



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 114



Dear Parents

We've had another varied and busy week at the College, and I have been reminded on more than one occasion why our KC students are just so special.

One of the things that is really important to us here at the College, is that alongside preparing students for exams to gain the 'currency' they need to succeed beyond their time with us, we also want to help students develop their character. We want all our students to leave us as determined, kind, polite, and responsible citizens. Earlier this week, three of our older students saw a member of the public lose a substantial amount of money from her purse. Our students were quick to retrieve the lost notes and return them to the member of public, who consequently contacted us to say how courteous they all were and how impressed she was with their

clear sense of public duty. This made us all here at the College incredibly proud as I am sure you can imagine.

Our students were also praised this week for their openness and honesty, and their clear passion for the College by all of the candidates who we have had on interview with us this week. We have appointed a number of staff over the last couple of weeks as we look to supplement and grow our already excellent staff body for September 2017. We have been overwhelmed by both the number and calibre of the applications that we have received, and we are excited at how these colleagues will help us continue on our journey to excellence.

Just a reminder that we have Year 10 Parents' Evening on Thursday 5.00-7.30pm where you can meet your son or daughter's teachers to gain subject specific feedback. To make an appointment on line follow the link below:

<https://kingsthorpecollege.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/v2/>

If you have any problems booking an appointment, please contact Student Services who will be happy to help.

For those of you with children who are approaching external examinations, a reminder that students received their individual exam timetables last week which reflects just how close we are to the summer exams. In fact as of today, we are 16 days away from the first formal exam on the 15th May. Students need to check through their exam timetable and let Mrs. Moore in Student Services know if there are any issues.

We appreciate that this can be a stressful time for students and parents, and it was great to see a good turnout at the second parents' revision workshop on Thursday where Mr. Wade went through the main revision strategies to help support both students and parents during the exam period. Miss Bailey also gave key revision information from a Maths perspective.

To further support students, we will be offering an exam breakfast for all students with a morning exam where subject teachers will be helping motivate students, and helping calm their nerves by giving them a few reminders of key areas of focus. Students with an afternoon exam will

receive a focused revision session during periods 3 and 4 - again to help settle any nerves. Mr Wade has detailed some really helpful resources for both students and parents later in the newsletter which I would thoroughly recommend having a good look at.

I spent a day earlier in the week at The Collaborative Academies Trust (CAT) Executive Meeting. This meeting gives the headteachers of all our schools in the Trust the opportunity to share good practice, and consider how we can make sure all children within our CAT family get the very best deal. We were joined by representatives from the Trust and it was a great opportunity to reflect on what we are doing at Kingsthorpe College, and both share with other colleagues what we are doing well, but also to learn and consider how we can develop further.

I hope you all have an enjoyable and restful Bank Holiday weekend – despite the forecasted weather!

Mrs Giovanelli
Headteacher

Top tips and resources for students undertaking Examinations

If you remember, all students received at the start of this year, an exam support pack featuring the USB Drive loaded with key exam material like exemplar materials, and past papers. We can't recommend students using this strongly enough. Twitter is also a fantastic resource with hundreds of useful resources. We strongly recommend the following:

@EzyMaths

@BartonMaths

@Corbettmaths

@MrBruffEnglish

Youtube also has thousands of clips that will help consolidate learning in a variety of subject areas. We also strongly recommend the use of revision guides which most faculties have been selling at reduced price and GCSEPOD is another key resource that students really benefit from using. The interactive video clips help students revise key material in short, bitesized chunks. Students have been using this both at home and in school and pods can be downloaded to their phones and tablets. To access the website go to www.gcsepod.com.

The link below will direct you to a specific page for parents where you will find a variety of resources and helpful tips to help support your son/daughter through the exam period.

<https://www.gcsepod.com/parents/>

All the major exam boards are really helpful in providing support in the form of past papers etc. So I suggest having a look at these as well. There is a lot of useful information on the College website which contains the exam timetable and the rules governing the strict exam regulations. So I suggest having a look at the link below:

<http://www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk/exams>.

