

VOL. 14 | 31 MARCH 2023

NEWSLETTER



KINGS'
SCHOOL · WINCHESTER

UPDATES FOR THE PARENTS OF KINGS'



Celebration Lunch

KINGS'
SCHOOL · WINCHESTER
PROUDLY PRESENTS

SISTER ACT

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE FROM THE SCHOOL WEBSITE
12TH-15TH JULY
7PM
MATINEE PERFORMANCE
SAT 15TH JULY FROM 2PM

MUSIC BY ALAN MENKEN
LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER
BOOK BY JOHN & BILL GREENKELLNER
ADDITIONAL BOOK MATERIAL DOUGLAS CARTER BRANE
BASED ON TOUCHSTONE PICTURES MOTION PICTURE "SISTER ACT" WRITTEN BY JOSEPH HOWARD

CELEBRATION LUNCH

Kings' held its very first 'Celebration Lunch' this week. It's a new idea to recognise students who go above and beyond. This term it was the turn of our art students who were involved in the outstanding display at Winchester Cathedral. Together with Dr Adams, the Senior Leadership Team, Mrs Churcher, Mrs Simpson, Mrs Dawe and Miss Honour, pupils were treated to a 'Kingdos' style lunch, courtesy of our wonderful Catering Manager Mr Wooldridge, plus an Easter egg to say thank you. A enjoyable time was had by all. Watch this space for more lunches in the future.



MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER



The final two weeks of the Spring Term have been action packed, reflecting our ambition to provide pupils with a fantastic array of opportunities, in which they can find the things that spark their interest and passions. Highlights include: being joined by 27 Spanish pupils from I.E.S Margarita Salas for our exchange programme; some of our pupils exploring leadership principles with Toby Garbett who represented Great Britain at the World Rowing Championships and our Spring Music Concert, which was an absolute triumph, show casing the talent, dedication and passion of all involved.....and it's not over yet! We have 68 pupils flying the flag for Kings' on their hockey tour in Holland over the Easter break and we're finishing the term in style as the Year 11 pupils and members of staff undertake the infamous King's Got Tough course!

Further good news to share with you is that this week we have been joined by the Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service for our annual school review. The advisors spent a full day in school; visiting lessons, speaking to pupils and meeting with staff. They explored a wide range of aspects of the school including safeguarding, the pastoral and academic curriculum, pupils' learning, attendance and Special Educational Needs. We are very pleased that feedback included: recognising the schools' ambition for all pupils to be successful; effective safeguarding of pupils; the strong pupil-teacher relationships and engagement in learning in lessons. They also recognised the considerable work by all staff that has gone into the school continuing to improve since their last visit. Governors will be sharing more of the feedback with staff at the start of next term.

I recently shared with you the main themes from the recent Parent Survey, in which I outlined that we wanted to involve pupils, parents, staff and Governors in further developing our school values so that they become central to our culture. I am pleased to share that the recent Year assemblies, led by Mr Rossiter, have focused on this theme. We will continue to build on these assemblies across next term, as we refine our values, rewards and recognition programme. Celebrating the personal successes of so many of our pupils is central to the culture of our Kings' family – whether that's in recognising the quiet kindnesses of pupils to each other or the stellar performances of pupils in a public arena.

Our staff and pupils will be exploring these themes at the start of term and I invite you to take part in our Shaping the Future Forum on Tuesday 25th April. Your views will play an important part in the decisions we make and also the shape the 'feel' of the school over the coming terms. The Shaping the Future forum will run from 6.00 – 7.00pm. Please use the link **here** to register. Thank you in advance for your involvement.

Thank you for your continued support of Kings' School , it is a pleasure working together with our parents to consistently provide the best opportunities for our pupils. I wish you all a restful Easter break.

