Kingsbury School

NEWSLETTER

December 2023

ENTHUSE I ASPIRE I ACHIEVE

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COMING SOON:

- **Christmas Fayre**
  Saturday 16th December
  (11:30-3:30pm)
- **Year 8 Progress Evening**
  Thursday 21st December
  (4:00-7:00pm)
- **Break up for Christmas**
  Friday 22nd December
  (12.05 finish for Students-**bus arrangements on page 3**)
- **Return to School**
  Monday 8th January 2024
- **Year 7 Subject Evening**
  Thursday 11th January
  (4:00-7:00pm)

A Note from the Headteacher

We are delighted to present our second newsletter of the school year. I hope that you are finding the content, updates and achievements useful. This term has been an exceptionally busy one, and we are proud of the ongoing developments and achievements that our students and staff are displaying. In November, I was delighted to inform you that our school had retained its 'good' judgement following our latest inspection, which took place on 3rd and 4th October 2023. You can access the report in full on our website using this link: Ofsted Inspection Report 2023.

I am also pleased to report that we have appointed five new members of teaching staff, who are due to start with us in January 2024. They include:

- Mrs Plenty (Head of Technology)
- Mrs Jones (Art)
- Mr Guirguis (French)
- Mr Llewellyn (Humanities Strategic Lead)
- Mr Dutton (English)

I know that all of our stakeholders will make them feel very welcome.

Following a term of significant building works, I am pleased to inform you that our toilet refurbishment is due to complete at the end of this week. We look forward to showcasing the new facilities when they become operational.

As you will be aware, we are hosting our first Christmas Fayre on Saturday 16th December 2023. We really hope that you can come along and join in.

Kingsbury School Christmas Fayre



If you would like to purchase a table or stall at our Christmas Fayre, please contact **felicity.biddle@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk**





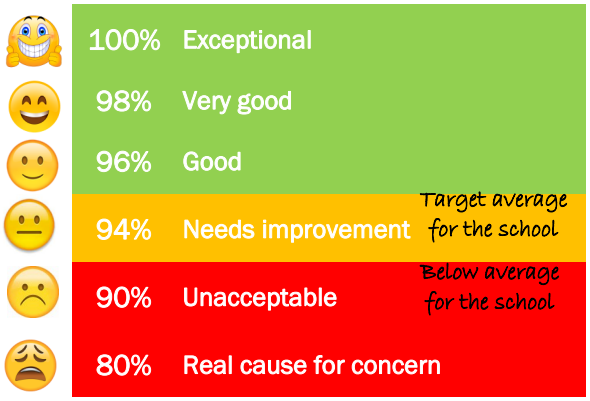
ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

The DFE guidance states that parents are expected to;

- Ensure their child attends every day the school is open except when a statutory reason applies.
- Notify the school as soon as possible when their child has to be unexpectedly absent (e.g. sickness).
- Only request leave of absence in exceptional circumstances and do so in advance.
- Book any medical appointments around the school day where possible.

Leave of absence forms can be submitted via the school office but please be aware that we are unable to authorise family holidays during term time. The school is now required to refer these to the local authority who are likely to issue a fixed penalty notice. If you are unsure of term dates when booking family holidays please contact the school office for clarification to avoid the possibility of receiving a fixed penalty notice.
If barriers to attendance start to emerge please contact the school as soon as possible so that we can work together to improve the situation. Kingsbury provides lots of pastoral support and the sooner we can intervene the better. It is really important that non-attendance does not become a habit as it can be a very hard cycle to break.
We would also appreciate your support to ensure that you child arrives on time to school (8.30am). When pupils arrive late at school, they miss out on essential teaching and learning at the beginning of the school day. This can reduce achievement, regardless of a pupil's academic ability. Being 10 minutes late every day equates to over 30 hours, (approximately 6 days) of learning lost each year. The school have procedures in place for persistently late pupils which include detentions at lunchtime and parental meetings. However, we want to work together with you to understand and improve your child's punctuality to school. Good attendance and punctuality underpin good education.

Current whole school attendance is 89.4%.
We need to work together to improve this.



Students are **required** to attend school for **188 days** each year. The **target** attendance at Kingsbury School is at least **96%**

ATTENDANCE DURING ONE YEAR	EQUALS DAYS ABSENT	WHICH MEANS THIS NUMBER OF LESSONS MISSED
96%	8 DAYS	40 LESSONS
90%	19 DAYS	95 LESSONS
80%	38 DAYS	190 LESSONS
LESS THAN 75%	48 DAYS	MORE THAN 240 LESSONS

How does **your** attendance compare?
You can find out your child's attendance via Arbor.
Students who **miss** a lot of school, **achieve less**

SCHOOL SITE

Parents/carers are respectfully reminded to avoid driving onto the school site at the following times (unless by prior arrangement with the school):

- **Morning:** 8:00-8:35
- **Afternoon:** 2:45-3:15

This is to ensure the safety of our students and your children.



