NEWSLETTER

KINGSWOOD SECONDARY ACADEMY

Issue

16

Tuesday 19 July 2016

Diary Dates

Tuesday 19 July 2016 Last day of term

Thursday 18 August 2016 Release of GCE results to pupils

Thursday 25 August 2016 Release of GCSE results to pupils



Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Pupils



It is nearly time for us to break for the summer holiday so I wanted to write and share some important pieces of information with you. Firstly, thank you all for the support you have given me as I have taken on the post of Principal at the Academy. I know it has been a turbulent few years with several different Principals, a new Trust coming in and the significant changes that have followed. I firmly believe that the Academy is on the up and I am looking forward to positive exams results this summer and in future years.

It is also the time of year when staff leave, some retiring, others moving on to new challenges and

promoted posts elsewhere, and I am sure you will want to add your farewells to mine. The following Teaching staff are leaving and, as you can see, after a considerable amount of time in some cases; our thanks for their significant contribution to KSA go to:

Mr Kevin Willis (17 years), Mrs Lilith Bateman (16 years), Mrs Jane Cooper (13 years), Mrs Georgina Phillips (11 years), Ms Adana Bettoney (10 years), Mr Ian Powell (7 years), Mr Luke Roberts (3 years), Miss Kate Adams (1 year) and Mrs Abi Dale (1 year).

We also say goodbye to two members of our support team who are retiring. Mrs Helen Mitchell, Cleaning Supervisor, has worked for Kingswood for 38 years and has arrived at 5.00 am every morning come rain or shine. Mrs Iris Roberts, has been here for 17 years and has also never let us down. We would like to thank them and wish them both a long and happy retirement.

New staff will be joining in September and I will write to you in the new Academy year, welcoming them to Kingswood.

There are some important changes from September and other pieces of significant news that I shall outline below:

- The Academy term finishes at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 19 July. The school transport companies have been informed and will be picking up pupils at that time. The last day of term is an optional £1 non-uniform day for pupils and staff.
- A Level results day is Thursday 18 August and GCSE results day is Thursday 25 August.
- The new Academy year for pupils starts on Monday 5 September at 8.40 am.
- The Academy day next year runs from 8.40 am to 3.10 pm, a slightly longer day by 10 minutes.
- After 19 July 2016 all uniform must be purchased from Price and Buckland, our uniform suppliers, rather than via the Academy. Please see more information on this within the newsletter.
- Recently our new online payment system, Squid, has been introduced, please see following pages.
- Unfortunately, we have had to increase the price of bus passes for those pupils who purchase them. We still think it represents excellent value at £55 a term (six terms a year).

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer holiday. For those of you going away I wish you a safe journey and a pleasant break. I look forward to seeing you all again in September, or on the results days (fingers crossed), if these affect you.

SPORTS DAY-OLYMPIC STYLE

With the Rio 2016 Olympic Games fast approaching, this year we ran our own Olympic themed sports days with pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 competing in at least one event of their choice:

We had three wonderful days with exceptional sporting action from all years. A special mention goes to the Year 9 Sports Leaders who were on hand to assist with the various Sports Day activities including scoring, crowd control and setting up the activities. There were various records broken across the three days, such as:

Year 7 Girls

200m: Tracy Slight –School Record of 39:24 1500m: Georgia Berry - School Record of 6:44.94 Shotput: Dragana Zelnik - School Record of 5.80m Javelin - Amy Findlay - School Record of 16.20m

Year 7 Boys

1500m: Jay Manson - School Record of 6:10.14 Javelin: Shay Logue - School Record of 22.10m

Year 8 Girls

100m: Ellis Milne – School Record of 14:00 200m: Abbie McGinty – School Record of 31:23 300m: Alex McAllister – School Record of 59:26 Shot: Faith Julue – School Record of 7.95m

Year 8 Boys

100m: Dylan Webber – School Record of 13:06
800m: Cole McWilliam – School Record of 2:49.12
1500m: Kieran-Lee Coleman - School Record of 4:49.15
Shot: Romulo Parente – School Record of 9.36m



FUN AT THE PROM

The Year 11 prom was held on Friday 1 July 2016 at the Best Western hotel in Corby.

The Prom was an excellent evening, with a red carpet entrance, portrait photography and a complimentary non-alcoholic drink on arrival.

