

# The Knights Templar School

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## PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE – 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 (also available on our website)

Dear Parents and Carers

Please may I remind our Year 11 students that the deadline for applications to our **Sixth Form** is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February. If you have any questions relating to the form or the process, please do contact Sixth Form Student Services on [MGray@Ktemplar.herts.schu.uk](mailto:MGray@Ktemplar.herts.schu.uk) We look forward to receiving your application.

I was delighted to be able to attend our **Senior Energy and Sustainability team (EST)** meeting on Wednesday lunchtime this week. This is a team of students, under the care of one of our school governors, who run all the re-cycling in the school. They are a wonderful team of young people who are making a real difference in terms of attitudes of our students and staff to re-cycling. Congratulations to all the students involved.

I had the pleasure of attending the school play, **The Crucible by Arthur Miller**, last evening. What a joy it was! The text is not easy and there are so many words to learn, but I was gripped for nearly three hours by an incredibly mature, considered and professional performance - at times it was terrifying! There will not be any other schools producing better performances of this difficult and challenging play. Congratulations to everyone involved.

If you missed the Crucible, please do not miss out on the opportunity to hear **Craig Ogden**. Those of you who are regular readers of this bulletin will know that I have mentioned this performance before, but I do not want you to miss out on what will be a **World Class performance** of one of the best guitarists in the world. I do hope you will support us. Further details are found below.

[www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/News/Craig-Ogden-Concert-Monday-9th-February](http://www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/News/Craig-Ogden-Concert-Monday-9th-February)

May I thank all Year 9 parents for their attendance at the **Options Evening** last Thursday and to remind you of the deadlines for completed forms. As I mentioned on the evening, the most important aspect of this is that you are involved in the decisions that are being made. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Allman if you have any questions. All the relevant information can also be found on the school website.

[www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/Options-Information-for-Year-10](http://www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/Options-Information-for-Year-10)

Regards,

Tim Litchfield  
Headteacher

### Dates for your diary:

30/01/2015	Friday	Yr 11 Triple Scientists Trip to Science Live Event, London - all day School Production, The Crucible, 7pm in the Hall"
31/01/2015	Saturday	Yr 7-13 County Cross-country Championships, 9am-4pm
02/02/2015	Monday	Yr 13 (A2) Art/Photography Study Day - all day Yr 10 Indoor Hockey Tournament, 3.30pm-5.30pm- Sports Hall
03/02/2015	Tuesday	Gold DofE Memory Map Training Meeting, 7pm-9pm - T12
04/02/2015	Wednesday	Year 10 DTP and Meningitis C Vaccine during the day Yr 13 Geography Field Trip to Docklands
05/02/2015	Thursday	Yr 9&10 (selected students) Int. Maths Challenge, Yr 11 Chamonix Meeting 7pm
06/02/2015	Friday	Bronze DofE Expedition Training 7.30pm-9pm at school
07/02/2015	Saturday	Bronze DofE Expedition Training, 10am-3.30pm - KTS
08/02/2015	Sunday	Bronze DofE Expedition Training, 10am-3.30pm - Barton Fells

## Voting is under way for Youth Parliament seats!



Monica Yianni and Morgan Sykes, both in Year 11, are competing for the North Herts' seat on the Youth Parliament. Young people aged 11-18 and who live, work or are educated in Hertfordshire, are eligible to vote and can do so via the [ChannelMOGO website](#) from now until February 13<sup>th</sup>. See our website for the [full report](#) from this week's Comet newspaper.



## The Crucible

Congratulations to the cast and crew of The Crucible. The audiences for the first two nights have been full of praise for this powerful and moving production. Here are some comments from audience members:

"A very moving production of The Crucible tonight - congratulations to all involved!"

"The Crucible was FANTASTIC! I was gripped for the entire time, the students were incredible!"

"I have seen movies of the story of Salem and read some of the stories and always believed there were no real witches, only innocents caught up in a hideous frenzy of petty revenge and fear. Last night changed my opinion. Emily de Fraine's performance has now convinced me that the real witch actually got away with her evil intentions. All characters were so believable. Well done and thank you."

"AMAZING performance tonight everyone :)"

## Year 10 – Free Health Screening Opportunity

In conjunction with the KTS Medical Student Services a team from Amber Health (Osteopathic and Complementary Health Clinic) will be offering a chance for all year 10 students to be screened for any structural or musculo-skeletal problems that can be corrected with simple measures. Please look out for the explanatory information arriving home with Year 10 students next week.

## KTS School Uniform

Knights Templar Uniform/Sports kit is now available online (see [here](#) for current uniform list). North Herts Schoolwear have offered online/shop service for schools located in Royston for some time but it has now been extended to include all schools. We don't anticipate that parents who visit Letchworth town centre regularly will make much use of the online facility but delivery to the home is now available. Shipping is charged at cost and advised to the customer before they pay for the goods. To visit online go to <http://northhertsschoolwear.co.uk/store/>

## Rugby 6 Nations Tickets

There are still some tickets available for pupils on the rugby trip to watch 6 nations match between England and Italy on Saturday 14th February. Tickets are £55 and reply slips need to be handed back into the school by Friday 6th February. A letter can be collected from Mr Smith in the PE office for anyone who is interested.

## Geography students examine Urban Regeneration

Next week, year 13 A2 Geography students are going to London to examine aspects of urban regeneration at Kings Cross, London Docklands and the Olympics site. They will be meeting at Baldock station at 9.40 and should return by 5.30.

## KTS Library: Dates for your Diary

**Friday 6th February** - National Libraries Day - Guinness World Record Attempt - Book Swap. Pupils are invited to swap a book with fellow pupils and take part in this record attempt.

