

# The Knights Templar School

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## PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE – 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 (also available on our website)

Dear Parents and Carers

As we close school today this bulletin will be a shortened version.

At the end of the year in which we have celebrated 75 years of The Knights Templar School I look back on what has been a significant year in the history of the school. The events of the past have had a real impact on the school throughout the year and I have reminded the student and staff many times that we must always learn from the past, evaluate where we are now and look to the future.

Our last few days have been a real highlight in the year. The summer festival and fete were brilliantly organised and the students have raised well over £700 for the school council to allocate in September. Our final assembly today focussed on the achievements of the students this year and it was an opportunity for me to say thank you to all my colleagues for their continued hard work. The staff always go the extra mile and it is this that makes KTS a very special school indeed. Bringing the whole school together in this way was a very special moment!

Please may I remind you that school starts again on Thursday 3rd September when all the students will have their academic interview with their tutor. Full school uniform should be worn for this interview. Students can prepare themselves by focussing on their strengths and what needs to improve – this will be the focus of the discussion.

Please do keep an eye on the school website over the summer as this will update any important information.

May I thank you for all your support this year and I would like to wish you all a very safe and happy summer break.

Kind regards,

**Tim Litchfield**  
**Headteacher**

### **Green Flag Award**

We are pleased to announce that the school have been accredited with the prestigious Green Flag award for sustainability by Eco Schools.

This is the highest level of award and very few schools achieve it, especially at the secondary level. The EST have worked hard over the past year to pull together all the required information to prove that KTS is working hard to improve its environment, reduce the use of resources and recycle as much of the waste as possible.

### **Primary Environmental workshop afternoon**

The EST pupil group led 21 year 6 pupils in an environmental afternoon. The visitors had their lunch by the pond and also did some pond dipping and fishing, successfully catching a couple of small fish.



With support from the Tech department, they then put together wooden bird boxes which they have taken back to their primary schools. After this they visited the chickens, garden area, and learnt about the fantastic recycling system the EST have put together. The final part of their activity was learning about and using the thermal imaging camera before working out their own carbon footprint by completing an online lifestyle questionnaire.

Our thanks to all the staff and EST pupils who ran the afternoon.

There is still more work to be done, but it is good that there has been recognition of what has been done so far.

A big thanks goes to the pupils and staff who have worked together to achieve this.

### **Newscast**

A bumper summer special featuring:

- ex-England player and FA stalwart Sir Trevor Brooking
- Athlete Oscar Jopp
- Mr Budd's incredible journey and an investigation into our digital addiction.
- Plus, 60 Seconds News and a the unusual talent of one our presenters.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urK9Qirmk4w>

Enjoy!

The Newscast Team

@ktsnewscast

### **Pupil Support Room**

PSR held an end of year lunch for year 10 students who attended all revision sessions throughout the study leave period. All the students displayed a level of commitment beyond all expectations in preparation for their mock exams, and their future GCSE's.

*Mrs Gregson and Mrs Jones*



## The Exams Office:

**AS & A Level results** envelopes will be available for collection from the Assembly Hall on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August 8 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.**

Any uncollected envelopes will be posted First Class.

Anyone not intending to collect their results personally may nominate someone to collect on their behalf **BUT** this person must have a signed authorisation note from the candidate.

**YEAR 11 only: GCSE & BTEC** results envelopes will be available for collection from the Assembly Hall on **Thursday 20th August 9 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.**

Any uncollected envelopes will be posted First Class.

Anyone not intending to collect their results personally may nominate someone to collect on their behalf **BUT** this person must have a signed authorisation note from the candidate.

Year 10 will receive their results from their tutor at the Target Meeting in September.



