

NEWSLETTER



KINGS'
SCHOOL · WINCHESTER

UPDATES FOR THE PARENTS OF KINGS'



JUST DANCE - JANUARY HOUSE EVENT

HEAD TEACHER'S MESSAGE



Welcome back to Kings' at the start of the Spring Term!

Pupils have started the term in fine form: they are energised and focused in lessons and we have seen a continuation of the high levels of participation in clubs and activities (despite the low temperatures!).

Staff started last week with an INSET day, in which we continued our focus on 'Growing and Celebrating Exceptional Character'. We explored our future focus upon for 'character' later this and into next year, as well as continuing to grow the role of the tutor and meeting SEND needs in the classroom. This was followed by our annual review by Hampshire which was overwhelmingly positive, recognising the significant work that that has happened over the last year to achieve our mission of Inspiring Futures, Exceptional Character and Academic Excellence.

We are already in full flow - this week we have Year 10 mocks, have hosted the Year 5 and 6 hockey festival, and are installing additional toilets in the English / Year 10 zone. Next week we have our Year 11 Study Skills and Peter Symonds College interviews, Year 10 mocks, Year 8 Parents' Information Evening as well as starting work on the new secure entrance to the school site.

Casting our eyes further forward, this term is always a significant one for many pupils, especially those in Year 9 as they make their choices for their Key Stage 4 subjects.

We have a number of fantastic new staff who have joined us at the start of the new year, including:
Paula Bevan and Alice Kaiser – Receptionists
Minal Chandarana – Teacher of Science
Su Erarabaci – Teacher of English
Rose Faulkner – Head of Science
Craig Houston – Strategic IT Lead and Network Manager
Shanti Kumari Thapa – Dining Room Assistant.
Sarah Nixon – Teacher of Latin
Michael Brackstone and Ryan Irving our Community Centre Managers

I hope you have a great start to the year and a fantastic 2024!



DRAMA SHOWCASE EVENING

In the last week of the Autumn term, the Drama department hosted a Drama Showcase Evening, which included some festive performances from the Drama Club students; as well as short scenes from John Godber's 'Teachers' performed by the Year 10 GCSE Drama students.

The evening started with the dramatic talents of the Drama Club, in an eclectic mix of performances from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', to a retelling of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and musical numbers from 'Annie' to 'Lion King'. A real highlight was the vibrant costumes that were each handmade by the individual students who performed an electrifying version of 'Ex Wives' from 'Six - The Musical'. Overall, the audience were entertained by the array of performances and the theatrical skills that the students presented so confidently.

The second part of the evening was dedicated to the scripted performances of the Year 10 GCSE Drama students, who had worked with total enthusiasm and dedication when rehearsing the scenes from 'Teachers' in their lessons. The students perfectly executed the comedy within the script, ensuring lots of laughter from the audience through their exaggerated characterisations, hilarious interactions and engaging vocal and physical skills.

We were so proud of each and every one of the students who performed and participated in the Showcase Evening, so a huge well done to them!

Finally, a huge thank you to Miss Nokes and Mrs Skerritt for preparing the students for the evening and making the event run so smoothly.

Mrs Hawker - Head of Drama





EARA is a pupil-led lunchtime club which meets in the library. EARA stands for the Equality And Rights Advocates, and we work towards celebrating human rights and inclusiveness in our school environment. The goal and dream of EARA is to make each and every member of Kings' School feel that they belong and that we care about them, knowing that they are valued and treasured, and working on making Kings' more inclusive and diverse. It is a county-wide initiative with many different groups and schools throughout Hampshire, open to all years, with free biscuits occasionally offered! (And very good ones at that.) We meet on Thursday lunchtimes, discuss issues, and make surveys. We sometimes have school trips to meet up with other EARA groups. However, we are currently a small group, made up mainly of Year 11s. We would love to welcome more members and if your child feels strongly about Equality, Human Rights, inclusivity and diversity, then EARA is the club for them. Ask them to come along to the Library on any Thursday lunchtime. There may even be biscuits!

Marcello (Year 8)





EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER



SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

MRS C. WAINWRIGHT

HEAD OF GERMAN

TIME AT SCHOOL - 13 YEARS



I am Head of German but also a teacher of French (and in the past I have even taught some Japanese!)

