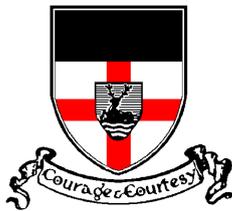


The Knights Templar School

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PARENTAL WEEKLY UPDATE –23rd October 2014 (also available on our website)

Dear Parent or Carer,

This has been a very successful half term, with so many of our students achieving great things. There has been a real sense of purpose in lessons and the students have demonstrated they really do want success and are prepared to work hard for that.

Thank you to all parents who have supported the school this half term. This may be through your attendance at our very successful Standards Evenings, supporting the school at one of our evening events, standing on the touchline encouraging our sports teams or celebrating our 75th Anniversary year with us. The next half term looks to be just as busy!

May I please point you in the direction of our school website (www.ktemplar.herts.sch.uk). Here, you will find lots of very useful information relating to the school. There are some great photographs of recent events. Thank you to all parents who have suggested ways of improving the website.

I do hope that you enjoy looking at our Student Honours Board this week – we really do have some very talented and committed young people in the school. This may be a feature at the end of every half term.

I look forward to meeting you all again after half term.

Regards

Tim Litchfield
Headteacher

P.S. There will be elections for three Parent Governors at the beginning of November. Please read the attached letter and consider whether you would like to stand for election. Nominations forms should be submitted by 6th November 2014. The letter and form can be downloaded from the [Governor section](#) of our website.

This week's entry from the Log Book of Frank Hancock, MBE; first Head-teacher of The Knights Templar School (then Baldock County School):

"18th September, 1939

School opened today. For the present it has been arranged that the Senior School will meet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and that Earlsmead School will use the building on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

161 children were enrolled and the first day's work went very smoothly. Dinner was provided for children from Clothall and Bygrave. The Weston children did not attend today as there was a hitch in the transport arrangements. Mr.W.A. Brew, Headmaster of Weston School called to see me this morning. The County Council has refused to have a telephone installed and in the present emergency the lack of it causes some inconvenience."

Dates for your diary:

24/10/2014	Friday	Yr 11 'Revision Cracked' with Tim Foot, Library (Periods 1-3) Center Parcs Holland Football Tour - returns 28th
25/10/2014	Saturday	Gold DoFE Assessment Expedition, Snowdonia - return 30 th
26/10/2014	Sunday	

27/10/2014	Monday	HALF TERM
28/10/2014	Tuesday	HALF TERM
29/10/2014	Wednesday	HALF TERM
30/10/2014	Thursday	HALF TERM Center Parcs Holland Football Tour returns Gold DofE Assessment Expedition, Snowdonia returns
31/10/2014	Friday	HALF TERM
01/11/2014	Saturday	
02/11/2014	Sunday	
03/11/2014	Monday	Yr 8 Caving Trip - returns 5th Yr-7-9 G&T Fanfare writing workshop - all day Governors' Meeting (PH&S), 5.00pm-7.00pm
04/11/2014	Tuesday	Yr 8 Caving Trip GCSE English (resit), 6th Form Common Room Yr7 Anti Bullying Workshops (7K1&2;7T3&4)
05/11/2014	Wednesday	Yr 8 Caving Trip returns GCSE Linear Maths (resits), 6th Form Common Room, AM BMAT Test, 6th Form Common Room Yr 12 Biology Science Vet College Visit, p3-5
06/11/2014	Thursday	Yr 12/13 Senior Maths Challenge (time TBC) Yr7-11 District Cross Country Championships, 12.30pm-4.30pm Yr 13 Parents Evening, 5pm-7.30pm, Hall
07/11/2014	Friday	GCSE Linear Maths (resits), 6th Form Common Room, AM Yr 12/13 Drama trip to 'Antigone'

Celebrate 75 Gala Ball

Friday, 17th October saw almost 200 people gather in our School Hall to celebrate 75 years of Knights Templar School. It was a wonderful evening of musical entertainment provided by Apollo5 a capella ensemble, featuring ex-student Charlotte Brosnan and a jazz band of staff and students (Mr Chapman, Mr Cosker, Mr Litchfield, Mr Rolaston, Mr O'Neill, Mr Guinane, Barnaby Taylor and Charlie Knighton). We had a delightful three-course meal cooked and served by our resident chef Neil Jeffrey and our KTS Parents' Association provided the bar and the dance-floor was full all evening. Our school hall was unrecognizable – in fact it was described as reminiscent of a West End hotel venue!



We were honoured to have Sir Oliver Heald, Mr Michael Muir, Mr Peter Chapman, Mr Andrew Pickering and Mr Vivien Crellin as our VIP guests and were proud to host such a spectacular evening. A good time was certainly had by all! See our [website](#) for pictures of the event.

