



# Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

*Edition 200*



## Dear Parents

Happy New Year.

It's been an incredibly busy start to 2020 and I am really looking forward to a half-term full of opportunities for our students to develop their artistic, athletic and academic excellence. I also hope that I am in a position to share our Ofsted report with you in the next couple of weeks – we are still waiting to receive the draft report from Ofsted but this is not unusual given the timing of our inspection.

Assemblies by the year teams during the first week back after the Christmas break focused on setting personal targets in the form of New Year Resolutions and we always find that the start of the year is a good

time to reflect on the past and set targets to improve further. I often talk to students about being the best version of themselves, and one of my favourite quotations is from William Faulkner who says, “Don’t bother just to be better than your contemporaries or predecessors. Try to be better than yourself.”

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended the Year 7 Parents’ Evening on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January. We recorded the highest ever attendance for the school. Feedback was extremely positive, and I am delighted with how the year group has transitioned to KC from their primary schools.

On Wednesday of this week, we welcomed representatives from Century Tech into school to demonstrate to our Year 11 students, teachers and tutors their amazing online learning platform. The programme uses artificial intelligence software to diagnose students’ areas for development in their science, maths, and English knowledge and then uses this information to provide a personalised pathway for each student depending on their needs. The material on this platform has been developed by expert teachers, as well as neuroscientists and the positive impact on achievement that spending just 20 minutes a day on the platform is astonishing. Year 11 students will begin using the platform immediately and if you have a son or daughter in Year 11, I would encourage you to ask them to show you how it works. There is also a parent page which allows you to see how your son or daughter is progressing and we will send details of how you can access this in due course. All students at the College have access to this platform and we look forward to rolling it out to other year groups after Easter once we have become experts in the system! In addition, the platform will allow us to set and mark homework, as well as provide students with electronic textbooks for all aspects of their core subjects. I know homework and how you can be involved in this is something which several of you have raised in the past, so I am looking forward to sharing this with you as I think it will directly address some of the issues you have raised.

As our students in Year 11 and Post 16 edge ever closer to their exams, we were delighted to welcome David Hyner on Thursday who delivered a motivational speech to Year 11 and Post 16 students. His speech was inspirational, and he challenged our students to not settle for being average – a perfect message for the start of the decade as KC students are

definitely not average!

I am sure you are aware that here at Kingsthorpe College we recognise the importance of punctuality and the link to achievement. We have high expectations for our students and it is important to us that we show students the link between good school habits and the world of work – particularly in relation to the need to be on time. As a result, students who are late more than 2 times in a week will be set a “Catch up Detention” on a Wednesday afternoon between 3.00 and 3.45pm where they will be expected to catch up on work missed. We feel this will help our students improve their attainment as well as encourage them to form good habits. Just a reminder that students need to be on site for 8.30am as registration starts at 8.40am. We have a simple mantra, “Get through the gate by half past eight and you won’t be late.”

Important dates coming up:

- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February – On Line Safety Workshop for Parents.
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Y11 Parents’ Evening 2.
- Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Y11/Post 16 Revision Session for Parents.

I look forward to updating you again next week.

Mrs Giovanelli  
**Headteacher**

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**Student services have quite the collection of coats in lost property, please ask your child to take a look if you have some lost property.**

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**Link to subjects**  
ICT, English, Media, Business



**Qualifications**  
A degree in media, marketing or business would be helpful

[Click here for more information](#)

**Skills and Qualities**  
Commercial awareness, communication, sociable, good written skills

**Salary**  
£15,000-£28,000



A social media strategist would create, edit, publish and share daily content that encourages members of the social network community to engage with the business.

Students at Kingsthorpe College dream big, work hard and stay humble.  
We prepare and inspire our students so that they have the necessary knowledge, skills and aspirations to succeed in the job market of tomorrow.



Stroke  
Association



# Join the resolution

More than a run

Survivor, carer, family or friend –  
life after stroke is different for us all.  
Join the Resolution Run and raise funds  
to rebuild more lives after stroke.

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Join at: [resolutionrun.org.uk](http://resolutionrun.org.uk)

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Northampton Resolution Run 1-15k  
Brixworth Country Park  
Sunday 8 March 2020, 11am





Your  
resolution  
starts here

### Run, walk or cheer and choose the distance that suits you

Whether you're putting on your running shoes for the first time or hoping to achieve a new personal best, set a goal that works for you. Each Resolution Run is designed to be fun for anyone of any age or ability, with a range of distances to choose from.

And while you're doing it, remember: not only are you raising funds to rebuild lives, but by exercising, you're also helping to reduce your own risk of stroke. So you really are doing something life-changing.