Once the pupils were swept through the doors after their grand entrance, they were treated to a fantastic photo booth provided by "pic 'n' click" with a variety of props to help create fabulous memories of the evening. The pupils also enjoyed a lively dis-

co, a chocolate fountain and sweets cart to fuel them with energy for all of the dancing that took place.

There was a memorable awards ceremony with 34 different awards handed out to nominated pupils, including Prom King (Jordan Hetherington) and Prom Queen (Molly Campbell).

The pupils were a credit to themselves and made us proud on the evening and, after a year of hard work and study, it was a well deserved reward.

We wish the Year 11 pupils well for their futures and look forward to seeing them on GCSE results day on Thursday 25 August 2016 from 10 am.







Our Parent Forum met on Tuesday 5 July 2016 when the Forum said goodbye to a long serving member and welcome to a new one. During the meeting the members discussed the many matters that they had been involved with over the past year. These included:

- A 'Staying Safe Online' Parents' Information Evening, which was a very informative event
- Improvements for better communication between the Academy and home
- Improvements to the newsletter and website
- The Reward system for next year
- ♦ Staff emails being made more accessible
- Dates of birth being included on Sixth Form name badges to enable pupils to use as identification outside of the Academy
- Better safety at exit gates
- Online payments
- ♦ PSHE sessions
- Online booking for Parents' Evenings
- Uniform rules

During the meeting Mr Lawson, Deputy Principal, gave a short tour of the Academy to the members of the Forum. The date of the next meeting will be announced in September. On the first agenda the main topic to be discussed will be 'extra-curricular activities'. If you are interested in joining the forum please contact Mr J Lawson, Deputy Principal, or Mrs S Johnson, Admin Department, at the Academy.

GOODBYE AND THANK YOU ROSETTA!

At the end of this term, we say good bye to Rosetta Tickner who has been a long and faithful servant of our Parent Forum. Rosetta was one of the first parents to become involved in the Forum, meeting challenges and being a firm advocate of pupils' and parents' interests.

Perhaps, her greatest single achievement was that she was instrumental in gaining consent for the zebra crossing to be installed at the front of the Academy, and there is no doubt that this has prevented injuries and helped keep pupils safe. Rosetta has always been prepared to speak forthrightly into the discussions of the Forum, championing pupil and parent viewpoints and endeavouring to make Kingswood the best it can be. As her son finishes Year 13 we would like to thank Rosetta for everything she has done and wish her and her family the very best for the future.

We know Rosetta would love more parents to take the opportunity to be involved in our Parent Forum and continue the good work. If you are interested in joining the forum please contact Mr J Lawson, Deputy Principal, or Mrs S Johnson, Admin Department, at the Academy.

Thank you Rosetta!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

With effect from 1 June 2016, the Free School Meals Service will be provided by Learning, Skills and Education. Please note that there are some changes to the way Free School Meals are now processed in that applications will only be accepted via online applications.

To check whether your child is eligible for a Free School Meals, please visit the Academy website where more information is available in the Parent section.

If you have a query regarding Free School Meals, please call Northamptonshire County Council's Customer Service Centre on 0300 126 1000, and not the Academy.

ABRSM WOODWIND SUCCESS

Congratulations to the following three pupils who all passed their recent ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal School of Music) graded woodwind examinations.



Emily Fisher (Clarinet) Joe O'Toole (Merit) (Flute) Aimee Grey (Distinction) (Clarinet)

A big congratulations from everyone here at Kingswood.

SUMMER SHOW

Our annual performing arts Summer Show took place on Thursday 14 July 2016. The show consisted of two separate performances — one dedicated to Dance and Drama and the second to Music.



The shows were a huge success with a variety of performances featured in both. In the interval people could browse stalls and buy refreshments.

The Music show this year took on a 'Music from the Screen' theme with all performers singing/playing music from TV and film, even the ATA airlines advert! Highlights included an Abba medley by Jose Ojeda Jirout, a guitar trio playing Stand by Me, a guitar group set up and rehearsed by former Sixth Former of the school, Jack Maxey, and the orchestra and Jazz band playing theme tunes from classic films such as Star Wars, Austin Powers and Monsters. Inc.

Well done to everyone who took part!

HINTS AND TIPS TO HELP KEEP CHILDREN SAFE

ON THE INTERNET AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

Hint No 7 — Check they know how to use privacy settings and reporting tools

Check the privacy settings on any online accounts your child has, eg Facebook or games, and remind them to keep their personal information private.



