keen to learn. Selina should definitely be recognised for her considerable hard work and increasing independence.

Gold House

Nishat Ali Year 7 Go3

Nishat has been a great addition to KC this year and in particular Gold House. Nishat has earned 38 commendations from her teachers in the last half term, through demonstrating an excellent attitude to learning, producing some fantastic work and showing great participation within lessons. Well done Nishat, you are a star!

Blue House

Tom Eustace Year 11 B6

Tom is a very deserving star of the week. Not only has he had 100% attendance, 0 behaviour points, and a number of commendations, he's been working extremely hard and performing very well in a number of subjects including some very impressive assessment scores. Tom is also very helpful during tutor time. Well done Tom!

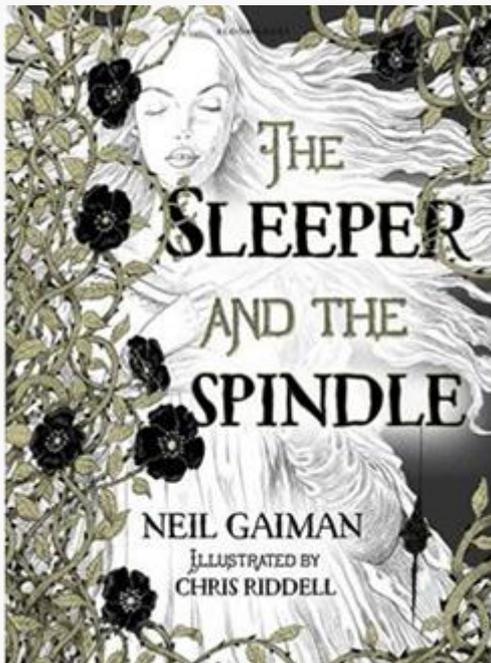
Purple House

Aylin Cuteanu Year 8 P12

Aylin has been nominated by Miss Pitt and Miss Foyle for her consistent hard work and effort in EAL lessons. She is always pleasant, polite and friendly and she always tries extremely hard in all that she does. She is a fantastic student and a real credit to Purple House. Well done Aylin, you are a star!

The Sleeper and the Spindle

by **Neil Gaiman**, illustrated by **Chris Riddell** (BL 5.3)



Winner of this year's CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal. Neil Gaiman shows all his story telling skills in this gripping fusion of familiar fairy tales told in a dark-hearted version with some original characters.

On the eve of her wedding, a young queen sets out to rescue a princess from an enchantment. She casts aside her fine wedding clothes, takes her chain mail and her sword and follows her brave dwarf retainers into the tunnels under the mountain towards the sleeping kingdom. This queen will decide her own future - and the princess who needs rescuing is not quite what she seems. Neil Gaiman and Chris Riddell are both at the height of their powers as they weave together a story of the familiar and the new, this captivating and darkly funny tale shows its creators at the peak of their talents.

If you love fairy-tales, books set in magical worlds and great adventures then this book is definitely for you.

Library Christmas Competition



Congratulations to our competition winners. Max who won first prize in the Fantastic Beasts competition and Logan Parker who was our runner up.

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

Aomsin Petchluam GO4, please come to the library to collect your prize.

The word of the week is...

"Generosity"

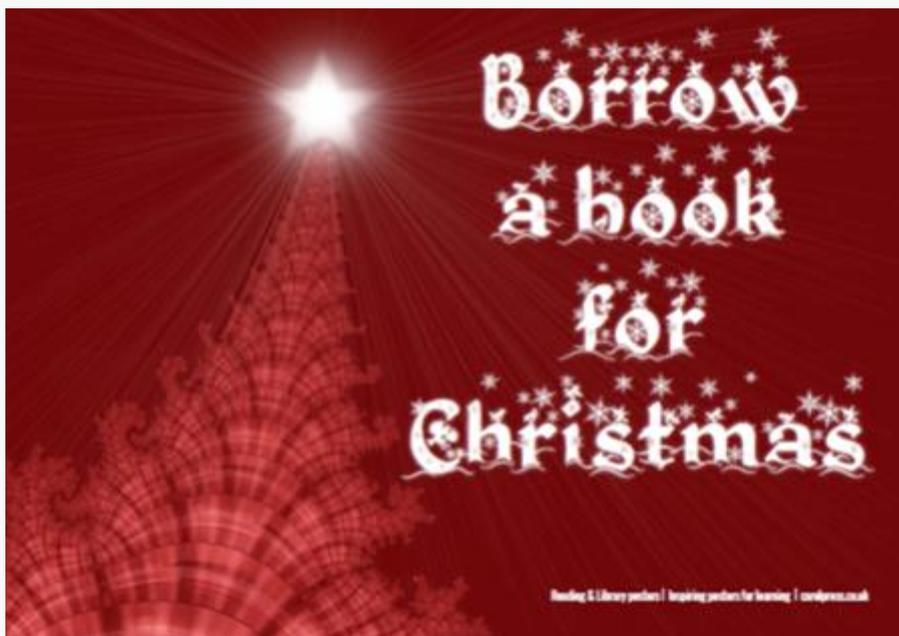
Definition: the quality of being kind, understanding, and not selfish
Try and use this word in a sentence this week.

