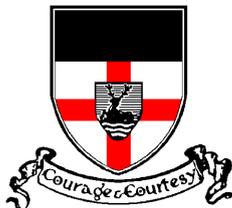


The Knights Templar School

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PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE – 2nd October 2014 (also available on our website)

Dear Parent or Carer,

Welcome to our third Parental Bulletin. I hope that you find it informative and useful.

On Friday 26th September nearly 1500 people (staff, students and friends) attended the Coffee and cake morning on the playing field. The students and staff raised an incredible £1,862 for Macmillan. Students were allowed to come to school wearing their own 'casual' clothes, were given a drink and a cake in return for a donation to Macmillan. Special mention must go to Harry Colton (Year 7 student), who used the Staff training day on the 25th September to bake cakes and raised an incredible £501 by selling them at his stepfather's work. Harry said "On Friday 26th September I did my own coffee morning for Macmillan in Harlow Essex and managed to raise £501. I chose Macmillan because my Dad had cancer and he had a Macmillan nurse". The school is also very grateful to Mr Yianni (parent) for his generous donation of cakes. Congratulations to everyone involved in this wonderful event. There is a great photograph on the school website showing the students on the field.

School this week has been a hive of activity and excitement as we have held our annual school Open Mornings, welcoming a host of prospective Year 6 students and their parents. We are immensely proud of our own students, who took the lead with personalised guided tours around school for visiting families. The student ambassadors from Year 7, 8, 9 and 13 excelled themselves with their confidence, knowledge and manners, in every way emulating our school motto of Courage and Courtesy.

Tomorrow sees us finish the week on a high, with every student and staff member invited to plant a spring bulb in the beds prepared by the Energy and Sustainability Team. These bulbs will return year after year; a reminder that every member of the school is now, and will always be, a member of the KTS family. At 9.30 tomorrow morning we will open our doors for our 75th Anniversary Community Open Morning. If you still haven't booked a place, but would like to attend, please come along.

Please could I request all parents/carers not to drop off or pick up their child on the double yellow lines at the front of the school (where the police will be patrolling), in the leisure centre car park, staff car park or in the coach turning circle. Please drop your child a suitable distance away from the school, perhaps on Weston Way or the High Street. At pick up time the coach turning circle can be used after 15.30. Thank you for your cooperation.

Regards

Tim Litchfield
Headteacher

Standards Evenings – remaining dates!

Year 10 Thursday 2nd October
Year 9 Tuesday 7th October
Year 8 Thursday 16th October
Year 7 Tuesday 21st October

Dates for your diary:

02/10/2014	Thursday	Year 10 Standards Evening for Parents, 6pm in the Hall
03/10/2014	Friday	75th Anniversary Community Open Morning 9.30-12.00 Shakespeare Schools Festival Cast workshop
03/10/2014	Friday	75th Anniversary Community Open Morning 9.30-12.00 Yr 12 Badminton officiating course 1.20-4.20pm
04/10/2014	Saturday	Silver DofE Assessment Expedition 2 (returns 7th)
07/10/2014	Tuesday	Silver DofE Assessment Expedition 2 return Yr 12 & 13 AS/A2 PE Trip to Hatfield, all day Year 9 Standards Evening for Parents, 6pm in the Hall

08/10/2014	Wednesday	9K Art Trip to V&A, all day Yr 13 Gamelan Workshop, St Francis College, Letchworth, 1pm-4pm Yr 12 Speedmatching - Volunteering Opportunities Evening, 3.30pm-6.30pm, in the Hall Governors Meeting (T&L) 5pm-7pm
09/10/2014	Thursday	Yr 13 CV & Letters of applications for mock interviews due in Yr 8-10 SSF Cast (20 students) & Yr 12-13 Drama students - The Comedy of Errors trip, Globe Theatre, 5pm-11pm Yr 10 & 11 Music trip to Barbican, London, 5pm-11pm
10/10/2014	Friday	9T Art Trip to V&A, all day Yr 8 HPV Immunisations Yr 7-9 G&T Music - John Williams film making concert, Royal Albert Hall,, 5pm-11pm

Don't forget to check out the new KTS Newscast [here!](#)

SEN (Special Education Needs) REFORMS 2014

As part of the new reforms to SEN, we are required to have an SEN information report/school offer on our web site.