As a College we realise this is a stressful period and to help alleviate the stress, I recommend parents read through the NSPCC document on the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/beat-exam-stress.pdf>

A few final tips from me:

- Have an early night prior to a morning exam
- Make sure you have a good breakfast and lunch
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before any exam
- Attend as many revision sessions as possible
- Bring a bottle of water with the label off
- Hand in all mobile phones/headphones/I watches
- Bring the correct equipment to the exam:
 - Black pen, pencil, ruler, rubber
 - Coloured pencils (if needed)

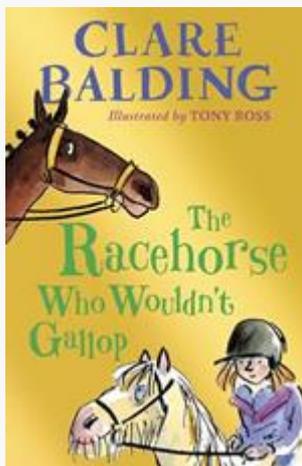
- Calculator/Geometry Set

Mr Wade

Deputy Headteacher



The Racehorse Who Wouldn't Gallop by Clare Balding, illustrations by Tony Ross (BL: 5.5)



Charlie Bass is a horse-mad ten-year-old who dreams of owning her own pony. So when she accidentally manages to buy a racehorse, Charlie is thrilled. The horse she buys, Noble Warrior, looks the part: strong, fit and healthy. There's just one problem - he won't gallop. In fact, he won't even leave his stable without his best friend, a naughty pony called Percy.

Charlie is convinced that Noble Warrior has what it takes to be a champion. But can she prove it? Derby Day is fast approaching and only a win can save the family farm from being repossessed. The stakes couldn't be higher for the Basses.

Can Charlie turn her chaotic family into a top training team? Can Noble Warrior overcome his nerves? Will Percy the pony ever stop farting? If you enjoy funny animal stories then this book is for you. It is perfect for fans of Dick King-Smith and Gerald Durrell.

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

Harley Bradshaw GR1

The word of the week is...

“Collaborate”

Definition: To work with others; to work together.

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

"Let's collaborate on our project so we can produce something special".



Congratulations to our 100% prize draw winners from the end last term. They each win a £10 WH Smith voucher. Don't forget it's the start of a new term so every time you score 100% on a book quiz you will be entered into the prize draw.

- Year 7 winner - Mansur GO7
- Year 8 winner - Millie B5



Our reading hero this week is Niall Murphy - he is our 25th Accelerated Reader word millionaire this year. Niall has read an array of really challenging fiction and he particularly enjoys reading books by the authors James Dashner and J.K. Rowling. Congratulations Niall you have worked extremely hard to achieve your millionaire status. Keep up the great work that you are doing and don't forget to come along to the library to collect your reading hero prize.

Urban Strides – Street Dance



All our students have recently received an assembly run by Andy Instone from Urban Strides. Urban Strides is the UK's leading Street Dance educator. The assemblies aimed to motivate our students to lead healthier lives and give them the confidence to achieve a higher level of success for themselves.

Urban Strides is the UK's leading Street Dance educator and have been seen in 128 countries, viewed by a global audience of 1.73 billion, performed on 129 arena stages and their qualified teachers have taught "Diversity", Sir Richard Branson and James Corden.

Urban Strides will now be offering the students at Kingsthorpe College an

opportunity to participate in a weekly Street Dance class on a Monday evening. The class is open to all abilities, from complete beginners to street dance experts. The main focus of the sessions is to develop confidence and self-belief by providing a positive space for students to be themselves and have fun.

For more information on the classes please click here:

<http://www.urbanstrides.com/street-dance-classes-choose-your-age-beginners-welcome/street-dance-hip-hop-classes-for-teens-beginners-welcome/>

Places in the class are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. To book a place please go to:

<http://www.streetdancestore.com/street-dance-classes-for-beginner-intermediate-and-advanced-street-dancers/All-Classes/Northampton-Senior>

The cost of classes is £29.75 per month with a full money back guarantee in case it turns out not to be the right fit for you and your child. If think your child would like to take part, please take the time to click on the links above and reserve your place.

Please note that we do not endorse any external companies and any contract or payment is made directly with the organisation itself and not with Kingsthorpe College.

Kingsthorpe
College



MATHEMATICS



**Need some Expert Maths help?
Unsure on a piece of homework?
Need to do your mymaths homework?**

If the answer to those is YES, then why not come
along to M9i.

Open every lunchtime.





Key contacts

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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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