DofE and Outdoor Expeditions

In order to make communication easier for participants in the DofE Award and other trips run by John Glover (including the Morocco Expedition, the Yr8 Caving Trip, three Peaks etc.), we have created a Twitter account which can be used for messages to and from Mr Glover in addition to the email address posted on the DofE and Outdoor Activities part of the website.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/KTSDofE>

DofE: <http://www.retechwebdesign.co.uk/dofe/Pages/index.php>

Geography and Outdoor Expeditions: http://retechwebdesign.co.uk/outdoor/pages/outdoor_homepage.html

Yr8 Caving Trip

There is a meeting on Friday 24th at break for all participants to collect rucksacks and waterproofs ready for their trip which leaves at 7.30 on the first Monday back after Half Term.

Technology Tournament Success

On Monday 20th October four students from each of year 9,10 and 12 took part in a Technology Tournament at Priory School. They were given the challenging task of making a model cable car system capable of winning 'emergency supplies' across a river. All the students who took part were a credit to the school, and through excellent team work our Year 9 students won their category, and our Year 12 team were runners up in theirs. See [here](#) for full information and photographs.

[KTS Podcast Launched](#)

NewsKnight has launched a podcast channel featuring stories celebrating the best of KTS. Stories online include: Tuesday's production of [King Lear](#), the [75th Anniversary Celebrations](#) and the recent [Macmillan Coffee](#) morning.

Recently appointed Podcast Editor, Bill Bowkett, has thoroughly enjoyed his new role. "I was so pleased to be made editor," said Bill, Year 11. "I look forward to helping other students develop their own podcasts. It's a really exciting form of media."

NewsKnight Podcast will have a temporary home at twitter.com/KTSNewscast. Keep an eye out for the NewsKnight website which will be launched before Christmas.

Library News



Today a reader.... *...tomorrow a leader* [Margaret Fuller]

Please see [here](#) for the link to our Library news item on the website.

Rugby trip to Twickenham

The KTS PE department are offering students the opportunity to travel to the home of rugby, Twickenham Stadium, to watch an exciting encounter between England and Samoa on Saturday 22nd November. We have organised previous trips to Twickenham which have all been incredibly successful and we anticipate this trip to be no different! This trip was initially advertised in the summer term but with places still available, pupils are welcome to make the £16 payment on WisePay to confirm their place on the trip! This is a fantastic opportunity available to you at a very good price- don't miss out!

Ben Witham, Year 11 nominated for YOPE

Ben was recently nominated for the Mitsubishi Electric and Smith-Milne Young People of the Year for Hertfordshire awards. Ben has been struggling with a diagnosis of Cystic Fibrosis and despite his difficulties has worked hard to be in school and to inspire others along the way. Although he didn't win, the organisers wrote to him to invite him to the awards evening and congratulate him on how close he came. See Ben's story [here](#).

Asthma Update

We are compiling a list of pupils who have a diagnosis of asthma whatever the severity, so that they are allowed to use an emergency inhaler that we will be obtaining for school. Not all the pupils at school will be eligible, but only those who have a diagnosis of asthma and who already have an inhaler prescribed to them. If this is the case or you may not have told us (you may have thought that it was too mild to mention) then please let me know, so that I can send you a permission form. Send an email or note into school jmance@kemplar.herts.sch.uk
Thank you, Mrs Jane Mance, Medical Student Services

King Lear - Shakespeare Schools Festival

We joined over 1000 schools this Tuesday when we performed King Lear on the Gordon Craig Stage as part of this year's Shakespeare Schools Festival. It was a very memorable evening for the cast and crew. The production was praised for the performer's honest and believable interpretation of Shakespeare's greatest tragedy. The talented cast delivered the dialogue with full understanding and character. Anni Tyson, Eleanor Redfern and Amy Reid conveyed the battle between Lear's daughters with superb power. Matthew Inman's Gloucester demanded the audience's attention. Thanks to Brandon Smith and George Gearing who skilfully operated the lights and sound. Congratulations to all involved!

News from Drama

The start of next half-term will be busy for the Drama Department, with two theatre trips and the Design Study Day. The first trip will be to see 'Antigone' at the Watford Palace Theatre on Friday 7th November with Y12 /Y13 Drama students. Y10 and Y11 Drama students will join the sixth formers for the second trip, on Thursday 13th November, to see 'The Pearl'. We won't have far to go as the performance will be at Baldock Town Hall! The Y10 Drama students will participate in the Design Study Day, also on 7th November. They will use their design skills to draw out the mood and atmosphere of the famous witches scene from Macbeth.

Hertfordshire County Youth Theatre Audition

The Drama Department has organised for the next round of auditions for the Hertfordshire County Youth Theatre to come to KTS. The next production will be 'Peter Pan' (performed in April 2015) and it is a great opportunity for students to work with professional directors and designers, and perform at the Watford Palace Theatre. The audition is a workshop with the director and will be held on 18th November, 4pm-6pm in the Drama Studio. Students should sign up with Mr Sills in the Drama Office. The auditions are open to all Year 9 students and above.

