



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 113



Dear Parents

Welcome back to what I am sure will be another busy half-term for everyone within the College community.

It was great on Tuesday morning to see our students return after the Easter break demonstrating, despite a few bleary eyes, a real commitment and enjoyment to being back at school. We have shared with you before our unapologetically high standards in relation to the basics of school life such as uniform, adherence to our mobile phone policy, punctuality, and students' attitude to each other and the College staff. These 'basics' are an important part of how we ensure we prepare students for life beyond the College, as well as ensuring we create a climate which is conducive to learning and success.

As we start the Summer Term, a reminder please that we expect all students, including our sixth form students, to represent the very highest standards when it comes to their appearance, and we expect all students to adhere to all aspects of our uniform policy. Students also need to be fully equipped for learning. Part of this equipment is our student planner which is not only a key organisational tool for our students, but also a key way we can communicate effectively with you. All students must display their planners as we greet them on the gate in the morning. Any student who consistently fails to comply with our uniform policy, or does not have their planner, can expect a series of consequences. Should you have any issues with helping us continue to expect the very best from our students in relation to these aspects, please do get in touch with your son or daughter's form tutor in the first instance.

We also welcomed Mrs Rhiannon Gant to the College this week. Mrs Gant joins the Senior Leadership Team as Assistant Headteacher and her main roles and responsibilities will be in relation to our inclusion agenda, ensuring excellent support and challenge is offered to all students in relation to the wider aspects of school life such as our pastoral care and our work with particular student groups. Mrs Gant is also a maths teacher and has already told me how much she is enjoying working, at the moment, with some of our year 11 maths students. I know Mrs Gant is excited at getting to know our community and will be working hard to meet as many students and parents as possible over the next half-term. Mrs Gant is also a keen musician and we are excited about the staff and student choir we will be setting up this term – watch this space!

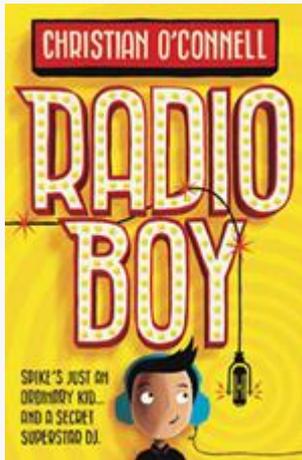
We were delighted this week to be informed that The National Apprenticeship Service would like to make us an official 'Apprenticeship Champion School' because of the excellent work we have undertaken with our students. We are ambitious for all our students, and our philosophy at Kingsthorpe College is one very much based on ensuring we provide the very best advice and guidance to everyone in relation to their progression once they leave us, and that this is personalised and tailored to their particular interests, ambitions and goals.

I look forward to updating you again next week.

Mrs Giovanelli
Headteacher

Book of the Week

Radio Boy by Christian O'Connell



Meet Spike, aka Radio Boy: a new Adrian Mole on the radio for the internet generation. Spike's your average awkward 11 year old, funny and cheeky and with a mum to reckon with. When he becomes the first presenter ever to be sacked from hospital radio, he decides to carry on from a makeshift studio in the garden shed, with the help of his best friends Artie and Holly, disguising his voice and going by the moniker Radio Boy. Week by week, word gets around and soon Spike is a star...if only people knew it was actually him.

When Spike begins to believe his own hype, and goes too far with his mocking of the school headmaster, a hunt is launched for the mysterious Radio Boy. Can Spike remain anonymous? Will he get to marry the girl of his dreams, Katherine Hamilton? Will he become famous and popular? The answer to most of these questions is no...

If you love a story that's packed with adventure and is a laugh out loud read then this is the book for you.

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

Grace Melay B3

The word of the week is...

“Unequivocal”

Definition: clear, having one meaning.

Try and use this word in a sentence this week. My sentence is:

The rules were unequivocal: uniform must be perfect.



This week we are celebrating three reading heroes who have each achieved millionaire reader status. Our first is Rosie Baines (year 7) who has been working extremely hard on the programme and has read a very impressive 22 books which equates to 1,125,737 words read. Well done Rosie you are doing an amazing job keep up the good work.

We also have two students from year 8 who have made some remarkable progress on the programme this year. Nizma Ali who became a millionaire this week; she has read a total of 25 books and has so far read 1,025,703 words. Well done Nizma you are doing an awesome job keep it up. Our last millionaire this week was Katie-Jane Lattimore. Katie-Jane has now successfully achieved millionaire status in both year 7 and year 8. This year she has read a total of 12 books, with a word count of 1,071,177 words. Well done Katie-Jane, your hard work has paid off.

Well done to all of our students who are working extremely hard on the Accelerated Reader programme. Don't forget if you do become a millionaire reader you will receive a special prize from the millionaires' box along with an invitation to this year's Millionaires event in the summer.



On behalf of the staff and students at Kingsthorpe College, we would like to thank Mrs Baldwin from St Johns Avenue, Kingsthorpe for her very kind donation of books to the school library. Mrs Baldwin contacted us and generously donated a selection of brand new encyclopedias. Thank you very much Mrs Baldwin, these books will be placed in our reference section for all of our students and staff to use and enjoy.

