



**KINGS
COLLEGE**
GUILDFORD

Kings College Guildford

Newsletter

Summer 2023



Message from Mr McKenzie

I write to you as the sun sets at the end of the summer term at Kings. In the blink of an eye, it seems, we find ourselves nearly a year older and hopefully a little wiser.

This has been a year of continued growth at Kings.

From a facilities perspective, we have opened our new gym and baseball diamond, giving our students ever greater facilities and opportunities. If you haven't managed to have a look or sign up, it's a great facility for parents too – take a look via the pop up link on our website. Over the next 12 months we have secured funding to start a large project to replace our pitched roofs, which require some significant work. We will strive to ensure that disruption to learning is kept to a minimum.

In terms of student recruitment, the number of pupils applying to join us at Kings in September 2023 is our highest ever, with more than 300 applications for the 120 spaces available. Whilst we would have loved to have welcomed them all into the school, we are also keen to keep the family atmosphere here that comes with lower numbers.

We've enjoyed the traditional ways we mark the successful completion of examinations with our Year 11 students: with BBQs, a celebration of achievement evening at the University of Surrey and a magnificent prom. Enormous thanks needs to go to Mr Stewart and to the wider administrative team who have given their time to make these events so special. I would like to publicly extend my thanks to the Iveys and Goldies for the hours they spent making the hall into a breathtaking venue. These events take months of planning in order that they feel truly special for our students.

Alongside these events, we've had another tremendous sports day led by Mr Chalmers and his PE team as well as exciting Year 6 transition days led by Miss Hamilton. We are looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7s into the Kings family in September.

As is always the case in any school, we bid a very fond farewell to a number of staff. Mr Bland moves to a different role at Kings International in Camberley, Miss Cherry sets sail for the states, Miss Imison leaves to take on the role of Director of Performing Arts at a prep school and Mr Colomb leaves to take on the role of Assistant Principal at Blenheim. As leaders, and as a wider school community, we thank them for their work and wish them all great success in the next stages of their professional and personal lives.

Despite the local and national staffing shortages in education, I am delighted to say we are fully staffed with subject specialists for September. As a growing school we have been recruiting strategically since Christmas, and have some exciting teaching staff joining us in September, some already well known as they have been working or training here this year. My team and I are excited about the professionalism, expertise and enthusiasm they will bring to Kings and I am certain that your children will thrive under their tutelage.

Of course, whilst this point of this term is an ending for some, it is also a time of new beginnings – with Year 6s having finished their time in primary school and preparing to start their secondary journey with us here.

Have a wonderful summer. We'll see you all next year – it's going to be a great one!

A. M.



Work Hard



Community



Be Kind

Transition - New Year 7s

We were delighted to invite our new Year 7s in for two days to give them some secondary school experience and prepare them for September. We completed a mixture of lessons throughout the two days including literacy, numeracy, wellbeing and team building activities to help them understand what lessons at Kings will be like.

Key staff delivered the lessons so that students are familiar with them prior to September, with the objective of reducing concerns they may have.

Transition days are a great opportunity to start the process of embedding a new school culture and highlight the positive, well-disciplined ethos in our school, ready for them to start their journey at Kings. We enjoyed spending time with them and look forward to them joining the Kings family in September.



Pride Picnic



The playground came alive on 29th June when we had a whole school Pride celebration picnic, where everyone was invited to join in. We were very happy that the sunshine appeared, making way for dancing from both students and teachers and lots of happy faces.

Thank you to all of the student helpers for hanging bunting and the amazing chalk creations! It was great to see so many taking part and coming together in support of this event, strengthening our inclusive community at Kings.



Choir

The Kings Choir performed a Taylor Swift medley at Celebration Evening on Thursday night where they wowed the crowd with their rendition of several classics. This was met by great applause and extra cheers from the many teachers who are self-proclaimed 'Swifties'. Special mention should be given to Ani Potter (Year 9) who led the choir in their second piece, a version of Stormzy's Give It To The Water.



