

Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

This week we say goodbye to our Year 13 students and some of our students in Year 11. Their GCSE and A Level years have been incredibly turbulent due to Covid 19 however, they have all showed amazing determination and resilience, making the most of in school and teams teaching to complete their courses and meet our high expectations of them. I am extremely proud of our students and know that whatever their next steps, whether University, Kings Norton Sixth Form, college course, apprenticeship or employment, they are ready to make the most of the challenges and exciting opportunities ahead of them. We will miss them and wish them all the very best for their futures.

Students have been supported along their way by a tremendous team of teaching and support staff who have worked tirelessly and beyond expectations to ensure our students have had the outstanding education, care and support they deserve. I would like to thank them publicly for their professionalism, resilience, dedication and for working extremely hard in making the past two years so successful.

Have a fantastic half term break.

Nicola Raggett - Headteacher

UNIFORM

Unfortunately, my hopes and expectations for a warm and sunny spring term didn't happen. Below zero temperatures meant the removal of coats and jumpers in classrooms just wasn't practical. Despite the rain, the weather is now warmer therefore, after half term, we are tightening up on uniform.

Please support us in ensuring your child is following the school uniform expectations including jewellery and make up. Coats and non-school uniform jumpers will not be allowed in classrooms however, students can wear their PE fleeces if necessary. Students can continue to wear trainers as previously agreed for the remainder of this term.

Mrs Raggett

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- ♦ **Monday 7th June** - Start of Term
- ♦ **Tuesday 8th - Wednesday 16th June** - Year 12 Mock Exams
- ♦ **Thursday 17th June - Friday 25th June** - Year 10 Mock Exams
- ♦ **Monday 19th July** - Year 7, 8 & 9 Reports available **via SIMS Parent App**
- ♦ **Tuesday 20th July** - Year 10 Reports available **via SIMS Parent App**
- ♦ **Wednesday 21st July** - End of Term
- ♦ **Thursday 22nd July - Wednesday 2nd September** - Summer Break
- ♦ **Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd September** - Teacher Training Day
- ♦ **Monday 6th September** - Start of Autumn Term for students

EVENTS, TRIPS & CLUBS

RED NOSE DAY FUNDRAISING

KNGS took part in a Red Nose Day event. The day was a success; it was lovely to see the students in their own clothes and engaged in the fundraising activities such as the Quiz and mask decorating.

Thank you to those staff that contributed by buying 1, 2 or let's just say several somasas!!

We raised over £2,000. This is an amazing amount of money, we should be really proud of ourselves for pulling together and making this event so successful. I'm sure the money will make a huge difference to many.



**Donut and Samosa
sales = £220**

Total raised = £2,243

Thanks again to everybody for supporting this event!!

Miss Bromley

EPILEPSY AWARENESS - WEAR PURPLE DAY

On the 26th March staff and students wore purple in support of International Epilepsy Awareness Day. The aim of 'Purple Day' is to get people talking about epilepsy, raise awareness of the condition and raise vital funds.

It was great to see students and staff make an effort to support this awareness day, thank you KNGS!

Ms Woodward



DYSLEXIA PUPIL VOICE GROUP

This half term the Dyslexia Pupil Voice Group braved the elements and started having mini year group 'bubble' meetings outdoors.

The Year 8 girls were the first to meet. We had a catch up in a covered outdoor area and had to shout at times over the noise from the rain hammering down. Despite the cold it has been very lovely to move back to face to face meetings.

It was a good opportunity to hear more of the views from the younger members of the group. We chatted mostly about what assistive technology they have found useful recently and what they might still like to try. The biscuits still tasted good in the cold and by the end of the meeting the rain had stopped, the sun had come out and the group were looking for rainbows – a nice metaphor for learning to work with dyslexia maybe!



Mrs Vaughan

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Student Leadership Group have been working hard over Microsoft Teams to deliver high-quality projects. Last half term, we produced a podcast, form time resources, quizzes, videos and poems all about equality and diversity. These tied into the theme of the week and were used across the school. We got some great feedback from the students about our project and the SLG are really looking forward to our next project, which will be centred around self-confidence.