**Together we can rebuild lives**

The Stroke Association is registered as a charity in England and Wales (no. 29850) and in Scotland (SC037269). Also registered in the Isle of Man (no. 1942) and Jersey (NPO 340), and operating as a charity in Northern Ireland.

### Stroke fact

There are more than **100,000 strokes** in the UK each year. That's around one stroke **every five minutes**.

### Stroke fact

Every year, we help **72,000 stroke survivors** rebuild their lives.



## Book of the Week

Cogheart by Peter Bunzl (BL 5.7)



The Cogheart Adventures series by Peter Bunzl is a contemporary classic, full of mystery, mayhem and danger. In honour of Peter visiting the college this week we have chosen Cogheart as our book of the week.

When 13-year-old Lily's inventor father vanishes after a Zeppelin crash, Lily's determined to hunt down the truth behind his disappearance, helped by Robert, the local clockmaker's son, and her wily mechanical fox Malkin. But shadowy figures are closing in and treachery lurks among the smoky spires of London - along with a life-changing secret. Be swept away by airships and flabbergasted by dastardly plots in this extraordinary and wildly imaginative book, bursting with invention and adventure.

Cogheart is book one in the series, try it if you love fast-paced action and mystery adventure stories.

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## **Our words of the week this term are all based around the Latin root word mit – meaning send.**

The word of the week is.....

**“omit”**

Definition: Leave out or exclude (someone or something), either intentionally or forgetfully.

Try and use this word in a sentence this week. My sentence is:  
*Please do not omit any details, however trivial they may seem.*

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Our reading hero this week is Hannah Marie McLean Pyle - Year 7. Hannah has made remarkable progress on the Accelerated Reader programme. She has been reading a diverse range of books which have included books by J.K. Rowling, Christopher Paolini, Lou Kuenzler and Ali Sparkes. Since joining us in September she has read an amazing 18 books which equates to 1,083,536 words read. She also recently became one of our newest Accelerated Reader millionaires. Well done Hannah you are an AR Star! Keep up the good work.

We encourage parents and carers to check planners on pages 33 and 34. These pages contain information about what your child is reading, they also have information about their star reading test scores. Please encourage wider reading at home, we recommend at least twenty minutes a day.



Congratulations to our Winter Mini Reading Challenge winners.

- Year 7 First Prize Owen Julyan
- Year 7 Second Prize Lily Davidson
- Year 8 First Prize Soham Yelwande
- Year 8 Second Prize Finlay Redmond



A reminder that our Year 7 BookBuzz challenge finishes on the 31<sup>st</sup> January. Please ensure that all completed entry forms are signed and returned to the library.

## Bookbuzz Reading Challenge

Challenge yourself to see how many of these you can cross off!


Watch the Bookbuzz film <input type="checkbox"/>	Try a book from a new genre <input type="checkbox"/>	Finish your Bookbuzz book <input type="checkbox"/>	Recommend a book to a friend <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a book that has 80 - 120 pages <input type="checkbox"/>	Borrow a book from someone else <input type="checkbox"/>
Take the online Bookbuzz quiz <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a graphic novel <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a book your friend loves <input type="checkbox"/>	Create a soundtrack to your favourite book <input type="checkbox"/>	Leave a book review on the Bookbuzz website <input type="checkbox"/>	Share a book with a friend <input type="checkbox"/>
Read the first book in a series - can you read the complete set? <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a book you once started but never finished <input type="checkbox"/>	Swap your Bookbuzz book with someone else <input type="checkbox"/>	Read two or more of the Bookbuzz books <input type="checkbox"/>	Re-design a book cover of your choice <input type="checkbox"/>	Get Caught Reading! Have a photo taken of you reading <input type="checkbox"/>
Read some poetry <input type="checkbox"/>	Write a book review as a tweet - no more than 140 characters <input type="checkbox"/>	Join (or even start) a book club <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a biography of someone you admire <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a book based on a true story <input type="checkbox"/>	Read a book that was turned into a film <input type="checkbox"/>

## Peter Bunzl

### Kingsthorpe College Library

### Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January



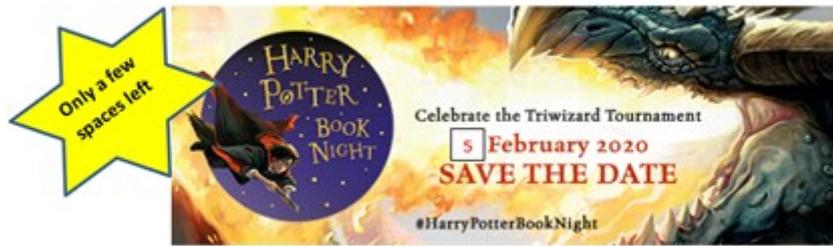

We are really excited to announce that the Northamptonshire Children's Book Group have arranged for us to host a special event with the amazing author Peter Bunzl. He will be discussing his Cogheart Adventures series of books. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet a published author. The talk will be an interactive session for our students in Year 7 (P half only) where they will learn about his work and what it takes to become a successful writer. There will be a chance for students to ask questions too. We are hoping the session will really fire their imaginations and encourage them in their reading and writing.

