

# The Knights Templar School

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## PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE – 4<sup>th</sup> June 2015 (also available on our website)

Dear Parents and Carers

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June sees the start of our **Key stage 3** examination period. May I wish all students the very best in these important exams. I know that a lot of hard work has gone into preparing for them! Please would you make sure that you have a good grasp of which exam is on which day, so that these students are as prepared as they can be. Please can all KS3 students ensure they have a reading book with them next week.

The Parent group, 'Friends of KTS', are holding their annual **Garden Party** on the evening of Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June. All money raised from this event comes directly back to the school, so I would urge you to support us on this occasion. Last year, this was the first event that I attended as the then 'new Headteacher' and it was a wonderful welcome to the school. Please see our website for further information ([www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/News/Friends-of-KTS-Garden-Party-1](http://www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/News/Friends-of-KTS-Garden-Party-1))

Please can I remind you that the tickets for the **Jazz Spectacular** on the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015 are on sale through the school reception. The cost is £15 and includes food. Please do come and join us for one of the highlights of the KTS year. The music on the evening features some of the great jazz standards and will be performed by the school Jazz Band, the 'All Stars', a re-union band, directed by the Mike O'Neill and a staff jazz band, which includes a variety of staff including past and existing Headteachers! This is the last major event which celebrates 75 years of Knights Templar School. I do hope that you can join us!

May I draw your attention to the wealth of **sports fixtures** that the students are involved in this term and thank all parents who support these by standing on the touch line and cheering our teams on. Also, please be reminded that there are many events this term, which are published on the school Calendar which I would like to invite you to. Please see the Calendar section under the Parents 'tab' on the school website.

I am excited to inform you about a new **All Comers Community Orchestra** in Baldock, which is aiming to start on 10 September 2015. All instruments, all standards and all ages will be welcome! The cost will be £5 per session if more than 18 people sign up. The orchestra will meet on Thursday evenings at 7.15-8.30pm here at school. The conductor is the Rachel Dawson who plays viola and piano, teaches music at KTS, and conducts a community choir in Hatfield. If you are interested please email Catherine Wilmers - [cwilmers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cwilmers@hotmail.co.uk).

Many thanks,

Tim Litchfield  
Headteacher

### Dates for your diary:

04/06/2015	Thursday	Bronze DofE Assessment Expedition Planning Meeting 3, 6.45pm-9.15pm, T16
06/06/2015	Saturday	Yr 7-11 County Athletics Championships, all day Bronze DofE Assessment Expedition 3 (returns 8th)
07/06/2015	Sunday	Yr 7-13 County Athletics Championships, all day Bronze DofE Assessment Expedition 3
08/06/2015	Monday	Open Doors Cycle 3 - until 2nd July Bronze DofE Assessment Expedition 3 returns

09/06/2015	Tuesday	Yr 7-9 KS3 Concert - Junior Ensembles, rehearsals all day in K1 Yr 7-9 KS3 Concert - Junior Ensembles, 7pm, Hall
10/06/2015	Wednesday	Yr 10-13 Royal Opera House screening of La Boheme at Letchworth Cinema
11/06/2015	Thursday	Yr 9 & 10 District Rounders Tournament, 2.20pm-6pm
12/06/2015	Friday	KS3 Exams (until Thursday 18/6)

### Junior Maths Challenge

The top Maths groups in Years 7 and 8 both competed in the Junior Maths Challenge. The top 40% of students nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate in the ratio 1:2:3. Notable performances were from Toby and Daniel Colegrove who both qualified for the next round.

	<u>Gold</u>	<u>Silver</u>	<u>Bronze</u>
Year 7:	Jason Harley	Adam Caine Molly Lockett Callum McCreath	Jack Byrne Guy Mackenzie Cameron Moir Zara Northern Joel Overton Alicia Padget Sydney Strachan Revae Tilbury Maisie Tomlinson Lucius Wong
Year 8:	Daniel Colegrove Toby Colegrove Charlotte Phillips	Caitlin Bracken Hannah Cowsley Eva Dennis Thomas Keenan Charlotte Marsden Joshua Marshall Daniel Ward Chris Saunders Esme Wase Maja Wasilewska Daltrey Whyte	Anuj Deshmukh Charlotte Kingsbury Niamh Wase Alice Winzer

### How to get the best exam results:

Did you know there is a proven link between participation in regular exercise and exam success? Makes sense really - exercise increases your heart rate, which means more oxygen is delivered to your brain, which means your brain can make more energy, which makes it work better!

