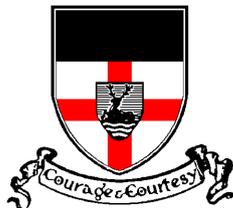


# The Knights Templar School

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> September 2014 (also available on our website)

Dear Parent or Carer

Welcome to our second weekly Parental Bulletin. I hope that you find it informative and useful. One of the common themes of our standards evenings has been about communication and the vital triangle of student, school and home. We are passionate that you are in a position to support your child's learning and are informed of some of the day to day success stories and are kept up to date with school events. If you feel we can improve this document, please do let me know. In the meantime, please do tell your friends about the bulletin and encourage them to read it either through ParentMail or through the school website.

The second of our full staff INSET days took place today (25th September) and the focus was on delivering outstanding lessons and improving your son or daughter's learning experience. There is a great depth of experience and expertise amongst the staff at KTS and it has been a productive and successful day. Grateful thanks must go to Miss Barker for organising the day and to a number of other staff who have led various sessions.

On the morning of 3rd October we are holding our 75th Anniversary Open Morning between 9.30 and 12.00. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate with us. We have two previous Headteachers of the school, Mr Crellin (1960 – 1984) and Mr Chapman (1984 – 2006) who will share some of their memories with us and I will spend a few moments talking about the future of KTS. There will also be music, old photographs, memorabilia and clips from the 'log book' which is a wonderful, written record of the early days of the school from 1939. I would welcome all parents, x-students and friends to this special event. **Please do contact the school and let us know how many free places you would like.** I will also be asking all current students and staff to plant a bulb as part of the legacy of this year. These bulbs will grow back every year and not only enhance the look of our school grounds, but will be a reminder to each student and member of staff that they have a permanent place within our community.

Please also see our website for information relating to our 75th Anniversary Gala Dinner on the 17th October. There are literally only a few tickets left for this spectacular event (some organisations say this to encourage you to buy, but as I write there are only ten tickets left!).

I look forward to seeing you at our remaining standards evenings. I would urge all parents and students to attend these very important evenings. They start at 6.00pm and will be finished by 6.45pm and are full of relevant and year group specific information relating to the year ahead. The Heads of Year and Form Tutors for each year group will be present for you to talk to as well.

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:**

26/09/2014	Friday	Macmillan Coffee Morning (Extended Break & Non-Uniform Day) Yr 11 Winter House Matches Yr 7-10 PE North Herts G&T Masterclass (12 students), 1pm-3pm
30/09/2014	Tuesday	Yr 13 Business Studies Strategy Day Silver DofE Planning Meeting 2, 7pm-9pm, T16
01/10/2014	Wednesday	Open Morning, 9.30am-12 noon

02/10/2014	Thursday	Open Morning, 9.30am-12 noon National Poetry Day, Library Year 10 Standards Evening for Parents, 6pm in the Hall
03/10/2014	Friday	75th Anniversary Community Open Morning 9.30-12.00

### Twitter

Parents may not be aware that we have a school Twitter page. Announcements regarding upcoming events are posted here, as well as news as it happens. Find us @KT\_School and follow us so you know what is happening.

### SMHW

Homework has got off to a great start this with students across the school regularly accessing SMHW to see their homework. Parents will remember that they were sent a unique user name and logon last year. If you or your child has lost these please email us so we can assist. Please support your child's homework by allowing them access to a computer and by ensuring that checking SMHW is a regular part of their homework routine.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Tomorrow will see the whole school community join together after period 2 to have a cake and a coffee (or cold drink) to raise money for a worthwhile cause. Students can come to school in non-uniform tomorrow. The cost is £2.00 which they should give to their form tutor in morning registration. Please remember that registration is shortened tomorrow (8.35-8.40) to allow this event to take place at 10.40.

### Letters sent into school

Can we please ask parents and carers to remember to ensure the student's name and form is clearly marked on any envelopes, letters and cheques sent into school.

### Business Studies News

Year 11 Business students have controlled assessment support sessions on Wednesday 1st October in T12 from 3.20pm - 4.20pm.

Year 13 Business Studies students on Tuesday 30th September have a 'strategy day' at KTS delivered by Tesco's Head Office.

### Calculators - Maths Department

We are finding that many pupils are not bringing their calculators to lessons. Next week on Monday or Tuesday we are going to have a calculator check in lessons. We would be grateful if you could make sure your son/daughter has a calculator. We have some to sell at £5.50 if they need one or of course you can purchase one from elsewhere over the weekend if they haven't got one. The model we recommend is CASIO FX-83-GT PLUS.

### 75 Years Presents – Gymnastics Squad

Congratulations to all the students that made the gymnastics squad. They will all be performing in the "Knights Templar Presents 75 Years" in February at the Gordon Craig Theatre, Stevenage. See here for the full list of students selected <http://www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/Learning/KTS-Presents-75-Years-Gymnastics-Squad/>

### Running Club

For students that want a club that will improve fitness, make you mentally tough and build your confidence then join the running club. The club runs Thursday after school from 3.30-4.30pm on the school field for all year groups and all abilities, you may even see some staff running!