I hope you will agree this is a wonderful treat for our students. If you would like to find out more about Peter and his work please visit his website:

<http://www.peterbunzl.com/books/>

We're celebrating Harry Potter Book Night at Kingsthorpe College Library

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 3pm - 5pm



Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February will see the sixth annual Harry Potter Book Night which is celebrated throughout the world. Here at Kingsthorpe College, we're getting ready to host an unforgettable night. This year's theme is the Triwizard Tournament. The fun kicks off in the school library at 3pm and finishes at 5pm.

On Harry Potter Book Night, we'll be sharing the wonder of J.K. Rowling's unforgettable stories and, most excitingly, introducing the next generation of readers to the magic of Harry Potter. Here at Kingsthorpe College, young wizards, witches and muggles will be treated to an evening of games, activities and quizzes. It all begins when the Sorting Hat decides who will be in which house and students will compete for house points throughout the evening's challenges. These will include a treasure hunt, readings, Transfiguration games and a Hogwarts Hall of Fame Quiz. We shall also be holding a fancy dress competition.

You can find out more about Harry Potter Book Night  
at [harrypotterbooknight.com](http://harrypotterbooknight.com) #HarryPotterBook Night

Whilst we have lots of fun we would also like to raise money for charity, all we ask is that everyone who attends donates £1 to participate.

We only have a limited number of spaces, so if you would like to take part in this event please collect a letter from the library or contact Mrs Broadbent, Library Manager.

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# VOLUNTEER VOLUNTEER VOLUNTEER VOLUNTEER

"This is my fifth year  
volunteering and  
I love every second"

Adam, 15

"You feel like  
you're really making  
a difference"

Prith, 18

"The things I've  
learnt could  
probably be put  
towards a job  
in the future"

Isaiah, 15

"It motivated me to  
read more"

Sabrina, 15

"The more you do,  
the more confident  
you become"

Kimberley, 17

Find out more: ask at your local library about  
volunteering opportunities for young people or  
visit [readinghack.org.uk](http://readinghack.org.uk)

Are you aged 14 to 24? Make a difference this summer!

**Brixworth Library** is recruiting Summer Reading Challenge  
volunteers. Pop into the library for a chat or email

[brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk](mailto:brixlib@firstforwellbeing.co.uk) for any more information.

Apply online at [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/getinvolved](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/getinvolved)

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20

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READING  
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THE  
READING  
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**We've registered with easyfundraising and we need your help!**

Easyfundraising is a great website where you can help Kingsthorpe College raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 3,300 big name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S.

Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say, 'thank you' and it's completely free too! We want to raise as much as possible, so please sign up and help us at:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/8KI0WE/U1UFT9>



*Help us to win £5000 of National Book Tokens for the school library - and win £100 for yourself! Just enter the competition online, it only takes a minute:*

<http://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>



- **W/C 20<sup>th</sup> January** – Y7, Y8 & Y12 Student First Aid sessions (More information to follow soon)
- **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> January** – Y8 Developer for a Day Masterclass (More information to follow soon)
- **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February** – Online Safety Workshop for Parents
- **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February** – Year 9 Inspiration for Innovation Day (More information to follow soon)
- **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February** – Parent Coffee Morning
- **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** – Y11 Parents' Evening 2
- **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February** – Y11/ Post 16 Revision Session for Parents
- **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February** – Kingsthorpe College Careers Fair (More information to follow soon)

# Key Contacts

Please use the email addresses below to contact year or curriculum leads.

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Mr Wright, Mr Heffernan & Mr Hancock

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Mrs Kinsella, Mrs Read & Mr Hartnett

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Mr Hill, Mrs VanGeijlswijk & Mr Baines

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Mrs Watts, Mrs Patel & Mrs Hayward-Pretty

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Mr Pomerantz, Ms Coppard, Mr Campbell & Mr MacDonald

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Mrs Williams, Ms Vink & Mr Hancock

## English

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## Maths

Learning Director: Ms Turner

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## Science

Learning Director: Ms Basar

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### **Humanities**

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### **Modern Foreign Languages**

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### **ICT and Business**

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### **Vocational**

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### **Visual Arts and Technology**

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### **PE**

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## **Performing Arts**

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## **Special Educational Needs**

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## **Careers Programme**

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