



NEWSLETTER

UPDATES FOR THE PARENTS OF KINGS'



CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

It was a delight to be able to return once again this year to the extraordinary building that is Winchester Cathedral for our Kings' School Carol Service. The service comprised a mixture of congregational carols, instrumental interludes and choral items sung by the various school and adult choirs, culminating in a massed choir performance of Cleobury's "Joys Seven", with 220 performers singing together in 4-part harmony. Each year an adult choir is formed of past and present staff, governors, ex pupils and parents, and it is always a pleasure to catch up with past pupils and learn of their ongoing musical achievements years after they have departed Kings'. This year, we were joined by Thomas Fagg, who is now studying at Peter Symonds College. Thomas played the cello part in Ola Gjeilo's "Serenity", a carol with rich contemporary harmonies supported by an expressive solo cello line. Other choral items included "On This Silent Night" by Sarah Quartel and Rutter's "For the Beauty of the Earth". The year vocal octet sang a poignant rendition of "O Radiant Dawn", by James MacMillan. Our thanks go to the Reverend Dr Richard Lindley for leading the service; to the organist, Claudia Grinnell; Reverend Neil Birkett for leading the prayers; the Verger team and all the staff that helped behind the scenes and who produced a professional live stream.





ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE





CHRISTMAS CRACKER

Christmas has well and truly arrived at Kings' School! From the moment the wonderfully decorated tree appears in the foyer, it's clear to everyone that festive fun is only a few weeks away.

The first big event of the season is the Christmas Cracker and on Thursday 30th November, our enterprising pupils opened for business, alongside many local artisans, selling their beautiful wares. The Cracker was well supported by members of the Kings' community as well as many more from outside the school. Young and old had a fabulous time, and thanks to Miss Merrett and Mrs Lawless, our Grand Raffle boasted some of the most exceptional prizes ever offered in a Kings' School raffle. Mr Clarke led us in a singalong of carols around the tree (stunningly decorated by Mrs Terrones) and our stallholders did a roaring trade, as the mulled wine flowed and the mince pies were consumed thanks to the efforts of the Kings' PTA,



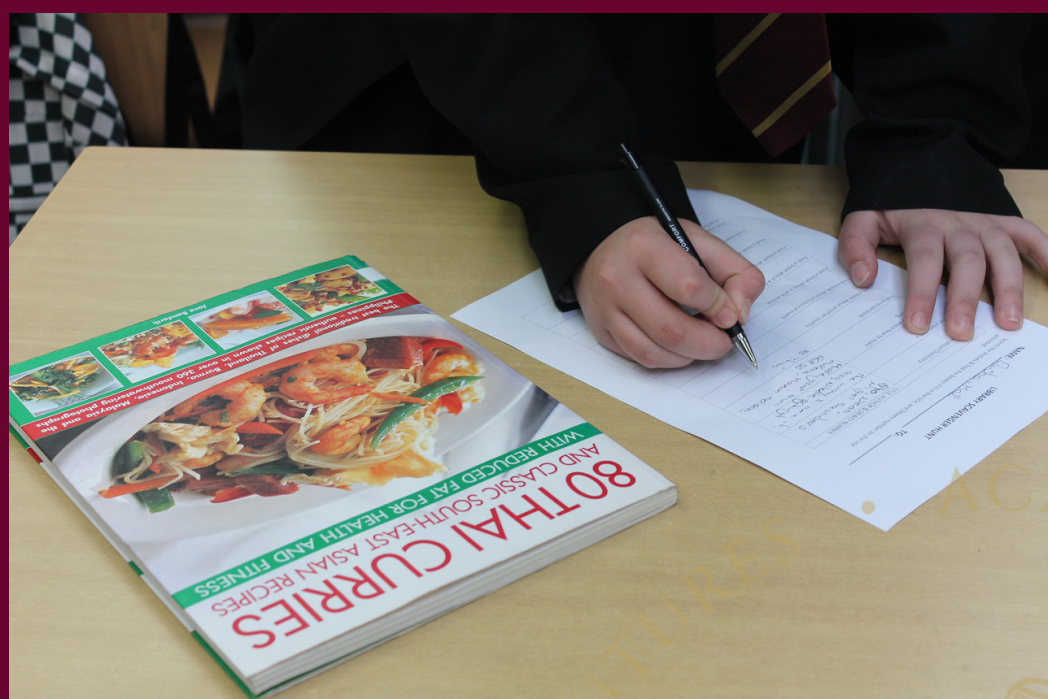


EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER



YEAR 7 LIBRARY SKILLS LESSONS

Our Year 7s have been enjoying their Library Skills lessons this half term, learning about the Dewey System of Classification. To hone their search and research skills they have been working on a Scavenger Hunt to discover more about our extensive non-fiction collection. As well as this, they have been learning about our eResources, such as eChalk, and our online library Sora. Mrs Miles has been delighted with the positive attitude towards learning and the excellent behaviour of our Year 7 cohort as they demonstrate academic excellence and exceptional character in every lesson.