PROGRESS EVENING

- **Year 8 Progress Evening**
  Thursday 21st December
- **Year 7 Progress Evening**
  Thursday 11th January
- **Year 11 Progress Evening 2**
  Thursday 29th February
- **Year 10 Progress Evening**
  Thursday 25th April
- **Year 9 Progress Evening**
  Thursday 2nd May

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

We aim to reply to parents within 48 hours

If you do not receive a reply within this timeframe, please contact the Headteacher's PA at:

felicity.biddle@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Contact the Phoenix Suite at:

kngpastoralhub@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Deputy Headteacher, Behaviour and Welfare
Mrs K Williams

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs H Hurley

Associate Assistant Headteacher (SEND and Inclusion)
Mrs K Moores

Associate Assistant Headteacher
Mr A Coniff

Attendance Officer
Mrs Dawn Smith

Student Welfare Officer
Mrs J Bagley

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs H Hurley

FACULTY LEADERS

Mrs McKeown, *English*
rachael.mckeown@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Mrs Atkins, *Mathematics/Associate Assistant Headteacher*
Coral.atkins@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Mr Stubley, *Science*
edward.stubley@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Mrs Carey, *The Arts and Sport*
rachel.carey@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Miss Taylor, *Humanities*
katherine.taylor@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE THAT EMAIL CONTACTS ARE ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Headteacher
Mr M Clarke

Deputy Headteacher
Mrs M Carrick

Deputy Headteacher
Mrs K Williams

Assistant Headteacher
Mr C Collis

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs H Hurley

Assistant Headteacher
Mrs L Newman

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

Contact the Phoenix Suite at:

kngpastoralhub@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Key Stage 4 Leader
Miss McDonnell

Year 11
Pastoral Leader
Mrs Bancroft

Tutors
Miss Davie 11DAI
Mr Mace 11MAC
Mrs McKeown 11MCK
Mr Patrick 11PAT
Mr Stubley 11STU
Miss Taylor 11TAY

Year 10
Pastoral Leader
Mrs Beirne

Tutors
Mr Crane 10CAE
Mrs Carey 10CAR
Mrs Judd 10JUD
Mrs Waters 10WAE
Miss Young 10YOU

Key Stage 3 Leader
Ms Franks

Year 9
Pastoral Leader
Mrs Coniff

Tutors
Mr Carey 9CAY
Mr Collett 9CLT
Mr Crane 9CRN
Mrs Evans 9EVN
Miss Roe 9ROE

Year 8
Behaviour Mentor
Miss Wilson

Tutors
Mr Cameron 8CAM
Mr Court 8COU
Mr Daire 8DAR
Miss O'Hagan 8HAN

Year 7
Pastoral Leader
Mrs Job

Tutors
Mr Bryan 7BRY
Mrs Foster 7FOS
Miss Knight 7KNI
Mrs Mason 7MSN
Mr Young 7NG

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS UPDATE

The governors of Kingsbury School would like to congratulate everyone on the recent Ofsted rating of '**GOOD**'. This is testament to the hard work of teachers, support staff and pupils. Thank you all.

On October 5th all governors attended online safeguarding training. Our first meeting of the year took place on October 24th, where we received presentations about safeguarding and raising attainment in Year 11. Other items on the agenda were student numbers and admissions, stakeholder engagement, wellbeing, school news (including the Ofsted inspection and toilet refurbishment), potential risks, school policies for approval and the School Improvement Plan.

We are making a conscious effort to be more visible in school, especially at parent events and would welcome the opportunity to engage with parents and carers.

Lastly, we are looking to appoint an **additional parent governor** to our panel. For further information and an informal chat please contact Felicity Biddle to arrange: **felicity.biddle@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk**

Best wishes, Helen, Natalie, Elaine, Kate and Dawn



Students will be finishing at 12.05 on Friday 22nd December. Bus arrangements have been made for the 836 and 866 to collect at this time.

The 831 and 832 can only collect at 2pm. If possible, can parents please make alternative arrangements to collect their children at the earlier finishing time of 12.05.

Please let us know if you cannot make alternative arrangements.

Christmas Holiday Reminder

School closes at **12:05pm** on **Friday 22nd December 2023.**

Students return to school at **8:30am** on **Monday 8th January 2024**

Careers News

Year 11 Post 16 Assemblies:

A number of Colleges and Sixth Forms have been into school to deliver assemblies and showcase what subjects and pathways are available to our students. The assemblies have been well received and Open Days have been well attended.





Year 10 Work Experience:

All Year 10's are busy securing work placements for their Work Experience in July 2024. Many are inputting their details on Unifrog. Keep going!

Year 7 Oracy Event

On Thursday 9th November, the whole of Year 7 had the amazing experience of working with some experts that we invited into school to support them with their Oracy skills. The aim of the sessions was to provide students with strategies for presenting to an audience and to help them to speak with increased confidence.

Our visitors were extremely impressed with how our students engaged with the sessions and Miss Davie, Mr Cameron, Mr Clarke and Ms. Franks were proud to see how many of our students were able to present to their class by the end of the day. Well done Year 7!







Coming Soon!

Careers Fayre

Tues 23rd Jan 2024

Contact:

You can contact Miss Hill, our Careers and Aspirations Coordinator in school by email at:

Lisa.hill@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

Snow Closure Procedure

In the event of school closure due to snow, parents will be notified as early as possible via the school website, Arbor and 'X'.

Mr C Collis
Learning and Teaching





Professional Development

At Kingsbury, we acknowledge that our teachers are continually learning and offer an extensive and personalised programme of Continued Professional Development and Learning. All of our teachers participate in coaching to support each other in their reflection and development. **Learning really is at the heart of all we do.**

Learning at Kingsbury School

#Learningandteaching: X marks the spot





Learning and Teaching is at the forefront of all we do at Kingsbury. In order to celebrate the fantastic learning taking place at Kingsbury, we are going **viral**. We want all of our stake holders to be able to see great Learning and Teaching occurring across the school. As a result, each Faculty will be posting at least **a tweet a week,** showcasing the learning in their area. Please follow us **@KNGSchoolB78** or simply search #Learningandteaching and you will find our contributions to the wider exploration of this area.









