



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 122



Dear Parents

It's definitely been a week characterised by celebrations. The Year 11 Prom on Thursday evening was a fantastic event enjoyed by everyone in attendance - particularly the display of baby photos of students and staff! Huge thanks to Mrs Bunker, Mrs Kinsella and Mrs Heath for making sure it was such a success. Our Leavers' Assembly on Friday was also well attended, and it was great to see the positive relationships between our young people and our staff as both students and teachers enjoyed a more lighthearted approach to school life. Particular highlights include Mr Hill's poetry and Mrs Watts's version of a pop song written to celebrate the journey her students had been on.

You may remember last week I shared details of some of our students who had been shortlisted for the finals of the Youth Ambition

Awards. Sadly none of our students won the final award, but to get through to the finals is a great accomplishment in itself and we are all very proud of them. It is our very own KC Awards Evening on Monday, and we are really excited to be joined by Ben Cohen, MBE, as our guest speaker and to celebrate our students' artistic, athletic and academic excellence. It looks set to be a memorable evening for all.

Staff have been working hard behind the scenes this week to make some changes to some aspects of our systems and structures to ensure that we have everything in place that we need to for the new academic year. Further details of these will of course follow very shortly so that you are kept updated prior to the summer holidays.

Finally, this weekend Mr Baines and I were lucky enough to attend Research Ed, Rugby. This was an opportunity for educators and policy makers to come together and share best practice in relation to the current thinking about what works and what doesn't work in schools. The day was opened with a keynote from the Rt Hon Nicky Morgan who focused on the importance of ensuring schools focused on developing character within young people. This was followed by a session on the importance of creativity in schools for both staff and students. We were really pleased that so much of what was said confirmed that what we are doing at Kingsthorpe College will make a difference. The day ended with another keynote - this time from the internationally acclaimed Learning Scientists. Again, it is important to us at KC that we use the latest research and evidence about cognitive science and how our brains work to help ensure we are delivering our curriculum in the most effective way, and we are looking forward to sharing what we learned with both staff and students.

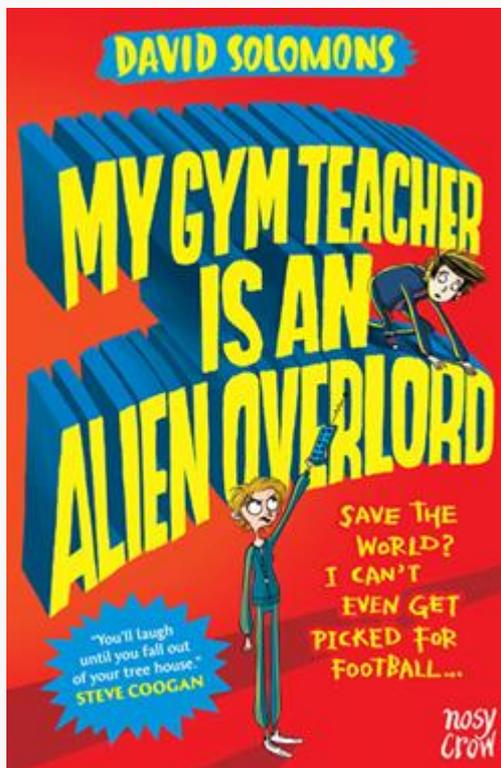
As we continue to edge closer to the summer holidays, can I take this opportunity to remind all parents that our expectations in relation to attendance, uniform and attitudes to learning remain high, and that students will be expected to continue to adhere to these right up until the last day. On that note, it has been brought to our attention that there is an error in the student planners in relation to the last day of term. Please note that the last day of term is **Friday 21st July 2017** not Thursday 20th July as detailed in the planner. Further details about end of term arrangements will follow next week.

Mrs Giovanelli

Headteacher



My Gym Teacher is an Alien Overlord (BL 5.3)



This book is the sequel to David Solomon's prize-winning sci-fi comedy *My Brother is a Superhero*. It delivers just as much in the way of tension, adventure and laughs. Still resentful of his now superhero big brother, Luke inadvertently gets his own back by revealing that sulky teen Cara is the kryptonite to Zack's Superman. Unfortunately, this plays into the hands of aliens who are intent on invading Earth and forcing its inhabitants to watch reality TV for the rest of time. The action is as fast and funny as ever, and the in-jokes

possibly even better.

If you love laugh out loud funny stories, action and adventure then this is the book for you.

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

Lois Wilson GR1

The word of the week is...

“Optimistic”

Definition: To look to the future with positivity.

Try and use this word in a sentence this week.

My sentence is:

“He was optimistic about his exam results. He had worked hard so should do well.”



