

Theme of the week 'Advent'



to Christmas. There is plenty of Christmas-related information in this newsletter. It was wonderful to see so many of you in attendance for our Advent calendar beach hut offering on the 1st December. I do hope you will be able to join us for our Carol Service in Bishop Hannington Church at 6pm on Monday 18th December. This will provide a perfect opportunity for quiet, worship and reflection in the mid-December busyness.

Mrs Price



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that Advent has started joyfully and peacefully for you all. Advent has been our theme this week and in assemblies we have been focusing on the value inherent in periods of waiting. We have also been considering how to carve out time for prayer, reflection and quiet in the busy, increasingly commercial, run up

Last Day of Term

Our last day of term is Wednesday 20th December. All students should arrive as normal for 8:30am on this date. They will attend three lessons and also have a tutor time and a celebration assembly which will incorporate a 'dress the tutor' competition! A full

CONTACT DETAILS



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Forthcoming Events

11th-15th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advent Prayer Space (PLUS 1)
15th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas Lunch
15th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Uniform Day for Rising Star Charity
18th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carol Service, 6pm, Bishop Hannington Church
20th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last Day of Term

King's School

brunch service will be available in the Dome Diner at break time. All students will be dismissed from school at 12:40pm on this date.

Beach Hut Advent Event

Last Friday, King's celebrated the start of Advent by opening the first beach hut door on the Advent Calendar. It was a wonderful event organised by Mrs Grosvenor, Ms Phelan, Mrs Brennan and Mrs Vincent with special thanks to Mr Lovell, Mr Glen and Mr Wilson for their efforts in setting it up. The school choir sang carols and the beach hut was decorated with clay stars made by Year 7 students. Thanks to everyone who came along.



Free School Meals and Universal Credit

Universal Credit is being rolled out across Brighton and Hove, meaning that eligibility for free school meals may change for some families.

Families who have previously been eligible for FSM should remain as such, as the Local Authority have assured schools that free school meal entitlement will not be removed due to the transition to the Universal Credit system.

Families who have not been eligible due to receipt of working tax credit, and who now receive Universal Credit should contact the Brighton and Hove Free School Meals team to check their eligibility. Please note the FSM team will not be able to confirm eligibility until a payment under universal credit has been made, and they are not able to back date FSM eligibility.

If you have any questions, please contact the Brighton and Hove free school meals team on 01273 293497. More information can be found on the free school meals page of our website.

Scholarship to Brighton College

We are absolutely delighted to share the news that Gavin, one of our founding year 11 students, has been given a full academic scholarship to Brighton College to study for his A Levels. Gavin is a very conscientious, ambitious and talented student and it has been our pleasure to support his application for a scholarship. We are all very proud of you Gavin!



Premier League Enterprise Event

On Tuesday, Miss Wood took eight Year 9 & 10 students to the Amex to take part in an enterprise event focusing on making Brighton & Hove Albion FC more diverse. The students also got to enjoy a tour of the ground before presenting their ideas to Albion in the Community staff and eight other local schools.



Christmas Lunch & Non-Uniform Day

On Friday 15th December students will have the opportunity to wear non-uniform. Christmas jumpers are encouraged! Students are asked to give £2 cash to their tutors between now and Thursday 14th December if they wish to participate. We hope many will so that we can raise substantial funds for the charity 'Rising Starts of Africa' which one of our Year 11 students, Alfie Crane, is committing a lot of time to working for. Please ensure non-uniform worn on this date is appropriate for school and suitably warm given the time of year.

The 15th December is also the date for our student Christmas lunch. Please collect tickets from the canteen before Tuesday 12th December. The lunch is priced at

£2.50 which will come out of students' Scopay account. Students in receipt of free school meals will receive a lunch free of charge as usual. Most students will have a slightly extended lunch period on this date to ensure everyone can enjoy their festive fare!

Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service will be held at Bishop Hannington Church on Monday 18th December at 6pm. All are warmly invited to attend. The service is family-friendly and our Chamber Choir will be performing two pieces as well as leading congregation carols. We hope to see you there.



Attendance

Attendance Matters – especially at this time of year!

It is proven by numerous studies that regular attendance at school will help your child get the most from their education and that pupils who attend regularly are likely to develop both academically and socially, leave school with more qualifications, improve their life chances and have greater access to employment opportunities. For these reasons staff members monitor punctuality and attendance at King's and take action when concerning attendance patterns emerge.

To support and improve attendance, King's School follows guidance in Brighton and Hove City Council's Code of Conduct.

One of our concerns at King's is avoidable absences, such as term-time holidays. At present the school does not authorise any term-time absence unless there are exceptional circumstances and issues fixed penalty notices (FPNs) for unauthorised holidays where more than 3 days are taken in one case or cumulatively over a school year. Further to this, to support academic progress, the few students who have unacceptable levels of absence will not be eligible to go on school trips. Punctuality to lessons is also of paramount

importance, especially as lessons start at the start of the school day at 8.30am. Therefore, students should be in site at 8.25am in order that they are at the threshold of their classroom ready to learn at 8.30am. Persistent lateness to schools is also covered in the Code of Conduct and parents/carers of students who arrive at school after the register has closed on six occasions within a period of six school weeks can be issued with a fixed penalty notice. Our practice is consistent with other schools in the area and part of the city's drive to further improve attendance.

Our approach to attendance is in place to support the best outcomes for our students. To support parents/carers with concerning patterns of attendance, we may ask for permission to seek information from your child's GP in relation to a series of absences.

If you have any questions regarding our absence during term time, please contact the school on 01273 840004 or visit the Brighton and Hove City Council website. Please see links below:

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/sites/brighton-hove.gov.uk/files/Fixed%20Penalty%20Notice%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20September%202017.pdf>

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/schools/school-absence>

Also, as a reminder, where your son/daughter is too ill to attend school and you need to report a student absence, please do contact the school on our attendance line 01273 840004 and follow the directions. You can also report absence by using the studybugs website or app: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

Medication

Please take a moment to remind yourselves of the medication policy at King's as published on our website. <https://www.kingsschoolhove.org.uk/POLICY%20-%20First%20Aid%20and%20Medicines.pdf> The school office are able to administer Paracetamol where parents/carers have returned the appropriate consent form and therefore students do not need to carry this

themselves. Please remind students that where you have given consent for them to carry any medication that this must not, under any circumstances, be given out to anyone under the age of 16.

School Charity



As a school, we love to support charities and encourage students to lead in fundraising efforts. Last year, Elliot White from 8C put forward a bid to make Solving Kids' Cancer the school charity, and won! In November, Miss Goldstein completed the Santa Run and raised over £300 for the charity. Over the years we have supported many charities that are close to our hearts raising money through bake sales, non-uniform days and the Brighton Marathon. We look forward to many more fundraising events in the future with Solving Kids' Cancer as our focus charity.

Winter Weather & Uniform

Parents and carers are reminded that hooded jumpers are not permitted on the school site and are not a substitute for coats. Students should have a plain, dark coloured winter coat which they can wear over their school blazer. Leggings are not permitted as a substitute for tights. If you are replacing items of uniform over the Christmas break please be mindful of our uniform policy which is always available on our school website here: <https://www.kingschoolhove.org.uk/uniform.php>



Twelve Days of Christmas

Our fantastic catering team have been producing wonderful festive treats for us in the run up to Christmas. This promotion continues right up until the end of term so there are plenty more opportunities for students to get their hands on some homemade Advent goodies!



Christmas Card Competition

Our annual Christmas card competition has been won this year by Molly, Freya, Lily, Sophie & Olivia from 8C with their design which perfectly captures the Christian message at Christmas and uses our school logo very imaginatively.

Congratulations girls! Other shortlisted entries are depicted here for your enjoyment. Congratulations to all entrants on some fantastic efforts this year.