Dr Adams
Headteacher



GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

The Geography Department took Year 10 pupils on a field trip to study the local river as part of their GCSE studies. The pupils were able to test the theory they have learned in the classroom in the beautiful landscape of The New Forest. They collected fieldwork data in the Highland Water river and were able to see how the river shapes the landscape as it flows. We managed to dodge the rain and even enjoyed an ice cream in the March sunshine.



OXBRIDGE OFFERS FOR EX KINGS' PUPILS

Peter Symonds extends its congratulations to pupils from Kings' and their families.

Principal Sara Russell said: 'I am delighted to see the success of our students receiving Oxbridge offers this year. These students have worked very hard to meet the challenging entry requirements and deserve to be celebrated for their achievements.

'I admire the determination of these students and their desire to excel in their chosen fields and wish them the very best for the next step in their education. It takes a lot of focus to persevere through the selection process, especially alongside their current studies.'

- Alec - University of Oxford
- Orlando - University of Cambridge
- Isobel - University of Cambridge
- Lucy - University of Cambridge



AMBULANCE VISIT FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE COURSE

The YR 11 HSC pupils are currently completing their First Aid coursework. Yesterday we had a visit from James Jenkins with his ambulance! It was great for pupils to see how the first aid skills they have been learning work on a larger scale. It was a really inspiring visit.



FUNDRAISING FOR HOCKEY TOUR

As well as completing their online learning, these 7 boys took the opportunity to be extra productive on the day of industrial action. In order to raise money for their School Hockey Tour to Holland this Easter, these boys diligently cleaned some staff cars and 1 very dirty minibus.

Huge over the head round of applause for their initiative, dedication and all-round brilliant attitude.





SPRING CONCERT



For some weeks now, Kings' School has been filled with the sound of flutes and clarinets, voices and violins, and every instrument imaginable, as our prodigiously talented pupils rehearsed and rehearsed and rehearsed some more, ahead of the grand Spring Concert. On Monday night, 27th March, an audience of parents and friends gathered in the school hall to enjoy the culmination of these many hours of hard work. Our extraordinary children, and our wonderful music teachers, did not disappoint.

The evening began with our Year 7 choir performing *When I Grow Up* from *Matilda*, demonstrating clear diction and a cheeky sense of humour as they tackled Tim Minchin's challenging score with aplomb.

A confident saxophone solo from Gabriel followed, before the Junior Steel Band had us all tapping our feet in time to *Mama Mia!* By Abba. It was a struggle to not get up and dance.

A change of mood, next, as cool, sophisticated, swinging sounds of the Clarinet Group, relaxed us all with *Shadow of Your Smile*. Special mention should be made of Tyler who provided perfectly rhythmic drumming accompaniment.

The audience was now entertained by our Main Choir clapping and swaying their way through Pentatonix' *Sing!* And then next up on stage were Nafisah and Klara who played a delicately beautiful flute duet, the JS Bach *Little Fugue in G Minor*. They impressed with their lovely clear tone.

The Chamber Choir shared their skills and brilliance in their performance of *All Star*, which featured a number of confident soloists and vocal percussion. In contrast, the Flute Group demonstrated their lovely ensemble playing and particularly clear top notes, in the *Game of Thrones* theme.

Now it was the turn of Phillip and Robert, who performed the Tom Odell song, *Another Love*, with exceptional skill. Phillip's expertise on the piano was perfectly matched by Robert's sensitive handling of the lyrics.



The string Orchestra followed this with a spine-tingling performance of Coldplay's Viva la Vida, and then Laura, playing a wonderful cello solo, concluded the first half. Her Saint-Saens Allegro Appassionato had scintillating attack and confidence.

Suitably refreshed from a well organised interval, thanks to the KSA, the audience settled in for the second half. The Jazz Band, with Skye on vocals, gave us a brilliantly brassy and sumptuously sassy rendition of Feeling Good, before the full Orchestra, under the baton of Mr Olexa, entertained us with highlights from the Harry Potter score.

Another change of mood as Esther performed Scarlatti's Sonata in E with brio and wonderful sensitivity, and then the Brass Group swung into Can You Feel the Love Tonight, with a full rich sound.