Talk to your child about what to do if they see unsuitable content or are contacted by someone that worries or upsets them. Make sure they know how to use tools to report abuse.

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

CATERING SUCCESS!



A big CONGRATULATIONS go to all the pupils in Year 10 and 11 who took their Catering Exams.

This year they have surpassed themselves by keeping a cool head in the kitchen and producing some great practical results — pictured here.

Well done to everyone!



16-19 BURSARY FUND

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a Government resource available to assist pupils in the Sixth Form with their studies. Depending on your income, or if your son/daughter is in receipt of Free School Meals or Pupil Premium, you can apply to the fund for help. The fund is to be used for a pupil's books and equipment, transport costs, courses and trips, university open days and interview travelling costs.

If you are successful in your application, a set amount (depending on how many pupils apply) will be paid into the pupil's own bank account at the end of every half term. Please note : the household income should be below **£25,521** on application, and evidence of entitlement will be required.

There are 3 bands of income which will be considered :

Band 1- £16,190 Band 2- £16,190 - £20,817 Band 3- £20,187 - £25,521

Payments will be awarded accordingly. If you would like more information, or an application form, please contact Kaye Alexander in the Sixth Form office.

No need to be bored during the holiday!





Year 7 WARWICK CASTLE TRIP

On 14 July 2016, Year 7 had a fantastic trip to Warwick Castle. Pupils learned how, during medieval times, a castle was attacked and defended. They were able to climb the 500 plus steps to reach the castle walls and look out at the awesome views from the towers to overlook the River Avon and beautiful countryside. Pupils were treated to the firing of the trebuchet which would have been used to throw fireballs across the river. They were also able to see another interesting siege machine, a ballista, although sadly this was not in working order. In addition to this the

group all attended a workshop where pupils learnt how the castle was defended from attacks. The method which pupils seemed to enjoy most was the murder holes where they were told a mixture of hot urine and sand would be poured on unsuspecting attackers! Not a pleasant thought!

Pupils were able to complete a tour of the Great Hall and the King Maker exhibitions as well as climb the Motte to the earliest part of the castle. Pupils were also able to see an archer shooting at a target over the ditches and ramparts. In addition to this pupils watched an amazing Birds of Prey show where Eagles glided effortlessly within an inch of our heads.

It was a glorious day and a perfect way to complete Year 7 History. Everyone had a great time, even if one or two (members of staff) came home with a little sunburn!



Mrs Z Paul Head of History



YEAR 10 WICKSTEED PARK

On Thursday 7 July 2016, pupils following the GCSE Geography course ventured to Wicksteed Park in Kettering to collect data for their tourism controlled assessment.

Following an excellent talk on the park's history and sustainable future, the pupils interviewed visitors to the park, took photos and judged how aesthetically pleasing the park was.

Once all data was collected the pupils were able to see for themselves just what attracts people to Wicksteed Park.

Overall everyone had a fun day. It was also extremely pleasing when members of the public commented on how polite the pupils of Kingswood Academy were therefore the pupils are to be commended on their behaviour.

Mrs B Hardy Head of Geography



sQuid has now arrived at Kingswood Secondary Academy

sQuid is an easier, more convenient way to make school payments!

sQuid is an online payment system that can be used to make a variety of Academy payments. Parents can use sQuid to pay for Academy payments such as: Cashless Catering top ups, and payments for trips and bus passes. Letters have been distributed to all pupils with registration information to create accounts for online payments.

How to create a sQuid account

Register online and top up your account

sQuid

Register with sQuid

Go to squidcard.com/smartid and click on the 'Register with sQuid' link. You will then be re-directed through to the sQuid portal where you can register and create your account.





Create a sQuid account

Firstly you need to create an account with sQuid. You will need to give your personal details, create a Username and Password and your own personal Security question and Answer. You will be sent an email to your given email address confirming all of these details except for your password, which is known only to you. Keep this safe.



Your sQuid registration number

Having created an account you will be prompted to register your unique sQuid registration number, linking it to your sQuid account. This is the 16 digit number and 3 digit security code shown on the front of this letter.

Add money to your sQuid account

You can add money to your account from a bank transfer or a credit or debit card. Click on the Top-up link in the left hand menu, select your preferred payment method and follow the online instructions. Once you have successfully topped up your account, funds can be viewed on your My sQuid screen within the hour.