And if like me you are a scientist who likes evidence to support ideas, have a read of [this article](#). Page 8 is particularly good.

Key evidence:

- a UK study identified that the amount of moderate to vigorous physical activity pupils engaged with at age 11 had an effect on academic performance across English, maths and science at age 11, 13 and final GCSE exam results
- the percentage of time girls spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity at age 11 predicted increased science scores at 11 and 16 years
- pupils engaging in self-development activities (including sport, physical activity) achieved 10-20% higher GCSEs

So to get the best results in your exams this summer, don't forget to follow the winning recipe of:

***Revise Test Exercise Rest Repeat!***

## Year 10 Science exams

All Year 10's are now entering their week of GCSE Science (A) examinations- with the first exam (Biology) taking place on Friday 5th June, with subsequent exams on Tuesday afternoon (Chemistry) and Friday afternoon (Physics)

As this is their first experience of 'real' public examinations, please give your son or daughter the greatest chance of success by encouraging revision on the evenings leading up to the papers - and ensuring they are aware of the LOCATION of the exam (Hall or Gym) their CANDIDATE NUMBER as well as their TIER OF ENTRY for the specific paper on the day- bearing in mind that this may well vary for different science subjects. All relevant information will have been passed to students on the exam paperwork given out in the spring term.

Please also reinforce the importance of the exam regulations such as NO MOBILE PHONES or 'LUGGAGE' anywhere near the exam hall- leave in lockers or failing that, in student services. Students ARE permitted calculators for the science papers and should be encouraged to bring one.

Good luck to all involved, Mr Chantrell

## Reminder: Maths Calculator Revision Session

Maths Calculator Revision Session will be on Saturday 6th June in school from 9.30am to 11.30am. Bring your calculators with you.

Look on the School Website from Thursday night and there should also be some advice on what topics to concentrate your revision on before Monday

## Attention year 11 media students!

The revision guide for TV news is finally here. If you have an apple device, you can get the interactive ebook for free at <https://itun.es/gb/2w5R7.l> . Or you can access the PDF version at <http://www.slideshare.net/rockinmole/tv-news-study-guide> .

You can also access revision videos on the media YouTube account <https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCa7URaipoRaAGTRzuCdiHPQ>.

All these links are also on Twitter. Please remember that I am expecting your pitch for your new TV news program and practice storyboard for checking.

**Baldock**  
Live Music & Face Painting  
Various Food Options Available!

**the big lunch**  
an eden project

**PANATION**  
Tickets available Soon!  
Contact for more details

**Baldock High Street - 7th June 2015**

Contact: [fraser.valentine@baldocktown.co.uk](mailto:fraser.valentine@baldocktown.co.uk) or 07582 054 103

10th Anniversary  
BALDOCK TOWN PARTNERSHIP

Don't forget this fantastic event being held this Sunday from midday to 4pm in the High Street. There will be a steel band providing entertainment plus other attractions including a bouncy castle. There are a range of menu options available including BBQ Food, Ploughman's, Greek salads, Fish & Chips, traditional pub roasts, lasagne or curry. Tickets are on sale at the Baldock Community Centre or online [www.baldocktown.co.uk](http://www.baldocktown.co.uk) £8.00 adult: £4.00 child under 11's. Join with friends and family and come and enjoy a great day out.

## LIBRARY NEWS THIS WEEK....



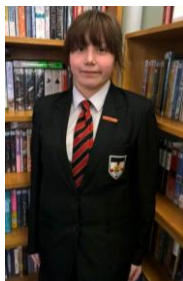
## What makes a truly great book?



