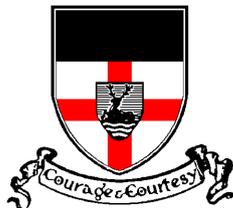


The Knights Templar School

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PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE – 18th September 2014 (also available on our website)

Dear Parent or Carer

Welcome to our very first Parental Bulletin!

This bulletin will be produced every Thursday and will be mailed through Parentmail as well as being published on the school website. I hope the bulletin will give you a real understanding of life at our school, including key dates, success stories and information relating to specific year groups as well as whole school events.

I would be very pleased to hear feedback on this first edition and ask that you email me at head@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk to let me know what you liked as well as letting me know how we could improve. Your feedback is very important to us.

It has been very good to meet some of you at the recent Standards Evenings. I do hope that you will be able to join me at all future Standards Evenings this half term. As a reminder the dates are published below. All the evenings start at 6.00pm and will be finished by 6.45pm.

Regards
Tim Litchfield
Headteacher

Standards Evenings – remaining dates!

Year 13 Wednesday 24th September
Year 10 Thursday 2nd October
Year 9 Tuesday 7th October
Year 8 Thursday 16th October
Year 7 Tuesday 21st October

Dates for your diary:

19/09/2014	Friday	Yr 8 Winter House Matches Workshop with Phil Williams p5 - selected students from the Sustainability Group (Yr 9-12)
20/09/2014	Saturday	Silver DofE Assessment Expedition 1
21/09/2014	Sunday	Silver DofE Assessment Expedition 1
22/09/2014	Monday	Yr 7 Boys Vocal Workshop, 8.55am-9.55am - Hall Silver DofE Assessment Expedition 1 Yr 11 Table Tennis Young Officials Awards 12.20-4.20pm
23/09/2014	Tuesday	Yr 10-13 (70) Drama 'Woyzeck' Performance, Splendid Productions, 9.55am-1.20pm, Hall Yr 9 Winter House Matches Yr 12 Applied Business Trip to Welwyn Garden City Library, 11.20am-3.15pm Silver DofE Assessment Expedition 1 Gold DofE Training (4), 7pm-9pm, T16 Football Tour Information Evening, 7pm-7.30pm in the Hall
24/09/2014	Wednesday	Yr 12 Engaging Minds Period 5: Professor David Nutt Yr 11, 12 & 13 Art/Art Graphics Life Drawing, DS - all day Year 13 Standards Evening for Parents, 6pm in the Hall
25/09/2014	Thursday	Inset Day
26/09/2014	Friday	Macmillan Coffee Morning (Extended Break & Non-Uniform Day) Yr 10 Winter House Matches Yr 7-10 PE North Herts G&T Masterclass (12 students), 1pm-3pm

Gymnastics Squad

Auditions for the 'KTS presents 75 years' gymnastics squad have been held the last 2 Mondays and the squad list will be announced by the end of the week in the PE changing rooms. Pupils can check if they have made the squad for the show by Friday.

Update on Art

Years 11,12 & 13 Art students will be participating in a full day life-drawing class on Wednesday 24th September.

Year 12 Photography students' trip to Camden is taking place on Monday 29th September.

Cancer Research Donation from The Margaret Hepburn Fund

The Sound of Music was a hugely successful whole school production involving over one hundred students in acting, singing, dancing, playing instruments and stage management. Money raised from the ticket sales was used to send our annual donation of £500 to Cancer Research in memory of our former Head of Drama, Margaret Hepburn. Thank you to all who came to see the production for your support.

Medical Matters

We will be sending out a letter to all Year 8 girls regarding the HPV vaccine this week. All replies will need to be returned to Mrs Mance asap.

We will also be sending out a letter to all pupils in Year 7 regarding BCG vaccination via the form tutors./ These will only need to be returned if they say yes to the questions asked.

Year 7 Music news

On Monday during period 1, all the Year 7 girls gathered in the Hall for a Singing Workshop with Ms Dawson and Mrs Guinane. We sang through a few songs in preparation for the Open Morning performances, and finished with *Castle on a Cloud* and *Let It Go*. The girls had a lovely time and Mr Litchfield was very impressed. Next week it's the boys' turn! We hope that this experience will promote a love of singing in our Year 7s and encourage many of them to join the Junior Choir.



