



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 128



Dear Parents

We were delighted to see so many of you this week at our Meet The Tutor Evening. It was a great opportunity for us to get to know you, and to share some of the early successes we have seen from so many of our students. For those of you who regularly read this newsletter, you will know that feedback and communication is really important to us, and we are constantly looking for ways in which we can develop this. To this end, we have been looking into an app which will help all aspects of home-school communication and Mrs Gant, Deputy Headteacher, will be sending more details soon about the trial we will be undertaking.

I mentioned last week that I would be taking the opportunity in this newsletter to introduce you to some new faces on the College's

Leadership Team. Firstly, I would like to welcome Mr James Hartnett. Mr Hartnett joins us as a very experienced leader both pastorally and academically, and he has already helped challenge our thinking in many ways. This year, Mr Hartnett's main role within the College will be to support the achievement and aspirations of our Year 11 students. He has already become a familiar face to many of them and I know he is looking forward to working with you to ensure your son or daughter has a really successful final year in the main school with us. We also welcome Ms Alison Taylor. Ms Taylor joins us from an outstanding school in Tower Hamlets, London and brings with her a wealth of knowledge in terms of literacy and oracy. We are really excited about the plans Ms Taylor has to develop our student voice and ensure that all of our young people develop as articulate and confident speakers. Ms Taylor will also be supporting our Year 7 team and I know she has been really impressed with the start our Year 7s have made. Finally, we welcome Mr Hancock to his new role at the College. Mr Hancock has been a valued member of the College staff for some years now, and after making Gold House the most successful house in the College, he now moves into a role which will enable him to use his skills to impact more widely across the College. Mr Hancock will be leading our work on attendance which you will remember was one of our key priorities last year, and will continue to be so this academic year. We are delighted that so far this year, the attendance of 5 of our year groups is above 96%. This is the level of attendance we know we need all students to achieve to make sure they have the best possible chance of success whilst with us. Mr Hancock will be sharing further refinements we will be making to our procedures in due course.

This week also saw the launch of our Year 11 prefect system. As the oldest students within the main College, we wanted to recognise the significant contributions that our Year 11s make to all areas of College life. All interested Year 11s will have to complete an application form outlining their skills and experience, as well as undertaking a formal interview. This will be an excellent experience for our students but will also enable us to make sure we have a student body of prefects who represent the very diverse interests and student groups we have at the College. Students who are successfully appointed will wear a different tie to the rest of the College community. We have been overwhelmed so far with the positive response of the students and their parents to this latest

development of our student voice, and I look forward to introducing you to the Year 11 prefect team shortly.

Finally this week, members of the College Leadership Team have been contributing to developments within many areas of education across all the Northampton Town schools. Mrs Gant, Deputy Headteacher, has been nominated to lead work on developing maths provision across all 71 schools and settings in the town, and we are excited about not only developing our own practice, but also supporting maths provision for all of the children in our town. I am delighted to be a member of the group which is looking at ways in which we can tackle some of the issues in relation to recruitment and retention of high quality leaders and teachers in our town schools. Leadership development is something which I am personally very committed to, and I am eager to help shape a more positive narrative around teaching and education within our locality.

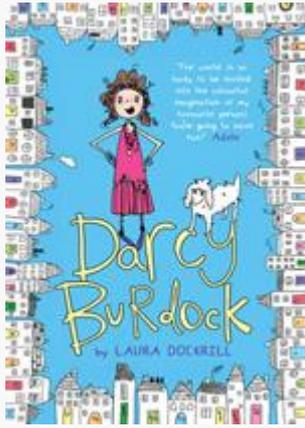
I look forward to updating you again next week.

Mrs Giovanelli

Headteacher



**Darcy Burdock by Laura
Dockrill (BL 5.9)**



Darcy Burdock notices everything. She's curious, smart, funny and fiercely loyal, she sees the extraordinary in the everyday and the wonder in the world around her. In this first book, we are introduced to her family: Mum, who Darcy loves as much as her favourite fried egg and chips, Dad, who is kind and fair if a bit hopeless, and little siblings Hector and Poppy, who Darcy likes dressing up in ridiculous outfits and having dance-offs with. Plus there's her pet lamb, Lamb-Beth and best friend, Will, to have adventures with. Darcy learns that turning into an angrosaurus-rex and causing chaos just gets you in trouble and that it's best not to throw a massive strop just before your surprise birthday party.

If you love funny, crazy tales with lots of illustrations, if you are fans of Dork Diaries and Diary of a Wimpy kid, then this book is definitely for you.

Our literacy challenge winner this week is: Courtney Kacey Keenan 7S

The word of the week is...

“Innovation” *noun*

Definition: Something new or different introduced.

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

The teachers at Kingsthorpe College were always using innovation in their lessons to make them exciting.



