



KINGSTHORPE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

NEWS & FEATURES

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Headteacher's Message

Welcome to the second addition of the KC newsletter.

It's been an exhilarating half term. Our students and staff have been busy in the day-to-day learning, Electives, trips, guest speakers, enrichment and much more.

Students have settled well into the first half term, routines have been established quickly and we look forward to next half term.

Over the summer we undertook several projects in the school for example new displays, refurbishment of rooms and redeveloping the Post 16 Centre. We plan to undertake further work in half term which was outlined in the letter sent home. This work includes creating a new SEN provision space and the starting of our plans for basketball courts.

I hope you all have a fantastic break, and we look forward to welcoming you back in November.

Ms Matharu
Headteacher

Annual Awards Ceremony

On Thursday 19 September we held our annual awards ceremony. This was moved from June in order to celebrate the achievements of our outgoing Y11 and Y13 students in the summer examination series. Over 250 students and parents / carers were in attendance at an event to celebrate a whole host of awards including:

- Curriculum Awards
- Student of the Year for each year group
- Team of the Year
- Best Conduct
- Marc Birch Award
- Shelia Dean Award
- Take Flight Award
- Core Values Award
- Achievement and Attainment Awards
- Headteacher Award

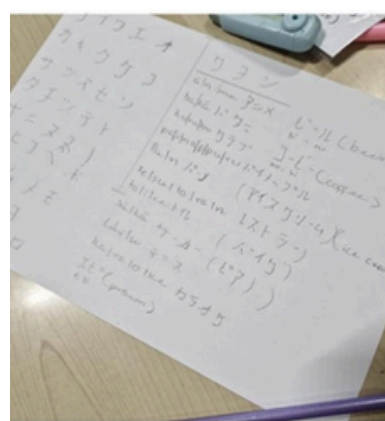
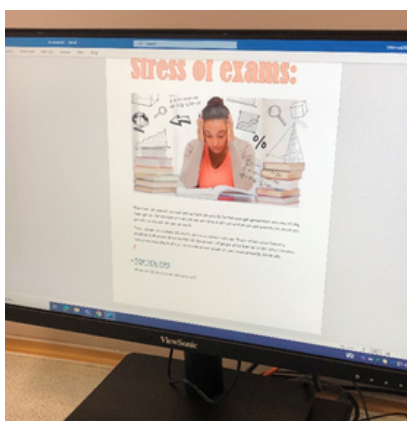
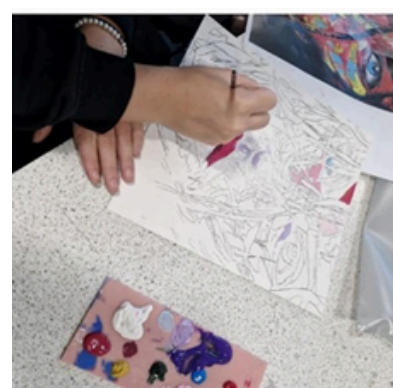
The evening saw all Learning Directors and Heads of Year present awards as well as members of the Senior Leadership team. It really was a whole school event and so lovely to hear such positive comments about our students and their successes. How some had turned things around and how others were demonstrating our core values every day. Our guest speaker was former student Rebecca Kings who left KC in 2017 to study a degree in Psychology and gained a First-Class honours degree and now works supporting young people and mental health in Northamptonshire.



Elective Programme

Our new Electives programme was launched Period 5 on Wednesday 11 September. This is an opportunity for all staff and students to experience something different once a week under one of three main themes: Physical and Adventurous; Creative or Cultural. We have 45 different activities taking place from quiet reading groups to creating a KC newspaper; from trampolining to golf; from learning Japanese to understanding crime investigations – there is something for everyone and a chance to work with students across different year groups at the same time. Each activity lasts one full term so students have the opportunity to participate in three different activities, one from each main theme over the academic year. On Wednesday 2 October Orbis Trust completed a Quality Assurance walk of the Electives and the feedback was extremely positive "The entire school staff should be congratulated for delivering a whole school Electives programme". Our social media has reported on some of the activities taking place and photographs of some of the work KC students have produced. We have even had outside speakers in to talk to Aptitude Music, drama and dance groups alongside those participating in the Musical Theatre elective about working in the music industry and being scouted.

Examples of some electives:



P.E

It's been a really busy first half term in the PE department, where we have faced much disruption with weather, but nonetheless we've managed to keep the students active!

All KS3 students have completed their first block of work. Year 9 have moved onto their second activity, whilst Years 7 and 8 have been working on a short block of Fitness. Through their fitness work, they have explored different components of fitness – how these components are required in different sporting contexts and how they might be trained or tested.

KS4 students have been completing their first block of work, focusing on games play, rules and tactics, ready to start their new activities after the half term break.