## Autumn Tennis Coaching at Knights Templar Leisure

### Junior Group Coaching Courses-Autumn Term 2015

**Dates:** Weeks commencing **Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Sept- Mon 14th Dec 2015** (excludes half term w/c 26/10/2015)

Day	Time	Course	14 Week Block PAY BEFORE Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup>	14 Week Block PAY AFTER Aug 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Monday	16.00-17.00	RED/ORANGE 5-9 Yr olds	£110	£102
Monday	17.00-18.00	YELLOW 10-16 Yr olds	£110	£102

**ALL BOOKINGS NOW TAKEN ONLINE AT [WWW.UPLAYSPORTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.UPLAYSPORTS.CO.UK)**

**Mini Red** – Ages 5-8. Mini tennis red is played on a smaller court (11m x 5.5m), with a mini tennis net and rackets sized 19-23 inches. The balls are bigger, softer and slower enabling the children to be able to rally and develop correct technique.

**Mini Orange** – Ages 8 & 9. Mini tennis Orange is played on a court that is slightly narrower and shorter than a full size court (18m x 6.5m). The net is wound down to 80cm and rackets sized 23-25 inches. The balls are the same size as yellow balls, but are softer and slower.

**Yellow** – Age 10-18. At this age children move onto the normal yellow ball playing on a full size court with full size rackets.

**For more info call Paul Bishop- 07527640599**

## Sixth Form News:

### Year 12 'Silly Sports Day' and Zorbing

As a small thank you to our fantastic year 12 students for all of their efforts this year, both in and out of the classroom, the school provided a morning of fun filled activities including a year 12 'Silly Sports Day' and Zorbing. Having been organised into 6 teams, the students battled it out in a series of primary school sports day styled events, including; obstacle race, sack race, skipping race, tug of war, water race and egg and spoon race. The students really embraced the spirit of this event, working hard to beat their opponents while enjoying the beautiful summer's day with friends and staff and observing so rather comical racing techniques in many of the events. After the 'Silly Sports Day' activities, it was time for the rather more aggressive, fast paced and heavy hitting world of zorbing! The students were required to wear a giant plastic bubble around their head and torso as protection, before attempting to smash into their opponents and knock them out of the inflatable arena! Despite the rigorous nature of this activity the students had a fantastic time, finding great hilarity in watching their peers being knocked backwards, side-ways and even upside down....even Mr Raymen had a go, although this was an ill-advised move on his part! Thank you to all of year 12 for their fantastic support of this school and all of its initiatives throughout the year- you have truly been a credit to KTS!





### **Mock Trial Team visit Luton Crown Court**

The Mock Trial Team were treated to a morning out at Luton Crown Court on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July as part of their reward for setting up such a fantastic team over the course of the year. After a briefing from one of the Court Clerks, our year 12 students were allowed to watch the proceedings of all of the courts sitting that day and were able to see witnesses giving evidence, sentences being handed down by a Judge and saw a jury being sworn in on a new case. The day was an interesting and valuable experience as the team will now start their preparations towards the Bar National Mock Trial competition, taking place in November. Well done to all of the students involved.

### **A 'thank you' to our mentors**

Despite their incredibly busy schedules, our sixth form mentors have worked tirelessly throughout the year, supporting and helping their mentees in younger year groups. The mentoring programme has been a real success and genuinely provided invaluable assistance to those pupils who sometimes require a 'helping hand'. The attitude and endeavour of our mentors has been wonderful and we would like to thank them for all of their hard work. Below are just a few quotes from mentees that pay tribute to the amazing work done by our sixth form students:

*'My mentor has been a great help to me throughout year 9.'*

*'I feel I can talk to my mentor about my worries about certain lessons and she helps me out a lot with my behaviour.'*

*'I think that mentor is a great role model and a brilliant person.'*

*'In the last year I have come so far with my mentor's help. I wouldn't be where I am today without her.'*

*'I talk to my mentor if I have problems in class with other pupils and she always makes me feel better with everything.....I can trust her with anything!'*

*'My mentor helped me understand more about GCSEs, how to revise and how to go about making my GCSE choices. She was really welcoming and made me feel happier and more confident about the way I revised and about the options I chose.'*