



KHS Update

Volume 1, Issue 1

3rd—14th September 2018

Day Ten: Head's message

Dear parents/ carers,

It's day 10 of the first fortnight of the new academic year. I'd like to say how proud and privileged I am to be taking the school into its next phase as the Headteacher.

As an English Teacher; a Head of Media and English; a Head of Sixth Form, I worked in a number of very different schools in North and East London before relocating to Warwickshire where I have lived and worked for the last twelve years. Having been a Deputy Head teacher in a large comprehensive for a number of years, I am now excited and ready for the new challenge at Kineton.

Thus far, my first impressions of the school have been incredibly positive, the students and staff have certainly displayed the Kineton values of friendship and teamwork. I've been overwhelmed by the supportive welcome I've received and really look forward to getting to know everyone and meeting many of our parents at school events over the next few weeks.

We've welcomed our new Year 7 intake this fortnight who have been positive and enthusiastic; they've really got involved in the life of the school and have been enjoying making new friends and experiencing new subjects. All students I've spoken to have been really positive about learning at Kineton. Indeed, it was wonderful to receive an email from a parent who said her daughter was "buzzing" when she got home each night! There are other students beginning new journeys this term; our y9 students begin the foundation year of their GCSEs and year 12 start their post-16 studies. Already, we've held two parents' information evenings to help them get started. Many thanks to all who came along this week.

In addition, this week saw the start of our extra-curricular opportunities. Many students will get involved in the variety of clubs and activities on offer. I was delighted to hear from Mr Grant that he estimates over 200 students have taken part in PE extra-curricular activities this week which is fantastic!

Our extra curricular timetable can be found here: <http://kinetonhighschool.org.uk/learning/out-of-hours-learning/> further updates will be on our daily bulletin.



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Achieving Personal Best

Day Ten: Head's message cont.

This time of year, schools continue to analyse the outcomes of public examinations. Staff at Kineton are rightly proud and pleased with the results at GCSE and A Level this year where improvements have been significant. As you'll know, it was the first year to see nearly all GCSEs being assessed using the new 9-1 grades. Our students at Kineton did extremely well compared to the National averages and the Warwickshire picture for the key school performance measures. Whilst there are still some remarks and checks with the exam boards they currently look like this for the GCSEs:

The 'basics'

74% gained a grade 9-4 in both English and Maths (standard)

51% gained a grade 9-5 in both English and Maths (strong)

68% gained 5 passes at grade 4-9 (or equivalent) This measure is similar to the old 5 A*-C benchmark.

We are really pleased to boast that 31% of Kineton students passed the prestigious EBACC suite of GCSES (Maths English, Science, Humanities and a language) . Having really focused on ensuring we challenge students of all abilities in our teaching, it's really satisfying for staff to see the real increase in the 'top' grades 9-7 or A*-A. We certainly never forget that without the support of our parents this kind of success wouldn't be possible. Well done everyone!

We mustn't make assumptions about our next Y11 cohort; there is still work to do to improve even further so we are working hard now to establish sound routines, relationships and expectations early in the academic year for all year groups.

Helen Bridge, Headteacher





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Announcements

Well done to:

 Noah and William who both represented team GB Kayaking in Belgium last weekend.

 Also to Ollie who will be performing with the RSC this winter in the production of 'A Christmas Carol'.

 Jack has recently been offered a contract to train with the Coventry City youth academy; we wish him good luck in his footballing career.

 Please let us know if your children are involved in activities and interests outside school that we might not be aware of; it's always great to hear what they are up to so we can celebrate their achievements and success.

 We will be inviting parents and carers to join us to discuss aspects of school life and will publish some dates in our next KHS Update.

 Warwickshire County Council would like to hear your views on the **School Health & Wellbeing Service**. We would encourage you to visit the website and complete the survey before the closing date of 12th October 2018: <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/public-health/school-health-and-wellbeing-service/>

Forthcoming events:

Dates from calendar/ trips:

- *Open Evening - Thursday 20th September*
- *Year 7 Information Evening - Tuesday 2nd October*
- *Flexible Learning Day - Wednesday 10th October*

Do follow us on Twitter where you can pick up ongoing news and information:  @KinetonHighSch