

# The Knights Templar School

Headteacher:  
**Mr T. Litchfield, G.G.S.M.**

Park Street  
Baldock  
Herts  
SG7 6DZ

Email: [admin@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk)  
[www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk)



Tel: 01462 620700  
Fax: 01462 620701

## PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 (also available on our website)

Dear Parents and Carers

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, I had the wonderful experience of being invited to Thorpe Park to support the Year 8 and 9 rewards trip. The top 25% of the students in each year group were invited to attend; this was based on their reports for the year and performance information held on our database. The students were impeccable in their behaviour and their attitude and a real credit to themselves, the school and to you the parents – it was a real pleasure to be present! Congratulations to all the students involved and please do keep up the hard work.

I would like to thank all parents and carers who attended the Summer Concert on Tuesday this week. The evening was filled with high quality music and was performed brilliantly! There was a very wide ranging programme featuring some wonderful vocal solos, junior orchestra, flute ensemble, recorder ensemble, string quartet, brass band, guitar ensemble, junior choir, string ensemble and our terrific wind band.

This afternoon Sir Trevor Brooking and Tony Gale visited the school to speak to our sixth form induction students. These students are in school for two days experiencing life at KTS. Sir Trevor (528 appearances for West Ham and 47 appearances for England) and Tony (277 appearances with Fulham and 300 appearances for West Ham and now currently Pundit – Soccer Saturday & Sky Sports News) spoke to the students for about an hour. The themes of determination and hard work were the focus of the talk and the importance of how the next 5 years are likely to define their future was also highlighted. One of our potential sixth form students said “That was one of the most inspirational talks I have heard”. Both Sir Trevor and Tony gave an interview for our NewsKnight team which will feature in their next broadcast.



Our Year 12 students have just been through two very important days. The step up to Year 13 and then onto University, apprenticeship or employment is huge and we have completed a programme to give them as much information as possible to help this process. I know that the visit to the UCAS fair at Bedford University on Tuesday was very helpful as was the intensive programme on Wednesday which started addressing the complex and difficult task of the UCAS and Personal Statement process. It was lovely to welcome back some of our alumni to share their experiences of the process and talk of the choices they made. Thank you to all the students for being so engaged in the process.

May I give another plug for our current raffle. Some of our students are not convinced that the signatures are genuine, but each of the prizes has an authentication certificate. The draw will be made very soon.

**The items are:**  
**A framed Chelsea football shirt signed by *Diego Costa***  
**A framed Arsenal football shirt signed by *Alexis Sanchez***  
**A framed Pirates of the Caribbean poster signed by the actor *Johnny Depp***



Tickets are available during registration from student council reps, who will be visiting form rooms; and from a table in the Dining Hall at break time where the items will be on display. Tickets cost £1.00 each which represents fantastic value when you consider the price you may get privately. Students can enter as many times as they like. The odds of winning are currently very high! Parents can also buy tickets for the raffles by visiting reception.

We are extremely lucky to have been donated these fantastic prizes and hope you will take advantage of this excellent opportunity. Any support you can give of this fundraising initiative is much appreciated.