This is my 13th year at Kings' (lucky for some!)

I love my languages and I love engaging with people.

I hope that pupils will find a friendly face when they arrive at my lessons and I hope that I communicate my love of languages well in order to enthuse them.

I enjoy the working with the pupils here at Kings' as they are so very wonderful!

SCIENCE CLUB

Science club (for Yrs 7 and 8) takes place on Mondays after school in Room 29. We carry out investigations and make observations in Physics, Biology and Chemistry, from designing and competing in paper aeroplane challenges, collecting and investigating the structure of leaves found around school, to observing the colour changes in universal indicator at a range of pHs and using these to decorate our "Chemis-tree" over Christmas.



SPOTLIGHT ON A PUPIL

ANSH AGRAWALA

AGE 12



Left: Ansh takes centre stage at the Mela

Above: Ansh meets the Mayor of Southampton

Hundreds of people came from far and wide to attend the first ever Diwali Mela in Southampton, where the Hindu festival of lights was celebrated with musical performances, fashion shows, and the Ramayana play – Ramlila.

Food and accessory stalls were also on offer as the Hindu community from across Southampton, Portsmouth, Bournemouth, and as far away as London ventured to the six-hour-long celebration.

The event, organised by the Eastleigh and Southampton Asian Community (ESAC), was also in aid of Year 7 pupil Ansh Agrawala who needs life-changing surgery to walk without the assistance of a frame.

The organisers added: "The NHS is helping but if we can help him get the finances he needs – which in total is £30,000 – we want to help wherever we can."

As a result of the enormous success of the Mela, Ansh was then invited to meet the Mayor of Southampton. Congratulations to Ansh, his family and his wonderfully supportive community.



BRRRRR ... IT'S COLD OUT THERE...

In addition to the 'Cold rooms' available across the school, it's lovely and warm in the Library. And many of our pupils like to come in early, find a comfy space, plonk down their coats and bags, and READ! What a great way to prepare for the day.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Last term 77 Year 10 students travelled to Petersfield where they successfully completed their Bronze qualifying expedition.

There is an award ceremony coming up next half term for those that have completed their award- invitations will be sent out soon!

162 Year 9 students have begun their Bronze journey this year. This is the largest number of signups the school has ever seen. They have begun the skill, physical and volunteering sections of the award. Well done everyone!





Key Stage 3 parents

Academic Excellence: Knowledge Organisers.



As we embark on the new term, we would like to remind you of one of the most important tools in your child's education. Our Knowledge Organisers provide you with a detailed overview of what your child will be learning this term. A digital copy can be found [here](#). They outline the core knowledge that all pupils should learn this term in all of their subjects. They need to be brought into school every day and used for homework regularly.

Each subject section in the organiser contains essential knowledge, key terms, and supplementary activities, providing a clear roadmap for academic excellence. Here's how you can use this tool to support your child both academically and pastorally:

Familiarise with Subject Content: Review the organiser to understand the topics and concepts your child will be learning. This insight allows you to engage in meaningful discussions about their studies and monitor their progress.

Encourage Regular Review: The knowledge organiser is a great revision tool. Encourage your child to regularly go over the material, helping to reinforce learning and aid memory retention.

Assist with Homework: Use the organiser to assist your child with homework or projects. It's a handy reference for key concepts and terminology.

Assist with Revision for Exams: All of our assessments are built around the core knowledge outlined in the organiser. Your child will be tested on current and historic work – so they should keep their previous organisers and use it to revise as advised by their teachers.

Explore Extension Tasks: Each section includes additional tasks and resources. Encourage your child to delve into these for deeper understanding and personal growth.

