



KHS Update

Volume 1, Issue 2

17th—28th September 2018

Head's message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week we welcomed families and children to our Open Evening. Perhaps one of the most important evening events of the year for schools; it's when they are displayed at their best. Kineton High School demonstrated all its strengths and I felt very proud to be part of its community, particularly when I heard so many visitors and prospective parents telling me what a great evening they'd had. Most notable were the comments made about our students; many of who came along to participate and support the evening. Parents said our students were confident talking to prospective parents; friendly, personable and showed a real loyalty to the school and enjoyment about their experience here. Thank you to everyone involved for making it such a successful evening, particularly to Libby and Joseph two of our Y7 students who spoke so eloquently about their experience of the transition to Kineton.

I visited Kineton Primary School this week and thank Mrs Pollard (the Headteacher) for hosting me. It was great to see all the years in their learning environments and classrooms. There are many ways in which secondary and primary colleagues can learn from each other in order to improve the curriculum and learning experiences of students across the KS2 and 3 phases; we are looking forward to further exploring opportunities to collaborate. A current project is Digital Schoolhouse which enables Kineton to work closely with primary schools to support the computing curriculum and develop creative thinking skills.

Meanwhile, our Y11 students have been focusing on getting organised for personal study and personal discipline needed to keep reviewing and embedding new learning into memory in preparation for the examinations that will shortly be upon them. It's daunting for some students but their teachers and form tutors will support in many ways over the year and we'll be sharing information with parents and carers as the year progresses.

Senior Staff Consultations:

We invite parents to come and share thoughts on a topic and/or book a short meeting with a member of the senior team. Please get in touch if you'd like to join us by telephoning 01926 640465 or email enquiries@kinetonhighschool.org.uk

These will take place in the Konnect room:

- 👉 Wednesday 24th October 5-6pm: Home learning
- 👉 Wednesday 5th December 5-6pm: Reporting arrangements



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Other News

In Humanities:

- 👑 Debate Club are going to a British Parliamentary Debate Inter-school Tournament at Warwick University in November. The students were so pleased by the exhibition and speeches they organised for the representation of the people act during the summer, that they are planning another, possibly about scientific achievements through time.
- 👑 Humanities are taking part in a 6th Form conference at Aston University in early December to investigate the impacts of Britain leaving the European Union.
- 👑 Year 7 History have been enjoying hands-on lessons studying Anglo-Saxon and Norman arms and armour as part of their Norman Conquest topic. This has links with science too because we discussed archaeological oxidation of different materials and physics of trajectories of projectile weapons .
- 👑 Debate club is now running for KS3 and 4 at lunch on Thursdays in R1. Students organise themselves into two teams to debate a controversial topic each week.
- 👑 Year 7 Geography have been undertaking environmental fieldwork around the school site in preparation for their first assessment.
- 👑 Year 11 Geography are going on their GCSE fieldwork trip to Worcester in three weeks' time.

In Design Technology:

Year 8 students made Swiss rolls to rival those on the Great British Bake Off!





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Announcements

Thank you to all the students who helped out at our recent open evening, the evening was a great success.

Sports News:

- ✦ The Year 7 netball team won 10-1 in their first fixture. Player of the match: Libby C, who scored 10 goals during the match!
- ✦ The Year 8 netball team lost in an exciting game 4-3 to Champion School. Player of the match: Libby R. Goal scorers: Rosie S x2 Lilly E x1
- ✦ Abbie W competed in the British Triathlon Under 20's Festival, racing as part of the Youth Super Series (14-16 years). Abbie came 51st place with an impressive time of 39:07 in her individuals race consisting of a 400m swim, 10km bike and 2.5km run. She also came 28th place in the youth relay completing a 150m swim, 2.7km bike ride and 1.25km run in 24:03!
- ✦ Ex KHS Student and Ceramicist, Alice Funge, first winner of the National Trust New Designers Award. For more information please visit: https://shop.nationaltrust.org.uk/alice_funge_meet_the_maker/i185?intcmp=shop_category_autumn17_LB_footerlink_inspiration
- ✦ Six of our Year 12 students attended a Sixth Form Student Ambassador training session at Chipping Campden School on Wednesday 26th September. The students gained valuable skills which will aid their delivery of Maths and Physics masterclass sessions to local primary school students later this year.
- ✦ Our two Year 8 and 9 engineering teams continue to meet with their mentors from JLR every week and are working hard towards completing their projects before the celebration and assessment day on Wednesday 14th November.

