



Kingsthorpe College Newsletter

Edition 196



Dear Parents

As the nights draw in, we still continue at full pace here at the College.

On Monday, I attended a meeting with the Regional Schools Commissioner to talk about the successes of the last year here at KC and also outline our priorities for this coming year. This was a very positive meeting and I am excited about the opportunities that this year will provide.

On Tuesday, we welcomed Humanutopia in for the day to work with our Year 7 students. Humanutopia specialise in empowering young people to make a positive change in their lives. They have worked with over 300,00 young people to help change society and the world. Their life changing courses are proven to boost academic performance and leave a lasting

impact. Our students (supported by a number of Year 9 and Year 10 students who acted as facilitators) took part in the Who Am I? programme where students were encouraged to think about their own lives and their role within society as a whole. The day proved to be very emotional for our students, but they were amazing and rose to the challenge.

On Wednesday and Thursday, we welcomed Robin Neighbour and his team from the Young Enterprise programme to work with our Year 9 students. The focus of the days was to look at their potential earning power when they leave school by looking at a variety of different jobs within a variety of industries. They also looked at personal financial management, and a number of our students were extremely surprised when they were told that they would have to pay heating bills, rent and water bills! It certainly made some of our students think about the necessity of things like the latest iphone.

This week has also seen the launch of our pilot tutor time reading initiative. This sees 16 of our Year 9 students read with students in Year 7 and 8 every morning. The aim of this is to not only improve reading levels but to also increase the level of enjoyment when reading, and encourage students to read more at home. It's been an excellent start and you can see the number of books which have been completed later in the newsletter.

Finally, I am writing this message a couple of hours before the College hosts NED talks from 7pm. NED talks have been derived from TED talks and consist of local educators and leaders sharing 20 minutes of their thoughts around a particular topic within education. Tonight, the theme is curriculum and I am looking forward to sharing what we do here at the College. We have over 160 educators attending to collaborate and develop their practice.

Just a reminder of our social media accounts - this is a great way to keep up to date and informed with all that we are doing at the College:

Twitter - @KingsthorpeC

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/KingsthorpeCollege1>

Important dates coming up:

- Post 16 Open Evening – Thursday 28th November.
- Training Day (school closed to students) – Friday 29th November.
- Christmas Fair – Saturday 7th December 12-3pm.
- Y12/13 Parents Evening – Thursday 12th December.
- Carols by Candlelight – Tuesday 17th December.
- Coffee Morning – Attendance Focus – Wednesday 18th December 9-10.30am.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Giovanelli
Headteacher

School Car Park

We are very fortunate to have a large car park for students, staff, parents and visitors. Following some recent complaints, could I please remind you to only use the disabled bays in our car park if you have a Blue Badge. This will ensure that the disabled bays are left for those who have a specific need. However, if you have a temporary condition which means you need a parking space close to the school for a meeting etc, please speak to Mrs Lugg on Reception who will issue you with a temporary pass.

We have reminded our staff and contractors to avoid using the disabled car parking bays too.

Many thanks for continuing to park considerately.

Paired Reading

Week 1 has been really successful with the Year 7s engaging well and the Year 9s doing a very good job of prompting and supporting improvements

in their reading.



ParentPay – launching online payment for school meals

We are pleased to announce that from January 2020 we will accept payments online for school lunches. We already use a secure website called ParentPay for school trips and, from January 2020, you will be able to pay online using your credit/debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores for school meals. ParentPay is our preferred method of making payments to school and after the February 2020 half term, cash will no longer be accepted for school catering.

Please look out for more information over the coming weeks with details about activation and how you can use this new system. Parents who already have a ParentPay account do not need to do anything as we will send you more information once the system has been activated.

What are the benefits to parents & pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint
- Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

What are the benefits to our school?

- You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services
- Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school
- Improves school security
- Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises
- The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.

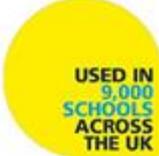
How to get started with ParentPay

During December, we will send you your account activation details. Once you receive these:

1. Visit www.parentpay.com
2. Enter your Activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage
NB. These are for one-time use only, please choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process
3. Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account - registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders
4. Once activation is complete you can go to straight to Items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket and proceed to complete your payment

Parents who already have a ParentPay account do not need to do anything. We will send you more information once the system has been activated.