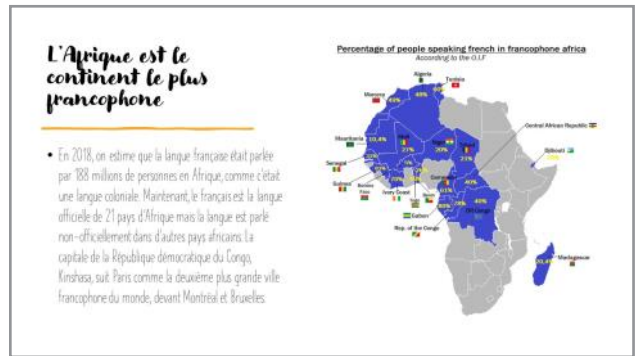
Well done everybody!

Mr Houston

SUCCESSES

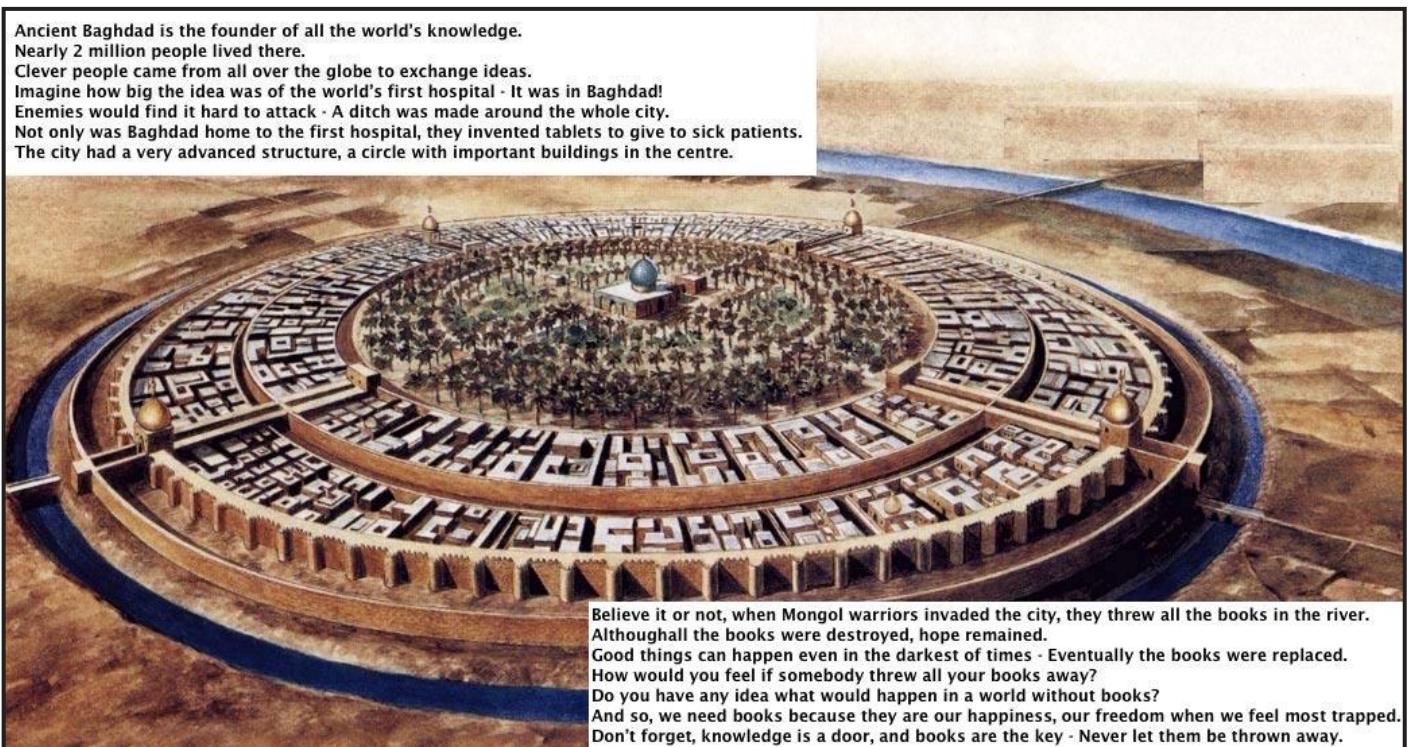
YEAR 12 STUDENT WINS ASTON UNIVERSITY LANGUAGES COMPETITION

Congratulations to Sixth Form student **Alice Cockcroft (Year 12)** on winning the Aston University Language and Translation Programme 'French Around the World' competition. Alice had to create a PowerPoint presentation with ten interesting facts about the French speaking world. Alice said "it was really interesting to research and I was really surprised and pleased to have won!" Bravo Alice!