In order to have uniformity, Hertfordshire have developed a number of questions for each school to answer. I have put a draft 'information report' on the Learning Development area on the school web site. Please send any feedback to emitchell@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk.

GCSE Dance Groups

On a Monday after school from 3:30pm-4:30pm it is GCSE dance catch up in the old gym classroom with Miss Henderson.

Media Studies Students

We are going to the Media Magazine conference on the 16th December and Media students have been given a letter about it. This is a very useful day and all students are recommended to attend, but there is limited space. It costs £25 and we need reply slips back ASAP to guarantee places please.

Pentathlon Champion!

Congratulations to Oscar Jopp who won the Eastern Pentathlon Championships for U15 boys this week with the following results: 80m Hurdles 13.0, Long Jump 4m78, Shot Putt 10m12, High Jump 1m71, 800m 2.35.6, total Pts 2222

Shakespeare Schools Festival – KTS performs King Lear

The Drama Department has a long tradition of participating in the Shakespeare Schools Festival, which is a nationwide festival that celebrates the works of the bard from Stratford-upon-Avon. This year, we will be performing a shortened version of 'King Lear' on the stage at the Gordon Craig Theatre, Stevenage. King Lear is an amazing play, full of conspiracy and tragic endings for many of the characters. The cast, from Y8-10, will work with professional actors this week to develop their performance skills. We hope you can join the audience for the final performance on Tuesday 21st October. Tickets are available from the Gordon Craig Theatre.

Music Department Update

Thank you to Ms Dawson and Mrs Johnson who have led the Year 7 Choirs this week in some brilliant performances at the Open Mornings.

Next week is a busy week for the Music Department. We will be taking our A2 students to St Francis' College in Letchworth on Wednesday for a Gamelan workshop, to study the traditional music of Indonesia. On Thursday, our GCSE Music students will be going to a concert at the Barbican Centre, and on Friday we will be at the Royal Albert Hall with some of our KS3 students for a wonderful evening of film music by John Williams!

MFL Magazines:

This week students have been given a leaflet from Mary Glasgow Publications detailing foreign language magazine subscriptions which we recommend for our students. These are available in all three languages and are an excellent way of consolidating and extending language learning beyond the classroom. Articles are adapted to suit the age and stage of students and cover a range of relevant topics such as films, music and cultural festivals.

Payment can be made through Wisepay or by cheque payable to The Knights Templar School. All order forms should be handed in to the white finance box outside Top Office. The deadline for orders is: Monday 20th October.

If your child has not received a leaflet yet, please encourage them to ask a member of the MFL Department.

Rugby trip to Twickenham

The KTS PE department are offering students the opportunity to travel to the home of rugby, Twickenham Stadium, to watch an exciting encounter between England and Samoa on Saturday 22nd November. We have organised previous

trip to Twickenham which have all been incredibly successful and we anticipate this trip to be no different! This trip was initially advertised in the summer term but with places still available, pupils are welcome to see Mr Raymen for a letter containing more details about the trip.

Year 7 Football, Priory 1 – 6 Knights Templar Bruning (2), Petson (3), Mitchell (1)

N Dyne, A Page, F Goldscheider, A Oyston, J James, R Davies, O Haynes, B Petson, W Bruning SUBS: L Tresize, J Livings, E Macdonald, J Thrigould, J Harley, O Mitchell

The year 7 football team travelled to the Priory School for their first league match of a season. A large squad of 14 players travelled and all put in strong performances to give selection headaches for managers Mr Smith and Mr Fischer before next Tuesdays county cup match against Stanborough. The boys now face a tougher fixture in the county cup next Tuesday. Great start to the season KTS!!!!

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Please return HPV consent/decline forms asap. Immunisations are scheduled for next Friday, 10th October.

Year 8 Netball Results

Two close contested matches for the year 8 netball ended in a draw against Nobel School and a loss to St Chris. The team played very well and improved steadily throughout the two matches. Special mention to Abi Sunderland whose excellent defending kept KTS in the game, despite it being her first time playing as Wing Defence!

