



Issue

3

Tuesday 18 October 2016

Diary Dates

Academy re-opens to pupils

Monday 31 October 2016 at 8.40am

Thursday 3 — Saturday 5 November

Year 9 History trip to the Somme

Thursday 10 November 4.30pm — 7.00pm

Year 12/Year 13 Parent Evening

Tuesday 15 November 6.00pm — 7.00pm

Parent Information Evening:

Year 7 Key skills for success



ABSENCE REPORTING

01536 741857 — OPTION 1

Please report pupil absences as early as possible each day on the main Academy telephone number — 01536 741857 and select option 1 (Please note—a call to the Academy is necessary on **EACH** day of absence).

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems odd with us only into the second month of the new academic year, and already we are in the middle of the process of Year 6 parents and pupils choosing their new secondary schools and academies for September 2017.

As such, on Thursday 6 October we held our Prospective Year 7 Parents' Evening, where those parents and pupils could come into Kingswood and see lots of displays and activities taking place in the different subject areas of the Academy. As Principal I also spoke to them about our vision for the Academy and what they can expect should we be lucky enough to welcome their sons and daughters in September.



The real stars of my talk though were our Year 7 pupils, Corey and Emma, pictured with me above, who spoke very eloquently about their experiences of moving to Kingswood. The feedback we received from the parents and pupils was incredibly positive. It was a real treat to see Kingswood presented at its very finest with staff and pupils working together to demonstrate why we are such a great place to come to and be educated. The open days similarly took place on Tuesday 11 and Thursday 13 October. We fully expect to be oversubscribed for the 224 places we shall be offering in September. This is great news and shows the growing reputation we are enjoying at Kingswood.

If you would like to see a few more pictures of the evening you can go to our twitter feed which is also a great source of Academy news to subscribe to: @KingswoodAcad

Regards

Mr A Burton
Principal

BIKE SECURITY

Regrettably we have had 3 cycles stolen from the Academy site in the last few weeks. We are liaising with the Police and have passed some images and names to them of local youths we believe might be involved. We do everything we can to make security on site as robust as possible, but sometimes this is not enough to deter or prevent determined and organised thieves i.e. bolt croppers were used on one occasion to remove the padlock securing the gate to the bike sheds.



So what more can be done to prevent thefts and avoid personal financial loss as the Academy can not accept responsibility for personal items brought onto site that are subsequently lost, damaged or stolen? On 2 occasions the bikes that were stolen were not locked in the bike sheds. Whilst we do lock the gates during the day it is essential that a good quality and robust bike lock, designed to resist cutting/sawing, is also used by pupils to secure their bike to the racking. On the other occasion a bolt cropper was used to cut through a bike chain. A lock should also prevent the bike being removed at the end of the Academy day by someone other than the owner when the gates are opened.

We will continue to monitor CCTV footage (but if hoodies and scarves are worn it is very difficult to identify would be thieves) and liaise with the Police but the simple and relatively inexpensive method of using a good quality bike lock is usually enough to prevent a theft. We shall also be looking to ask the Police to come in and security mark pupil bikes.

Thank you for your support in this matter

'MILK'

The replacement for 'SHOW MY HOMEWORK'

You may have noticed on the Academy web site that the 'Show My Homework' icon has been replaced by 'Milk'.

Milk will enable you to monitor your child's homework in the same way as Show My Homework, and will also allow you to monitor your child's attendance as well as their achievement and behaviour points. You don't need a smartphone to use Milk. It is available for desktops, as well as IOS and Android devices.

All students have received their own log in details plus a letter for their parents explaining 'MILK' and how to log on to the system. If you have not received these details please do not hesitate to contact Miss K Martindale, Assistant Principal at:

kmartindale@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org.

Year 9 — History Trip to France

On Thursday 3 November, Year 9 pupils travel to the battlefields of Northern France, for a very interesting and educational few days, returning on Saturday 5 November.

It is essential that those joining the trip must arrive no later than **4:15 am** as the coach departs at 4:30 am prompt. There will be no delay in departure time as it could impact the ferry crossing.

Participating pupils must bring a sleeping bag, pillow case, towel, toiletries and suitable clothing ie waterproof coat and comfortable sturdy shoes as there will be a lot of walking.

The European Health Insurance Card and passport should be handed to Miss Magee no later than Friday 21 October.

Look out in future newsletters for an update of the trip and comments from the pupils.



We are delighted to have introduced the Duke of Edinburgh's Award this September, and are even more delighted to have got it off to a fantastic start with 17 brave pupils enjoying a tough but rewarding DofE taster weekend based at Grendon Hall. Well done to everyone who walked the 15km and survived all that the great British weather could throw at us!

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is the world's leading achievement award for young people and helps young people reach their full potential, developing skills for life and work, whatever their circumstances. Pupils in Years 9 and 10 were given the opportunity to enrol and begin their work on completing the three areas of Volunteering, Physical and Skills and of course culminating with the Expedition. We are very excited to be introducing this fantastic extracurricular provision! Below are the comments made by Emily Fisher and Kirsten Parsons (Year 10 pupils) :

"When I first found out that our Academy was offering pupils to do the DofE I was so happy. My friend had just completed his bronze award and had said that it was a lot of fun.