Registration  
Criteria  
Publicity  
Book Supply

Downloads  
Ideas  
Resources

We are launching the Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Book Awards at Knights Templar this month, inviting pupils to become Book Shadowers and review some of the 2015 shortlisted titles. Pupils from Years 9 and 10 are invited to participate in the Carnegie Award and the Kate Greenaway titles are an enriching experience for Years 7 & 8. We have a KTS Reading Group page on the national website, where pupils can read and post their own reviews, blogs and share experiences of the books they've read. If your child is interested in participating, encourage them to come and speak to either Mrs Evans or Ms Rogers, the Librarians. Click [here](#) for the link to our library page on our website and more information.



**Congratulations** to Emily Overall who has completed her Student Librarian Training. Emily had to carry out a shelving test, and an on-line quiz. She passed with flying colours.

Thank you Emily for all your hard work.

### Scholastic Book Fair

Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils have been provided with copies of the Scholastic Book Fair leaflet: Summer 2015. Books are heavily discounted and feature a great variety of current, popular teen fiction.

*Nora Evans, Sarah Rogers and the Library Staff*

### LAMDA: Update from the Drama Department

Firstly, congratulations to all our current LAMDA students who have now completed their exams. It is a long wait now for the results – about six weeks. Thanks in particular to Lotte Walley, Luke Bandy and Honor Hughes for performing in the LAMDA showcase to Year 7 students last week.

Next year! If you would like your child to participate in LAMDA, please contact Mrs Shaw in the Drama Office ([EShaw@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk](mailto:EShaw@ktemplar.herts.sch.uk)). LAMDA is an opportunity for our students to challenge themselves in terms of their acting skills, so we are looking for talented and committed students. We are mainly recruiting students from the current Year 7, however, there are some further spaces for current Year 8 and 9 students. LAMDA tuition usually takes place at lunchtime and there is a charge. We are looking at introducing an after school session on Tuesdays for older years (students who will be in Y10 and above next year). In particular, this would be a great opportunity for Y9 students who have not selected GCSE Drama as an option, but want to continue to develop their performance skills. Please get in touch.

Further information about LAMDA is available [here](#). At Knights Templar we offer Performance Examinations in Acting and Devising.

### **Boulogne day trip**

Twenty-eight pupils travelled to Boulogne, a fishing port town on the north coast of France, on Saturday 16th May to get a taster of French culture and an opportunity to practice their language skills. We had the opportunity to visit a traditional Saturday morning market, where pupils were surprised at the number of people buying their produce and groceries. We also visited Boulogne's beautiful old town and enjoyed the views off the town's ramparts. The day was rounded off with a trip to Cité Europe and the huge Carrefour hypermarket, where the checkout section is so long, supervisors use roller skates!



### **Year 9 Body Image Presentations**

Over the past half term year 9 have been looking at Body Image in their PSHE lessons, and have been investigating the role that media plays in deciding how we feel about ourselves, as well as the problems which can arise from having poor self-image. This is a particularly important topic for teenagers, especially with the recent news that hospital admissions of teenagers due to eating disorders has **doubled in the past 3 years** (see news article link below). Year 9 students have undertaken their own research around this topic, and have created some very interesting and thought-provoking presentations, with special mention going to Brooke Roebuck, Holly May, Lauren Carter and Emily Collinson. Below are some links to useful websites if this is something you wish to discuss with your son/daughter.

BBC Article: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/32975654/eating-disorder-hospital-admissions-nearly-double>

Useful Websites:

<http://www.beinggirl.com/article/negative-body-image/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/Explore/MyBody/Pages/MyBody.aspx>

<http://www.berealcampaign.co.uk/>

### **History Department visit the Battlefields**

The History Department were incredibly impressed with the behaviour and engagement shown by 69 Year 10 students on our annual trip to the battlefields of Belgium and France. The students not only experienced the mud, stink and chaos of the trenches, they were also able to visit a number of cemeteries and battle sites (including the Somme) and reflect on the enormous losses during World War One. The students were a credit to Knights Templar and the trip organiser, Mr Samsami and they well and truly deserved their visit to Disney Land on the way home!



### **Athletics success!**

On Wednesday 3rd June, Year 8 and 10 teams took part in the County Athletics league.

