



# Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

*Edition 145*



## Dear Parents

I have had the opportunity this week to meet with some of you to hear your feedback firsthand – particularly around communication. In a school as large as ours, it is always going to be difficult to create the closeness of communication which typifies many primary schools but we are absolutely dedicated to ensuring that this happens. It will inevitably take some time but we have some exciting plans in relation to both using technology to aid with communication, and the development of our tutoring system to help achieve this. Whilst staff can be busy during the day and so cannot respond immediately to any contact, we do have an expectation of our staff that there is a response to your communication the same day or the following day – even if this is just to acknowledge

your contact because the issue may take a little longer to look into. If this does not happen, we would encourage you to contact the senior member of staff linked to the faculty or year group so that we can resolve any issue swiftly. My senior team and I are always very willing to meet with parents and we would rather you contact us sooner rather than later if you are becoming frustrated. As a result of the feedback from my meetings this week, we have made the senior link contacts more accessible on the website as well as continuing to list them on the newsletter. Email communication is often the most efficient way to initially make contact with us.

This week the spotlight is on our Year 9 students' futures, and we have our annual Year 9 Options Evening on Thursday 1st March from 6-8pm. The evening will start with an introduction in the main hall which will cover both the options process and the key considerations your son or daughter should take into account when they are making their choices. Following this, students and parents will have the opportunity to speak with subject staff to look at the wide-ranging subject opportunities available for students to study in Year 10 and Year 11. To make sure that our students can make the most of this evening, there will be an assembly on Wednesday linked to the options process so that they can come to the evening fully prepared.

From conversations we have had with our Year 9 students already, it has been great to see a year group so well informed with regards to their future careers. The careers team led by Mrs Fischer and Ms Cockerill supported by the Year 9 team and tutors have done a great job preparing the students for the next stage in their school journey. This really is a milestone and it's fantastic to see it being taken so seriously. All students will have a personalised interview with members of the senior leadership team after the deadline for submission of the form on 8th March.

We also have our second round of trial examinations for Year 11 and Post 16 starting the week beginning Monday 5th March. This is a key period for our students as we build up to the summer exam series. Our students are remaining both focused and optimistic and we've been really pleased with attendance at the various after school revision sessions. A date for your diary if you are a parent of a Year 11 student is Thursday 15th March. There will be a Year 11 Parents' Evening on this date and this will

be a key opportunity to find out what your son or daughter needs to do over the next critical few months.

With inclement weather forecast for this week, please remember to check the website for any updates and I look forward to updating you again next week in slightly warmer conditions!

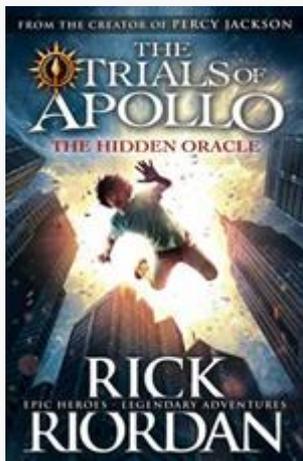
**Mrs Giovanelli**

Headteacher



## The Trials of Apollo: The Hidden Oracle by Rick Riordan (BL 5.1)

*How do you punish an immortal? By making him human.*



After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disorientated, he lands in New York City as a regular teenage boy. Now, without his godly powers, the four-thousand-year-old deity must learn to survive in the modern world until he can somehow find a way to regain Zeus' favour. But Apollo has many enemies - gods, monsters and mortals who would love to see the former Olympian permanently destroyed. Apollo needs help, and he can think of only one place to go...an enclave of modern demigods known as Camp Half-Blood.

This book is a must for all Percy Jackson fans and for those who love action, adventure and mythology.

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**Our literacy challenge winner this week is:**

Hamish Thomas 7I.

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The word of the week is...

“Tumultuous”