Tim Litchfield  
Headteacher

**Dates for your diary:**

25/06/2015	Thursday	Yr 11 into 12 - 6th Form Induction - all day Yr 7-10 District Athletics Championships - Reserve date
26/06/2015	Friday	3:2 Split (today only) Yr 11 into 12 - 6th Form Induction - all day Primary EST Day 12-3pm
27/06/2015	Saturday	Silver DofE Practice Expedition 2 (returns 30th) KTS Celebrate 75 Music Reunion Open House & Rehearsal for Jazz Spec '75, 12pm-4pm KTS Jazz Spec '75, 7pm
28/06/2015	Sunday	Silver DofE Practice Expedition 2
29/06/2015	Monday	Silver DofE Practice Expedition 2 Yr 9 K Band Norfolk Trip Yr 3 Primary Schools Big Sing, 8.55am-10.55am Edinburgh Trip Meeting 6.30-7.30pm in DSA
30/06/2015	Tuesday	Silver DofE Practice Expedition 2 KS3 Drama Club Summer Production - DS Yr 12 - 6th Form Higher Education Evening, 7pm-9pm - Hall
01/07/2015	Wednesday	Yr 8 T Band Norfolk Trip Yr 10 Art/Art Graphics Exam - all day
02/07/2015	Thursday	Yr 8 Vocational Morning Yr 7 Stotfold Mill Trip 9am-3pm Open Doors Round Table 3, 1.20pm-2.20pm Yr 10 Art/Art Graphics Exam - all day Yr 10 Drama Performance Evening - DS Yr 11 Prom TBC Gold DofE Expedition Training, 6.45pm-9.15pm, T16
03/07/2015	Friday	INSET DAY

## Where are they now?

### David Rhodes .....

It's hard to believe that "**Rhodes**" only started singing 2 years ago and he is now preparing to perform on the Park Stage at Glastonbury. David Rhodes, who attended KTS just over 10 years ago, has always had a keen interest in music, constantly playing his guitar and writing songs. Only 2 years ago he downloaded a song onto SoundCloud and within a month he had emails from labels all over the world. He has since supported Sam Smith, London Grammar and George Ezra, to name but a few. He has also played his own shows around Europe. Last week **Rhodes** played live at the Burberry Menswear fashion show (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01FvVnWwNMI>) and performed a number from his debut album. His debut single, "*Close Your Eyes*", will be released on 5<sup>th</sup> July and if you listen to Radio 1 you are likely to hear it as he is currently on their playlist for the second week running. Congratulations David and good luck with your single!

### Angus Vasey.....

Angus left KTS in 2014 and has just completed the first year of his Electrical Installations course Level 2 based at Stevenage College Skills Centre. He was awarded electrical student of the year and overall student of the year by his course tutors. He also chose to attend college for an extra day each week to work towards an additional qualification and his tutors say his general work and attendance at the college has been excellent. Angus will be moving on to Level 3 next year and is currently applying for an apprenticeship which will run alongside the course and where he can put his skills into practise in a real business.

### Ellie Welch.....

Ellie achieved A\* GCSE in Food Technology and is currently at Hitchin college studying a 'Diploma in Professional Cookery'. She enjoys college life and is keen to progress as far as possible with a view to taking her studying to degree level. Ellie is also very proud to have been awarded Student of the Year.

Well done Angus and Ellie!

*(If you have something you would like to share about an ex-KTS student, please email [kcowell@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk](mailto:kcowell@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk))*

## Summer Festival

During the final week of school this year, students will be participating in the KTS Summer Festival, our special summer education and experience program. All students will be taking part in a number of free choice workshops during the week. There are over 30 different workshops to choose from. The cost for these activities is £5.00. Please make your payment via [Wisepay](#) or by cheques/cash in named envelopes in the accounts box outside top office. Payments are due by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July. Please direct enquiries to Mrs Levesley [slevesley@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk](mailto:slevesley@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk)

## KS3 Geography field trips to Norfolk

Over the last four weeks of term we are taking years 8 and 9 to the North Norfolk coast to examine aspects of coastal erosion, transportation and deposition at Weybourne and Overstrand. We also visit the small town of Holt to see how it compares with Baldock in terms of range of shops and services, traffic and pedestrians. Caitlin in year 8 has written about the trip as follows:-

*"On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 8 k band went to Norfolk to investigate coastal erosion. It was fascinating to discover how sea defences like revetments and sea walls affected many aspects of life in these towns from population size to types of buildings. In conclusion a great time was had by all"*



## Notes to Year 11

**Urgent reminder:** There are still many year 11 students who have not signed out. Final deadline is Friday 26th June!!!