We have been building our extra-curricular provision, with numbers of students attending our lunchtime and after school clubs increasing. Below is the timetable of activities. There is no need to sign up for any of the activities. For lunchtime clubs, simply bring trainers to change into, these clubs are recreational. PE kit is required for after school sessions, which are more focused on training for competitions. These run from 3.15-4.15pm, 3pm-4pm on a Wednesday.

Monday Table Tennis KS3 Netball
Yrs 9 and 10 Football
Tuesday Basketball Basketball
Yrs 7 & 8 Trampolining
Wednesday Trampolining KS3 Girls' Football
Thursday Badminton Year 10 Netball
Yrs 7 & 8 Football
KS3 Rugby
Friday 6th form Indoor Football Girls' Football – all years

In the 7 week half term, we have already completed a number of fixtures, including many first round County Cup Football games. We have Year 7-10 Boys Football teams entered into league fixtures that will start shortly after half term.

The Year 9 and 10 Netball teams are busy preparing for their leagues to start.

Year 7 Girls and Year 8/9 Girls combined, are entered into the Central Venue Tournaments that take place 3 times a year and the Year 10/11 Girls Football team are preparing for their County Cup, after our first round opponents forfeited the game.

Fixtures results so far...

Year 7
Boys County Cup Football R1 v DSLV Won 4-3
Girls County Cup Football R1 v CCS Lost 0-8

Year 8
Boys County Cup Football R1 v Sponne Won 7-0
Year 10
Boys County Cup Football R1 v Moulton Lost 2-7
Netball friendly v Pitsford School Lost 23-3

Please see the attached Match Reports from the games to give you a little more information about each game.
Looking forward to an equally busy half term 2!

Miss Newell (Head of PE)

Y10 Netball Match:

Thursday 3 October saw KC Y10 Netball team have their first game of the season. The team had been training hard every week since they started a club towards the end of Y9.

The club has grown from a starting group of 7 to 20 students so it was only fitting that all should experience the game and play their part.

The game was against Pitsford School and took place in KC sports hall. After a nervous start KC settled into the game with glimpses of what had been practiced in training coming through. Some accurate shooting by Ilinca and Adriana saw KC score their first goals. Pitsford have played together for many years and their court play understanding shone through. At the end of the game Pitsford voted for their player of the match and this was awarded to Shanlay and Adriana. The team have already asked for more training sessions and the next game is Thursday 14 November.

My Match Report



Team 1:	Kingsthorpe College	Team 2:	Moulton School
Venue & Date:	Kingsthorpe College – 16/9/2024		
Goal scorers & Times	Lucas – 50th min Xavier – 59th min		
Match details:	<p>A County Cup fixture to start the footballing calendar at Kingsthorpe College. Moulton School were the visiting team and proved to be an extremely tough outfit. A very strong and organised team, they grabbed the first goal of the game at the 20 minute mark after striking the post twice beforehand. From there they kicked on and ended the half being 3-0 up.</p> <p>A spirited half team talk by captain Harry S motivated the team and they came out for the second half the better team and found two goals courtesy of a lovely Lucas L strike from around 25 yards out, and a Xavier O towering header to get the game back to 4-2 at that point.</p> <p>Kingsthorpe however, couldn't capitalise on the two goals they had scored, and Moulton ran out 7-2 winners and deservedly so.</p> <p>Good luck to Moulton in the next round, I'm sure they will go far in the competition if they can produce the same performance going forward.</p> <p>Mr Kingsnorth – "I was very impressed with the work rate of the team and the effort level involved throughout. A tough relentless team in Moulton reminded us that we have a few things to work on to get us back to winning ways".</p>		
Player of the Match:	Kaylen		
Final Score:	Kingsthorpe 2 – 7 Moulton		
Report written by:	Mr Kingsnorth		

My Match Report



Team 1:	KC	Team 2:	Abbeyfield
Venue & Date:	Kingsthorpe College – 26/9/2024		
Goal scorers & Times	Harry S x4 Max G x2 Gee N x2 Samuel M Ismail M Charlie J		
Match details:	<p>Possibly the most back and forth match I have witnessed in my 20+ years in Football!</p> <p>It would be fair to say that defence wasn't on either team's priority list in this fixture!</p> <p>Looking to build on an early exit in last year's ESFA National cup, Kingsthorpe started quickly with an early goal from Harry S. Abbeyfield responded with 2 quick goals of their own and from that point the teams weren't separated by more than a single goal until the score hit 10-8 to Kingsthorpe.</p> <p>Some very well taken goals, particularly by Max G, and with him pulling the strings in the middle, goals were easy to come by.</p> <p>Defensively however it was tough for both teams with the heavens being opened and what felt like a hurricane hitting Northampton, the ball was swirling in the air and skidding off the wet surface, making keeping possession of the ball that bit more difficult.</p> <p>Moving into the third round, the team would agree that we need to be stronger defensively, but a lot of positives to take for the team offensively.</p>		
Player of the Match:	Max G		
Final Score:	11-8		
Report written by:	Mr Kingsnorth	Age Group:	Y10