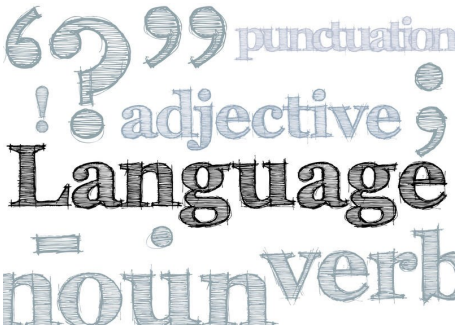
Faculty News Pages

English

Head of Faculty: Mrs R McKeown

In English we are running a Year 11 revision programme. Sessions run on a Thursday or Friday after school with class teachers.

Mr Cameron and Mrs Mason have been trialling revision using the iPads with great success. Students have been creating impact grids linked to Romeo and Juliet to support understanding of key characters within the play which allows students to identify key scenes and ideas throughout the play and demonstrate an understanding of the plot.





Science

Head of Faculty: Mr E Stubley

In Science we are now up and running with our weekly GCSEpod competition! Students in Years 10 and 11 have been using GCSEpod to revise and assess their prior learning in Science. We have a rolling weekly competition for the highest usage, rewarding those pupils who are going the extra mile with their independent learning. Please look out for our GCSEpod certificates.

GCSEpod is a comprehensive resource that provides "pods" for every lesson in science. A "pod" is a video that consolidates the essential knowledge from each science lesson into a 3-4 minute clip. Pupils can then check their understanding of each topic with the "check and challenge" questions.

There is a positive correlation between engagement with GCSEpod and GCSE outcomes in science. Last year we had some fantastic results from students that engaged with GCSEpod on a regular basis.



French

Head of Faculty: Miss K Davie

Miss Davie and Mrs Plaister have been teaching Year 7 students the verb paradigm for '**être**'. Students have been singing, dancing and showing off their knowledge using mini whiteboards too. Scan this QR code to check out a song to help you to keep practising. A big shout out to Alfie Carew, Bo Firth, Faith Williams and Will Male who even stood and led an activity at the front of their class!



Faculty News Pages

Mathematics

Head of Faculty:
Mrs C Atkins





Open Evening – Jelly Bean Jar

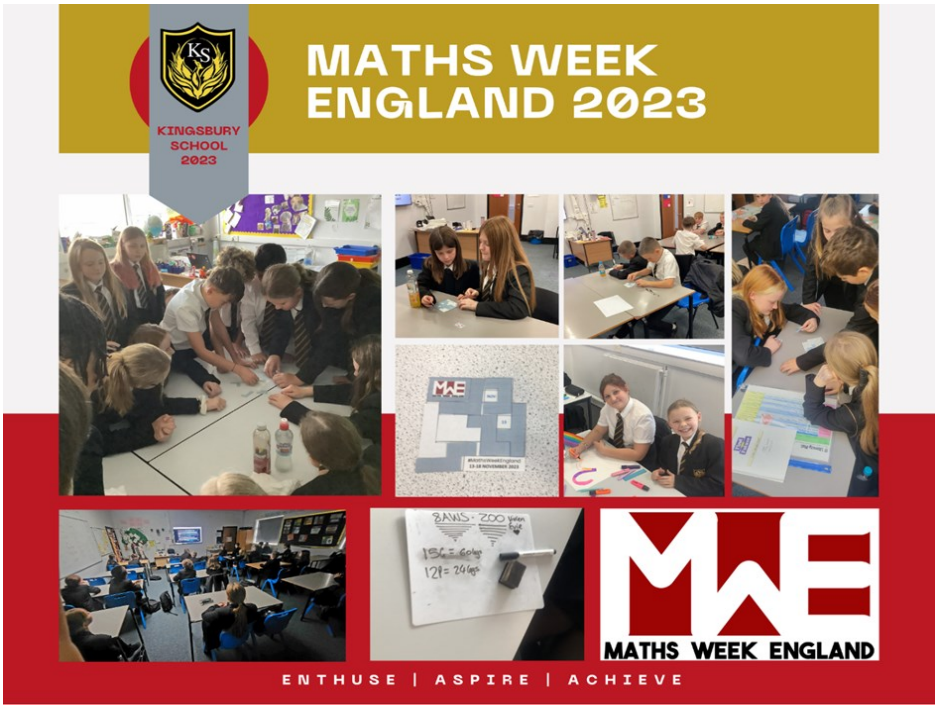
At this year's Open Evening we ran a competition to guess how many jelly beans were in our jar. The actual number of jelly beans was **520!**

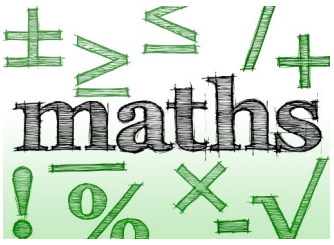
The winner of our competition is Felicity, aged 11, who visited the maths team on the evening and submitted a guess of 512. We have invited Felicity to come into school to collect her prize, which will be waiting for her in reception.

We had 36 entries ranging from 1 jelly bean to 1600 jelly beans, with entries from people aged between 7 and 48 (some of our teachers joined in the fun!). Our mean age was 14y 9mo, meaning Felicity was younger than average for our participants. The mean guess for the number of jelly beans was 362, meaning people generally underestimated the number of beans in our jar! Our best age group of guessers was those aged between 10 and 11, with 6 of the 8 closest guesses being from those aged 10-11!

Maths Week England

This term has seen the engagement of students in Years 7-10 in #MathsWeekEngland which took place between 13th November to 17th November. Students joined in a range of activities, including a daily date challenge, virtual escape rooms, daily problems and more. Our most completed activity was the daily date puzzle and 10CAE smashed it out of the park every day with their completion (an example of which is centre of the Maths Week spread).







The calculators we recommend are **Casio FX-83GT X** (or the FX-85GT X) **or Casio FX-83 CW** (or FX83-CW) – the main difference between the 83 and the 85 model of both is the 83 is battery powered and the 85 is solar charging.