My sentence is, *I was overwhelmed by the generosity of friends and neighbours.*

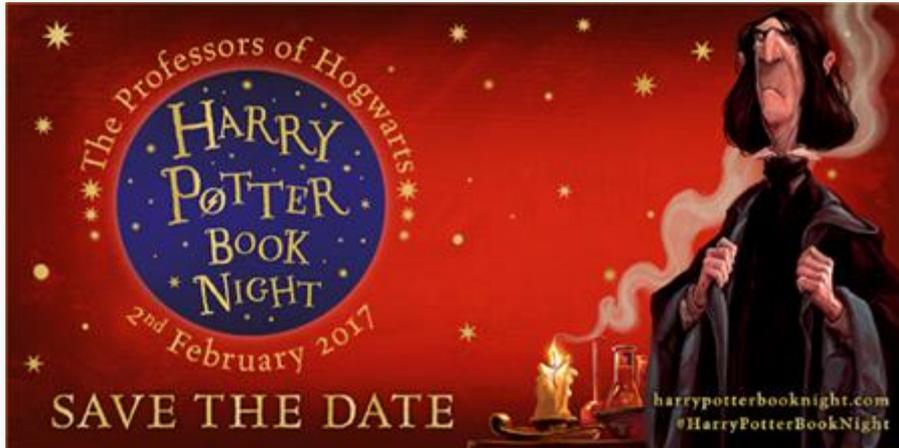


Our reading hero this week is Ruby King (Year 8)

Ruby's reading journey at K.C. has got off to a flying start. She is an avid reader and was one of the first students to take a quiz on her BookBuzz book 13 Hours. She loves reading Jacqueline Wilson books and regularly takes quizzes in her own time. She has worked extremely hard on the Accelerated Reader programme this term and has read a very impressive 16 books which equates to 1,037,199 words read. Congratulations Ruby you are our latest Accelerated Reader millionaire and our reading hero of the week. Keep up the good work.



Coming soon...



Northamptonshire Police Message for Schools

Northamptonshire Police have information that parties are being held at addresses predominantly in Northampton where drugs and alcohol are being consumed and there are concerns that young people, as young as 13, are being coerced into sexual activity. A number of persons have been arrested.

This scenario is clearly of concern to professionals who are working together to implement appropriate safeguarding measures to protect young people.

As a responsible parent of a young person please take the time to know definitively where your child is during the forthcoming holiday period.

Please consider the following points:

1. If you are out yourself or due to be away at any time is your house being used to host parties?
2. If your child is going out do you know where they are going, who they will be with and what time they will be home?

3. Could you make contact with them to check on their welfare if required to do so and would you be in a position to remove them if necessary?
4. If they are staying over with friends where do their friends live and who will be the responsible adult present?
5. Have you checked with the respective parent that this is in fact where they will be staying?
6. How are they getting home? Is this method safe?
7. If you do not know where your child is, and you have concerns over their safety then please consider reporting them as Missing to the Police.

If you have any concerns regarding your child or information in respect of Child Sexual exploitation, including the parties described above please contact Northamptonshire Police on telephone 101 or if calling from outside of Northamptonshire on 03000 11122.

Year 13 Business and Economics students learn about China



Dr Shaowei He, Senior Lecturer, China and the Emerging Economies Centre, University of Northampton, addressed Year 13 Business and Economics students this week

Year 13 Business and Economics students study globalisation, particularly the emergence of China as a global economic power. We were very fortunate to welcome Dr Shaowei He, Senior Lecturer at the University of Northampton's China and Emerging Economies Centre, this

week. Dr He gave students an overview of Chinese economic history; China has been a one party state, ruled by the Communists since 1949. If you wanted to marry or change jobs, or even have more than one child, you had to gain permission from the State! Did you know that as recently as the 1960s and 70s there were no free markets in China? Private enterprise was all but non-existent, thriving only on the black market. China now has the second largest economy in the world and is predicted to overtake the USA by 2050, although there are some who believe that China has already attained the status of being the largest economy in the world.

Dr He explained how the opening up of China's borders had given businesses the opportunity to trade, with many Chinese organisations now owning a share in British businesses, such as Weetabix and Thames Water. China has also welcomed many organisations from overseas, with much foreign direct investment taking place. Despite this, however, students were shocked to learn that over 100 million people still live in poverty, earning less than \$1 per day.

Our students asked probing and interesting questions regarding, for example, the impact of high, sustained growth on inflation, demonstrating that they are truly thinking like economists. Dr He even took the time to demonstrate his skills in Tai Chi!

Dr He was recently appointed Ambassador for international exchange by China's Hunan Provincial Government and we will be exploring the possibility of creating links with a school in the province with the potential to participate in an exchange programme or visit. Watch this space for further details!

KC In The Community



Regular readers of the newsletter will know that our students have been encouraged this term to think of those less fortunate than themselves.

During tutor time, students have considered the plight of the homeless and, thanks to the generosity of the KC community, I was able to take a car full of food and clothing donations to the Hope Centre, Northampton. Last weekend, donations of food, toys and towels were delivered to NANNA animal sanctuary, Irthlingborough. Donations continued to roll in this week and these were taken to Maxicare animal shelter, Irchester. Staff there were particularly pleased to receive a large bag of towels as their industrial washing machine has broken down and they are struggling to cope with demand.

The picture attached shows two of our wonderful Sixth Form students who helped to collect donations, but thanks go to all students, parents, staff and governors who donated. Your generosity will make a very real difference this Christmas. Thank you.

Thursday 5th January 2017 - First Day of Term

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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