CYBERFIRST

Mr Jefferson, joint STEM coordinator, is pleased to share information about two competitions Kings' pupils have been involved in over the last month.

CyberFirst

40 Year 8 girls have been taking part in the annual #CyberFirst competition, dedicating a lot of time to tackling challenges from cryptography and logic to artificial intelligence and networking for the chance to be crowned cyber security champions.

We had twelve teams competing, amassing a total of 12550 points between them, with 'The Random Trio' ending up as school winners with 2405 points. We are now waiting to see how we are placed in comparison to all the other teams who participated around the country.

We hope that this has inspired more girls to want to take up Computer Science.

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition>



Bebras

In November over 1000 pupils took part in the Bebras Computing Challenge, which introduces computational thinking to pupils, designed to get pupils all over the world excited about computing. By the end of the first week in December pupils will receive their certificates. There were 117 pupils who achieved a Gold award, finishing in the top 10% nationally. They will receive invites to take part in the Oxford University Computing Challenge, the first of which round takes place in the middle of January.

Congratulations to Arlo (Y7), William (Y7), Santiago (Y7), Evan (Y9), Katherine (Y9) and Klara (Y11) for achieving 'Best in School' for their category.

More information and examples of the challenges can be found here:

<https://bebras.uk>





SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



Another hugely successful Scholastic Book fair has taken place in the library. Over a period of two weeks, scores of pupils visited the fair to find pocket money bargains for themselves, while many bought gifts for their friends and siblings. The school earns commission on these sales in the form of books for the library. This year we will be spending our commission on new complete sets of popular titles, including The Hunger Games series.

JUMPERS FOR JOY!



Christmas Jumper day was celebrated in style at Kings' School, with pupils having fun and raising money at the same time. Mr Wooldridge and the catering team got into the festive spirit too, with these amazing cupcakes and gingerbread people.



EMPLOYABILITY INTERVIEWS

Over two days in December Year 11 Kings' students participated in Employability Interviews to:

- prepare for college and apprenticeship interview processes
- develop interview techniques, including effective questioning and answering
- raise self-confidence and an awareness of their personal skills, traits and achievements
- appreciate the importance of preparation and reflection in day to day life
- broaden career aspirations and challenge stereotypes

Students applied for interviews with professionals from a variety of career sectors including:

Healthcare, AI, Software Engineering, Pharmaceutical, Life Sciences, Childcare, Veterinary, Law, Aviation, Business & Marketing, Sport, Hair & Beauty, Automotive, Investment Banking, Equine, Media, Music Production, Construction, Animal Management & Criminology

Fabulous feedback:

"I feel ready to tackle my Post 16 college interview now"

"I have gained a great insight into the opportunities available within the Engineering sector"

"The students I interviewed were all so keen to find out about careers in Media and showed great potential to work in the sector."

"I was amazed at how mature and enthusiastic the students were"

"It was great to have such a cross-section of students and employers represented"



SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

MRS TAYYABA RAUF - MATRON

I started working at Kings' School exactly six years ago, and it has been quite a journey in multiple roles across the school. My background is in public health, but I ended up in the education sector simply because we were new to



the country, having moved from Pakistan, and it was convenient at that time to start off with local part-time work. I began with catering in Kings', moving on to being a Cover Supervisor, tutor, Science teacher, PE cover teacher, and now to a full-time role as the school Matron. It has been challenging yet extremely rewarding to do justice to all these roles, but brilliant to be a part of so many different teams and forming incredible relationships with staff and pupils alike, over the years.

Running the medical room, along with my colleague Mrs Peters is a full-on, high adrenaline job. As Matrons, we administer pain relief medication to children feeling unwell due to all kinds of ailments, provide first aid treatment for bumps, scrapes, minor and major injuries. We are responsible for all our diabetic, epileptic, asthmatic and anaphylactic pupils. I liaise with the school immunisation team, and logistically organise the mass vaccination of our pupils in school for flu, HPV, MMR and teenage booster vaccines. There is a buzz of activity in the medical room all day, and it is a satisfying feeling at the end of the day after caring for the health of all our pupils.

I love all kinds of sport and it was a privilege to work with the PE department for six months, a few years ago. My colleague Mrs Kaine and I run the weekly after school Badminton club, which is very gratifying, with some of our pupils returning year after year to play with us. I regularly help the PE department with their local and international tours. The Holland Hockey Tour earlier this year was a particularly memorable experience with some exceptional pupils and staff members. I also love to cook, and with my colleague Mrs Hussain, run the Crackin' Curry stall at the annual Kings' Summer Fayre which has garnered a lot of attention.

I have three sons, all of whom have benefited from the extraordinary learning environment of Kings', where they thrived and formed lasting friendships. My eldest son is at university, middle one in college, and youngest here in Year 10. My husband works in the telecom industry. Being local to Winchester, my family joke that I can never step out of the house without getting a greeting of 'Hello, Miss' from a current or former pupil! For me, I love the respect and acknowledgement from these wonderful youngsters. Moving to this wonderful country from Pakistan seven years ago was an incredible life change for my family, but definitely one for the better, and we are grateful and happy to now call England our home.