You can purchase these calculators from a range of suppliers like most supermarkets and stationary stores, as well as online.

Faculty News Pages

Mathematics

Head of Faculty: Mrs C Atkins

Warwick University Visit

On Thursday 23rd November, we welcomed Warwick University to Kingsbury to deliver workshops around Engineering to students in Year 7, 8 and 11. Years 8 and 11s had a talk about what engineering is and how to get into a career in engineering. Part of this involved talking about the best ever invention and discussions on what inventions could come next to improve the lives of students. Some of the suggestions for new inventions included: an Autonomous Wardrobe that selects outfits based on the weather, washes and dries clothes and hangs them back up; a machine that removes greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, and can differentiate between what is good gas in the air and what is a bad gas in the air; a robot that can cook dinner for you; a computer that makes decisions for you; and many more. Year 7s were engaged in an engineering task around light towers. They were tasked with making a tower from a large sheet of paper and masking tape. Students engaged quickly and rapidly realised a cone was one of the best approaches for stability and height. Next, students were asked to build another tower, but this time they had to attach a light to the top – but the wiring and batteries for the light were less than ideal with wires being short and the battery pack heavy, meaning they had to get creative with some aluminium foil to get the electricity to the LED light at the top whilst the battery remained at the bottom.



Rewards

At the end of Half Term, we celebrated success by rewarding students who have been applying themselves and working hard in maths. The following students received our subject awards:

Year 7: Hannah Williams and Sophie Stinton

Year 8: Ethan Chandler and Olivia Henderson

Year 9: Harrison Tench and Lia Jones

Year 10: Harriet Hard and Oscar Wood

Year 11: Finlay Magee and Kaitlin Walker

We also rewarded the following students who managed to get 100% completion on Sparx in Half Term, all of which received a certificate.

Lottie Spence Ella Astell Charlotte Carr Evie Grove Mia Harding Summer Maloney Nancy Shephard Cooper Wood	Brogan Mousley Olivia Henderson Ben Walker Ava Carter Todd Wilson Amelia Baker Kian Ankritt	Darcie Wooton Heidi Parlett Cerise Hassett Eden Hassett Tiffanie Hughes Hannah Williams James Bourne	Lia Jones Rose Ward Alexandra Hughes Alexi-Grace Sheldon Nancy McDermott Stan Behan Bethanie Hughes

At the end of Half Term 2 we will be again rewarding students with 100% completion of Sparx for this half term, as well as those who show true Kingsbury Learner traits in their maths lessons. Students who achieve 100% Sparx completion for 2 consecutive half terms will be invited to a Maths Reward Break Time to enjoy hot chocolate (or squash) and a sweet treat. Look out for these invites via email and in your tutor's pigeonholes.



Sparx Maths

The maths faculty have invested in a new home learning system, called Sparx Maths, aimed at supporting students by receiving personalised home learning. It is a key part to the retrieval practice strategy within school, allowing students to recap and practice previously learnt skills and knowledge.

Please contact Mr Patrick if you have any queries.
david.patrick@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk



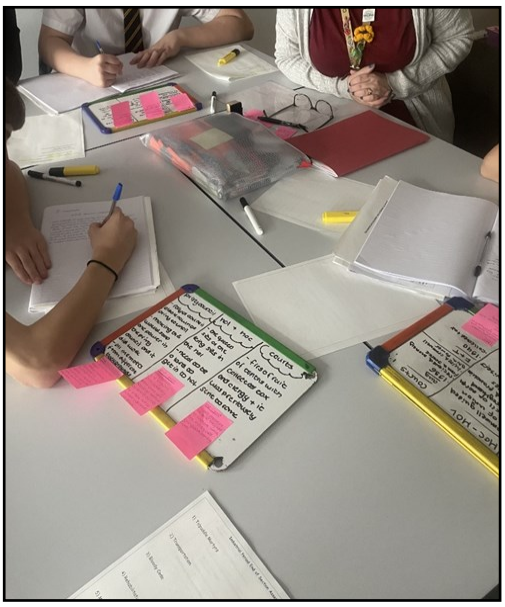


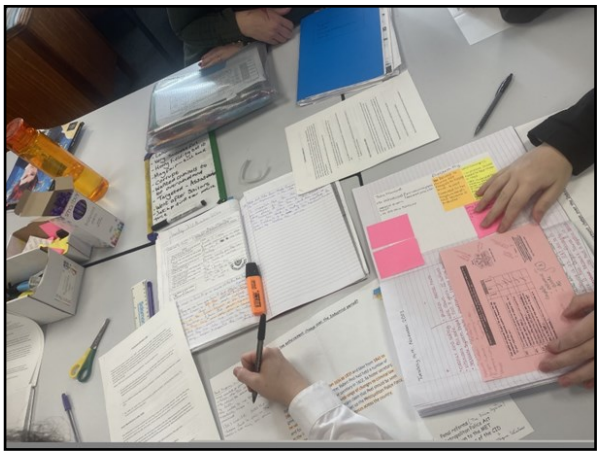
Faculty News Pages

Humanities

Head of Faculty:
Ms K Taylor

In Key Stage 4 History, we have been working really hard on the importance and value of effective exam question planning, as well as using our exercise books as an effective revision resource. We have been trialling this in a variety of ways, ranging from whiteboards and post-it notes to distinguish separate skills, and the effective use of success criteria and group planning. We have focused these on some of the question stems we found more difficult in the mock exam series or more difficult areas of content to help reenforce knowledge and what an amazing revision resource our exercise books could be.

