

Theme: Be Prepared



Dear Parents/Carers,

We held our first Certificate Evening in school this week for our 2018-19 Year 11 students. It was wonderful to welcome back our former students to receive their certificates and subject prizes. It was heartening to see how many chose to return to school for this evening and to hear of their happiness and success in their various colleges and sixth forms. I reminded the former students that this will always be *their* school and that we are always here to support them in the future, should they need us.

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It is very important to the staff at King's that our students know that the school will not forget them and will always be a place of support for them. It is now starting to feel a lot like Christmas in school! We are very blessed to have a wonderful site and support staff team who have made the school look beautiful for our first Christmas here and we are all looking forward to the festive season. Before we break up, however, there is a lot to be done and it is very much business as usual right up until 20th December.

Mrs Price

Certificate Evening

Thank you to our Year 11 class of 2018-19 who came back to school in large numbers this week to tour the new site, receive their GCSE certificates, and collect subject awards. We are very proud of this year group, who all performed brilliantly in this summer's GCSE exams. As the second year group to pass through the school they were instrumental in building the school and making it the place it is to learn in today. Best wishes to them all as they continue their education at their various colleges and sixth forms.

Forthcoming Events

17th 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 – students dismissed at 12:50pm
6th January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INSET Day
7th January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First day of term for all students

Book Wishlist

Many of you have been asking how you can support the school practically and financially in recent months. Taking a lead from other RET schools we have therefore put together a Christmas book 'wishlist'. If you would like to, you can purchase a book for the school for our new Learning Resource Centre as a 'Christmas gift'. I would want to stress that this is absolutely voluntary; we would not want parents and carers to feel any pressure to purchase anything additional at an already expensive time of year. For those who wish to purchase something we hope this list will be useful. Books can be brought into the school at any time by students or parents and can be left with the front office team. We would like to start a loaning system for books for students next term. Our wishlist can be found at the following link: <http://amzn.eu/ex1wASy> There are a range of fiction and non-fiction titles to choose from at different price points, all chosen by our Heads of Department.

Easyfundraising - Support our PTA

Did you know that our wonderful PTA are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help raise money for the school for free? Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to the PTA when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself. All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It's easy and completely free. These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/kingsschoolhove/> whilst doing your online Christmas shopping this year.

Carol Service

Our 2019 Carol Service will be at Bishop Hannington church on **Tuesday 17th December**. The service will take place from 6pm-7pm and all are welcome. Alongside the traditional congregation carols and pieces from the choir and orchestra, we will have a massed Year 7 choir singing. We do hope that you will be able to join us.

A reminder to parents of Year 7, members of the choir and members of the orchestra to please complete the permission response on ParentPay.

Last Day of Term

The last day of this term is **Friday 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. A full brunch service will be available in the Dome Diner at break time. **All students will be dismissed from school at 12:50pm on this date.** The last days of term at King's are special days and just as valuable as 'normal' days. We use them to formally mark the end of a term and to come together to remember and celebrate the term that has passed and look forward to the term ahead. Our Easter term starts on Monday 6th January 2020. **Please note that Monday 6th January is an INSET day and the school will be closed to students.** All students should return for an 8:30am start as usual on Tuesday 7th January.

Careers

It is a critical time for Year 11 students with most now having applied to their chosen institution for post-16 study. We thought it was a good time to remind you of the information we provide to support students making informed choices about their next steps. The careers page on the school's website (<https://www.kingsschoolhove.org.uk/careers-guidance.php>) provides information and links to different industries to support students in developing a wider knowledge of available jobs. You can also find links to information on the available progression pathways so do look here if you don't know the difference between a traineeship and an apprenticeship. Here you will also find a link to Kudos, our online careers information platform. Students will create accounts in Year 9 but if they've lost their account details they can follow the link to create a new account. The website allows them to explore careers and qualifications at depth. It will also generate suggested careers based on their likes, dislikes and skills. Finally don't forget about checking out our career information partners at Get Career Confident

(<https://getcareerconfident.co.uk/>). You can sign up for local careers information such as upcoming events and local deadlines. They also have a resource bank of advice videos that are designed to support students making the next step well. As they are local to us the advice is routed in local knowledge and experience.

Poor 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 and staff 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.

Christmas Card Competition

Thank you to all students who entered our Christmas card competition this year. We had a number of excellent entries and it was a difficult judging decision! Our winning entry was from Anna Morris (7R) with her creative rendition of our logo depicting the nativity scene. In second place was Bethany Allen (8E) and in third place was Lara Pdeen (7G). Entries from Trinity Kendrick (8E) and Stanley Wright (7B) were also highly commended. Anna's card will be professionally printed and sent to friends of the school including the Diocese, local politicians and other local schools. Well done all!

Year 9 Options

Some eager students and parents in Year 9 are already starting to enquire about the options choices process so we thought it would be worth an early communication on this. The process starts on December 13th on the enrichment day where we will give Year 9 students access to additional careers information through Kudos and allow them to meet a range of employers; we hope this starts them thinking about making informed options choices that support them in their future aspirations. On this day we will also ask them to give us an early indication of their options in a "mock" options form. We will then launch the formal options process on January 9th at our Options Evening which we would encourage parents to put in the diary now. The final options form, which will be created using students' early preferences to try to ensure every student is able to choose their preferred courses, will be issued at the parents' evening on January 29th. The deadline for submitting the form with their choices will be February the 13th. The final allocations will be communicated to pupils during a one to one meeting that each student will have before Easter.

School Prayer Competition

Final Call for School Prayer Competition Entries: Extended Deadline now Monday 9th December. We want you to write a prayer that reflects our school vision and values. Entries will be judged on how your prayer:

- links to our vision statement: Inspired by the way that Jesus loves; to honour, nurture and raise each other up;
- reflects our values of Love, Forgiveness, Respect and Responsibility;
- recognises the Christian belief that God is with us in all situations and circumstances, including at school.

The winning prayer will be used in our new building opening ceremony and other significant celebrations, will appear on our school website and will be one of the first things that visitors will see when they arrive in our reception.

Please hand your entry to Mrs Vincent or into Reception.

Christmas Card Competition – Winning entry by:

Anna Morris (7R)



