

VOL 4. | 21 OCTOBER 2022

NEWSLETTER



KINGS'
SCHOOL · WINCHESTER

UPDATES FOR THE PARENTS OF KINGS'



MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER

Happy October half-term break!

Our pupils and staff are looking forward to a restful break after an exciting and purposeful term.

Last night we had 500+ pupils in the Hall for House Karaoke, which was great fun; today residential trips depart for Paris, Holland, Iceland and Cornwall.

These follow a focused term, with pupils enjoying the introduction of our Knowledge Organisers and the clarity these provide in relation to their learning. Pupils value the 'knowledge base' and enrichment that is available through the 'knowledge builder'

You are aware from previous communication of the challenges we have faced with staff illness at the end of this half term. We are proud that we have been able to keep all pupils in school and maintain their learning.

We have, at times, taught up to 360 pupils in the Hall. We will evaluate this once the week finishes. We know that children typically have better wellbeing and better academic performance when their attendance is higher.

I would like to thank you for your messages of appreciation that we are doing all we can to keep your children attending and in school.

We finish this week with celebration assemblies for each Year, which I am very much looking forward to!

Best wishes
James



LAST ORDERS

Year 9s all watched a performance called 'Last Orders' by Solomon Theatre - a professional educational touring company. The themes in the play were alcohol, sexting, peer pressure and consent and revolved around a story about three young people - Cassie, Kim and Dan. The play is based on a true story. After the performance the pupils took part in workshops where they 'hot seated' the actors and were able to ask questions and debate the themes.



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM TRIP

The Geography Department and Y9 pupils travelled up to London to visit the Natural History Museum. The focus of the trip was to explore the Earth section. The pupils had a worksheet to fill in about volcanoes and earthquakes. They were able to see exhibits on erosion, tectonic plates and the devastating effects of natural disasters.

After lunch, the pupils were given free rein to explore all the other exhibitions on offer at the museum. Although the gift shop had much to offer, there was great excitement to see Dippy the Dinosaur!



PE AT KINGS'

U12 Girls' Hockey: The Year 7 girls' hockey team enjoyed an excellent day at the Hampshire IN2 Hockey tournament at Southampton Sports Centre. They were up against a number of fee-paying schools and following a 1-0 semi-final win over the prestigious King Edward VI Southampton school, were in the final. Unfortunately, the Farleigh school they faced were a bridge too far and Kings' eventually lost 3-0, but as County runners up they still progress to the regional final next spring. They work very hard at lunchtime and after-school hockey club and are a great credit to the school.

HOCKEY



U12 Girls' Rugby festival: The Year 7 girls enjoyed a fantastic day's rugby as part of the Hampshire development festival hosted by Trojans Rugby Club. Over half of the girls had never even watched a game of rugby prior to the festival, but by the end they were running through the other teams, making big tackles and scoring lots of tries. As a result of their endeavours they won three matches and drew two.

RUGBY





U14 and U16 Girls' Netball: The Year 9 Girls' and the combined Year 10 and 11 Girls' Netball teams competed in the County round of their respective National Netball Competitions. There were fantastic performances from both teams. The U14s fought hard but did not make it out of their pool. However, the U16s won their pool convincingly but sadly missed out in a place in the final, after a narrow defeat to Portsmouth High School.

NETBALL



YEAR 7 MEET THE TUTOR EVENING

On Monday, Year 7 parents were welcomed into the Library at Kings' to meet the tutors of their children. It was a lovely opportunity to be able to affirm the excellent start most of our pupils have made to their time at Kings'. While waiting for their appointments, parents were able to enjoy a tea, coffee or hot chocolate and a biscuit, served by members of our Kings' Parent Teacher Association. This was also a chance to discuss the plans for the refurbishment of the library and the way in which the PTA was planning to raise funds for this through their excellent Comedy and Quiz nights .

Tutors and parents alike commented on how good it was to be able to meet each other in person and to celebrate the excellent reputation this year group is gaining, not only for their positive attitude to learning, but also for their participation in a wide range of co-curricular activities and House events.



KING'S



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GCSE MUSIC - PERFORMANCE EXAM WEEK

Last week, our year 11 Music pupils recorded their solo and ensemble performances in the recording studio. These performances are part of pupils' coursework portfolio that contribute to their Music GCSE grade. This is one of our highlights of the year in the Music department; it is a pleasure and privilege to listen to the incredible wide-ranging musical talent we are fortunate to have here amongst our pupils at Kings'. The standard was once again very high, and the styles and genres were broad and diverse – ranging from Baroque and Classical through to DJ-ing and House music.

Thomas Fagg, a gifted cellist in Year 11, is preparing to take his Trinity Diploma in early December at Winchester College. This Thursday lunchtime, 20th October, Thomas will be performing a recital as part of the "Perfect Pitch Concerts" series in the Chapel of St Cross at 12.30pm. Thomas' recording from last week is attached for you to enjoy – Saint-Saen's "Le Cygne" ("The Swan").

LINK





CHRISTMAS AT KINGS'



Our Christmas Fair will take place on Thursday 1st December from 5 - 7pm in the main hall.

Christmas at Kings' will be a celebration of all things festive, and a fun-filled way to welcome our Year 7 cohort, and their families, into the wider school family. There will be carol singing round the tree, as well as sweets and treats for old and young, and a wide variety of stalls selling handmade crafts and gifts. A number of local small businesses will be selling their wares, alongside our enterprising Year 7s, so it will be the perfect opportunity to pick up some unique gifts.