**Definition:** Making an uproar or loud noise.

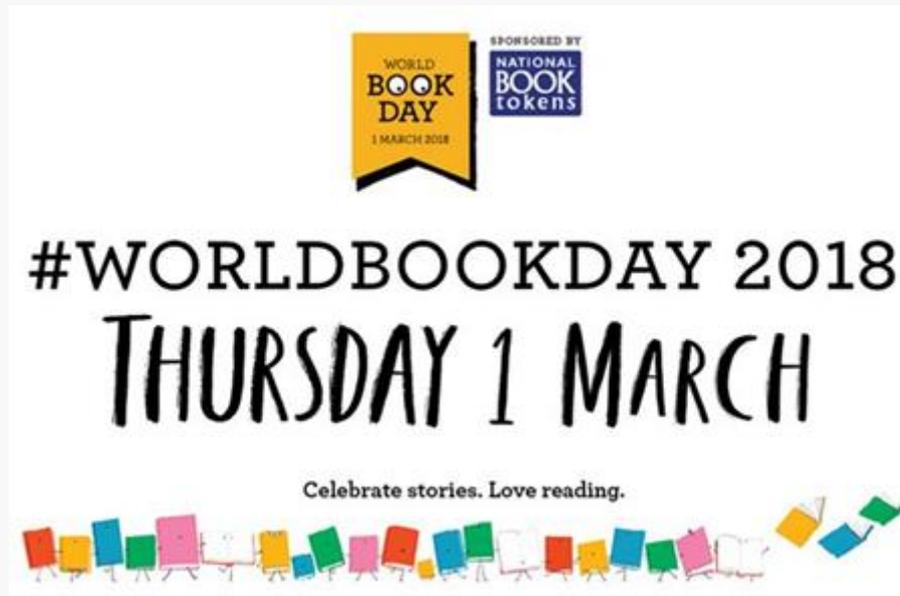
Try and use this word in a sentence this week. My sentence is:

*She left the stage to tumultuous applause.*

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Our reading hero this week is **Connor Saysell Year 8**. This year Connor has worked extremely hard on the Accelerated Reader programme. This week we were really pleased that Connor has achieved millionaire word status and becomes our twenty-fifth word millionaire. He has read a huge array of fiction which includes books by Anthony Horowitz, Irfan Master and Roald Dahl just to name a few. So far this year he has read nineteen books which equates to 1,012,693 words read. Well done Connor, keep up the great work.



World Book Day will be on Thursday 1st March; it is a day that is set aside each year to celebrate books and reading. This year at Kingsthorpe College we will have lots to celebrate, as not only will our students be receiving their World Book Day Tokens, but the library will be giving away 200 free books.

Students can use their book tokens at participating retailers to either exchange for a free World Book Day Book or use as £1.00 discount against any book costing £2.99 or more.

We will be running a competition to design a National Book Token. First prize for the College winner will be a World Book Day Goody Bag. All entries will then be sent on to compete in the national competition where students will have the chance of winning £100 of National Book Tokens.

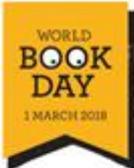
We shall also be running lots of competitions to win packs of book themed goodies and signed books. Students are also welcome to join us in the library afterschool on Thursday where we will be holding a special Marvel themed workshop featuring craft activities, quizzes and of course reading! Refreshments will be provided but places are limited so please sign up as soon as possible to secure your place.

Students should also check out the World Book Day website which is filled with resources, competitions, games, videos, ideas and inspiration

to help celebrate books and reading all year round. [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)

Wishing you all a Happy World Book Day from your school librarians, Mrs Broadbent and Mrs Potter.

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Join us 3pm – 4.30pm Afterschool on World Book Day  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018

We will be holding some 'Marvel'lous Activities

- Marvel Crafts Workshop
- Book Quiz
- Treasure Hunt
- Prizes to be won
- Refreshments provided

Don't miss out, sign up today at the library desk to take part. Places are limited and will be given on a first come first served basis.



## Kingsthorpe College joins challenge to read for 100 million minutes!

Here at Kingsthorpe College we have joined the national campaign to eradicate illiteracy and build a brighter future for children and young

people.

From the 1st March 2018 (World Book Day) – we will join early years settings, schools, colleges, community groups, parents and carers across the UK in trying to read for a collective 100 million minutes. The campaign is run by the charity, Achievement for All, which works in partnership with schools and communities to improve outcomes for all children and young people vulnerable to underachievement.

Throughout the month-long campaign, our Year 7 and 8 students will be challenged to read for as many minutes as they can. Students will then be asked to keep a log of their reading minutes.

Prizes will be awarded to schools who achieve the highest average number of reading minutes per student. Certificates will also be available to individuals who reach key reading targets during the challenge.

Next week students will be given a bookmark so that they are able to log their minutes, we will also be giving a very special school prize for the student that logs the most minutes read during the competition.

For further information on the challenge visit [100MillionMinutes.org](http://100MillionMinutes.org).

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**Congratulations to Harriet and Ola who were our Harry Potter Book Night Competition winners.**

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# KC Dance News!



What a fantastic weekend it has been for KC Dance! Our very own Defined Dance Company and BTEC Level 3 students were selected to perform at NDance in Corby on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February. NDance is an annual dance competition which showcases the finest talent in the county. Performing two dances, 'Brace' and 'Re-Born' our dancers represented KC brilliantly showing the talent and passion that will hopefully get them through to UDance regionals. (Fingers crossed!)