Overall results were:

Year 8 Girls- 2nd

Year 8 Boys- 4th

Year 10 Girls- 3rd

Year 10 Boys- 4th

Notable performances on the night were:

Year 8 Girls- Charlotte Spinks- 1st in 800m  
Georgia Shepherd Gazeley- 1<sup>st</sup> in Javelin

Year 10 Girls- Hannah Shittu- 1<sup>st</sup> in Shot Put  
Louise Sheldrick- 1<sup>st</sup> in Long Jump  
Jasmin Charlton- 1<sup>st</sup> in Discus

### **Cricket for Year 7**

Year 7 started their Cricket season on Wednesday 20th May playing away to St Christopher in Letchworth. KTS elected to bat first and posted a highly competitive score of 110 off the allotted 15 overs. Both Sonny Hack (26) and Euan McDonald (15) proved prolific, with Mr Bradley deciding to retire both batsmen so other students could familiarise themselves with hardball cricket. KTS then took to the field defending a good score and Tresize and Hack opened the bowling. Both bowlers bowled incredibly well and were supported by 7 other bowlers throughout the innings. Man on the match has been awarded to Sonny Hack for a score of 26 (retired) and bowling figures of 2 overs, 1 maiden, 5 runs scored. A great start to the season, well done!

### **Year 9 cricket success**

The year 9 cricket team took another step closer to the district final with a very close 2 run win over Barclay School from Stevenage. Another ferocious batting display from Marcus Crowther, coupled with excellent bowling from Sam Rayner and Freddie Hindson resulted in the KTS boys hanging on to secure a crucial victory. The year 9s are still undefeated in the district league and aim to continue that run with a win over John Henry Newman School today- good luck to the boys!

### **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers**

PE would like to remind all family and friends of students at the school that we are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. All contributions go towards new sports equipment through this scheme. The collection box is in the School Reception area.

Many thanks

## Sixth Form News:

### **Year 13 BBQ lunch**

The year 13 students were given a sun drenched send off on the last Friday before the half term break, celebrating their time at KTS with delicious BBQ food, KFC and pizza. The students relished the relaxed atmosphere on the school playing fields, enjoying one final KTS social event with friends and staff, as the background music provided by Charlie Knighton gave the students a fitting send off. Thank you to all of the staff and students involved in making this such an enjoyable event- pictures to follow in next week's bulletin!

### **KTS Graduate Profile- Ryan Sullivan**

Ryan left in 2011 having taken the A Levels most associated with his interests – Product Design, Maths and Physics. He also achieved his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award and was a devoted member of the KTS Big Band. He recently gained a degree in Electrical Engineering (BEng) from the University of Nottingham and whilst studying for his degree, threw himself into university life becoming involved in LARP (Live Action Role Playing) gaming and design- he makes a lot of his own 'props'.



For the next few months, Ryan will be working in a local electronics firm and in September will start work at Network Rail on their Engineering Graduate Scheme. He will be a member of the design team working on the electrification of the East Anglia rail network- a truly fantastic achievement.

Ryan recently called in at KTS to catch-up with some of his old teachers and said:

"One of the first things I was told when I entered Knights Templar was "Secondary School is one of the few environments where people outside your family will genuinely care about your future." I now realise just how true that comment was, as without the support and encouragement I received from the school staff during my A

levels, I would not have achieved the results I did or had the skills necessary for my future career. My advice to current KTS students would be to appreciate just how much the staff care about you and prepare you for the future. Also make sure to take advantage of every opportunity made available to you, as at Knights Templar, there are so many!"

### Urgent message for all year 12 students!

The deadline is looming for year 12 students to register for the trip to The University of Bedfordshire's UCAS Conference. This trip takes place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June and is compulsory for all year 12 students.

**STUDENTS MUST NOW INDIVIDUALLY REGISTER ONLINE BY  
FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE AND PRINT OFF THEIR TICKET FOR THIS EVENT.  
FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN NON-ADMITTANCE.**

Students will need to follow the step-by-step instructions provided via the following link to complete their online booking:

[https://www.ucasevents.com/UCAS/media/uploaded/EVUCAS/event\\_1388/BED15%20Advisers%20briefing%20sheet%2012112014.pdf](https://www.ucasevents.com/UCAS/media/uploaded/EVUCAS/event_1388/BED15%20Advisers%20briefing%20sheet%2012112014.pdf)