NEW ONLINE SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP!

THE BENEFITS

Expected delivery dates - As well as having the option to choose where to receive your delivery, our online shop also gives you expected despatch and delivery dates.

Photographic visuals - We have invested a lot of time into photographing each and every one of our garments to ensure that the visual representation is absolutely correct.

Sizing Charts - We have created detailed sizing charts for each of our products that are easy to read and follow, however, if you would prefer to try the garment on before purchasing, there are sizing sets available from the school.

Forgotten pasaword link - We understand that with all of the usernames and passwords you have that you cannot possibly be expected to remember them all, therefore we have developed a 'Forgotten Password' link in order for you to refresh your memory.

Easy to access returns information & FAQ - We understand that sometimes things need to be returned to us and sometimes our customers have questions, we have listened to your questions and compiled detailed answers that we have posted on our website.

So what do I do now?

- Log onto our website using the below link
- Register your details with us
- Sign up to our newsletter for news and offers
- View our new site
- Purchase any uniform you need



THINGS TO CONSIDER

If you do not have access to a computer, you can collect a parent order form from the school office and place your order via post.

Please note that Price & Buckland do not accept cheque payments.



GET IN TOUCH

Price & Buckland Ltd - Benneworth Close, Hucknall, Nottingham NG15 6EL

Call: 0115 964 0827 Email: webenquiry@price-buckland.co.uk Visit: www.pbparentsonline.co.uk/cityolderby

Price & Buckland

TO VIEW YOUR ONLINE SHOP LOG ON TO www.pbparentsonline.co.uk/kingswood



Lottery Award Winning, for the 21st year running!

GENESIS SUMMER THEATRE SCHOOLS



Kingswood Academy, Corby : July 25 - 29 2016 The Kettering Science Academy, Kettering : August 15- 19 2016

Catmose College, Oakham : August 1 - 5 2016

Calling all 5-18 year olds who love to Act, Sing and Dance.

Spend an exciting, fun packed and rewarding week in the theatre this Summer, creating and performing your own original Musical working in the theatre with the best Professionals in the Performing Arts.

A show written for you! Everyone guaranteed a part!

Children and teenagers with little confidence are transformed in just 5 days!

All welcome, no experience necessary, all levels of ability catered for.

STILL ONLY £95, with 50% discount for siblings.

Times are: Monday & Tuesday 10.00 am to 4.00 pm Wednesday & Thursday 10.00 am to 5.00 pm and Friday 10.00 am to 8.30 pm (performance at 6.30 pm)

Packed lunches and comfortable clothes required each day.

Please return application form below.

I would like to reserve a place(s) for the **Summer School** onat.....at.....

I enclose the deposit of **£20** and agree to pay the remainder by the start date.

Child/children's names.....

Ages.....

Address.....

.....

Tel. and email:

Health Problems.....

Please return to; GENESIS THEATRE SCHOOLS, 88 Hempland Close,

Great Oakley, Corby, Northants NN18 8LT.

Tel: 01536 460928 / 07745002821

Email : info@saracharles.com www.genesis-theatre.com



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"There was a time when I thought I had no future. When I was taken into care, my foster family showed me love, kindness and gave me the support I needed to progress. They've given me hope and aspirations and I know they'll always be there for me. I'm the happiest I've ever been, and it's all thanks to them." Charlotte, 18

With almost 1000 children in care in Northamptonshire, we need people more than ever to open their home to a child and give them the love and support they need to learn, grow and progress.

You've got so much to give, and with your skills, experiences and encouragement you could make a huge difference to a child and give them the life they deserve. Our foster carers tell us it's the best decision they've ever made, especially knowing they've supported the children they've looked after to overcome barriers and achieve their goals. As a foster carer with us you'll:

- Make a real difference to a child's life
- Be part of our team
- Get a full training package and plenty of support
- Have a great support network
- Receive financial support above the recommended government rates

If you'd like to know more, we'd love to hear from you! Get in touch by:

- Visiting www.fosterme.co.uk
- Joining us at our next event details on our website
- Calling us on 0300 126 1009
- Texting FOSTER to 80010

Do you know anyone who would make a good foster carer? If you recommend fostering to them, and they go on to be approved as a foster carer, you'll earn £250 as a thank you.

www.fosterme.co.uk | 0300 126 1009

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The Kingswood Secondary Academy is one of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust Group of Academies