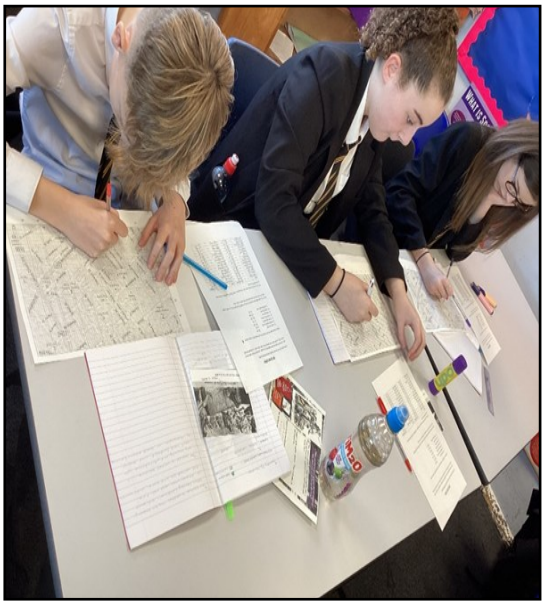




Example of group planning of a Year 11 source analysis question using the following:

- Previously marked eight mark question with a success criteria
- Group retrieval practice on the content focus of the question
- Group analysis of the sources (including addressing limitations)
- Use of highlighters to make sure all requirements of the questions are being met.

In Key Stage 3, Mrs Judd has been helping students develop their skills as a Historian using written sources to help plot the development of Cholera in Victorian London. Students worked really hard to analyse some difficult language and make effective inferences on the reasons for the spread of diseases within the Industrial period.



Faculty News Pages



Year 7
Students are currently engaging in swimming, football, gymnastics.
Within this year group the focus is on identifying and retrieving information around skill development within these areas. Pupils should be able to then describe and or explain what they have learnt.

Year 8
Students are taking part in a variety of activities including swimming, badminton, trampolining and netball. The focus for this term in on pupils remembering, explaining and applying their knowledge of skills they have previously learnt and building on them in Year 8.



Year 9
Students have been participating in different activities such as trampolining, fitness, and rugby. The aim during this term is for pupils to be able to demonstrate their understanding and application of skill into game scenarios and performance.



KS4
Students are working through sports such as-Badminton, trampolining, rugby and football. Throughout all lessons the focus is for pupils to demonstrate application of skills, then enhance performance through analysis, once this has been completed they are to develop their ability individually and as part of a team. Within this key stage there is also an emphasis on officiating and umpiring roles, so understanding of rules and procedures is important.

Performing Arts and Sport

Head of Faculty: Mrs R Carey



ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE?

IF YOU MOVE HOUSE OR CHANGE YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS, PLEASE REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR DETAILS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

UNIFORM

Please can parents ensure that your child is wearing the correct uniform at school. Plain black V-neck jumpers can now be worn underneath blazers until March. For further uniform guidance please see our school website for full details.

Performing Arts and Sport

Head of Faculty: Mrs R Carey



We like to celebrate the achievements of our students! If you have any news of outside of school achievements, please let us know so that we can celebrate via our website and newsletter. Please send any news items/photographs to Ms Franks at

louise.franks@castlephoenix trust.org.uk

Faculty News Pages

Sport Science

Year 10 - Pupils are learning about the principles of training and how fitness and performance is impacted by the different components of fitness. Below are some images of pupils participating in fitness tests before they analyse and evaluate their performances for coursework.





Year 11 - Pupils are working hard to improve their knowledge and understanding of Sports injuries and how they can occur and be prevented within different sporting scenarios in preparation for their upcoming exam in May. They are also undertaking the Sports nutrition unit whereby they must understand what makes a healthy balanced diet and how this can impact sporting performance.



A massive well done to Tilly, in Year 7, who has qualified for the Inter County Cross Country Championships.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Things have been busy in KS3 since last time. Students have continued to work hard and gain those wonderful positive house points. As you will see throughout this newsletter each year group has made some positive contributions to Kingsbury School life. Since our return this half term the positive points keep building up and each year group is gaining more and more each week.

Student Spotlight: More to follow next edition however, **Ben Walker – Year 8**, recently went on a trip to London and played on one of the public pianos that are situated in the capital city. He was really proud of this and showed his video to Ms Franks! Keep practising Ben, I am sure we will see you on 'Youtube' in the future- a real star in the making!

A massive congratulations to the following pupils for attaining the most positive points overall with 249 points each:

Alexi-Grace Sheldon (Y7)
Kaitlyn Irvine (Y9)
Jack Home (Y11)

Well done everyone!
Keep up the great work in maintaining our high standards and continuously going above and beyond both in lessons and around school!

SCHOOL LIBRARY

Kingsbury School's library relaunch party is right around the corner!
In the countdown to this event, our student librarians are running a series of competitions which promote a love of reading.
Recently, students have submitted their entries to our library poster competition with the hopes of winning a ticket to our relaunch event. Students were asked to create a poster which answered the following question: where can reading take you? We received a number of wonderful entries but our winners – as decided by our student librarians – are:

1st Libby-Jade (Y8)
2nd Bo (Y7)
3rd Laurel and Kara (Y7)



A huge congratulations to all of our winners!





Positive Points

Year 7
4704 points

Year 8
2655 points

Year 9
939 points

Keep it up and well done!