**Year 11 Prom:** There will be a soft drinks bar at the venue where you can purchase non-alcoholic drinks. You will also need to order and pay for photos on the night (£5.00 for a disc)

## Summer Concert

The audience were treated to a marvellous Summer Concert on Tuesday evening. Students performed a varied programme, ranging from Disney classics to Vivaldi, to a full-house and were a credit to themselves and to the school.

Special thanks must go to our peripatetic staff for their continued support of our music ensembles. Many hours are spent arranging the music and rehearsing, and the result of all this hard work shone through on Tuesday evening.

As a thank you to all the students who performed in the concert, cookies will be available in K1 at breaktime on Monday.

**Summer Garden Party :** The Garden Party was a delightful evening. We were treated to some wonderful chamber music. Many thanks to all the students and staff who took part.

## **The Drama Department is proud to present its Summer Season of performances...**

### **“Drama Fortunes”**

#### **(KS3 Drama Clubs Performance Evening)**

Performed by the KS3 Drama Clubs, Open Mic Club and Technical Theatre Club  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 6.30pm (finish 7.30pm) in the Drama Studio. FREE.**

### **“A Double Bill of Comedy and Entertainment”**

Extracts from ‘Teechers’ by John Godber  
Performed by Y10 GCSE Drama students

and

### **“Y10 Showcase in aid of The Brain Tumour Charity”**

Donations welcome: <http://www.thebraintumourcharity.org/>

Performed by the Y10 Theatre Company

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 6.30pm (finish 8.30pm) in the Drama Studio**

And finally, our fringe production...

### **“Memento Mori”**

This year’s Project Drama Production, written and directed by Alex Kither

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 7pm (finish 8.30pm) in the Drama Studio.**

Tickets £4 (FREE to staff and students).

You are invited to join us at these performances. If you would like to reserve a seat, please email [DramaBoxOffice@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk](mailto:DramaBoxOffice@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk)



## **Library joins Twitter**

Add us to your Twitter Account **@KTSLibrarian** to receive regular news from the Library. What’s on, new stock, projects and activities.

## **Public Library Summer Activities**

The Public Library is running two excellent summer projects. Young Adults aged between 14 and 24 are invited to volunteer in their annual Summer Reading Challenge, a reading scheme for younger readers and READ ME! Awesome Art & Refreshing Reads, which starts on the 11<sup>th</sup> July and is open to 11-18 year olds. Please refer to your local public library for further details.

## Reader Leader Scheme

We have had an excellent response to last week's request for "Reader Leaders". There are still some available spaces. We would be especially grateful for volunteers from years 8 & 9. This is an enriching experience, which allows the pupil training opportunities, volunteering experience, a certificate and will be a positive addition to the pupil's school record. Pupils do not have to be gifted in literacy, just have a love of reading, and an interest in guiding and engaging with others who find reading challenging. Please ask your child to enquire within the library if they feel they would like to get involved.

## Scholastic £1 Book Sale

The discount book company Scholastic are offering an amazing summer sale. Books start from £1.  
<https://sale.scholastic.co.uk>

## Junior district athletics championships 2015

Yesterday, 93 pupils attending the district championships at Ridlins Stevenage. The KTS pupils were outstanding and managed to secure victory in the competitions for the 7th successive year!!!! This competition involved 14 other schools and included boys and girls from year 7 all the way through to 13. Below are photos and list of pupils who gained medals yesterday.

KTS also won outright the year 9 combined events and year 10 combined events. Follow @KTS\_PE for more great photos!!