Our reading hero this week is Keshini Ramesh (Year 7).

Well done Keshini you have made an incredible start on the Accelerated Reader programme. Since joining us, she has read an astounding 419,504 words. Keshini has been taking quizzes in her own time and regularly works on the programme in the library. Well done Keshini for all of your hard work, we are proud to say that this week you are our reading hero.

Year 7 students get ready for.....

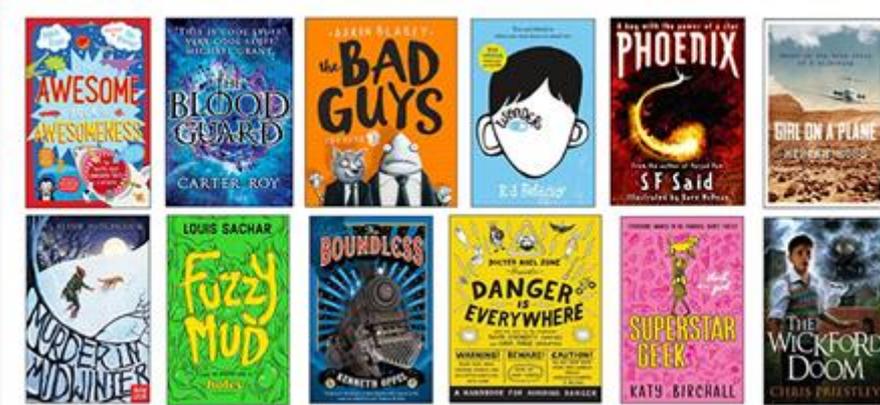


What is BookBuzz?

This year the library is giving all of our Year 7 students the opportunity to participate in the Bookbuzz reading programme. This scheme gives each student the chance to choose a **free** book from the list of specially selected titles (see below). Over the next two weeks, all of our Year 7 students will be asked to make their choice.

The programme is supported by the Book Trust and all of the books are specially chosen to appeal to Year 7 readers. Its aim is to inspire excitement about reading, and allows students to discover new books and authors. We have been introducing our students to the programme and we would like to encourage all of our Year 7 parents to have a look at the BookBuzz website. Here you will be able to find out about this year's

titles, and other books that your child will enjoy. You will also find that it is filled with competitions, quizzes and fun activities to encourage reading at home. www.bookbuzz.org.uk.



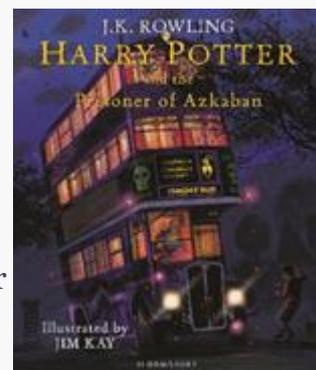
An Evening with Jim Kay - Award winning illustrator of the Harry Potter Series

Tuesday October 10th University of Northampton
Newton Grand Hall, Avenue Campus, 6.45pm
arrival for a 7pm start 7pm - 8pm Jim Kay talk
Q&A 8pm - 9pm Book signing Attendance is free.

There are a limited number of tickets available. For
a place contact Mrs Broadbent in the Library.
Tickets will be given on a first come first served
basis.

This event is for 6th form students only.

Students will have to make their own way to and from the venue.



Launch pad – Year 12 students day of enterprise and business education



Year 12 students recently spent the day learning about business and enterprise, taking part in a series of workshops run by the company Young Enterprise. Students worked in teams to consider what the key qualities are that make companies thrive, and what

skills are required by prospective employers - and how they can ensure they have them. Part of the day included students giving a presentation in small groups to the entire year group – something many students were slightly nervous about doing! However, every student successfully took part, and it was wonderful to see those sometimes lacking confidence in themselves take part in activities far outside their comfort zone; this is what being a Post 16 student is all about.

Mrs Fisher then gave students information about the Young Enterprise competition – a chance for students to run their own company, dealing with real stocks and shares, and ultimately aiming to make a real life profit (which they get to keep). Successful companies can enter a competition against other schools and colleges locally, and then nationally; Kingsthorpe College students have won the Northamptonshire area of the competition in the past, so hopefully we can go one step further this year and win the national competition!

For more information about the Young Enterprise Company programme please contact Mrs Fisher: Diane.Fisher@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Volunteering

Sarah Passam, from Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire, spoke to all of our Post 16 students during an extended assembly this week about the benefits of volunteering. Sarah gave examples of how volunteering has benefited many people she has worked with in the past, both the volunteers and the people they have helped. She was also able to dispel many of the myths about volunteering – for example that there are not many opportunities for under 18s (there are!) and that transport can be a problem (many volunteer positions can be carried out from home, and where necessary companies will reimburse travel expenses). Sarah stayed after the talk to see if there were any questions and to hand out leaflets to interested students, and it was absolutely delightful to see so many students stay behind to seek more information.