If you have any questions, please contact the school finance office.
For more information, visit www.parentpay.com/parents/



USED IN
9,000
SCHOOLS
ACROSS
THE UK

Extra Curricular Activities

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lunchtime Activities | Careers Drop in Bistro All year groups | Basketball Sports Hall Years 10-11 | Basketball Sports Hall Years 7-9 | 3-a-side Football Sports Hall Year 8 | Badminton Sports Hall All Years |
| | Girls' Sports Club Sports Hall Year 8 | Table Tennis Sports Hall All year groups | Fitness Multigym All year groups | General Knowledge Quiz Library All years | Fitness Multigym All year groups |
| | Eco-Club H6 All years | Chess & Puzzle challenge Library All years | Eco-club H6 All years | | Y Not Try Crafts & Games Library All years |
| | Drawing Club Library All years | | Mrs B's Book Group Library All years | | |
| After School Activities | Homework help and DEAR Library All year groups | Sports Activity club Sports Hall Year 7-8 | Homework Club N4 All year groups | Football See Mr Smith Year 7-8 Boys | Girls Rugby See Miss Pettingale Year 8-9 |
| | | Homework help and DEAR Library All year groups | Geography Club H2 Years 7-9 | Basketball Sports Hall 6 th Form | Homework help and DEAR Library All year groups |
| | | | Rugby See Mr Wright Year 7-8 Boys | Homework help and DEAR Library All year groups | |
| | | | Football See Mr Beck Year 7-8 Girls | Duke of Edinburgh Award H6 & H2 Years 9-13 | |
| | | | Homework help and DEAR Library All year groups | Choir See Mr Mann All year groups | |
| | | | Orchestra See Mr Mann All year groups | | |
| | | | Dance Dance Studio All year groups | | |

Friends of Kingsthorpe College

Are You...

- A parent of a KC student or ex student?
- A relative of a KC student?
- A member of the local community?
- An ex-student?

Do you have an interest in...

- Helping your child's school?
- Being involved in your child's school?
- Helping to build relationships with the local community?
- Fund-raising and social activities in the community?
- Making a difference?



Join our PTA!

Email
Community@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk
 if you would like to join or find out more information.



MYEd school app

We are encouraging all parents to sign up to our free app, this will enable us to keep you updated in the quickest way possible. This will also give you access to your child's timetable and achievements.



NEW FOR PARENTS

Connecting parents, students and schools

Download our school app **NOW**



Step 1: Go to your app store

Step 2: Search for My Ed

Step 3: Download the app

1  

2  My Ed

3 **FREE** Download

The My Ed app shows you up to date information about all aspects of your child's school life.

My Students

Information about your student direct into your pocket, including:

- 95% Attendance**
Keep up to date with your child's attendance details.
- Forms**
Fill in forms securely on your app and return them directly to school.
- Achievements**
Get regular updates of your child's achievements.

My School

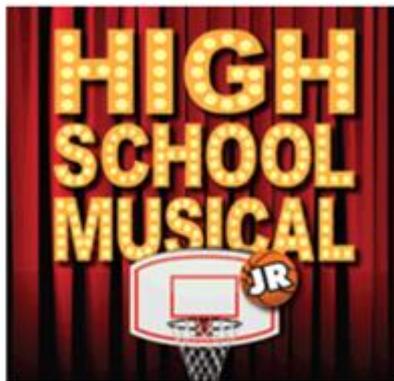
Information from your school pushed directly into your pocket, including:

- Key Dates**
Important dates the school needs you to know.
- News**
Access the latest school news.
- School Information**
Easily access school policies from your pocket.

www.myedschoolapp.com

☕ Join us for ☕
our coffee morning

23rd October 2019
19th December 2019
12th February 2020
1st April 2020
20th May 2020
15th July 2020



Coming soon

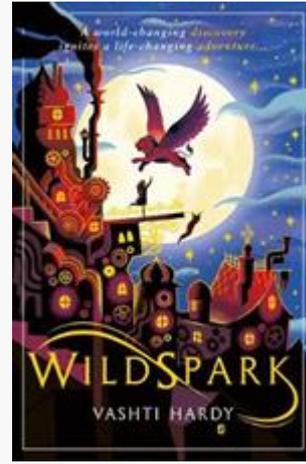
Tuesday 10th & Wednesday 11th
December

7:15 pm @ KC



Wild Spark by Vashti Hardy (BL 5.6)

A mind-bending adventure from the author of Brightstorm. A year after the death of her older brother, Prue Haywood's family is still shattered by grief. But everything changes when a stranger arrives at the farm. A new, incredible technology has been discovered in the city of Medlock, where a secretive guild of inventors have developed a way to capture spirits of the dead in animal-like machines, bringing them back to life. Prue knows that the Ghost Guild might hold the key to bringing her brother back, so she seizes the stranger's offer to join as an apprentice. But to find her brother, she needs to find a way to get the ghost machines to remember the people they used to be. Yet if Prue succeeds, all of society could come apart.



