



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 129



Dear Parents

I spent two days this week at one of the NSPCC central offices on a safeguarding course. It was great to see that the practices and procedures we have in place at Kingsthorpe College are really effective at keeping our young people safe, and I was able to share with other course delegates some of our best practice. I also picked up a couple of ideas that other schools had implemented which I am looking forward to sharing with our safeguarding team next week. Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and we take our duty to safeguard our young people very seriously. I would therefore urge you to read carefully the information and advice on 'sexting' at the end of the newsletter. By working in partnership, we can ensure that all our young people are safe and happy, and able to reach

their potential.

We welcomed board members of The Collaborative Academies Trust to the College on Tuesday. Members were overwhelmingly positive about the atmosphere within the College - commenting on how warm, positive and friendly it was. Some of our students also hosted a lunch for the board and again, the board members were effusive in their praise for our students who presented themselves as confident, passionate, and articulate young people. It was excellent to be able to share firsthand with the board our successes from last year, as well as discuss our plans for continuing excellence this year.

Finally, I would recommend you all to visit [supercurricular booklet](#) to see the huge range of supercurricula activities we have on offer. Led and coordinated by Miss Maund, Lead Practitioner, this programme is designed to provide enrichment and stretch our most able students, but many of the opportunities are open to everyone should they wish to take part. The range and quality of different sessions is really impressive, and we are delighted to have formed so many partnerships with leading universities, and other partners over the year.

It's a busy end to next week as we hold our annual open evening on Thursday 5th October, and I look forward to updating you all again next week.

Mrs Giovanelli
Headteacher



Captain – Sam Angus
(BL 6.8)



Under age at the outbreak of war, fifteen year old Billy Bayliss manages to join up by pretending to be his older brother. Soon he is shipped off to Egypt to play his part in the terrifying fighting in Gallipoli. Despite his bravado, Billy is scared. He's lonely, too, as the older boys tease him and make him feel like an outsider. But then Billy meets Captain, a young refugee who has nothing but his donkey Hey-Ho. The three become inseparable friends and gain courage from each other in fighting the horrors of war together. Sam Angus tells of the carnage of the fighting unflinchingly in this touching story of the special role animals played in the war.

If you enjoy war stories, animal stories and books written by Michael Morpurgo, then why not give this book a try.

Our literacy challenge winner this week is:

Jakub Gasecki – 7K

The word of the week is...

“Modify” *verb*

Definition: To change or amend

Try and use this word in a sentence this week. *My sentence is, His essay was modified after the teacher's feedback.*



Our reading hero this week is **Scott McClusky (Year 8)**.

Scott has made a phenomenal start to the year and is achieving some amazing scores on the Accelerated Reader programme. So far this term he has read four books which equates to 610,136 words read. He is really enjoying reading the Harry Potter series of books and is working towards becoming one of our first millionaire readers in school this year. Well done Scott, keep up the great work.

Year 7 students get ready



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.



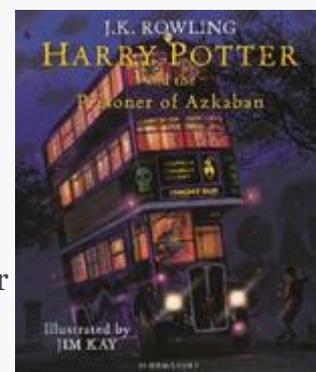
An Evening with Jim Kay - Award winning illustrator of the Harry Potter Series

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.



Sexting information for parents:

This week students have looked at the risks associated with sexting. Here is some advice to help with those difficult conversations at home. More information can be found online at NSPCC and childline.

How to talk to your child about sexting:

1. **Having a conversation:**

Every child is different, so your approach should be based on their character and your relationship with them. You could:

- outline your expectations and explain the rules of having a mobile, tablet or smartphone
- ask them what they feel is acceptable to send to people, if they'd be happy for you or a stranger or other children to see certain photos. If the answer is 'no', explain that the image, video or message is probably not appropriate to send
- make sure they're comfortable saying no, that they know their body is private and being asked to share explicit images is inappropriate
- explain to them about the importance of trust and consent in a healthy relationship. Tell them that it's not ok for someone to make them feel uncomfortable, to pressure them into doing things that they don't want to do, or to show them things that they're unhappy about. Let them know that they can speak to you if this ever happens
- look at Childline's advice about [relationships](#) and [online safety](#) together.

2. **Explain the risks of sexting:**

- tell them what can happen when things go wrong. Don't accuse them of sexting, but do explain the dangers and legal issues

- you may find it easier to use real-life examples, such as television programmes or news stories, to help you explain the risks
- ask them if they'd want something private shown to the world. Talk about the Granny rule - would you want your Granny to see the image you're sharing?
- talk about whether a person who asks for an image from you might also be asking other people for images
- if children are sending images to people they trust, they may not think there's much risk involved. Use examples of when friends or partners have had a falling-out and what might happen to the images if this happens.

3. **Make it clear you will be supportive**

- make sure they know that you're always there for support if they feel pressured by anyone
- explain that they can come to you if someone asks to send them a nude picture or if they receive an explicit message
- let them know that you won't be angry with them but just want to make sure they're safe and happy.

Year 6 Multi-sport festival



On Tuesday we had Year 6 children from Parklands and Barry primary schools come to Kingsthorpe College for a multi-sport festival. They took part in a variety of activities

including bench ball, teambuilding games and gymnastics. The activities were planned and run by some of our Year 8/9 Young Leaders. The leaders were enthusiastic and organised and they did a brilliant job. They also looked extremely smart and professional in our brand new 'Sport Leader' t-shirts.

We are currently recruiting for our Young Leader Development squad. If any students in Years 7 or 8 would be interested in helping with events such as this they should see Miss Bennett in PE to apply.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



A huge thank you to everyone that took part in our Macmillan coffee morning.

We are so grateful for everyone that entered the star baker competition or simply donated cakes. There were some absolutely amazing creations brought in both from students and staff. They all vanished quickly in the bake sale that took place at break and lunch.



Huge congratulations to our Star Bakers...

- Student winner: Grace Nightingale (Y9)
- Student runner up: Hannah Byrne (Y8)

The staff star baker will be announced in the staff briefing on Monday. So far we have raised **£273** for Macmillan. Well done and thank you all.

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.



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