As space is limited we are allocating on a first come, first served basis. If you'd like a pitch to sell your handmade, homemade goodies, please contact Mrs Miles.



KINGS' KSA – COMEDY NIGHT, 18TH NOVEMBER 2022

It's back again, get ready for a fantastic night out on 18th November. It's Kings' Comedy Night.

For those of you new to the school, we bring in professional comics, currently on tour. Usually there are three comics, an MC, and lots of fun and laughter.

Tickets are £25 and include a Fish & Chip Supper or a Vegan option. There's a bar all night.

Doors open at 6pm, supper is at 7pm and the comedy acts begin at 8pm. We usually wrap up by 10:30pm. For those wanting to block book, it'll be the same as last year with tables of 8.

It's a popular event, so be quick! Tickets available from the KSA website:
www.pta-events.co.uk/kingssa



INTERNET SAFETY EVENING

This term Mr Small held a parents Internet Safety presentation evening with guest speaker- Karl Hopwood, an international expert on e-safety issues for schools, children and young people. Karl is a member of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety and works with a number of key institutions in the UK and Europe. The evening presentation was well attended and parents commented on how useful and valuable they found it. The session was recorded and the link to the recording and information passed to Kings' from Karl will be sent out in the near future.



SPOTLIGHT ON KINGS' STAFF

MR DAVE CLARKE
HEAD OF MUSIC



What attracted you to a career in teaching?

My life at school was spent in the Music department. It was the place that I felt happy, safe, relaxed and made most of my friendships, as well as develop my love of playing music, being surrounded by like-minded people who also shared that passion. The Head of Music at the time, Simon Foxall, was an inspirational teacher; an excellent role model that I have always since strived to live up to. I have wanted to foster and nurture the same ethos in the Kings' Music department – a hub where like-minded musicians can come at lunchtimes and after school to participate in musical activities, socialise, be part of a supportive musical community that welcomes everyone; one that opens minds to new, rich and diverse musical enrichment.

What inspired you to teach at this school? What makes this school different?

When I joined Kings' in 2006, it felt like a unique and special place. This is still very much the case today. There is a strong sense of community, of support, and the "una laborantes" motto has been, and continues to be, very much evident throughout my time here. I am always humbled and proud of the musical achievements of our pupils; they themselves are regularly an inspiration to us as teachers.

Tell us why pupils enjoy coming to your lessons.

Pupils enjoy the practical activities in the Music classroom; they can get "hands-on" with the instruments and foster a love of learning through practical music-making activities. We endeavour to provide and encourage participation in broad and diverse musical enrichment, creating those "wow" factor experiences, both in curriculum lessons as well as extra-curricular activities. Pupils are always welcome to join an extra-curricular musical activity at any time of the year; at the moment, pupils who sign up straight after half term will still be able to participate in the carol service in the Cathedral – but be quick!



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022

One of the flagship events at Kings' School is our annual service of Remembrance, which this year will take place on Friday 11th November 2022 from 10.30am.

In the past we have welcomed the Old Boys of St Thomas's School. St Thomas's was a Winchester school which was the forerunner of Montgomery of Alamein and Danemark, the schools which amalgamated in the early 80s to become Kings'. With no school hall to call their own, the Old Boys of St Thomas's were "adopted" by our then headmaster, Mr Ray Bradbury, who agreed to house their memorial board, and every year they have joined us in remembering the fallen.

Sadly, and inevitably, their numbers have dwindled. A few years ago, as many as 25 members of STOBA would join us on the day. Now, only one of their number feels strong enough to attend, but he has assured us that he will be there to lay a wreath on behalf of his old friends and comrades.

If you know any Old Boys of St Thomas's please get in touch. Similarly, any former pupils of Danemark and Montgomery of Alamein Schools who may wish to be included in our Remembrance.

A number of Kings' parents have affiliations to the armed forces. If you are a serving member of any branch of the armed forces, or a veteran, we would love you to attend. As in past years, the presence of uniformed members of the community adds a certain gravitas and dignity to the day.

If you wish to attend, please email Mrs Miles on the address Kings.school@kings-winchester.hants.sch.uk

DATES FOR THE DIARY

24-28 OCT HALF TERM

ICELAND TRIP/PE FOOTBALL RESIDENTIAL

YR11 ART GALLERIES & MUSEUM PARIS

SCIENCE YR9 EDEN PROJECT RESIDENTIAL

31 OCT-11 NOV YR11 MOCKS

2 NOV YR10 ENGLISH INSPECTOR CALLS

3 NOV YR11 ENGLISH INSPECTOR CALLS

2 NOV - YR8 PARENTS INFORMATION EVENING

8 NOV - U13 GIRLS HOCKEY COUNT TOURNAMENT

10 NOV - U16 GIRLS HOCKEY COUNTY TROPHY

11 NOV- REMEMBRANCE DAY

15 NOV U14 GIRLS HOCKEY COUNTY TROPHY

18 NOV KSA COMEDY NIGHT



WE ARE RECRUITING;

GOVERNOR

FOOD TECH TEACHER

GEOGRAPHY TEACHER

DESIGN TECH TEACHER

BUSINESS TEACHER

COMPUTER SCIENCE TEACHER

LSA

INVIGILATOR

DINING ROOM ASSISTANT

COMMUNITY SUPERVISOR

LIFEGUARD

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR
FURTHER DETAILS