The following students currently have the highest number of overall behaviour points:

- **Alexi-Grace Sheldon**
  Year 7, **249** points
- **Caitlin O'Donnell**
  Year 8, **204** points
- **Kaitlin Irvine**
  Year 9, **249** points
- **Scarlett Rosenbach**
  Year 10, **213** points
- **Jack Homer**
  Year 11, **249** points

And our top student for positive points this week is:

- **Alexi-Grace Sheldon**
  Year 7, **36 points**



Pride and Ambition Page

Our School Values

- Understanding other people
- Being sympathetic

kind

Be friendly and considerate

- Helping other people
- Making others' feel welcome
- Saying nice things

- Achieving your goals
- Smart uniform and appearance
- Focusing on the quality of your work

PROUD

Celebrate your achievements and who you are

- Volunteering and attending school events and activities
- Looking after your environment
- Being confident

- Listening to others' speak
- Using good manners

Respectful

Respect yourself, others and your environment

- Being considerate of others' feelings
- Showing tolerance
- Being thankful

- Never giving up
- Trying hard in lessons
- Having goals

AMBITIOUS

Determined to succeed

- Asking questions
- Hard working and resilient
- Overcome difficulties

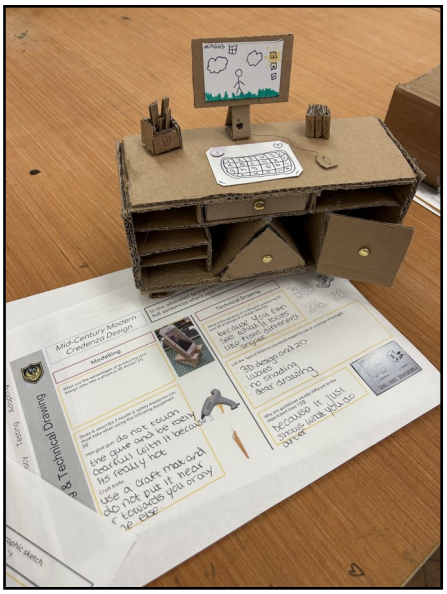
- Doing the right thing
- Being trustworthy

Honest

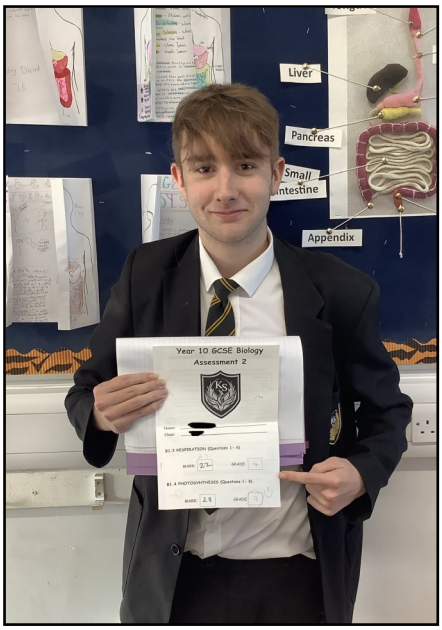
Be truthful and sincere

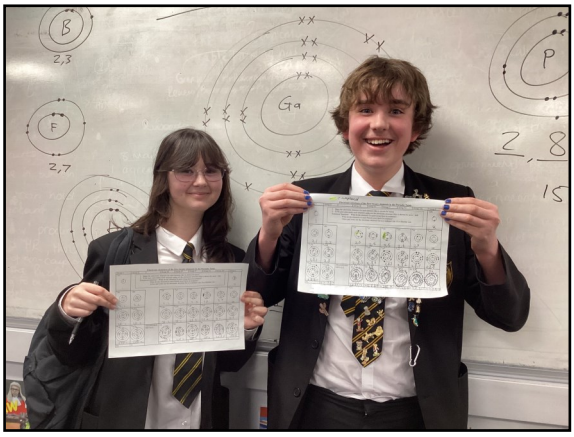
- Thinking before you speak
- Having good intentions
- Admitting your mistakes

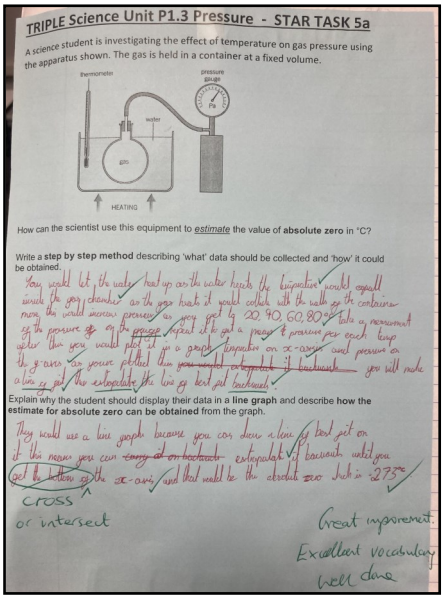














GCSEPod is an online independent learning resource available to students in Year 10 and 11. High usage is likely to improve the chances of students achieving their target grades

YEAR 11

Pods Accessed
3319

Pods Downloaded
1

Total Users
105

YEAR 10

Pods Accessed
529

Pods Downloaded
2

Total Users
67

GCSEPod is at Kingsbury

GCSEPod is available for all Year 10 and Year 11 students at Kingsbury School! We have subscribed to the award-winning service to give your child access to thousands of hours of professionally produced, audio-visual content which will benefit them throughout their GCSE courses.

GCSEPod has over 4,000 teacher-written, audio-visual pods which have been produced specifically for learning, homework and revision. The Pods contain all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success. They will not need to use GCSEPod for long to see the impact; in fact, consistent use of just 10 minute chunks is proven to support achievement whatever your child's target grade is.

The GCSEPod website can be viewed on mobiles, tablets and PCs and the Pods can be downloaded for offline viewing. The Pods are mapped to the curriculum and students can access pre-set exam playlists which collate all the Pods relevant to a specific exam into a neatly organised list.

Once your child has activated their account they can browse the Pod library and create their own playlists – just as they would when they are listening to music. We recommend that you discuss GCSEPod with your son or daughter to ensure that they have successfully activated their accounts and encourage them to make use of this service throughout their GCSEs.