News for Year 7 Parents and Carers

The importance of reading..... *It is not true that we have only one life to live; if we can read,*

we can live as many more lives and as many kinds of lives as we wish. —S.I. Hayakawa

Bookbuzz is a reading programme which supports schools to encourage reading for pleasure and independent choice, and develop a whole school reading culture.

Through the generosity of The Parents' Association, Knights Templar is taking part in the programme, and your child has the opportunity to choose their own book to keep from a list of 17 titles. The books are all suitable for 11-year-olds and are selected by an independent panel of experts to cover books across a variety of genres, styles and abilities. Pupils will be choosing their book of choice with their English teacher very soon. The BookBuzz web link is : <http://www.bookbuzz.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

During the first weeks at Knights Templar, we are running induction sessions for all Year 7 introducing them to the Library and teaching them how to find books using our on line catalogue. Knights Templar School is developing a reading for pleasure community and we would encourage parents to ask their children about the books they are reading and to read to them if at all possible too.

Happy choosing and happy reading, Year 7s and their families! 😊😊
Mrs Evans and Miss Lawrence, Librarians

Year 8 Boys' Football team conquer Nobel

After making the District Final last year, the year 8 boys' football team started this season in excellent form, beating a strong Nobel side 5-2 away from home. An impressive defensive display, coupled with the pace and attacking threat of Ollie Leach and Remarn Harmsworth proved to be too much for the Stevenage school. Congratulations to all of the boys involved and in particular, the goal scorers; Remarn Harmsworth, Curtis Brookes, Gus Long, Cole Butler and Ollie Leach. The 'Man of The Match' for this fixture was Cole Butler.

Chamonx 2014

This Tuesday saw the return of 63 year 11 students from their geography trip to Chamonix. Every year this trip gives the students an opportunity to experience a glacial landscape. The students visit avalanche defenses, a hydroelectric dam and power station and go inside ice caves at the 'Mer de Glace' glacier. The students visit the Aiguille du Midi, where, at 3842m they are able to stand on the new glass floor actually over the Alpine glaciers. As always with these trips, the students were a credit to the school and a pleasure to accompany.



Sixth Form News

Senior Boys continue football glory

Having won the District Championship last season, the Senior Boys' football squad continued their run of good form by defeating a strong Leighton Buzzard school 2-1 in the 2nd round of the ESFA National Cup. Despite going 1 goal down late in the game, the boys rallied and fought back with late goals from Dylan Logan and Ashton Wilkinson to confirm Knights Templar's place in the 3rd round of this national competition.

A special mention and congratulations to Kyle Davis on a fantastic debut performance, having moved to Baldock and KTS from Ireland.

Student Mentoring at KTS

Training of 'student mentors' in the Sixth Form began last Friday as year 12 and 13 students got their first insight into what life will be like mentoring pupils in key stage 3 and 4. We are very excited at the potential help and support that younger pupils will get from working closely with our fantastic Sixth Form students and we were equally impressed by the enthusiasm of our student mentors. This was illustrated by their incredibly hard work during the first session of training, with over 50 students in attendance! The next training session for student mentors is this Friday lunch time in the school hall and anyone in year 12 and 13 is welcome to attend.

KTS Sixth Form gives back to the community

An enthusiastic and conscientious group of KTS Sixth Form Prefects recently gave back to the local Baldock community by assisting with the tidying and cleaning of the War Memorial located in the Tesco grounds. The school was contacted by the Deputy Manager of Tesco who was hugely impressed by the positive response and endeavours of our Prefects in helping with this initiative. The Deputy Manager added that he is now looking to continue a working relationship with the KTS Sixth Form in future community initiatives. Congratulations and thank you to all students involved- you have had a very positive impact in the Baldock community!

KTS student helps design the dance curriculum.

Most students would have been keen to relax and enjoy the long summer break after a rigorous programme of GCSE exams but Lucy Merrell decided to continue her hard work by assisting her Dance and PE teachers. Lucy spent hours of her free time designing and recording fantastic dance routines to be used as a teaching resource for all abilities in Dance and PE lessons. The resources created by Lucy have been completed to a fantastic standard and illustrate her high levels of intelligence and work ethic. The school and PE department would like to thank Lucy for her hard work and tireless efforts to benefit the teaching and learning at KTS.