Vocal soloist Hannah shared her beautiful tone in Abba's The Winner Takes it All. Her wonderfully big notes were well supported by the lovely accompaniment.

Another soloist, Sianne, played Allegro Brillante by Ten Have, with true musicality – allegro vivace indeed.

Our brilliant Vocal Octet were up next, performing Sleep by Eric Whitacre. This complex choral work with its clashing chords and devilishly difficult lines of tight 8-part harmony, was the perfect showcase for our extraordinarily gifted vocalists.

Rowan on saxophone came next, this time accompanied by Zach, producing a fabulously brisk and lively sound in Sax in the City.

Could this extraordinary concert get any better? Could our talented musicians pull one last musical rabbit out of the hat? It seems the answer is yes. Thomas on cello, joined by Mr Olexa, also on cello, and Esther on the piano, making up a sublime trio of performers, concluded the evening with a dazzling performance of Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Cellos in G minor (1st movement – Allegro) It certainly was Allegro con Brio, and this fabulous display of virtuosity put a smile on everyone's face.

Bravo to all involved – Mr Clarke, Mr Wood, and Mr Olexa and our hardworking peripatetic teachers, and mostly, our gifted, talented and fantastically motivated pupils.



SPORT AT KINGS'

It's been a bumper term of sport at Kings' with dozens of teams competing at local, county and even regional level across a range of activities. Some of the many highlights include:

The absolute flag bearers, the U12 Girls' hockey team, who having finished as runners up in the Hampshire In2 Hockey county championships travelled to Reading to compete in the regional finals. They defeated sides from Berkshire, Oxford and the Hampshire champions before being pipped to the regional crown in the final by the Buckingham winners via the agony of penalty strokes. But, as regional runners up this is greatest Kings' girls' hockey achievement in over 33 years!

Not far behind are the U13 Boys' hockey team who are Eastleigh and Winchester District champions after an emphatic 5-1 win over Thornden. They bid to go one better against Brighton Hill in the Hampshire Cup semi-final.

In rugby the U15 Boys' team eventually succumbed to a 14-7 defeat to Westgate in the Hampshire cup semi-final, whilst the U14 Girls' gave a brilliant account of themselves, finishing as runners up in the Hampshire festival. The U12 Boys' also impressed finishing third in the top pool at their Hampshire festival.

In netball, the U12 A continue to impress and following a 100% record at a recent tournament are through to the next round of the Hampshire Youth Games qualifiers. The U13 B team recently won a district competition and the U14 A and B teams enjoyed some excellent wins and superb hospitality at tournaments at Embley.

And in basketball the U14s finished runners up in their Southampton league plate final following a 52-43 defeat to Toynbee.

My most sincere thanks to the pupils for their endeavours and the staff for their continued commitment and hard work.

Mr Birch



HAMPSHIRE BOOK AWARD 2023

Earlier this term our Year 8s were invited to submit written applications, outlining why they believed they would make good judges in the annual Hampshire Book Award. Only twelve are selected from each school and once again, Kings' pupils showed excellent communication skills as well as all being passionate and enthusiastic readers.

On Monday 20th March, the shortlist of recently published YA fiction was announced.

The excitement was building as, one by one, the six shortlisted books were revealed, and our judges sat in silent anticipation, smiling and nodding and occasionally gasping. And then our Year 8 judging panel got down to work, reading. Between now and the end of June they will attend regular meetings to discuss the merits (or otherwise) of these recently published Young Adult novels. The aims of the HBA are:

- To promote the enjoyment of reading
- To foster a reading ethos within the school
- To draw attention to the most rewarding and accessible fiction for the age group
- To challenge students to critically assess books and to make a reasoned argument in group discussions.