Kings Netball

What a super year the netballers have had. Their dedication to training has been fantastic, developing their skills throughout the whole year. They have been a pleasure to coach.

Year 7s have had a fantastic season, training hard, developing new skills and remaining undefeated. They are starting to come together nicely as a squad, working together strongly and adapting to each other's game play. We have had the pleasure of welcoming some year 7s boys to training who have been a delight to train and have added some merriment to the sessions.

Year 8s have had a good solid year coming away with some super wins. They are starting to become a united squad, playing some lovely netball and showing great dedication to training.

Year 10s have had another super season remaining undefeated since year 7 and we are so proud of the commitment they have shown, especially the mixed netball which is enjoyable and a pleasure to see.

We have had three of our talented Year 10 netballers take their talents further afield. Jess Stratford getting invited to attend Surrey Storm for the day and Jake Chapman Burns and Harry Spraggs being selected for the training and development squad for Surrey Hurricanes mixed netball. We are so proud of your achievements. Keep up the good work.

Teacher's netball is still an enjoyable, competitive event at Kings with the teachers narrowly remaining Kings champions, but I think the next year could be slightly different. Come on year 11s.



To end our season, we had Surrey Storm's Zimbabwean captain Felistus Kwanga come in to take a master class of netball. The students got to learn the importance of ball work and footwork which they then took to the courts in some drills, taking into match play. It was a fantastic session, enjoyed by all.



We can't wait for the new season to arrive on our newly painted courts, which we are sure will add to Kings Netball development and success.

Have a super summer break and keep netballing!



Message from the PE Department

This year has seen a dramatic increase in sport events, fixtures and the number of pupils participating in and around of school.

We started the year with football. Putting out year 7 and year 8 football teams to compete in district league football. The Year 7 team started and ended the season off well winning 2, drawing 1 and losing 2 football matches. All games were closely contested affairs. The year 8s had a difficult season losing all 5 fixtures although they lead 3 of the fixtures right up until the final few minutes before giving away cheap goals. Next year we will have 3 teams to enter and hopefully more successes.



A core group of year 9 and 10 enthusiastic basketball players have been training up at Surrey Sports Park for a good part of the session. They came together to play a tournament against 5 other schools who had been part of the basketball initiative utilising the Surrey Sports Park facilities and the Scorches coaches. Kings did extremely well and lost in the final by one score. Next year looks like a team could be set up and play in the league with great success.

Athletics has been the focus of the final term. Not only the School Sports Day but we were invited to the County Relay Competition up at Urnfield Sports Ground. Of the 8 schools that attended we were one of 3 schools to make sure we put out a team for every race and narrowly lost out to Christ's in the overall standings. The following week we travelled to George Abbot for the sprint completion and this is where we came into our own and held our heads up high. We won the year 7 300m with Alfie Murrells blowing the other schools away and River Marshall getting a strong 3rd in the year 8 100m. Again we were one of a very few schools who managed to run every race and this time beating Christ's and George Abbott B team.

Sports Day



These successes flowed in the school's sports day. Primed and ready the pupils waited with baited breath for the day. The weather, on the other hand, did not want to play ball. With overcast conditions and scattered rain showers predicted throughout the day, it was going to be a tough day to get through... dry.



But we did in fact manage to complete 95% of the day, with only long jump (unless you could swim in sand), Discus (throwing greased plates) and the really enjoyable relay losing out to the torrential rain. All other events went ahead and were completed. A massive thank you to all who helped set up, run and be involved in sports day, it would not have been a success without you.

A great year for sports in the school Well done all involved. Let's go out and be even better next year.

Duke of Edinburgh

We have had a successful year with Year 9, 10 and 11 students taking part in the Bronze, Silver and Gold award schemes. The last week of term sees our final DofE Expedition with a trip to North Yorkshire after previous expeditions in the Surrey Hills and in the New Forest. We look forward to celebrating students who manage to complete their Physical, Skills and Volunteering activities at next years' DofE Awards Evening.



