



Issue

11

Tuesday 26 April 2016

Diary Dates

Tuesday 3 May 2016

Commencement of Public exams

Thursday 12 May 2016

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 17 May 2016

Parent Forum

Thursday 19 May 2016

Year 8 Parents' Evening



24 HOUR ABSENCE PHONE LINE

Years 7 — 11: 01536 747771

Sixth Form: 01536 424816

The above absence numbers are available 24 hours a day. Please keep these numbers handy and easy to access. Please do not telephone the normal school number as this may cause a delay in the absence being logged.

Dear Parent/Carer

There is only a short while to go before our Year 11 and 6th Form pupils start their final exams. As I hope you are aware there is a lot of information on the Academy website about the exams including: revision tips, strategies and resources; exam timetable; study leave dates; exam results days etc. It is a stressful time for our pupils but the messages that we keep reinforcing with them are around thorough manageable revision and preparation leading to good results. It is never too late to start revising, but it is far better for pupils to be doing so now and not waiting for exam leave or last-minute night before 'cramming'.

Please do support your sons and daughters in their preparations. I think it also helps pupils to look forward to the long holiday that they will be getting after the exams have finished. For Year 11 pupils in particular their Prom on Friday 1 July is something to look forward to after working hard and preparing for the exams now. I firmly believe that pupils can look forward to the exam results that their efforts deserve: let us all work together to ensure they are results to be proud of.



I would also like to clear up some of the misinformation and rumour that is circulating regarding the Dance Studio here at Kingswood. It is a lovely resource, but it was never intended to be located in the Atrium. The original design of the school had the current Atrium and dining facility a third bigger than it currently is; a design error meant a last minute move of the studio into the Atrium. This means that we cannot cater for the number of pupils we currently have without split lunch arrangements, and even then pupils regularly complain about not having anywhere to sit; we can't open nearby class rooms because it is a split lunch so classes are still running etc.

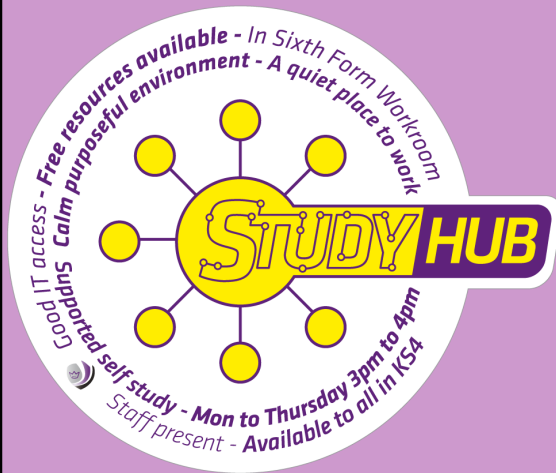
As a result of this, and looking at the provision of a Year 7 'base', a feasibility study was started before I joined the Academy in January. This feasibility study is continuing, in that it is looking at relocating the dance facilities so that we can continue to offer dance as an integral part of our curriculum. If we can do this then the dining facility can be remodelled to its original specification. There is also pressure on school places with the Local Authority asking us to take a few more children. As you know Corby is an expanding town so there is a need for more school spaces for our local children. Whilst I want to be able to help I can only really do this if I can satisfactorily cater for increased pupil numbers at break and lunch times.

Like many of you, I attended the evening of dance and drama at the end of last term and the recent performance of 'Annie': they were superb. Expressive and Performing Arts will continue to be a part of the pupil offer at Kingswood Academy in facilities that enable our pupils to develop and achieve the very highest of standards.

I hope you enjoy this latest newsletter and the continued successes and achievements of our pupils.

Regards

Andy Burton
Principal



It's good to have pupils back with us after the Easter break and it's good to see Year 11 pupils in particular making use of the Study Hub and working hard in departments after school.

Now of course is an absolutely crucial time for revision in these few remaining weeks, if your child is not already doing so why not encourage him/her to make use of the Study Hub which is held from 3 - 4 pm Monday to Thursday. It's a calm and purposeful working environment with friendly staff and good IT facilities available, along with desks to work at and additional independent study resources.



MUSICALS THROUGH TIME

On Wednesday 23 March and Thursday 24 March, the Year 11 BTEC Dance and Drama pupils performed 'Musicals Through Time'. A range of musicals were performed through the medium of dance, drama and song. The pupils are assessed on how well they plan, prepare and perform every aspect of the curriculum.

The opening night went very well with the audience showing their appreciation to the lively songs, dances and well known scenes from West End shows. Well done to everyone involved!

YOUNG ENTERPRISE—KS CREATIONS— REGIONAL FINAL

On Wednesday 20 April the County Finals of the Young Enterprise Programme was held at Northampton University. The final comprised of setting up their own trade stands and being interviewed by the judges.

We are very proud to announce that the KS Creations achieved the '**Best Sales and Marketing**' award and were also awarded second place overall for their product.

A huge congratulations to the KS Creations team and a big thank you to Mrs Palmiero and the business advisers Jason Pickard and Nick Riley from RS Components for their guidance and support, which has enabled the team to do so well in this competition.

DATA COLLECTION AND PHOTOGRAPHIC CONSENT FORMS

Your child should have recently brought home a Data Collection sheet for you to check and return to us to ensure we have the correct information on our system.