### 1st Place:

Rachel Goward, javelin  
Maisie Tomlinson, 1500m  
Ella Shawley, javelin  
Georgia Shephard-Gazeley, javelin  
James Rutter, shot  
Tia Charlton, 100m  
Charlotte Spinks, 800m  
Marcus Crowther, 1500m  
Yr9 girls relay

### 2nd place:

Denny Watts, javelin  
Elliot Flynn, long jump  
Cole Butler, 1500  
Sennan McKenna, high jump  
Nyree Barnes, hurdles  
Ferne Saggars, discus  
Oscar Jopp, hurdles and high jump  
Taran Sura, discus  
Jasmine Charlton, discus  
Emily Saunders, 1500m  
Alice Burns, hurdles  
Will Bruning, 800m  
Oliver Leach, 300m  
Yr8 girls relay  
Yr10 girls relay  
Yr10 boys relay

### 3rd place:

Maya Clawson, shot put and 100m  
Sonny Hack, javelin  
Louie Goldscheider, javelin  
Anna Wallace, 200m  
Ellen Morley, 200m  
Ryley Isaac, long jump  
Yr7 Girls relay

### Overall Team Results:

Year 7 girls 3rd 132pts  
Year 7 boys 5th 116pts  
Year 7 combined 2nd

Year 8 girls 3rd 125pts  
Year 8 combined 2nd  
Year 8 boys 3rd 143pts

Year 9 girls 3rd 123pts  
Year 9 boys 4th 129pts  
Year 9 combined 1st

Year 10 girls 3rd 145.5  
Year 10 boys 2nd 157.5pts  
Year 10 combined 1st 303pts

**Overall - 1st place for the 7th consecutive year!**

**Year 9 Combined District Champions 2015**



**District Champions 2015**



**Year 10 Combined District Champions 2015**



## Sixth Form News

### Induction days begin for KTS students

The sixth form induction days this week have been extremely positive and well received by students who have engaged well with the tasks provided to them. Year 12 students were treated to an array of special guest speakers from various higher education institutions before learning how to write a personal statement and beginning the first part of their university application form. The day ended with an inspiring speech from Steve Nevey, a former engineer and key player in the Red Bull Formula 1 racing team.

Year 11 students showed their interest in the KTS sixth form by turning up in huge numbers for today's opening induction for prospective students. Students engaged well with team building activities in the hall and listened attentively to current sixth form students who presented speeches on their perspective of sixth form life.

Prospective students were able to meet their form tutors and were provided with a wealth of information about all the academic, sporting, musical and performance based enrichment options available at The Knights Templar Sixth Form. The day finished with an 'Engaging

Minds' talk, delivered by the enigmatic and inspiring figures of Sir Trevor Brooking (former West Ham and England footballer) and Tony Gale (former Fulham and West Ham footballer, currently working for Sky Sports TV). We would like to thank the students for their attendance at today's event but also acknowledge their high levels of engagement with the tasks provided. We look forward to meeting them again at tomorrow's 'subject taster session' day.



## Senior football connection with Sky Sports personality and Biggleswade United.

The sixth form are very proud to announce that the senior football team have successfully entered into partnership with Sky Sports personality Guillem Balague and Biggleswade United FC. Guillem is a famed journalist, with a particular focus on the Spanish Football League (La Liga) but has taken up residency as Director of Football at Biggleswade United FC. In the club's quest to branch out and find new facilities, they approached KTS and an agreement has been made for Biggleswade United to utilise our sports facilities for their academy and first team training sessions. In return, the school will enjoy a close relationship with the club, receiving a brand new Adidas first team kit for the senior squad and 90 minutes of coaching per week from Pro License (UEFA 'A') coaches. This is a fantastic boost for sixth form sport and the senior football team in particular- we are very much looking forward to the start of the new season!



## Year 12 students visit UCAS Fair

Over 100 students from year 12 travelled to The University of Bedfordshire on Tuesday to join thousands of other students at the UCAS fair. The day was a thorough success with students asking fantastic questions and gaining real insight into the world of higher education and the application process. As ever, the students were impeccably behaved and we would like to thank them for their efforts on the day.

## Chemistry students excel

We would like to congratulate the year 12 students who recently completed the Cambridge Chemistry Exam; a gruelling and prestigious test for young scientists to attempt during the early stages of their academic careers. Thomas Luck, Amelia Ellis and Charlie Langshaw were the stand-out performers, achieving fantastic results in what is widely considered to be an extraordinary challenge of scientific intellect. Well done to all involved!