Year 12 students will be required to do at least ten hours of volunteering over the year as part of their progression to Year 13, and it was wonderful to see such enthusiasm. We will soon be launching a full volunteering programme where students can gain nationally recognised accreditation for their efforts – from this launch, the vast majority will be gaining silver (50 hours) or gold (100 hours) awards in no time.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS (SEPT-DEC 2017)
All clubs are free to attend. Please see the specific department for more details.

	PE & Duke of Edinburgh	Performing Arts	Library*	EAL/Learning Support
Mon	Lunch		Drawing Club	
	After school		Drop in and read Homework Club	
Tues	Lunch		Games & Chess Club	EAL Lunchtime club – L2i
	After school	Boys' Rugby Club (Y7/8) Gymnastics Club (all years) CIVAT Catch up (Y11) – week A	Hairspray Rehearsals Drop in and read Homework Club	EAL Homework Club – L2i
Wed	Lunch	Girls' Multi-Gym (Y10-Y13) Table Tennis (all years)	Book Group	EAL Lunchtime club – L2i
	After school	Boys' Football Club (Y7/8) Girls' Rugby Club (all years)	Year 9 Dance Defined Dance Company Drop in and read Homework Club	EAL Homework Club – L2i SEN Homework Club - SEN
Thurs	Lunch	Badminton (all years)	General Knowledge Quiz	EAL Lunchtime club – L2i
	After school	CIVAT Catch up (Y11) – week B	Year 7 Dance Year 8 Dance Drop in and read Homework Club	EAL Homework Club – L2i
Fri	Lunch	Boys' Dance	"I" Not Try Club (crafts/activities)	
	After school	Duke of Edinburgh (Y9-13)	Drop in and read Homework Club	

**The library is open from 8.00am-8.30am in the morning and 3.00pm-4.30pm afterschool for students to come in and do homework.*

World's Biggest Coffee Morning



Friday 29 September is the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' in aid of Macmillan. So many of our students and staff have been affected by cancer, either directly or through a family member. We therefore felt it was extremely important that we did something to support this fantastic cause.

We are holding both staff and student 'Star Baker' competitions. If you think you are up to the challenge, speak to Miss Bennett or Miss Snedker to sign up.

All cakes will then be sold at break and lunch on Friday 29th September. If you don't wish to 'bake it' then why not 'fake it' and bring along any shop bought cakes to donate to the cake sale!

Christmas Fair 2017

Our Christmas Fair is back again for the fourth year. It will be taking place on Saturday 2 December, 12-3pm. There will be over 60 stalls with a huge range of goods, creating an exciting and diverse Christmas experience. It will be the perfect place to find unique Christmas gifts, homemade decorations, and delicious food treats.

In addition to stalls, there will also be a variety of festive performances to entertain the crowds. The face painting and games will mean there will be plenty of things to entertain the kids!

Free parking and free admission. For more information please contact Miss Bennett on 01604 716106 or Alexandra.bennett@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk.



Key Contacts

Year7team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Butlin, Mrs Read & Ms Taylor

Year8team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Hill, Mrs VanGeijlswijk & Mr Baines

Year9team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Smith, Mr Baron & Mr Wade

Year10team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mrs Watts, Mrs Patel & Mr Hancock

Year11team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Miss Old, Mr Heffernan & Mr Hartnett

sixthformteam@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Pomerantz, Ms Wainwright, Mr Campbell & Mr Sim
attendance@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mrs Williams & Mr Hancock

English

Learning Director: Mrs Kinsella

– laura.kinsella@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Leadership Team Link: Mr Baines

– ben.baines@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Maths

Learning Director: Miss Bailey – louise.bailey@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Leadership Team Link: Mrs Gant

– rhiannon.gant@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Science

Learning Director: Mr Cox – joseph.cox@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Leadership Team Link: Mr Hartnett

– james.hartnett@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Humanities

Learning Director: Mrs Paice – gail.paice@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Leadership Team Link: Mr Sim – daniel.sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Modern Foreign Languages

Leadership Team Link: Ms Taylor

– alison.taylor@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

ICT and Business

Learning Director: Mr Anawka – eric.anawka@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Leadership Team Link: Mr Wade

– scott.wade@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Vocational

Learning Director: Mr Ingram

– david.ingram@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Leadership Team Link: – daniel.sim@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Visual Arts and Technology

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

PE and Performing Arts

Learning Director: Ms Newell
– victoria.newell@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
Leadership Team Link: Mr Hancock
– paul.hancock@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Special Educational Needs

Learning Director: Mr O’Leary
– david.o’leary@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
Leadership Team Link: Mrs Gant
– rhiannon.gant@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

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