Year 8 Football, Highfield 0 – 3 Knights Templar

The team travelled with a much depleted squad due to illness and injury but that didn't seem to hinder the boys' game. Ollie Leach quickly put KTS 1-0 up and a well worked cross from Remarn Harmsworth resulted in a Highfield own goal. The boys stayed resolute and strong in defense and with seconds to go in the game, wrapped up a good performance with a 3rd goal and 2nd of the day for Ollie Leach.

Congratulations to all of the boys involved..

Football success for year 8 superstar

Goal scoring machine Ollie Leach has not gone unnoticed by the football scouts having recently been offered a trial period at the MK Dons Football Academy. We wish Ollie the best of luck with this next stage of his football career, as he follows in the footsteps of other KTS footballers such as, Hugo Logan and Gus Long who have already earned themselves a regular place in the League 1 side's academy set-up.

County Success for KTS Footballers

Congratulations to Erin Davies and Sean Blyth who have been selected for the 2nd round of their respective County football trials, having performed brilliantly in the 1st round of the selection progress. We wish them all the best for their upcoming trials!

Year 10 boys' continue National Cup football success

After the National Cup success of the year 8 and senior teams, all eyes were on the year 10 team to see if they could replicate the solid performances of other year groups. Faced with a tough match against Simon Balle School, Hertford, the boys did not disappoint. The Hertford school suffered an attacking bombardment of pace, slick passing and accurate shooting from distance before Sean Blyth opened the scoring mid way through the 1st half. This was quickly followed by a well placed finish from Bradley Pitman who then went onto score another 2 goals in the 2nd half to round off an impressive hat-trick and comfortable 4-0 win for the KTS boys. Congratulations to all the players involved with this fantastic 2nd round win!

Year 11 Business Studies

Year 11 Business students have controlled assessment support sessions on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th October in T12 from 3.20pm - 4.20pm

Sixth Form News Section:

Calling all business minded parents! Are you a parent who is eager to be more involved in the life of KTS? Do you have a background in business, sales or IT? Why not volunteer your help on Wednesday 12th November to assist as a group leader for our Year 12 Enterprise Day? The event lasts all day (9am-3.20pm) with students working in groups led by an external helper to design a product and accompanying business model. The day culminates with a Dragon's Den style presentation, as students attempt to pitch and sell their product to an industry panel. If you have a background in business, sales or IT then please contact Mr Raymen to discuss being involved with this fantastic event.

Sixth form students contribute to MacMillan event

Macmillan Coffee Morning event was once again a huge success and efforts of Sixth Form students was an integral feature of the day. We would like to thank all year 12 and 13 students who contributed to the organisation of the day, the cleaning up process and particularly to those who took the time and effort to bake a cake. We raised a whopping £1827.00 for the charity.

Year 13 students shine at successful open mornings

This week's Open Mornings have been a huge success, with a large number of prospective parents making some very positive comments about our school and indeed, the pupils that attend KTS. We would like to particularly thank the year 13 students who were responsible for leading parents on tours of the school. Their eloquent, articulate and friendly manner made a truly positive impression on the visitors and showed the type of courteous and well-mannered student that we are lucky to have at KTS.

This week's KTS graduate profile- James Dougal

A real success story of the graduating year 13 class of 2014 was James Dougal. A truly remarkable young man, his level of intelligence was matched by his hard work and dedication in his academic studies as well as, the wider life of the school. James graduated from KTS with A* grades in Maths, Further Maths, Chemistry and Physics, as well as an A grade in Music which he studied for outside of normal lesson times. These impressive grades earned him a place at the prestigious St Catherine's College, Cambridge to study Mathematics.

However, James was not only an incredibly gifted academic; he also took advantage of the many opportunities available to him at KTS. James immersed himself in the life of the school through Music, playing the Piano and singing for events in school as part of the chamber choir, as well as taking Organ lessons and travelling with the school Music Tour. Amazingly, James still had the time to fulfil his Music Prefect responsibilities with the usual high standards we had come to expect of him. We are immensely proud of James' accomplishments and feel privileged to have helped him along the way. We now wish him the best of luck with his rigorous programme of study at Cambridge.