Careers Fair

Towards the end of last term, KC hosted our very first Careers Fair. This pilot event allowed students and their parents to discuss a variety of pathways, receiving advice from employers in the private and public sectors, universities and specialist employment agencies. We were delighted to see around 300 of our students and their parents attending the sessions after school and during the evening, despite the heavy rain. As the students arrived, they were initially a little uncertain but soon plucked up the courage to engage in conversation, with many asking when the next Fair will be. My favourite quotations from the evening were, 'I didn't realise that John Lewis is more than just a shop!' and 'There's so much more to the Army than just guns!'

Our grateful thanks go to the staff from the following organisations who gave up their time to help our students consider their future career pathways. Without the help of people like you, we couldn't hold events like this and we hope that next year's Careers Fair will be even bigger and better!

- Starting Off
- 3aaa
- The British Army

- The Royal Navy
- De Montfort University
- University of Northampton
- Barclays
- Mahle
- Volkswagen
- Busy Bees
- Church's Shoes
- Briggs and Forrester
- John Lewis
- Seckington's Hair and Beauty
- Opus Energy
- Babcock



Easter egg draw



Our fundraising efforts to raise £1,500 to sponsor our own Guide Dog puppy were helped this week when our friends at the Lions' Club donated a HUGE Easter egg to raffle. Tickets were sold by members of Gr8, with the winning ticket being kindly drawn by Mrs Ricketts. Congratulations to our winner, Alex, KC's Catering Manager, who is more used to serving food than receiving it. We hope you enjoy your Easter Egg; don't eat it all at once! Thanks to everyone who took part; your money is going to a very good cause.



Project Take Flight Update

I am currently in my 6th year at Kingsthorpe College, where I am studying A-level English Literature, Economics and Business Studies. Since Year Seven, I have had an ever growing passion for expanding my knowledge and understanding of different cultures, time periods and ways of life, something which impacted heavily on my decision to become an English Literature subject ambassador and which initially sparked my interest in Project 'Take Flight'.

I first became aware of the original 'Take Flight' project some time ago, learning of the unquestionable effect it has on Kingsthorpe College and its American counterparts and the amazing opportunities it provides. However, I only began to fully appreciate its impact and importance after hearing about the trip afterwards and, in particular, the differences in education and healthcare between the United Kingdom and the States. It was only at this point that it occurred to me how lucky myself, Abi, Corey, and Olivia, are to have the opportunity to build upon the success and the legacy of last year's trip, to strengthen the links between Kingsthorpe College and its American counterparts, and hopefully visit Chicago ourselves later this year.

The last week of last term marked the first milestone in making our dream of a return investigative trip to Chicago a reality, with the launch of Project 'Take Flight-Take Two', a continuation of last year's efforts which saw Kingsthorpe College students share their English Literature poetry classwork with KC's Chicago counterparts and experience the differences between the United States and U.K. education systems. This year's cohort, along with Mrs Coleman and Conor, were extremely excited to carry out our very first fundraising event on Tuesday, a Project 'Take Flight' quiz evening which raised over £450. As well as thanking Conor and Becky for their guidance and help in making our first fundraising activity a success, Project 'Take Flight' is appreciative of everyone who took part and helped us to take the first steps in emulating the success of last year.

In order to continue and build upon the legacy of the original project, we aim to gain a better understanding of the differences between the United States' and U.K. education

and healthcare systems. In doing so we hope to replicate the profound impact of 'Take Flight', which embodies everything that Kingsthorpe College stands for and represents, respect, aspiration, responsibility, care and the belief that 'everything is possible', and we are extremely appreciative of your support in helping us to do so.

Harvey Gaskill

Project 'Take Flight'



Post 16

Kingsthorpe College Post 16 students being

Coca Cola European Partners (CCEP) recently came into Kingsthorpe College to work with our Post 16 students to inform them about apprenticeships and advertise current roles they had available. Following a group activity some of the students were then invited to a further interview and assessment day. A massive congratulations to the following students who impressed on the day and have now been invited to final event, a full day of interviews, group tasks, and written assessment!

- Cerys Milne
- Molly Care
- Joe Harrhy
- Reece Smith

These students have beaten off competition from many others across schools in Northampton, so we wish them the very best of luck for the 4th May where a gruelling day awaits! If they do manage to further impress on the day - which I'm sure they will - there is a fantastic and highly paid apprenticeship opportunity awaiting them!

We are extremely proud of these students!

Key contacts

Red House

- Achievement Director: Mrs Watts – Rhoda.watts@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Mr Sim – Daniel.Sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Blue House

- Achievement Director: Mr Hill – Michael.hill@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Miss Eddy – Danielle.Eddy@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Green House

- Achievement Director: Mr Butlin – Zachary.butlin@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
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Purple House

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- Leadership Team Link: Mrs Bunker – Amy.Bunker@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Gold House

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Science

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ICT and Business

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- Leadership Team Link: Mrs Bunker – amy.bunker@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Creative Digital Media and Performing Arts

- Learning Director: Mr Ingram – david.ingram@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Mr Wade – scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Technology

- Learning Director: Mrs Ainscow – jenny.ainscow@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Mr Wade – scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Art

- Learning Director: Mr Jones – nigel.jones@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Mr Wade – scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

PE

- Learning Director: Ms Newell – Victoria.newell@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Mr Baines – ben.baines@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Special Educational Needs

- Learning Director: Mr O’Leary – david.o’leary@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
- Leadership Team Link: Mr Jackson
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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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