Design Technology



During this term in Design Technology the Year 11 students worked hard to complete their design and make projects ahead of preparing for their GCSE exams. Year 10 students were busy finishing their different projects.

Year 10 made a start on their GCSE design and make projects in June when the contextual challenges were released by the exam board.

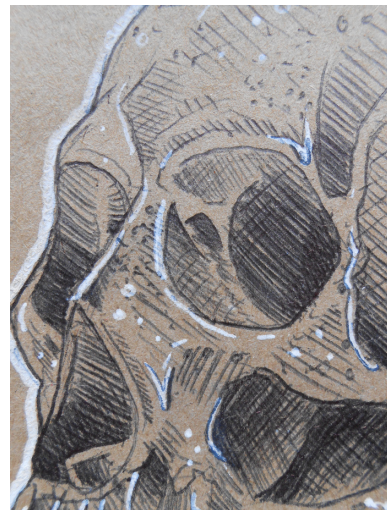
Below are some examples of mug trees completed by Year 8 students this term.



Art Department

The Art Department is immensely proud of students this year. This term has seen Year 9 start their GCSE studies with a Natural Forms project in which they have been exploring materials and processes ready to start their coursework and Year 10 completed their first two-day exam in preparation for their final year of study. We are proud to share a few of the outcomes.

To celebrate all students' efforts and achievements in Art this year we will be putting Google Slide exhibition with artwork from all our students this year. It has been a highly productive year and we are looking forward to seeing what next academic year brings.



Attendance Update 2022-23

Congratulations to all of our students who have achieved 100% attendance this year. They have been at school every day for 190 days – that's a fantastic effort!

Our attendance highlights this year are as follows:

Year Group with Highest Attendance

- 1st place: Year 7
- 2nd place: Year 9
- 3rd place: Year 10



House with Highest Attendance

- 1st place: Sceptre
- 2nd place: Orb
- 3rd place: Crown

Tutor Group with Highest Attendance

- 1st place: 10PIN
- 2nd place: 9GIM
- 3rd place: 7BRU

Academic Class with Highest Attendance

- 1st place: Year 9 French
- 2nd place: Year 9 Science
- 3rd place: Year 9 Maths

Attendance Housekeeping

Where possible, appointments should be made outside of the school day to maximise the time spent learning. If this is not possible, please ensure you advise us in advance and provide evidence, such as, an appointment card, text or letter confirmation. These should be emailed to office@kingscollegeguildford.com.

If you need to report your child as absent from school, please use the Studybugs app <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>. Over 93% of parents already use the app, but please download it if you are yet to do so.

A reminder to parents and carers that if you take your children out of school, without permission from the Principal, for five or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), you will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

Currently, the amount payable, under a penalty notice, is £60 per parent/carer, per child, if paid within 21 days. Thereafter, the amount increases to £120, if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

Rewards Update

Whilst reflecting on students' accomplishments and celebrating achievements at the end of the year, it is also important to recognise how hard our students have worked all year round.

We have had a total of 31,185 rewards issued this year, each point signifying where a student has either worked hard, been kind, supported the community or displayed excellence. These numbers are amazing and reflect an average of 185 student rewards received each day this year.

Our new house system has given students the opportunity to compete for the House Award. Our house points are currently standing at:

1st Place - Orb House

2nd Place - Mantle House

3rd Place - Sceptre House

4th Place - Crown House



Finally, a huge congratulations to Pip Little from 8BAI for being the student to receive the most reward points this year. Well Done!

Celebration Evening



We enjoyed a sensational Celebration of Achievement evening on 13th July. At an incredibly well attended event, families and students were treated to a finger food buffet as they arrived.

Our guest of honour was Learning Partners' CEO Jack Mayhew, who spoke about 4 key lessons to learn to ensure success. The awards themselves were a chance to recognise academic excellence and proud students were invited onto the stage to receive their award certificates and badges to wear in the coming school year. Alongside the awards, we were serenaded by our talented pianists and enjoyed two magnificent performances from the choir.