This week our reading hero is James Farrow (year 7). James has read a phenomenal amount of books on the Accelerated Reader programme since he joined us in September. So far he has read sixty books which equates to a staggering word count of 4,375,943 words read. James has read a vast array of fiction by authors ranging from Anthony Horowitz to Cressida Cowell, to Charlie Higson and J.K. Rowling. This year James has also formed an integral part of our team which is competing in this year's county literature quiz. Well done James, you are doing an amazing job, keep up the great work.

Don't forget there is still time to become a word millionaire this year. If you achieve 'millionaire' status before we break up you will be invited to our Millionaires' Garden Party which will be held the last week of term.



Help us to win £5000 of National Book Tokens for the school library - and win £100 for yourself! Just enter the competition online, it only takes a minute and the more people that enter the more chance we have of winning.

<http://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>



Scholastic Half Price Book Fair 28th June – 5th July

We are currently holding our half-price school book fair. This will be based in the library and will give our students the opportunity to purchase some amazing books. There are over 200 titles to browse through, and with fantasy, thrillers, non-fiction, comedy and lots more there is sure to be a book for everyone to enjoy. Our Book Fair will be available for students to browse at lunchtimes and afterschool until 4pm every day. Don't forget that every book you buy can help us to get free

books for our school.

K.C. Book Festival is here! Monday 26th June – Friday 7th July

Our book festival is currently in full swing. Don't forget we have lots of competitions happening and we are giving our students the opportunity to win lots of fabulous prizes. Up for grabs this year we will be giving away signed copies of books by the authors; Dan Freedman, Bali Rai, Cathy Cassidy and Robin Stevens. There are also lots of competitions to win goody bags. Please come to the library to collect your entry forms for a chance to win one of these fantastic prizes.



Fact Finder day



On Thursday last week we welcomed a group of year 6 children to Kingsthorpe College. They had been selected by their primary school to be 'Fact Finders'. Their job was to find out as much about Kingsthorpe College as possible and take that information back to their peers at their primary school that will be also be starting here in September. The pupils took part in a variety of exciting activities including Art, ICT and Science. They also received a tour of the school so they could start to learn their way around. The day went really well and it was great to see all the children interacting with each other and making new friends. We can't wait to see them again (along with the rest of our new intake) on our transition days on 10th and 11th July.

Here is some feedback about our Fact Finder Day:

Andy Stevenson – Teacher at Duston Eldean Primary School:

When my three children arrived back from Factfinder Day yesterday, they wanted me to pass on the following:

We have had an amazing time and went from being nervous to being that excited we can't wait to go back.

Olivia: "The teachers were extremely nice."

Maisie: "My favourite part was being able to try out new lessons available at KC."

Will: "I enjoy the science challenge and being part of the winning team."

All the children are now much happier about their transition.

Claire Morgan – TA from Kingsthorpe Village primary:

“Thank you to all those involved in the Fact Finder Day on 22nd June. The ambassadors were welcoming, enthusiastic, polite and friendly. They were clearly proud of their school. The structure and timings for the day were about spot on. Luke enjoyed all the activities, Art, Science and ICT.”



We are thrilled to announce that we have joined the Artsmark programme!

We are really excited to have been accepted into the programme and to continue planning and improving the arts and culture provision in our school.

As part of the process we have already attended a Development Day which gave us lots of helpful advice for the Artsmark journey. We have up to two years to deliver our objectives and submit a Case Study. Artsmark Schools can access additional support and networking opportunities from local delivery partners, and the network of [Bridge organisations](#). This support is available throughout our Artsmark journey.

Joining Artsmark is fantastic way to celebrate our school's strengths in arts and culture and help achieve ambitions for the future. Our arts provision at KC is something we are very proud of and aim to strengthen even further.

Kingsthorpe Village Fayre

We were very honoured to be asked to open KINGSTHORPE VILLAGE FAYRE on Saturday 24th June. Over 30 KC students performed a range of songs and dances. We were lucky with fantastic weather and our students performed with energy and enthusiasm. They were professional and a pleasure to spend time with. We received an amazing response from the audience and it was lovely to hear the positive comments after our performance. A huge thanks to the following talented individuals:

- Ellie Cross
- Georgia Lawrence
- Baylea Gamble
- Mikey Bunning
- Kate Launente-Cese
- Meggan Algar
- Robson Scott
- Mia Souter
- Jodie Finnis
- Josie Nutt
- Alysia Penny
- Holly Taylor
- Blake Yexley
- Tamzin Little
- Kenny Kwarteng
- Kelvin Kwarteng
- Keziah Kwarteng
- Anita Boateng
- Berlisa Van Schenkohf
- Gabriella Borta
- Louis Obasogie
- Emily Scott
- Ellin Baldock
- Jinny Kiernan
- Isobel Casey
- Caitlin Lloyd
- Celeste Law
- Isabel Bowker

- Maddy Bampkin
 - Eloghosa Oduware
 - Beth Jackson
-

Our Fashion Show is a success!