Although you completed this form previously in September, contact details sometimes change in the middle of an academic year, therefore we would be grateful if you could complete and return the form to the Academy as soon as possible - even if no details have changed.

It is also important that you complete the photographic consent part of the form which is on the back page and confirm/update your email address for our records.

Thank you for your support.

HINTS AND TIPS TO HELP KEEP CHILDREN SAFE

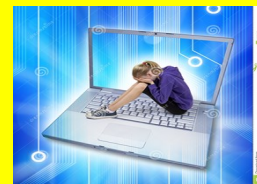
ON THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

Hint No 3—Know who your child is talking to online

Children don't think of people they've met online through social networking and online games as strangers, they are just online friends.

It is very important to keep track of who your child is talking to. Ask them questions like :

- How can they know so many people?
- How do they choose who to become friends with online?



Explain to your child that it's easy for people to lie about themselves online, like their age, for example, because you have never met them.

Agree your child will friend a trusted adult on their social networks or online games.

You could also become 'friends' with your child so you can see their profile and posts but your child may not want to 'friend' you, especially as they get older. Agree that your child can 'friend' a trusted adult like an aunt or uncle so they can let you know if they see anything worrying on your child's profile.

This newsletter will provide more regular hints and tips - please look out for them!

LIVE LOUNGE

Live Lounge was held towards the end of last term and we would like to inform you all of what a huge success it was. There were some amazing performances that really demonstrated the spectacular musical talent we have here at Kingswood. All of the acts should be extremely proud of themselves! If you did manage to catch this then we hope you enjoyed the show — but if you did not, then you missed out on a fun night.

We would like to thank everyone again who did their part to help us organise this, especially Mrs Robertson and Josh Miller (Year 12). We are very proud to advise that the total proceeds from the night came to over £250 which will be going to the music department. Hopefully music lessons will be more affordable for pupils next year, we always need new talent. If you are considering an audition for next year's Live Lounge then you will be very much welcomed and Good Luck!

Year 11 BTEC Music Group

Sports Club Timetable – Term 5

| Venue | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|--------|
| Before School – Sports Hall | Table Tennis with <i>Corby TT Club</i> | | | | |
| Break 2 – Sports Hall | | | | Table Tennis with <i>Corby TT Club</i> | |
| AFTER SCHOOL | | | | | |
| Main Hall | | | | Table Tennis with <i>Corby TT Club</i> | |
| Astro / Field | | Y7 Rounders Club <i>RLA</i> Y7 & 8 Cricket Club <i>PH</i> | | Y8, 9 & 10 Rounders Club <i>HCO/ACO</i> Running Club <i>MGA</i> | |
| Netball Courts | | | | Handball Club <i>OG/PH</i> | |
| Sports Hall | Badminton SmashUp! <i>OG</i> | | Y7, 8 & 9 Basket- ball Club <i>PH</i> | | |

Please note, the Kingswood Secondary Academy PE Kit must be worn for all after school clubs.
Clubs will run from 3-4pm, therefore ensure that you register and arrange to be picked up at 4:15pm.

HOSPITAL PLACEMENT — WARSAW

During the February half term, I had the opportunity to go on a placement with GAP Medics thanks to the sixth form. This placement was situated in the MSW hospital in Warsaw, Poland, where I spent a week shadowing a doctor in the neurosurgery department. The main purpose was to gain some vital clinical work experience as I plan to apply to study medicine.

I (and others on the placement) had expected there to be very little action and most of the time to be spent on wards doing errands and fetching coffee. However within the first hour of meeting my mentor, I was scrubbed up and in the surgery room observing brain surgery!

This case involved an aneurysm which was being treated during an open craniotomy, which is essentially opening up the brain. At this point I had ironically remembered watching surgery videos with a friend on the placement the night before, and them telling me I definitely wouldn't see a craniotomy - how wrong they turned out to be!

While I had seen videos before, entering the surgery room and realising that it was an actual person on the table brought about different feelings. Once the surgery began however, I surprised myself with my calmness about the situation and managed to stand through the entire thing without any squeamishness.

What *Holby City* never tells you though, is how boring surgery can be at points. I saw one or two operations a day when I was there and while it is fascinating at many points, the surgeries could last up to six hours and keeping your attention focused for that long becomes exhausting. Not to mention I never realised that one of the most difficult aspects was standing still for that long! Shockingly the surgeons were all so relaxed while at work too, only in a few serious occasions (such as near death whilst operating) did I see the jokes and chatter briefly stop however they quickly resumed afterwards.

What really hit me hard was how people were affected after the operations, very few would make a full recovery and many had brain damage that would completely alter their lives. I was particularly affected by the death of someone on the ward and how the doctors reacted to it. While I understood that it is the way it is and a department like that probably has a high mortality rate, it personally hit me heavily and made me view the realities of medicine and some of the less optimistic outcomes.

Overall the experience was valuable and changed my perspective of medicine greatly, although I still plan to study medicine and have become more determined than before to do it. It has helped me get an idea of where I may like to specialise within the field and see a lot of the realities of working in medicine too, like the fact even a neurosurgeon can work up to a 36 hour shift or how often law suits come into play. The experience gained will be invaluable in my applications and I've had the ability to see things I didn't think I'd get the opportunity to for years.

Melissa Thomson, Year 12