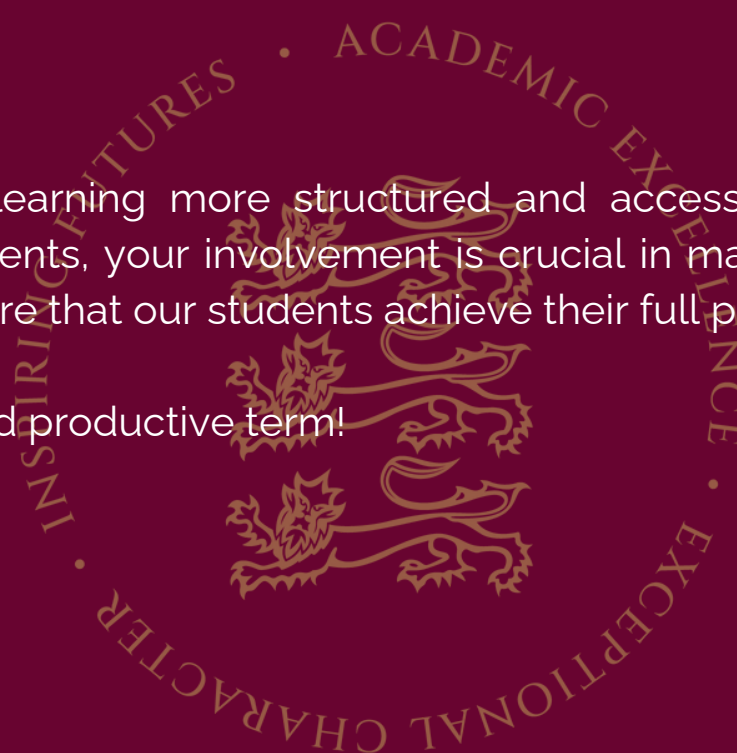
Support Emotional and Social Development: Beyond academics, the organiser includes pastoral elements, promoting exceptional character through our school values. Please discuss these values at home to support your child's all-round development.

Establish a Study Routine: Help your child to incorporate the knowledge organiser into their daily study routine. When they finish their homework early, pupils can consolidate their learning, or extend their knowledge. Consistent review enhances learning and builds good study habits.

Track Progress and Celebrate Achievements: Use the organiser to track your child's progress in different subjects. Celebrate their achievements, no matter how small, to keep them motivated.

This tool is designed to make learning more structured and accessible, encouraging pupils to take ownership of their studies. As parents, your involvement is crucial in making this a successful endeavour. By working together, we can ensure that our students achieve their full potential.

We look forward to an exciting and productive term!





Our Music and Drama departments are proud to announce our major production for 2024 ...





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

Monday 15 - Friday 19 January Year 10 Mock Examinations

Monday 15 - Friday 19 January Year 11 Peter Symonds College Interviews

Monday 22 January PE Inter Schools Climbing Competition

Thursday 25th January Year 11 Parents Evening

WE ARE RECRUITING:

- Cover Supervisors
- Learning Support Assistant
- Cover Supervisor
- Teacher of Science
- Teacher of Business
- Teacher of English
- Teacher of Maths
- Teacher of Design Technology
- Invigilators

PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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



Winchester PeaceJam Conference

Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th March 2024

Get ready for an action-packed weekend, empowering youth to be the change they want to see in the world through **hands-on workshops, near-peer mentoring groups and a social action planning session**. To facilitate sustainable change, schools and youth groups will also have **access to a six-week programme** that complements the Citizenship GCSE curriculum.

It will be held at **Winchester University**



Our inspirational keynote speaker will be Harshwardhansinh Zala!

As a young teen, he created a drone that can detect landmines and now he runs his own organisation called Aerobotic7. He embodies the next generation of peacemakers, taking after our amazing **Nobel Peace Laureate Jody Williams**. We cannot wait for him to work with our youth at this conference, and connect with Jody, who will be joining virtually to talk about her work and answer questions.

Registration will open soon! However you can register your interest and make enquiries by emailing: unitedkingdom@peacejam.org

The cost to attend and be part of the action will be **£60.00** per young person. **Teachers and Youth Workers are free**. This can be paid for by schools, clubs or sponsoring Rotary Clubs. We also have access to other alternative funding streams.

Further information about PeaceJam can be found at: <https://peacejam.org.uk/>



Hampshire and Isle of Wight



We're investing between £700 million and £900 million in hospital services in Hampshire.

We'd like to know what you think about our plans to build a new hospital, invest in Winchester hospital, and our proposals for where services are provided from in the future.

This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to improve your hospital facilities and services for decades to come.

Have your say and help shape tomorrow's hospitals

To find out more visit
www.hampshiretogether.nhs.uk
or scan the QR code



You can also email hiowicb-hsi.mohhs@nhs.net
call **0300 561 0905** or write to us at
Freepost HAMPSHIRE TOGETHER

Our public consultation is open until midnight on 17 March 2024. We'd love to hear your views