On Monday 26th June the Technology Department delivered a Fashion Show. It was a great honor for Miss Miles to open and set up. Miss Miles was immensely proud of what Kingsthorpe students have achieved. Fashion and design now plays an equally important role with other artistic fields. For what is fashion if not an artistic and creative expression? The students who had outfits on the catwalk demonstrated that through creative thinking and hard work just how wonderful these outcomes can be. The students designed, pattern cut and manufactured their own dress for their GCSE and A-Level coursework. The theme for night was 1960's and the models were joined by the year 7 dance afterschool club on the catwalk to demonstrate just how wonderful the students are here at Kingsthorpe College.

Huge well done to all of those who were involved!

Post 16 induction day



Students in year 11, having recently finished their GCSE's, were back in school on the 27th June for their Post 16 induction – becoming sixth formers for the day and getting a feel for what the next steps in the education career will be like. Students got to opt in to four tasters sessions of their choice – either picking subjects they have studied before and getting an idea of what the A-level version will be like, or trying others that they may be less familiar with to see if it may be right for them. There were some brand new courses that have not been offered before in Post 16, including Ethics and Philosophy and Computer Games Design, both of which were very popular. The day ended with students completing postcards where they answered questions about where they want to be – and the sort of person they want to be – in two years time. They will then get these postcards back at the end of their studies in 2019 to see if they have met these aims! Finally, students were given personalised transition packs, containing summer work to be completed before they start their new courses. This will ensure they are fully prepared for the courses they have selected, and are academically ready to go after such a long time out of education.

If you are a current Kingsthorpe College student who did not attend the day but interested in joining KC Post 16, please make sure you get in touch with the Post 16 team as soon as possible to secure your place and the subjects you may wish to study. It was also a delight to have so many external students join us for the day and we look forward to welcoming these new students to the KC family in September.

KC PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

BEST OF BRITISH



Tuesday 18th July 2017

@ 7:15pm

In the Main Hall

£3 adults / £2 concessions

Available from the finance office



DS Nickie DEEKS
Public Protection Unit
Police Headquarters
Wootton Hall
Northampton
NN4 0JQ

Date: 22/06/17

Online Safety – App ‘Live.me’



Northamptonshire Police would like to bring to the attention of parents the app ‘Live.me’. This is a live video streaming app where users can broadcast live-streaming videos and watch others’ videos. The terms of use specify that users must be 18 years of age or have parental permission to use the tool.

We have been made aware of an out of force investigation where a young child has been directed by a suspect to engage in sexual activity and this stream has been viewed over 15000 times.

Snapchat



Parents should also be aware that in relation to the latest Snapchat update, public settings allow users to someone’s exact location. It produces a map which allows you to see their exact location down to the house they are in. Snapchat “hotspots” allow anyone to see snapchats that are set to public, you do not need to have added any of these people to get

and the update is worldwide.

Children and young people are vulnerable for a number of reasons to being sexually exploited through the use of the internet and in particular social media.

The internet is an amazing resource and tool but sadly does come with risk. Northamptonshire Police promote regularly to young people how to use it but safely. Below are some great tips that you can implement within your home to keep your children safe online.

- o **Set up smart-phone free zones: It's impossible to monitor everything and as young people get older they will try and get round blocks and settings. So for example upstairs is always free of technology.**

- o **Be a strong digital role model: Parents Practice what you preach. If you are constantly on a phone or tablet then your children will potentially imitate that behaviour.**

- o **Digital sunset: No technology or devices for at least 30 mins before bed and set firm time limits on all devices. Including parents! Phones, tablets etc are left downstairs and buy an alarm clock, don't go to bed with a phone or tablet.**

Please can we ask all parents to reiterate online safety to their children and be aware of what apps or sites their children are visiting. If parents require any guidance around online safety below are a number of websites that may assist.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/staying-safe-online>

<https://www.internetmatters.org>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>

If you identify that your child has been a victim of an online crime please contact Northants Police on 101, ensuring that you secure any devices

used without deleting any correspondence.

DS Nickie Deeks

Public Protection Command
Northamptonshire Police.

Simon Aston

E- Safety Officer
Communities Team
Northamptonshire County Council

Key contacts

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Achievement Director: Mr Butlin

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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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