### Rugby: Concussion and returning to play

Now we are back in the midst of the rugby term, can we take this opportunity to remind you of the protocols if your son is unlucky enough to be concussed during a rugby match. Please see our website for full information <http://www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk/rugby-concussion/>

### Year 7 Sustainability Day

All year 7 students took part in a sustainability workshop run by Phil Williams of Plan-it eco last Friday. Phil is a regular visitor to the school and always inspires the students with his passionate presentation which raises awareness of or need to take care of our planet and leave it in good condition for future generations. He left us with some excellent ideas of how we can move our sustainability projects forward and has inspired many of our new students to get involved. Check out his website: <http://plan-iteco.com/>

### **Year 9 Netball**

We began our league fixtures this week and started with a double win! We successfully beat Marriots 4-0 and then Fearnhill 13-4. We were working on some defensive tactics in training and Lauren, Claire and Simran worked hard to implement them with great success into the games, only letting in 4 goals in 50 mins of play. Some outstanding shooting from Daisy allowed us to achieve a substantial lead in the second game and some excellent work from Annie in the centre allowed us to remain calm, keep possession and come away with these super results.

Well done also to Abigail, Eleanor and Orla for their contribution.

(Mrs Curtis)

### **Year 10 WW1 Battlefields Trip**

We have had an unprecedented and overwhelming response for the Y10 WW1 Battlefields Trip to Belgium and France; we were oversubscribed by registration on the first morning and have now reached 72 applicants – far more than we have ever previously received. Please see here for further information

<http://www.kemplar.herts.sch.uk/Learning/historybattlefields/>

### **A Level Physics trip to Cern, July 2014.**

At 0445 on the morning of Thursday 17th July, 9 A Level Physics students and 2 members of staff met in the coach park at KTS. They flew from Luton to Geneva then travelled by public transport to Cern, The European Organization for Nuclear Research, whose purpose is to operate the world's largest particle physics laboratory. After a long day, the party arrived home at 2330 but gained a fantastic insight into how Physics is being used at the forefront of technological advancement. Both staff and students really enjoyed this great trip.

(see here for photographs <http://www.kemplar.herts.sch.uk/Learning/science-cern/>)

### **Volunteering and charity opportunities at KTS**

Sixth form students at KTS will have the opportunity to participate in a 'speed-matching' event, aiming to link enthusiastic students with volunteer work and charity organisations.

A number of charities and organisations will visit the school on Wednesday 8th October (3.30pm) and 'pitch' for 5 minutes about their volunteering opportunities to small groups of students, with the view to enlisting their support via active volunteering. This initiative will operate as a round robin, speed dating event and should be a fantastic opportunity for any students aiming to boost their CV, UCAS application or simply gain some experience of life beyond the classroom. Students need to register their interest with Ms Brando if they wish to participate.

### **At a glance- KTS Sixth Form student destinations**

We are very proud of the most recent set of A-level results and equally proud of the next step taken by KTS Sixth Form graduates into; higher education, employment, apprenticeships and gap year travels. 69% of KTS year 13 students (summer 2014) have earned a place at University or alternative higher education institution. An impressive 22% of the cohort earned places at Russell Group Universities, while 11% of students in year 13 opted for apprenticeships, employment and fascinating gap year travels. These statistics serve as an excellent tribute to the hard work of those Sixth Form students, as well as the opportunities available for those students who decide to continue their post-16 education at KTS. We are very proud of their achievements and wish them all the best for the next stage in their lives.

### **KTS Sixth Form Graduate- this week's profile**

Shannon Linnell- Shannon completed her A-levels in the most recent summer exam period and exceeded many of her target grades. Now she is putting her KTS education to good use by completing a Sports Psychology degree at UCFB Wembley, based at the home of English football. Shannon recently contacted KTS to say; 'Walking down Wembley Way every morning and evening is an amazing feeling. I am so proud to have been a KTS student and I definitely made the right decision by staying, otherwise I wouldn't have all these amazing opportunities!' Some of these opportunities have included; working and studying at the world famous Wembley stadium, as well as working with the likes of Mike Phelan, the Norwich first team and England/ Arsenal Ladies player Rachel Yankee! We are incredibly proud of Shannon's achievements and look forward to helping more KTS Sixth Form students realise their potential.

### **Famed Professor Nutt visits KTS Year 12**

The year 12 students were treated to an entertaining and informative talk by Professor Nutt, a Scientist formerly employed by the Government to research the issues and problems with drug and alcohol use in the UK. Professor Nutt gave a fascinating speech that challenged our students to think in a new and more enlightened way about the risks surrounding alcohol and drug use, as well as the Government and media portrayal about the risks of banned drugs compared to their legal counterparts. The students demonstrated their interest in the speech by engaging Professor Nutt in an extensive Q&A for some time, even after final school bell had rung! We would like to extend our thanks to Professor Nutt for visiting our Sixth Form, as well as to Ms Brando for organising the visit of such a renowned public speaker.

**KTS graduate earns bursary.**

Congratulations to recent KTS graduate Chloe Hammond who has earned a bursary worth £3000 from the Letchworth Civic Truct Inc. She will use this money to assist her studies in Creative Media at The University of Leeds and we wish her all the best with her future endeavours.

**Biggleswade Town FC 'call- up' KTS youngster**

Year 12 student Matthew Reynolds has recently been honoured with a 'call- up' to the Biggleswade Town FC first team having showed a lot of promise as a talented young player. We wish Matthew the best of luck in future matches for the semi-professional team, as they stake a claim to be promoted to the Conference South division.