All students have already been registered with GCSEPod and simply need to activate their account and choose a username and password. To access GCSEPod for the first time, students should follow these simple steps:

1. Go to www.gcsepod.com and click **"Login"** in the top right hand corner
2. Click **"New here? Get started."**
3. Select **"Student"**
4. **Enter your child's name, date of birth and type in the name of their school.** Your school should appear in a dropdown list. Click on the school in this list to confirm it.
5. Select a **username, password**, and a **password hint** to help you remember the password.

Once logged in, students can search for Pods by keyword, a specific exam or subject area.
For more ways you can help support your child using GCSEPod, visit www.gcsepod.com/parents where you will find lots more information and resources.

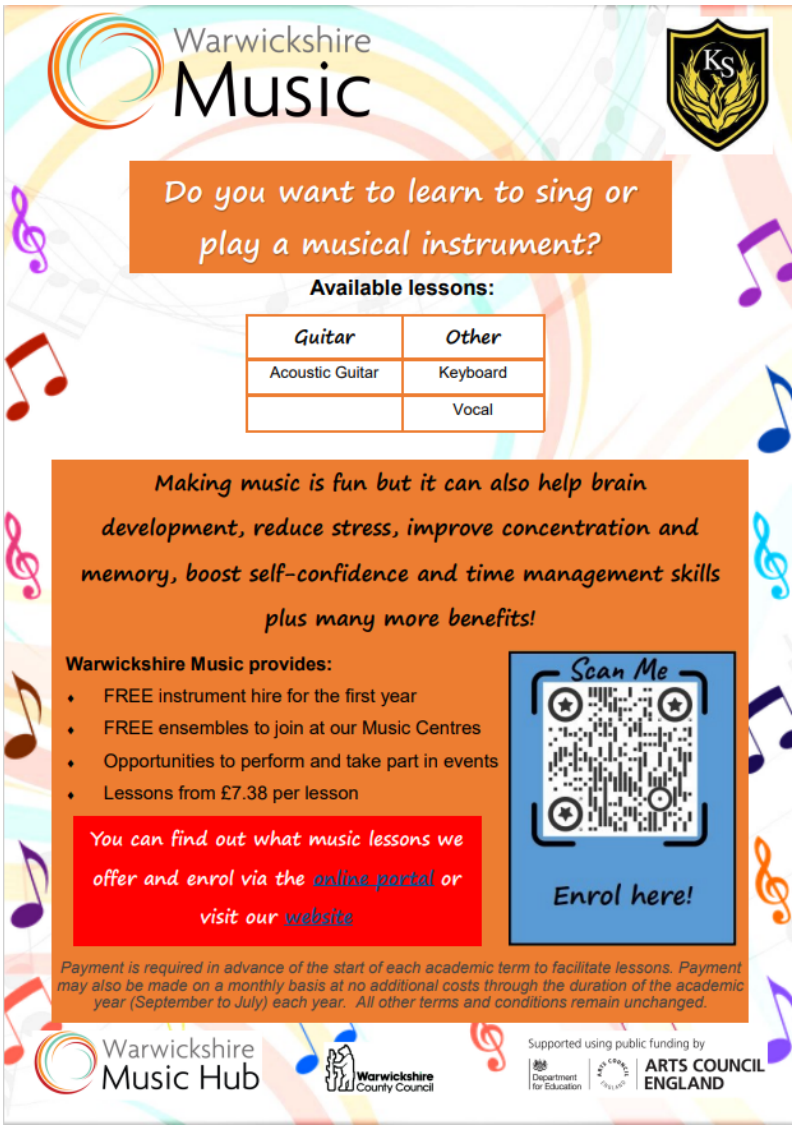
59% of Year 11 are using GCSEPod

48% of Year 10 are using GCSEPod



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT/ACTIVITY
Saturday 16th December 2023 (12:00-4:00pm)	Christmas Fayre
Thursday 21st December 2023 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 8 Progress Evening *(opportunity to meet your child's teachers)*
Thursday 11th January 2024 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 7 Progress Evening *(opportunity to meet your child's teachers)*
Monday 29th January to Thursday 8th February 2024	Year 11 Trial Examinations (Series 2)
Tuesday 27th February 2024 (9:30am)	Open Morning for current parents/carers
Thursday 29th February 2024 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 11 Progress Evening 2 *(opportunity to meet your child's teachers)*
Tuesday 3rd March 2024	Parent/Carer Survey 3
Wednesday 20th March to Friday 22nd March 2023	School Production
Monday 8th April 2024	Year 11 Intervention Day *(only Year 11 attend school on this day)*
Monday 15th April to Friday 26th April 2023	Year 11 Trial Examinations (Series 3; English and Maths only)
Thursday 25th April 2024 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 10 Progress Evening *(opportunity to meet your child's teachers)*
Thursday 2nd May 2024 (4:00-7:00pm)	Year 9 Progress Evening *(opportunity to meet your child's teachers)*
Monday 13th May 2024	GCSE Examinations Start
Thursday 16th May 2024	Year 9 Curriculum/Options Evening
Tuesday 4th June 2024 (9:30am)	Open Morning for current parents/carers
Tuesday 11th June 2024	Parent/Carer Survey 4
Monday 17th June 2024	Year 10 Trial Examinations
Tuesday 2nd July to Friday 5th July 2024	Years 7 to 9 Trial Examinations (English and Mathematics)
Friday 5th July 2024	Year 11 Prom
Tuesday 9th July 2024	Year 6 Intake Parents/Carers Evening



SAFEGUARDING

We take SAFEGUARDING seriously. If you are concerned about a student, please contact Mrs H Hurley on 01827 872316 or helen.hurley@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

SHARPS

Our School Help Advice Reporting Page System (SHARPS) is another way for our students and parents to ask for help or support with any problems, in or out of school. SHARPS also contains information on hate crime, gangs, bullying and health. You can access SHARPS via our website or using this link:

The SHARP System

INTERNET SAFETY

The Internet is a wonderful tool, but are you using it safely?