My Match Report



Team 1:	KC	Team 2:	DSLV
Venue & Date:	30.9.24 @ KC County Cup R1		
Goal scorers & Times:	Normal time : Dennis Pens: Connor, Malvin, David, Edward		
Match details:	<p>After a delay in KO due to travelling, KC got started against DSLV from Daventry. They had some physical players and it was a close and cagey start to the game. KC created some good early chances and their GK made some good saves from shots by Malvin and Connor. It was very close game, lots of foul throws from both teams! KC played the better football and some strong defensive work from Edward and Lucas kept the game tight. However, it finished 0-0 at FT so it went onto ET. DSLV scored first from a play out from the back by KC. However, the boys didn't give up and scored an equaliser through Dennis. A really well worked team goal. That took the game to penalties. DSLV were a bit unlucky with 2 of their penalties hitting the post. KC only missed 1 of their 5 pens and the win was completed.</p> <p>Well done boys!</p>		
Player of the Match:	Connor		
Final Score:	1-1 – KC win 4-3 on pens		
Report written by:	Mr Smith		

My Match Report



Team 1:	KC	Team 2:	Sponne School
Venue & Date:	Kingsthorpe College – 3/10/2024		
Goal scorers & Times	Gabriel x3 Szymon Alexsej Eddie Taylor		
Match details:	<p>A County Cup fixture to start the Y8 football calendar at Kingsthorpe College. Sponne were the visiting team on this occasion, but were no match for Kingsthorpe. With Kevin and Gaby controlling the middle of the pitch, chances were coming quickly.</p> <p>A solid team effort from back to front with all players involved putting in a great performance.</p> <p>Mr Wright – “A fantastic all-round performance. The team were able to maintain possession and create a lot of chances that were converted brilliantly. We await Manor School in the next round, with a quarter final spot on the line”.</p>		
Player of the Match:	Gaby		
Final Score:	Kingsthorpe 7 – 0 Sponne		
Report written by:	Mr Wright	Year Group:	YR 8

My Match Report



Team 1:	KC	Team 2:	Caroline Chisholm School		
Venue & Date:	14.10.24 @ KC County Cup R1				
Goal scorers & Times:					
Match details:	<p>This was the Yr7 girls' first game, which was against CCS. With 2 last minute drop outs we had to start the game with only 7 players.</p> <p>CCS looked a well drilled side and had some players who played at a good level outside of school.</p> <p>The first half finished 3-0 to CCS. The girls have to be credited with not giving up and fighting all the way. Lena, Tilly and Delia had strong first halves.</p> <p>In the second half, KC started strongly, Kiera making some excellent tackles. However, CCS were just too strong and scored several times. The final score being 8-0. However, the girls tried hard, never gave up and played the game in good spirits. Well done!</p>				
Player of the Match:	Tilly				
Final score:	0-8				
Report written by:	Mr Smith		Year Group		Yr 7

Performing Arts

On Wednesday 9th October, Kingsthorpe College were lucky enough to have Megan Fitzsimons who is an A&R (artists and repertoire) manager from Sony deliver a talk to our students on her musical background, life in the music industry, the highlights of her job role and the process of getting signed. Students interviewed her and partook in a Q&A at the end where students were very engaged and eager to ask their questions.

As well as Megan, Ewan Mainwood also came to perform 6 of his own songs to the group. Ewan has released his own music, been signed to Warner, had his songs played on Love Island, toured Europe, written with artists one example being The Script and has supported Ed Sheeran and Clinton Kane on tour.

Overall, the afternoon was a huge success, and the student's left feeling inspired.

Our Performing Arts teachers had the challenging task of choosing the cast for this year's musical Matilda. Auditions were held over several days and staff were impressed by all the students who attended. Rehearsals have now begun, and the cast are working incredibly well. The early signs are very strong! Performances will be taking place on December 17th, 18th and 19th, please keep an eye out for tickets.

We have recently held the Aptitude Day for our cohort starting in September 2025; again we have seen lots of talent and after much deliberation our cohort for the next academic year has already been chosen!

Next term, our KS4 and 5 actors are looking forward to watching Frankenstein at the Derngate in November, whilst our dancers are about to sign up for the biggest dance event in the world: Move It! in London in March.



**SONY MUSIC
PUBLISHING**

Careers Fair

On Thursday 10th October, we held our first careers fair since COVID. We had seven exhibitors from a range of companies and organisations including colleges, universities and the Armed Forces. All students in Years 9, 11, 12 and 13 got the chance to find out more about each exhibitor and the opportunities they offer post-16 and post-18 in terms of Further Education and jobs.