The Hampshire Book Award is one of the most well-respected literary awards, particularly among the authors themselves, as it is the only book prize judged solely by children. Whilst Mrs Miles arranges the meetings and steers the conversations, the ultimate decision rests entirely with our Year 8 judging team. Over the next three months they will become highly critical readers, looking at the "Three Es" of reading – Enjoyment, Enrichment and Engagement, as they consider every aspect of what makes a book a page-turner and a possible future classic.

In past years our judges have selected books such as Percy Jackson, Skullduggery Pleasant, Private Peaceful, and The Hunger Games. What will they discover this year?



MR RUPERT CAZALET

TEACHER OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TIME AT KINGS' - 6 YEARS



What attracted you to a career in teaching?

Love and importance of the subject matter and an enthusiasm to pass that on as much as possible!

What inspired you to teach at the school?

Location, location, location - born and bred in Hampshire, a local school for local people.

What makes this school different?

The staff, who go above and beyond.

Tell us why pupils enjoy coming to your lessons?

I hope that it opens up worlds for them that they might not have seen or heard of before. It's all about connections across time and the human experience, how we respond to our space, the land, music, art and the people around us.

What do you enjoy most about working at Kings'?

The passion for teaching and knowledge in the staff, the camaraderie across the school.

What is unique about your role in the school?

For all of us teaching RS: explaining the importance of the abstract to 11-14 year olds never stops being unique!



No more FOMO - follow us on Instagram!

KINGS_HANTS

KINGS'
SCHOOL • WINCHESTER

ANNOUNCING OUR GRAND

SUMMER FAYRE

SATURDAY 10TH JUNE 2023

10.30 - 2.00PM
KINGS' SCHOOL,
ROMSEY ROAD,
SO22 5PN




SAVE THE DATE
THE BEST DAY OUT IN WINCHESTER

KINGS' presents

2023 Leavers' Ball

7pm 30th June
Tickets £35



Tickets on sale in Bradbury Block at lunchtimes.



Peter Symonds College: Year 10 Open Evenings

Peter Symonds College Year 10 Open Evenings
Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th July, 5:30 - 8:30pm.
Bookings will open mid June but more information is available at:
<https://www.psc.ac.uk/open>

IMPORTANT NEWS - Changes to school uniform provider

Due to the changes in Government guidance concerning the cost of school uniform, we have taken the decision to make changes to our uniform and the way it is purchased. This will be a transitional change, leading up to 2027, so uniforms of current pupils will not require changing. More details are provided in the attached letter click **here**.

KNITWITS

Every Thursday after school, Mrs Lee and a wonderful group of helpers oversee a thriving knitting and crochet community in Room 47. Mrs Lee remembers starting the group around six years ago. "I learned to knit from my Grandma and had recently taught myself to crochet. I found it was a really mindful, stress-busting activity which produced lovely gifts or accessories along the way. I decided to set up the group in school to have a quiet, mindful club and I must say, it is far from quiet but it has grown from a few up to 20 to 30 pupils a week.

It is a joy to get pupils going with the basics and then watch them develop amazing skills and make beautiful things. They help one another and I even sometimes knit or crochet a few rows myself. It is really lovely to see pupils learning from and teaching one another as they progress."

Mrs Lee is always grateful for donations of unwanted wool (DK or thicker is preferable) and crochet hooks in particular, or thicker knitting needles. If you would like to donate to this club, please send items in to reception at school, marked for "Knitwits".



INSPIRING FUTURES



EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 17 APRIL - FIRST DAY BACK
- 18 APRIL - PE GCSE MODERATION
- 18 APRIL - ARDECHE TRIP MEETING
- 20 APRIL - YR7 PARENTS' EVENING (online)
- 26 APRIL - PRIMARY FESTIVAL MULTI SKILLS
- 26 & 27 APRIL - YR8 HPV VACCINATIONS
- 27 - APRIL - YR7/YR8 HOUSE BASKETBALL
- 28 APRIL - TRANSITION COFFEE MORNING
- 28 APRIL - YR9/YR10 HOUSE QUIDDITCH