**Wednesday 3rd March** - World Book Day, featuring a book sale by David's Books Shop.

### Senior Question Time – Friday 30th of January

With the issue of the Baldock Housing Expansion stirring up comment in the local area, we felt it was important to give our young people the opportunity to have their say, and more importantly, to ask questions. Tomorrow will see us welcome Sir Oliver Heald MP, Councillor Michael Muir, Councillor Steve Jarvis, Mr John Francis, Ms Rhona Cameron, Mr Mario May and our own Headteacher, to be panellists on a KTS version of the BBC programme 'Question Time.' Students have submitted an outstanding array of questions to be put before the panel by Miss Sarah Barker, who will chair what promises to be a lively debate. We expect the audience of students to be made up of students in Years 10 to 13, and we are also welcoming Sixth Form students from St Christopher's School. We look forward to updating parents on the outcome in next week's Parental Bulletin.

### Yr9 Bronze 2015:

All participants should now have signed up for their training groups for the Expedition Training weekend in a week's time. Details have already been given to you but copies of the [letters and details can be found on the school's DofE website.](#)

All pupils need to meet in the playground at about 6.45 ready for a prompt 7.00 start. All they will need to bring on the Friday is a pen!! Please read [here](#) for further important details of this Expedition Training Weekend.

### Yr10 Bronze 2014:

Record books are coming in thick and fast now which is superb! Remember that books need to be collected from the DofE Office once I have signed them and the pages uploaded to their eDofE accounts. Books must then be returned to the DofE Office with the "Upload Complete" box ticked on the front of their books to allow the process to be completed. Dates in the Record Book are definitive and dates on eDofE should be changed to match those in the books!!

Anyone not yet organising their books - time is running out! The latest status regarding completion can be seen on the school's DofE website which will be updated regularly, although there may be a small delay between books being handed in and this being recorded on the site. Any problems, then please [email me!](#)

### Yr11 Silver 2014

Apologies, but your books are not yet being sorted due to the high volume of activity with the two years below!! This will be rectified hopefully next week - watch Twitter for news!

### Yr10 GCSE Geography Field Trip to Chamonix

The Parent's meeting takes place next Thursday at 7.30!

### Food for thought.....

Miss Theobald, wanted to share with you (!) this wonderful development from a stewed apple pie to a pecan pie by a Year 8 student, Judith Simmons this week. This was an outstanding product produced at a very high skill level for a student in Year 8. This was a very high quality dish which was made independently over 2 lessons.



### Sixth Form News

#### KTS graduate success

Max Munford (2014 KTS graduate) recently returned to KTS for 'Commemoration Evening' to receive an award in recognition of his contributions to the school during his time as a student. Upon returning, Max was able to update his former teachers on his progress studying Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College, London. Max has recently been awarded a BP scholarship to assist with his time at university. The scholarship consists of £5,000 per year towards his degree costs, work experience at BP and networking opportunities. This scholarship was awarded following a written application, aptitude test and a formal interview- the opportunity was available to anyone studying a maths, science or engineering course from the 'top 8 universities' in the country.

The Knights Templar School and Sixth Form are very proud of Max's achievements and the 2014 graduate attributed much of his success to his time at our school stating- *'I still consider my experiences at Knights Templar to be among the reasons for my success and hope that other students continue to do well and enjoy their studies'*.

### **Senior basketball success continues**

Knights Templar Senior Basketball team took a massive stride towards progressing to the top 4 playoffs in the County League with an emphatic win over St George's School of Harpenden- a school with a rich recent history of success at County & National level.

A long cross county journey during Friday rush hour showed in the start made to the game by KTS and they quickly went behind thanks to some clinical outside shooting by the opposition.

The lead for St George's began to stretch and reached 12 points midway through the 3rd quarter before some key tactical switches started to produce turnovers that closed the gap to 5 points at the start of the 4th quarter and then the lead with 4 minutes left in the game thanks to excellent team defence. St George's then tied the game before scores from Korede Odumade, team captain Nick Allin and steely nerves from young Jim Acquah at the free throw line built an ultimately game-winning cushion that closed out the victory.

Nick once again rightly takes the plaudits on the offensive end with a stunning individual display totalling 50 points but the game was littered with contributions from throughout the squad.

Final Score: St George's 70 Knights Templar 73

*With crucial County & District league games coming thick and fast leading up to the February half term, new or returning players that can supplement the squad are always welcome at Wednesday lunchtime training with Mr White & Mr Chantrell.*

### **Sixth form mentor programme continues to thrive**

With over 40 pupils in years 7-11 now being mentored by 6th form students, the programme has a really vibrant feel surrounding it. Pupils receive assistance with everything from friendship, confidence and organisational issues to help with their behaviour and even revision strategies for upcoming exams. If you feel as though your child might benefit from having a sixth form mentor then please encourage them to speak with their form tutor about the possibility.

### **BBC Radio 2 calls for sixth form musician**

**BBC**  
RADIO



Accomplished musician Ben Goldscheider (year 12) has earned a place in the semi-finals of the BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Award. Ben will be playing up to 10 minutes of music accompanied by the world famous Brighouse and Rastrick Band at BBC studios in Salford on January 31st. This is the most recent in a series of accolades bestowed upon Ben for his extraordinary musical achievements and we wish him the best of luck in the semi- finals!

### **Year 12 debate the issue of capital punishment in society**

Over the last couple of weeks, year 12 students have been spending their tutorial hour working in small groups to research the issues surrounding capital punishment and deliver a presentation to their peers about their findings. This unit of work has sparked great debate among the students, while challenging them to develop crucial research, analytical and presentation skills needed in higher education and employment.



The students have worked incredibly hard on this project and delivered some very thoughtful and insightful presentations- well done to all students involved.