Please advise your children not to give out any personal information related to their family, friends or themselves like full names, addresses, telephone or mobile numbers, or those of their parents.

Advise your children to inform you or their teachers if they come across content on the Internet which makes them feel uncomfortable, or if someone on the Internet harasses them or threatens them.

Advise them to assess the information they have read on websites. Just because it's on the Internet does not mean that it's always truthful information, especially when it comes to health issues, or when they are doing research for homework.

Online Safety

We have been using our 'X' (formerly twitter) social media platform to share online safety advice from National Online Safety.





Visit
@KNGSchoolB78
to view these posts.

Home-School Engagement

We always strive to do better in relation to home-school communication and providing opportunities for parent/carer engagement. Below, is our Home-School Engagement Strategy detailing the initiatives that we will be launching during this academic year.

KINGSBURY SCHOOL
Home-School Engagement

PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS
Parent information evenings take place once every term, providing information and activities, and an opportunity to meet key staff. Parent information evenings for 2023-2024 can be found on our website. In addition, a Curriculum Evening for Year 9 parents and carers takes place in the Spring term to support the options process.

PARENT SURVEYS
Parent surveys will take place twice a year and will provide an opportunity for parents to voice their views an suggest areas for improvement.

SEND COFFEE MORNINGS
Our SEND coffee mornings provide an opportunity for you to meet our Inclusion Team and find out more about SEND provision. Dates for our SEND Coffee mornings can be found on our website.

OPEN MORNINGS
Open Mornings provide an opportunity for current parents and carers to have a tour of our school, visit lessons and have a coffee with the leadership team. Dates for Open Mornings for 2023-2024 can be found on our website. To book a place, contact reception on 01827 872316

HOME SCHOOL

Our **Home-School Engagement Strategy** aims to ensure that parents and carers feel involved with their child's education. Through effective communication, we aim to work in partnership with parents and carers to provide timely and effective support, care and guidance for all of our students.

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
Our newsletters will communicate key dates, useful information, and student celebrations and achievements.

PROGRESS EVENINGS
Our Progress Evenings provide an opportunity for parents and carers to meet subject teachers to discuss their child's progress. See our website for dates.

formerly twitter
For daily updates, activities and achievement announcements
@KNGSchoolB78

SCHOOL WEBSITE
Our website contains useful links, resources and information for parents and carers. Information includes:
- Learning Journeys
- Knowledge Organisers
- Student Welfare
- Careers

WWW.KINGSBURYSCHOOL.CO.UK

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION
- **Pastoral Hub**
  Call 01827 872316 option 1, or email kngpastoralhub@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk
- **Absence**
  Email absence@kingsburyschool.co.uk or call 01827 872316 or text 01827 230015
- **General Enquiries**
  Call reception on 01827 872316
- **Safeguarding**
  helen.hurley@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk (Designated Safeguarding Lead)
  juliette.bagley@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)

ARBOR APP
- ✓ 24/7 access to today's information
- ✓ Attendance
- ✓ Real-time, subject-specific assessment information such as test results, examination results and current progress
- ✓ Real-time behaviour information
- ✓ Progress reports
- ✓ Access to your child's timetable
- ✓ School Activities and Events
- ✓ Examinations
- ✓ Parents' Evening Bookings
- ✓ Payments and School Shop

BULLYING
Our '*What about bullying?*' booklet provides useful information for parents and carers in relation to bullying.

Message from Warwickshire School Transport

For those who use our transport services, please be reminded that all students must have their bus pass with them and show it to the driver when they alight the service in order to travel. If students do not have their bus pass, they will not be allowed to travel.

We are sending this message because we have had an increased number of reports from operators of students not showing their bus passes, so feel that a general reminder to all students would be beneficial.

Warwickshire Education Transport 01926 412929 - Option 1

CORE PURPOSE

Enthuse I Aspire I Achieve

OUR VISION

- Ensuring that our students feel **safe**, **valued**, **cared for** and **happy**.
- Fostering **strong** and **positive relationships** by instilling a culture of **respect** and **kindness**.
- Promoting **equality** and **diversity** and preparing our students for life in modern Britain by supporting British values.
- Creating **aspirational learners** who are creative thinkers and embrace challenge.
- Developing **resilient** and **independent learners** who are prepared for life and learning after school.
- Committed to the pursuit of excellence, delivering **achievement for all** and celebrating individual successes through an ethos of encouragement and **praise**.
- Inspiring **confident** and **accomplished readers** and **communicators**.
- Extending the boundaries of learning by providing a rich, relevant, **engaging** and **innovative curriculum** that is **accessible to all**.
- Through **effective communication**, work in partnership with parents and carers to provide timely and effective support, care and guidance for all of our students.

KINGSBURY SCHOOL VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies at Kingsbury School. Copy and paste the link below for more information.

https://www.kingsburyschool.co.uk/about-us/job-vacancies/



Kingsbury School

Tamworth Road
Kingsbury
Tamworth
B79 2LF

Phone: 01827 872316
E-mail:
admin4111@kingsburyschool.info

We're on the web!
www.kingsburyschool.co.uk

Enthuse Aspire Achieve

Why not follow us on

@KNGSchoolB78

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

Please use the following means of communication to advise of a students absence.

T: 01827 872316
E: absence@kingsburyschool.co.uk
SMS: 01827 230501

Please notify us of an absence by 8.30am on each day of absence.