

Headteacher's Update

No 79 18th January 2019

Theme of the week: GROWING UP WELL

Seek God's will in all that you do and He will direct your path Proverbs 3:6 Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have enjoyed reading our Ofsted report this week. It is the culmination of five and a half years of hard work from our founding parents, current parents, staff, students and RET. I was delighted that the report acknowledged our excellent results and the very high quality of our teaching, learning and assessment; but it was also really pleasing to see substantial mention of the impact of our values and ethos on the school community. We are a very high performing school whose staff are happy and motivated and whose students feel safe and well cared for. It is a pleasure leading such a school and a great privilege. Thank you for your continued support for King's which enables us to deliver a high quality education for your children.

We are very much in the annual period of highly focused work now as Year 11 ramp up their exam preparations and students in other year groups knuckle down and aim at their end of year targets. There is no doubting that the short, dark days can be difficult through January and February but it is also great to see students make real progress at this time of year and build their confidence. All the hard work will pay off as the days lengthen and exams draw near... Please do take the time to read through the important information

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Forthcoming Events

25 th January	•	Year 8 Interim reports issued
8 th February	•	Year 9 Options forms
		deadline
13 th , 14 th & 15 th Feb	•	High School Musical
15 th February	•	Ski Trip Departs
14 th March	•	Year 8 Parents' Evening
25 th March	•	Enrichment Day

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contained in this newsletter and, in particular, the section on severe weather procedures given the longer range forecast for a period of very cold weather.

Mrs Price

Student of the Week

Student of the Week in **Year 7** is Brody Luke, nominated by Mr Parker-Sibun, for making great progress in English and helping his peers.

Year 8 Student of the Week is Poppy Absolon for a continued wonderful work ethic and showing our school value of 'responsibility' by assisting others in their learning, especially new students.

Nominated by Mrs Orford-Kemmish for **Year 9** Student of the Week is Sophie Knight, for scoring a Grade 9 in Computing Unit 3 assessment - AWESOME!

In **Year 11** Ms Goldstein nominated Eloise Renouf as Student of the Week for her continued and constant efforts in French. Her hardwork and work ethic are so impressive.

Severe Weather

As the cold weather bites we wanted to remind you of our severe weather procedures, in case these are needed this winter. We do not take any decision to close the school lightly and are well aware of the inconvenience closures cause to our parents and carers. Please be assured that we will only close if severe weather makes our site dangerous, or if students cannot travel to the school because of the suspension of public transport services.

Any decision to close the school will be communicated before 7am. A closure notice will be put on our website and a tweet will be issued. We will also email/text all parents whose contact details we hold. Local radio stations will be notified and the Local Authority will also be notified so that they can update their online school closure pages.

We will keep parents informed during the closure as to when the school will reopen. As an alternative to full closure, the Headteacher may decide to open the school late and/or allow a uniform change to enable the school to stay open during severe weather. Again, any decision on late opening or uniform changes will be communicated to you via text, email, website and Twitter.

You will have received an email this week regarding the process by which you can give us your consent to release your child/children from school in the event that we have to take the decision to close the school during the school day. Your prompt attention to this would be much appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you experience any problems with returning your consent.

Enrichment Day: March 25th

We are excited to be preparing for our next Enrichment Day on March 25th. We have a wider range of activities planned, all of which will be communicated to relevant year groups separately and with more details to come!

Year 7 will have a day of Shakespeare! What better way to explore our literary history than through the Bard himself?

Year 8 are doing their swap, and taking part in whichever enrichment activity they didn't do in December. Whether Portsmouth or Stanmer Park, a day of using their geographical skills awaits.

Some students in **Year 9** will be participating in the annual visit to the Trenches around Ypres. Those remaining in school will be learning about the effects of taking drugs, the consequences, and the support structures available within the UK.

Year 10 are developing their study skills in preparation for their formal examinations.

Finally, **Year 11** are focusing on their maths GCSE with targeted work in the lead up to the summer.

Year 11 Update

Year 11 students are busy studying towards their next set of Mocks which will start week beginning 25th

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February. We recently sent out the timetable for this mock examination series and you can find a copy under the 'news' section of the school website.

Last week Year 11 parents also received notification regarding Period 7 after school sessions for the coming term. Teachers are working hard to ensure that these targeted sessions support students in making rapid progress. We always appreciate the parents who notify us in advance if students are unable to make these sessions as we can plan accordingly.

The greatest results are always obtained where school, students and parents communicate well so as always keep in touch with us if you have questions. Finally, don't forget the benefits of GCSE pod. So far this year we have seen 3013 individual streams of GCSE pod revision videos. Some of our most successful students at the last mocks were the heaviest users. Year 10 students have access to this great resource too so don't forget it's never too early to get started on revision and revision note creation.

Theatre Trip Reviews

In recent weeks we have visited the theatre twice, seeing two very remarkable yet different productions. Our first trip to the theatre was to see 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' in London. 45 Year 9-11 students enjoyed the story of Christopher who investigates the death of a neighbour's dog and ends up unearthing all sorts of secrets. The brilliant staging and set, as well as wonderful acting had a real impact on King's students who said:

"It was insanely good" Flynn, Year 10.

"Amazing – the special effects and the lifting of the actor playing Christopher was brilliant" Sacha, Year 10.

"I was nearly crying when I realised that it was a real dog at the end" Linus, Year 10.

"Spectacular" Gabrielle, Year 10.

"It was a spectacle for my spectacles" Isobel, Year 10

Year 11 students will now have to write about this performance in their exam. They have plenty of material to work from!

Our next trip was to The Old Market in Hove to see 'The Animals and the Children Took to the Streets', an unusual piece by 1927 productions which told the story of Agnes and Evie Eves and their life in the Bayou Mansions, using animation, song and a very non-naturalistic style. Students described it as 'strangely brilliant' and 'really funny'. All 11 students who attended had a great experience and it is fantastic to have such exciting opportunities to see theatre on our doorstep.

Mrs Grosvenor Head of Arts

Sports Report

Netball

A great win for our Year 8 netballers against Patcham on Monday afternoon! We won 8-4, making this our second win of the season. Jessica and Jemima were voted 'Player of the Match'!



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Cross Country

Our cross country runners performed well in wet conditions at the Sussex Cross Country on Wednesday. The highlight was Milly Dickinson coming 2nd in the U16 race, along with top 15 finishes for Ciara and Emily Muzio, as well as Ruby Wilson in the U14 race.



Table Tennis

Our table tennis players enjoyed playing in the East Sussex tournament on Wednesday evening. The standard was much higher than in previous years so it was a good experience for our non-club players. The highlights were Jacob and Rio getting to the quater finals after qualifying through their group matches, and Charlie getting to the semi-finals, losing to the eventual winner.



High School Musical – King's Production

We are delighted to be able to invite you to join us at Southwick Barn for an exciting evening of theatre, performed by a talented cast from all year groups at King's School.

For all your favourite songs, some great dancing and super storytelling come along on **WEDNESDAY 13th**, **THURSDAY 14th or FRIDAY 15th FEBRUARY at 7pm**.

Tickets now available via Parentpay at £10 Adults, £7 concessions, £32 Family ticket (2 adults 2 children). We anticipate that we will sell out, and tickets will not be available on the door so please buy your tickets soon to avoid disappointment!