Fans of Philip Pullman, Sally Gardner and Neil Gaiman will really enjoy this book.

Our literacy challenge winner this week is:

- *Benjamin Fenton 8I.*

Our words of the week this term are all based around the Latin root word Vert – meaning turn.

The word of the week is...

“Convertible”

- **Definition:** Able to be changed in form, function or character.
- Try and use this word in a sentence this week. My sentence is:

- *A convertible car is one with a soft roof that can be folded down or removed.*



Our reading hero this week is Alexander Hunt (Year 8). Alex has been doing some fantastic work on the Accelerated Reader programme. Since September he has read an amazing 19 books. He has enjoyed books by David Baddiel, Jeff Kinney and Zachary M. Sherman. He regularly reads and quizzes in his own time. Well done Alex, keep up the great 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.



Year 7 BookBuzz Challenge

All of our Year 7 students have now received their Book Buzz books so throughout November, December and January we are challenging them all to take up the BookBuzz Challenge. All of the challenges centre around the BookBuzz Programme. Students have to complete all of the categories on the grid and once they have done so they should hand in their completed work to either their English teacher or the library. There are lots of prizes up for grabs which include, gift vouchers, signed copies of books and goody bags.

To find out more about the BookBuzz programme go to www.bookbuzz.org.uk.

Bookbuzz Reading Challenge

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

Bookbuzz

BookTrust

| | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| 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"/> |

Join us at Kingsthorpe College Library for
Family Drop Everything & Read Sessions

The next session will be held in the school library from

3pm - 5pm on Tuesday 10th December 2019

We will be serving light refreshments and have some fantastic free
book giveaways.

For further information or to book on please email:

victoria.taylor@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk julie.broadbent@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

COME TO OUR
BOOK FAIR!
Your Ticket to Read!

Scholastic Christmas Book Fair 4th December – 11th December

We are really looking forward to holding our school book fair. This will be based in the library and will give our students the opportunity to purchase some amazing books for Christmas. There are over 200 titles to browse through, and with fantasy, thrillers, non-fiction, comedy and lots more there is sure to be a book for everyone to enjoy. Students will also have the opportunity to enter our competition to win one of five £5.00 vouchers to spend at the event. Our Book Fair will be available for students to browse at lunchtimes and afterschool until 4pm every day.

VOLUNTEER
VOLUNTEER
VOLUNTEER
VOLUNTEER
VOLUNTEER

"The things I've learnt could probably be put towards a job in the future"
 Karen, 19

"This is my fifth year volunteering and I love every second"
 Adam, 19

"You feel like you're really making a difference"
 Fred, 18

"It motivated me to read more"
 Sabine, 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

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 for any more information.
 Apply online at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/getinvolved

LibraryPlus 

 **ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**  

© The Reading Agency. Registered charity number 1085443 (England & Wales)



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/8KIOWE/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>



- **Thursday 28th November** – Post 16 Open Evening
- **Friday 29th November** – School closed for Teacher Training Day
- **Thursday 5th December** – Year 11 Success Fayre
- **Saturday 7th December** - Christmas Fair, 12pm - 3pm
- **Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th December** – Whole School Production, High School Musical 7.15pm

- **Thursday 12th December** – Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening
 - **Tuesday 17th December** – Carols by Candlelight
-

Key Contacts

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

Year7team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Smith, Mr Baron & Mr Wade

Year8team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Wright, Mr Heffernan & Mr Hancock

Year9team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mrs Kinsella, Mrs Read & Mr Hartnett

Year10team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

Mr Hill, Mrs VanGeijlswijk & Mr Baines

Year11team@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

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

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Leadership Team Link: Mrs Giovanelli

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Leadership Team Link: Mrs Hayward-Pretty –
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Vocational

Learning Director: Mr Ingram
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Learning Director: Mr Jones
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Leadership Team Link: Mr Baines
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PE

Acting Learning Director: Miss Pettingale

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Leadership Team Link: Mr Hancock

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Leadership Team Link: Mr Hartnett

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Special Educational Needs

Learning Director: Mr O'Leary

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Leadership Team Link: Mr Baines

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Careers Programme

Careers Leader: Diane Fisher –

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student.careers@kingsthorpecollege.org.uk

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