Students of the Week:

- ✦ **Adam in Y7 (Adlington):** He is really enjoying Ms Rutherford-Edge's History lessons.
- ✦ **Christopher in Y8 (Hoy):** Loves the 'Hunger Games' he's reading in English and likes Food Technology.
- ✦ **Abigail in Y8 ((Redgrave):** Another 'Hunger Games' fan! Abigail is also enjoying her PE lessons this year, particularly the football.

KHS netball teams -



Contd.



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E-safety—Information to Parents

It has been brought to our attention that there are a couple of social media sites that allow you to leave anonymous comments to other people. This obviously can be a real risk in cyber bullying as it is really difficult to track and bring anyone to account.

The two websites in question are: Qoome.com and sarahah.com

Both websites in the terms and conditions have an age limit of 13 and 17 years of age and state that they will take steps against anyone using the site to bully or intimidate others.

The schools recommendation is that these websites should be avoided by students and if any anonymous messages are received which are intimidating or bullying in nature you should report this directly to the website.



Canoe Polo:

Some information from Sam in Y10 about the sport he's hoping to excel in:

Canoe Polo is a 5 a side, fast and dynamic team sport where players compete to score goals in raised nets. Polo combines paddling and ball handling skills with an exciting contact team game, where tactics and positional play are as important as the speed and fitness of the individual athletes.

The ball can be thrown by hand, or flicked with the paddle. Kayaks are specifically designed for Polo, paddles are light weight and designed with both pulling power and ball control in mind. Body protection, helmets and faceguards are all compulsory. There are internationally agreed ICF rules for the game and the World and European Championships are held on alternate years. It is also a World Games sport.

Great Britain is one of the world's foremost nations, and has 4 teams that compete in ICF and ECA international competitions. At the World Championships in Canada this year, the Under 21 men retained their gold, the under 21 ladies were 4th, the senior men were 7th and the senior ladies got silver. In addition there is a development academy for younger players, that will feed into the GB teams in the future. Sam will be trying out for the academy in October.

Within the UK there is a National League structure, which runs through the winter seasons. Sam played last winter for Cherwell in division 4 and this year will be playing again for Cherwell but now in division 3. During the summer months, British clubs compete in international competitions across Europe. This year Sam played in 5 of these tournaments, taking us all round the country and to Belgium. 4 of the tournaments he played in the division 3 team and one of them in the division 2 team.

Sam trains all year round, normally twice a week on the water, can be less in the winter and more in the summer. The game also requires core and strength exercises at home.



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Forthcoming events:

Dates from calendar/ trips:

- *SEND Department Coffee Morning for prospective Year 7's - Tuesday 2nd October*
- *Year 7 Information Evening - Tuesday 2nd October*
- *Flexible Learning Day - Wednesday 10th October*
- *Year 7/8 Hockey v Sibford*
- *Year 7 football v Aylesford*
- *Year 8 football v Aylesford*
- *Y 9/10 Hockey v Sibford*
- *Year 9 Netball - Triangle tournament v Studley & AA*
- *Year 10 football v AA*
- *Inter-school climbing competition, Worcester - Friday 5th October*

Do follow us on Twitter where you can pick up ongoing news and information:  [@KinetonHighSch](https://twitter.com/KinetonHighSch)



Leave of Absence During Term Time 2018-19 Information for Parents



In September 2013, the Government introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school. The regulations will continue to apply during this academic year (2017/2018).

The most important of these is in relation to term-time leave of absence. The amendments set out in Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013, govern all requests for leave within term-time. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law.

The amended regulations removed references to 'holiday' and 'extended leave', as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days. It is now clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The Government has not defined 'exceptional circumstances' as referred to in the 2013 regulations. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application.

Student Absence Procedure

If a student is absent, please call the 24 hour Absence Line daily on 01926 645 611 and leave a brief message stating their name, tutor group and reason.

When the student returns to school please provide written confirmation of the date(s) and reason they were absent.

If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent (s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.

Medical/Dental Appointment

If a student will not be present during morning registration due to a medical/dental appointment, please provide Student Services with written notice of the appointment prior to the event.