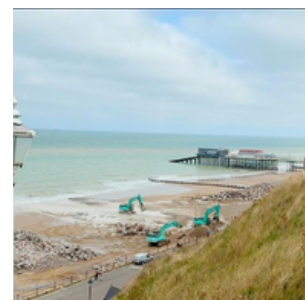
There was a great buzz to the event, with many students exploring options such as apprenticeships and courses that they hadn't previously considered.

A big thank you to the organisations that sent representatives, and all those who helped out on the day. If you work at a company that would like to be represented at next year's fair, please let us know at student.careers@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk.



Geography

September saw the Geography department take the Year 13 Geographers to the Norfolk coastline as an opportunity to see geographical processes in action, and to collect their own individual primary data. We completed a scavenger hunt of human and physical processes, and saw coastal management being installed in Cromer, before spending the next day in Sheringham where we were based for our stay. This day saw the geographers investigate the impacts of coastal management, land use change and environmental impacts of the local area. On the way back we visited Norwich where data collection involved environmental quality surveys and questionnaires about changes over time. It was lovely to see the students be independent and take charge of their individual investigations -well done all.



Year 11 Geography students have completed their fieldwork for Component 3 of their exam. Students visited Northampton University not only to complete an investigation on sustainability but to also participate in a Geography taster session with staff from the University. Students participated in a tour and learnt how to use a theodolite to measure angles as well as play the trade game to learn more about the increasing global connections and inequalities in development. For their fieldwork, students visited five sites around the university collecting primary data through environmental quality surveys, field sketches and observations to help them to understand whether or not the redevelopment of the University was sustainable. Despite some heavy downpours on the second day of fieldwork, all students were able to successfully collect their data and now have a greater understanding of what it might be like to study at the University of Northampton.



Antarctic Flags Project

Would you like to see your artwork in Antarctica? We can make it happen. Every year, students from Kingsthorpe College design flags to send to Antarctica. The British Antarctic Survey take the flags to Antarctica on behalf of UK Polar Network and some beautiful photographs of the stunning Antarctic landscape are taken. We welcome entries from students across the college and trust and the closing date for students to design a flag to go to Antarctica is the 20th November.

Flags must be:

- No larger than A4
- Colourful

Have something on them to symbolise Antarctica, for example the outline, penguins, glaciers or scientists.

Please hand your entries to Mrs Sheriff in Humanities.

I.T

On the 9th October 2024 our Year 10 iMedia class visited Cadburys World. The student's current coursework unit is 'To design and create a visual identity and chocolate box lid for a luxury brand'. Their aim during this visit was to investigate chocolate box lids and visual identities of the different chocolate brands.

The class had lots of fun learning about the history of John Cadbury and how he started his career as a grocer. Amongst groceries, he sold cocoa and drinking chocolate - which he prepared himself, using a mortar and pestle; this became very popular. The students also visited the Bournville museum in which they could explore a range of branding and packaging material for inspiration.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed sampling a range of free chocolate bars throughout the trip and writing their name in chocolate. We also dived into a bowl of liquid Cadbury Dairy Milk, rode the Crunchie Rollercoaster, whilst firing at several coco beans and finally we endured an adventurous journey in the 4D Chocolate Adventure cinema experience, with motion seats and with a lot of screaming boys!

We finished the day with an iMedia talk from Cadburys. The students learnt further about product equities, why branding is important, hidden meaning within logos, colour psychology and the use of slogans.



Maths

Maths have been rolling out their new homework platform Sparx this term. Parents and carers will have found that they are being emailed during the week when homework is due and will receive a reminder email if the homework has not been started. The homework set follows the curriculum we are doing in lessons and will also test students on previously learnt topics so that they don't forget what they have already learnt. The work set for the students is adaptive so the programme will change the questions to match the student's ability as they work through them. Please ask your child(ren) to show you this amazing platform and the work they are completing.

Open Evening

On the 26th of September we welcomed over 500 people to come and tour the school on the Year 6 Open evening.

We were proud to share a headteachers talk with families that highlighted our commitment to personal education and enrichment opportunities as well as the high standards we have for our curriculum and pastoral offering. Year 6 students had the opportunity to tour the school, seeing such things dance and drama performances, science experiences as well as our facilities.

Many thanks to lots of our current students who supported the evening so well.





Are you entitled?

Is your Child entitled to Free School Meals?

If you receive any of the following benefits, your child/children maybe entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee Element of State pension Credit
- Child Tax Free Credit (Not Receiving Working Tax Credit, Income Related)
- Universal Credit (Income Related)

Children who receive these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Please visit the Pupil Premium area of our School website and follow the link provided for more information.

www.kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Keeping In Touch

BY TEAM KC



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