Our taster weekend was a lot of fun too (despite the rain!) because, when you think of camping, you think of sleeping under the stars. In this case it was sleeping under the rain clouds, it was all part of the experience though.

The highlight was probably the walking because we got to see places that I never knew even existed. Things like a quarry we saw on the Sunday and horses that were just standing there as we walked past them on the Saturday. The main lowlight had to have been the cooking in the rain. I have cooked on a Trangia before but when the gas starts to run out and the rain is pouring it can be hard work."



READATHON

We are running a **Readathon** Sponsored Read and we'd like to invite your child to join in.

Readathon is the UK's national sponsored reading event for schools, encouraging children to read for pleasure — an activity proven to increase their chances of success and personal happiness for the rest of their lives.

Readathon motivates reluctant readers to give reading a go, and keen readers to read more widely. It works because children choose what they want to read — they are not being assessed, it's all about reading for fun. We would like you to support them, in particular by sponsoring them. The money raised helps the charity Readathon to regularly give brand new books and storyteller visits to children's hospitals across the UK.

For more information, please check out your child's sponsorship card and visit www.readathon.org.

U16'S GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

Congratulations to the U16's Girls' Football Team who have won every match so far.

15 September against Lodge Park	6 — 1
22 September against Latimer	10 — 0
29 September against Brooke Weston	8 — 0



A big 'Well Done' goes to :

Alex O'Neill	Macy Mulgrove	Shelbie MacLeod	Sophi McCardie
Sasha Law	Chloe McKay	Leah Holloway	Georgia Summerfield

FOLLOW THE FIREWORKS CODE

If you intend to buy or set off fireworks, make sure they comply with BS 7114 and are clearly marked for their intended use "Indoor, Garden or Display" Young people should watch and enjoy fireworks at a safe distance and follow the safety rules for using sparklers. Only adults should deal with firework displays and the lighting of fireworks. They should also take care of the safe disposal of fireworks once they have been used.

1. Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable.
2. Keep fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
3. Read and follow the instructions on each firework using a torch if necessary.
4. Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
5. Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks.
6. Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
7. Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
8. Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators.
9. Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.

**Make sure that the fire is out
and surroundings are made safe before leaving.**

BE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE WITH FIREWORKS!



FRANTIC ASSEMBLY— "IGNITION"

Last week Charlie Dawson, Year 13, auditioned for the opportunity to perform as part of Frantic Assembly's all boys project 'Ignition' in London. Frantic Assembly is an internationally renowned innovative theatre company and, with over 200 boys from around the country auditioning, Charlie was 1 of only 12 to be chosen.

Other pupils have previously auditioned, however they were not successful. A huge 'Well done' therefore goes to Charlie who will begin a 6 day rehearsal process in London on Friday and will perform at the Stratford Circus in London on Wednesday 26 October 2016 at 7.30pm.

Well done Charlie and good luck for the performance !

PENYEM, GAMBIA – message from Andy Butler, founder of NTF

Classroom sponsorship – another update!



Back in May 2016, Northampton Trustee Fund started searching for sponsors for the classrooms at Penyem Daycare and Nursery School. Without sponsorship, the school faced closure in 2017, when NTF funding ran out.

The Trust is delighted to announce that it has achieved its target of finding sponsorship for all 7 classrooms. The final piece of the jigsaw was completed recently with the offer of sponsorship from its friends at Corby Phoenix Rotary Club. So the school will have: The Macfarlane Classroom, The Pyke Classroom, The Jill and Bryan Allbut Classroom, The Tricia Crighton Classroom. The [Wilson Browne Solicitors](#) Classroom, The Swift/Leese/Holt/Clasby Classroom and The Corby Phoenix Rotary Club Classroom.

The total pledged by these 7 sponsors is £3500 per annum (the total cost of running the school is £7000). NTF will fund the other £3500. However, this is still a drain on its financial resources. Ideally, the Trust would like the school to be fully funded by donations so that NTF's resources can be directed to developing other projects, particularly the Health Education Programme, which has been suspended due to the funding issues at the school.

An 8th classroom is being developed. This is The Chelsea Macfarlane and Eleanor Springham Classroom (both former Kingswood students). This classroom needs furniture, blackboard and a TEACHER! Once finished it is hoped to be able to split the Toddler Class into two halves, the current class of 83 is too large!

There are also other rooms that can be sponsored such as the School Kitchen, Staff room, Sponsor Relations Office, toilets etc. So NTF will continue to search for sponsors who will reduce its outlay of £3500. Please get in touch if you can help.



For more information please visit: <http://northamptontrusteefund.co.uk>.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Members of Kingswood who bring personal items and belongings in to the Academy and/or any of its related activities (such as trips and visits) do so entirely at their own risk. If items go missing, or are damaged or stolen, the Academy will do all it reasonably can to help, for example looking at CCTV footage where available, but liability remains with the owner and not the Academy.

MISLAID ITEMS??

We have quite a few jackets/coats already in our lost property section.

If a jacket or coat has been mislaid, please ask your child to visit the lost property section of Student Services to check if the mislaid item is there, it may help rather than having to purchase a new item!