Apollo5 visits KTS

Last Friday, we were extremely fortunate to have the a cappella group Apollo5 visiting Knights Templar.

The British vocal quintet gives engaging and lively performances of a wide repertoire of jazz, pop, classical and Christmas a cappella, and is also part of the charity Voces Cantabiles Music, who provide inspiring musical opportunities for young people.

The music department invited all members of the Senior Choir and Chamber Choir, as well as AS and A2 music students to take part in a two-hour workshop with Apollo5. The session was designed to provide students with an inspirational experience, and challenge them to work on vocal and ensemble performance skills, as well as general musicianship.

Sixth Form News

Senior Boys' prepare for Holland Tour

The Senior Boys' football team is making their last minute preparations for a four day tour to Holland. The boys will face 2 local teams from the Eindhoven area, while enjoying training sessions and free leisure time at a Center Parcs resort. Fourteen of our sixth form students will be making the long journey via coach and ferry on Friday 24th October and look forward to returning four days later with good memories, plenty of stories and hopefully 2 wins against international opposition!

Mock interview day arrives at KTS

The year 13 students were treated to a day away from their usual academic timetable and instead had the opportunity to be interviewed by experienced figures from a wide range of industries and businesses. The students were grilled in interviews and provided with crucial advice on interview technique and how to professionally structure letters of applications and CVs. The students showed great enthusiasm for the initiative and seemed to truly benefit from this excellent opportunity. We would like to thank those who gave up their valuable time to be involved with the process and contributed so heavily to what was a very successful day.

Sixth Form helpers contribute to Gala Ball success

The 75th Anniversary Gala Ball was a massive success and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the sixth formers who were involved with serving food, drink and generally assisting with the logistics of the event. Their willingness to spend Friday evening assisting with a school event is a tribute to the students, as well as the community ethos of our school. Thank you to all the students involved.

This week's KTS Graduate Profile- William Budd

Will enjoyed his KTS career so much that after his year 13 exams, he decided to stay and help as a teaching assistant within the Maths department! After achieving A* grades in Maths, Biology and A grades in the Extended Project Qualification and Chemistry (A-Levels), Will decided to gain valuable work experience during his gap year at the same school that gave him so many opportunities. From September 2015, Will moves to Nottingham University where he will study a medical degree. We are very proud to have such an excellent sixth form student choose to extend his time at KTS and we are equally proud of his academic accomplishments!



Honours Board, 23rd October 2014



The following students have been selected to represent the Eastern Region in the Under 14s Water Polo National Competition to be held in Liverpool 8/9th November:

Ruby Doherty	Yr 9
Abigail Sunderland	Yr 8
Amelia Spinks	Yr 8
Charlotte Spinks	Yr 8
Felicity Massie	Yr 7

Musical achievements:

Ben Goldscheider, Barnaby Taylor, Rachael Robinson & Alex Smith have been appointed to the role of Music Prefect.

Thomas Brazier (County Youth Wind Sinfonia)

James Cook (County Brass Band)

Jeremy Beard (North Herts Senior Wind Band)

Thomas Brazier & Laura Gregory (North Herts Youth Jazz Big Band)

Ben Goldscheider – Solo Performances & Assisting with Junior Orchestra

Felix Shaw – Assisting with Junior Choir

The **Recorder Ensemble**:

All members of this ensemble have had 100% attendance this half term. Well done!

Rosie Muge, Daisy Muge, Jessica Farey, Georgia Farey, Revae Tilbury, Maisie Tomlinson, Hugo Major, Harvey Major & Leah Maddren

A huge well done to **Erin Davies**, who has been selected to play football for the County.

Josh Parkhouse and **Karanvir Dhillon** have been selected as County rugby players

Ben Witham, Year 11, Young Person of the Year Nominee

Rosanna Moynihan from year 11 has been excelling within Rugby Union of late. She has been selected for:

- U18 County Squad
- Divisional Squad (London and SE)
- TDG (Talent Development Group)- top 25 U16 players in the country. Involves individual training session with personal coach. Development camps.

This is a fantastic achievement for someone who took up rugby in year 9! She is a very modest about her achievements but I think she does enjoy compliments on her fantastic achievement.

Rebecca Maynard - British Cycling young volunteer who has achieved her Silver & Gold awards and is close to completing the Platinum award. As part of this scheme she attended a Go Ride conference and heard about the British Cycling National Youth Forum. In the summer she was one of 12 young people to be selected to sit on the National Youth Forum and help shape the future of cycling. Rebecca's particular interest is in trying to keep 16 yr olds within the sport -as many of them drop out from racing at this age. She attends meetings every 2-3 months & has recently been promoting the NYF at the Cycle Show at the NEC. As soon as she has completed her Platinum award Rebecca plans on continuing her volunteering by taking her coaches qualification and also to start officiating.