The evening was a great way to end the term and we are appreciative of all of the families who were able to attend to support.

Finding Our Futures University of Surrey



FINDING OUR FUTURES
AT KINGS

It was wonderful to officially recognise all our fantastic Year 11s for their hard work, effort and positive attitude during their time at Kings! In June we had a celebratory graduation event at the University of Surrey with students, families and staff. We wish them all the best with the rest of their educational journey!



In the same week, we welcomed the new incoming Year 7s, enrolling them onto the World of Books programme in collaboration with the University. They have a brand new book to read over the summer holidays and a reading journal to complete. Then, from September, they will take part in a variety of activities to boost their literacy skills and learn about careers relating to English.

Kings College Sports Hub

With summer upon us what better time to get fit and have some fun at the same time by using the fantastic facilities at Kings Community Sports Hub.

Kings Gym has been operating for the past 5 months and during that time we have received some incredible feedback!

We pride ourselves on being a non intimidating, community focussed gym, providing quality facilities at affordable prices!

We have membership options to suit all budgets so please feel free to speak to a member of the team to see how we can help you and your family/friends to become more active.

As members of the gym, we are also giving you access to a wide range of other sports facilities at Kings Community Sports Hub, including Netball, Tennis, Football, Pickleball etc.....If there is a sport/activity that you want to play over the summer period please speak to a member of the team who will be able to help you out.

All income generated goes back in to the school to further improve the learning environment for our students, however we are so proud of our facilities, that we also want to show them off to absolutely everybody!

So please feel free to share our Free 1 Week Membership offer to your friends, family, social media etc., so that we can show all of Surrey the improvements we are making at Kings College Guildford!



Free Gym Membership Offer



Try out our Fantastic gym with a 1 week free trial

Usually £19.99 per month

Enjoy a relaxed and welcoming environment, full of superb equipment for all abilities and friendly faces to help you on your journey.

Please register at <https://kingscollegeguildford.clubright.co.uk>

And email gym@kingscollegeguildford.com to request your free 1 week membership to be set up.

A Message from Innovate

We have gained a well-deserved reputation for never compromising on quality, portion size, choice or value, which is why we are proud to be serving so many students across the country.

The challenges we're seeing in our kitchens are the same as those you're likely experiencing at home. Ingredient prices are rocketing, and energy costs are sky high. Additionally, we're funding important wage increases for our teams. Here's some background information that we would like to share with you.



Food Inflation is at 16.5%

As is the case for supermarkets and restaurants across the UK, we're seeing near weekly increases in the prices of food and drink. Supply volumes have dropped, due to factors such as the invasion of Ukraine, bird flu, swine fever and extreme weather internationally, driving prices up. We're working closely with our chefs and supply partners to introduce new products and dishes, but these mitigations have limits.

Staff Wage Increases

The Government has increased the minimum wage by 9.7%. This is a positive move that will mean our teams are better able to address the cost pressures they are under. It is 3% higher than last year's record rise, which is great progress, but does subsequently create funding pressures.

We have absorbed some of the cost increases and continue to seek further efficiencies, however, we need to implement a tariff increase of 6.6% from September 2023. This is a below inflation increase, which will allow us to maintain quality services and support our catering teams. The situation is far from ideal, we would like as many students to enjoy our services as possible and we appreciate price increases make this harder, particularly when many families are feeling the effects of high interest mortgages and the general cost of living crisis. That said, we believe our food continues to offer excellent value for money.

As always, thank you for your support and understanding. We will continue to partner with schools, students and parents to explore new approaches and gain input and feedback as we navigate this challenging period. If you have any thoughts you would like to share with us, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you.

Kindest regards

Ken Navin

Client Relationship Director

Job Vacancy in the kitchen - From September:

<https://www.caterer.com/job/catering-assistant/innovate-ifg-job100774095>