STREET PASTORS

MEET PETER ...

It is so many years since I was at school, many more than I care to remember or even admit to and recalling my early life is a challenge. Yet in recent years I have become a volunteer with the Friends of the Family charity and Winchester Street Pastors. So after seeing my own children through to adulthood, I am now winding the clock back and re-engaging with the young by extending my Street Pastor role, to include the role of School Pastor- working with the schools local to Kings' and having undertaken lots of training for the role. As such I will be making regular visits to Kings' in the New Year with my pastoring partner Liza and we are both so looking forward to it. Our aim is to support the pupils by caring, listening and helping in any way we can. Our uniforms make us very identifiable so don't hesitate to say hello and more if you have the time and inclination. We hope you will have plenty of both. Until January then, bless you all and do have a happy and peaceful Christmas. Peter.

... AND LIZA



I am looking forward to being with you in January. My son (now 25) was at Kings' so I know the school a little and I still recognise a few people. I hope to get to know many more of you. I'm a life long learner from discovering survival skills, drumming and conservation when I helped run a youth group. I did a couple of Open University courses on environmental issues and I also like learning to paint. It is relaxing, frustrating and rewarding in turns. That is life! Some things just don't come easy but it is so satisfying when it works. I even have to learn from my adult kids who have lots of ideas and opinions so they help me discover new films, clothes and music. When I heard about School Pastors I was keen to learn more. I really hope Peter and I will be a friendly faces and we will be around to hear about the good things and problems that life throws up. Most of all, we hope you'll like having us around and say hello when you see us.



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR PARENTS!

Our amazing pupils have amazing parents and we would love to shout about your achievements!

Have you run a marathon? Or several? Climbed Kilimanjaro? Raised vast sums of money for charity?

We are planning to shine a spotlight on our exceptional parents in future editions of our Newsletter.

If YOU have done something exceptional, please get in touch with Mrs Miles.
e.miles@kings-winchester.hants.sch.uk



Do you know who our school governors are?
You can find out more on our website - just
[click here](#)



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DATES FOR THE DIARY

Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Start of Spring Term - INSET day

Wednesday 3rd January 2024
Start of Spring Term for Pupils

Thursdsay 4th January 2024 -
Shaping the Future Forum 5.30 - 6.15,
Training Suite

WE ARE RECRUITING:
Teacher of Mathematics
Teacher of Design

Cover Supervisor
Learning Support Assistant
Dining Room Assistant
Invigilators

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR
FURTHER DETAILS

<https://kings-hants.com/register-an-interest/>



Shaping the Future Parents' Forums - 1st week back!

We would really value your input for our next Shaping the Future Parents' Forum on Thursday 4th January 2024 at 5.30pm - 6.15pm in the Training Suite at Kings' School.

We will be seeking your feedback on Use of Mobile Phones and the Shape of the School Day.

We look forward to seeing you there

Thank you.



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HMS CELEBRATORY SERVICE



Pupils from Kings' School participated in the Hampshire Music Service's Celebratory event at Winchester Cathedral.

AND FINALLY...

Proof, if it were needed, that everyone wants to come to Kings'. Even the local wildlife! A baby hedgehog made its way into the library one cold December morning and was discovered by a group of concerned Year 7 lads. Thanks to Mr Marcus Fermoy from our Site Team, the hedgehog, named Norman (after the House) was relocated to a hedge on the school grounds.





HAMPSHIRE
HISTORY
TRUST

Dear Parents/Carers

We are delighted to let you know about a fundraising event - 'An Evening with Dan Snow' - that we are holding on Friday 2nd February 2024 from 6.30-7.30pm at Winchester College. Dan has recently joined Hampshire History Trust as a patron and we are excited to share the details of this opportunity for you to pass on to your parents, staff and students. If any of them would be interested in attending, tickets can available via our eventbrite page here.

We hope you will be able to join us but please do get in touch via this email address should you have any questions.

Many thanks

Natasha White

PA to Festival Director

Winchester Heritage Open Days

The organisational home of the team behind Winchester Heritage Open Days and the @HistBites podcast.

For the latest news sign up today for our Heritage Open Days newsletter via our website

Connect with us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: @WinchesterHoDs @HistBites @HistoryTrust

Winchester Heritage Open Days is coordinated by volunteers from Hampshire History Trust (Charity number: 1191377)

It's Christmas Time!



A Parent's Guide to Social Media



A Parent's Guide to Sharing Pictures



A Parent's Guide to Gaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Grooming



scan the QR code with your phone's camera to see the guides on our website



A Parent's Guide to Live Streaming



A Parent's Guide to Online Influencers



A Parent's Guide to Fake News



A Parent's Guide to Privacy Settings

It's always best to be prepared

Many parents may be planning to give electronic gadgets to their children this festive period.

Our guide is designed to help parents take a realistic approach to help keep their children safe when using the internet, social media and playing online games.

Scan the QR code to find out more.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

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Developed in partnership with



www.skipssafetynet.org