Their performance was so exceptional that we have been asked to perform at Corby Dance Festival.

Well done girls, I'm so proud of you all!

## **Dancers**

- Ciara Duggan
- Beth Gates
- Sherry Daniels
- Caitlin Malone
- Lelabelle Obasogie
- Izzy Casey
- Baylea Gamble
- Jinny Kiernan
- Molly Wood
- Daisy Waterfield

- Maiya Warner
  - Katy May
  - Grace Ingram
  - Georgia Rae Neaves
  - Amelie Blackshaw
  - Mia Bowers
  - Georgia Lawrence
- 

## Year 10 Immunisation Programme for Td/IPV and Meningitis ACWY

The immunisations will take place in College on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018, please ensure your child has something to eat before they come to school that morning.

[Find out more](#)

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## Alumni

Here at Kingsthorpe College we are dedicated to connecting, celebrating and engaging with our former students and staff. We aim to reach out to all our alumni and develop opportunities for them to connect and support each other, and the school. Our former students and staff will always be a part of our history, and by continuing to work with us they can be an important part of our future too by inspiring the current students at our school.

We always enjoy hearing from our alumni and their amazing journeys after their time at Kingsthorpe College. We hope you enjoy reading about

one of our former students below.

### **Alumni Profile: ASHLEY CLAMP**



**Current job title:** Sport Lecturer at Moulton College  
Ashley left Kingsthorpe College in 2008 and went on to study Sport Science at Moulton College, before moving away to study PE teaching at Sheffield Hallam University.

Following University, Ashley moved to America for 9 months where he coached football. He found this opportunity extremely valuable and highly recommends it to anyone considering a career in coaching. Since returning to the UK, Ashley has started working at Moulton College as a Sport Lecturer, returning to where he first studied after finishing school.

#### **Ashley's fondest memories of school:**

*'Moving into the new building when it was first built and playing for the sixth form football team in the final when I was in year 11'.*

#### **Ashley's advice to current students:**

*'If you work hard whilst you are at school, the hard work will open up a great number of possible career opportunities when you leave, no matter your ability'.*



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# February - Online Safety Newsletter

### Online Safety Newsletter

February 2018

#### Digital Resilience

The recent report by the Children's Commissioner "Life in Likes" highlighted young people lack the resilience to deal with social media especially the 8-12 age group.

I am really encouraging parents and schools to consider resilience building as part of online safety. I am also worried that we are still challenging technology as part of educating young people around online safety. In order to keep young people safe online we need to challenge their behaviour. The example I often give is if the whole of year 7 are bullying each other on What's App, What's App isn't sending the messages out by itself is it?

A child who is digital resilient will be able to:

- Understand when they are at risk online
- Know what to do to seek help
- Learn from experience
- Recover when things go wrong

When running parent sessions we must be educating parents on digital resilience this is vital part to keeping children safe online.

"After watching the play it made me go home and clear through my friends on Roblox and identify who I actually knew and who I didn't"

Year 6 student from Cogenhoe Primary School



**Keeping safe whilst live streaming**

- Make positive choices - Its live so you can't edit
- Who are you sharing with?
- Protect personal information
- Think carefully before you watch a live stream. The content could be inappropriate.

**Life in Likes**

Early in January the Children's Commissioner produced a fascinating report around the way 8-12 years olds use social media. Some key conclusions:

- Year 6 and 7 are crucial ages at which to prioritise online safety sessions around digital resilience and digital literacy.
- Children are adapting their online behaviour in order to gain social approval.
- Children should be educated around critical thinking as they are developing a warped view of reality and fantasy via social media, friends, celebrities and brands.
- Children need to understand the power of peer pressure.

The report highlights that to challenge the way young people behave online we need to tackle behaviour not technology. I am very concerned schools are still lecturing young people and parents around privacy settings and what are the best filters to use within the home. I would highly recommend all schools read the [report](#).

**Safer Internet day 2018**

Thank you to all those that took part in SID 2018 the day was a huge success mainly down to the support of schools and organisations. The day reached 3 million children across the UK which is amazing. Here in Northamptonshire we ran a number of activities and engaged 100's of young people from primary and secondary schools across the county. The "Add me!" performance lead by Rushden Academy at the Decca was fantastic and highlighted the dangers of the internet and how easily it is for young people to be groomed online. I would encourage all schools to keep up the good work around online safety as there was such a great buzz on the day that we need to keep going, especially when running parent sessions.

NCCcyberinfo  Northamptonshire County Council



**February 2018**  
**Army Careers**  
**Newsletter**



## Key Contacts

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