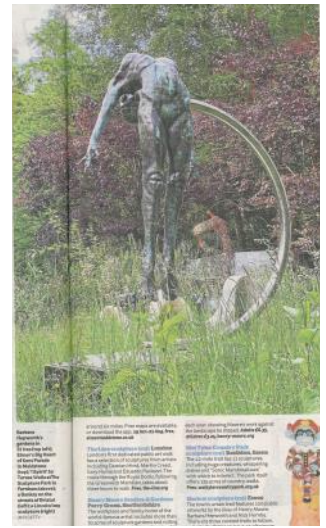
YEAR 7 STUDENT WINS BOURNVILLE BOOKFEST COMPETITION

Well done to **Molly Oldenshaw (Year 7)** on winning the Bournville Bookfest Poem Competition. Molly submitted an acrostic poem she wrote about ancient Baghdad, Molly chose this topic as it was a subject she was looking at in her History lessons and found it very interesting. Congratulations Molly!



MS WELLS FEATURED IN NATIONAL PRESS

A huge well done to Ms Wells, our Design Technology Technician on having her bronze sculpture 'I Spirit' featured in an article about sculpture parks by Pascale Hughes in the i Weekend newspaper. Impressively Ms Wells is mentioned in the same sentence as Barbara Hepworth and Banksy!



LANGUAGEUT

LanguageNut			
Vocabulary Learnt 177380	Sentences Learned 6104	Grammar & Verbs Learnt 23489	Exam Skills Learnt 2844
Total Gold 13706	Total Silver 3159	Total Bronze 1195	School World Ranking 28
School World Ranking			
26	Outwood Academy Valley	15876800	
27	Deeptford Green School	13982700	
28	Kings Norton Girls' School	13885800	
29	St Aubyns school	13608700	
30	Brooke Weston Academy	13378400	
Classes League			
1	9xyFr4	1786300	
2	8xyFr4	1641000	
3	8xyFr1	1261800	
4	8xyFr2	1120600	
5	8xyFr5	850500	
Students School Ranking			
1	Felicity Davis	1252000	
2	Belle Skidmore	245000	
3	Lilly Skidmore	236900	
4	Nicole Davis	170600	
5	Favour Shaba	160100	

KNGS has now crept into the top 30 in the world rankings of LanguageNut, thanks in no small part to the efforts of all students, but especially those in Year 8 and 9.

Big shout out to **Felicity Davis (Year 9)** who has personally amassed over 1.2million points!!

A staggering effort!!

Well done to all.

Mr Piotrowski

WORLD BOOK DAY - KNGS STUDENT FEATURES ON BLUE PETER



A huge well done to Year 7 Student **Amelie Zarifeh**, whose book 'Super Sis' was featured on Blue Peter Book Awards programme as part of their Words Book Day celebrations back in March.



You can read more Amelie's boo 'Super Sis' at:
www.kngs.co.uk/super-sis-kngs-student-writes-a-book/

What a fantastic achievement!

SEW MARVELLOUS

It was lovely to welcome Sue from the local charity sewing group 'Sew Marvellous' earlier in the term to drop off a socially distanced delivery of over 70 homemade bags to hold sanitary products on offer to students under the government scheme.

Sew Marvellous was set up by Marcelle Porteous who originally set up ScrubHub South Birmingham in April 2020 to sew scrubs and other items for medics. As the need for scrubs subsided, they rebranded as Sew Marvellous, making face coverings for food banks, schools and other local charities. Working with Patrick Grant from the Great



British Sewing Bee, Marcie has set up a charity called The Big Community Sew through which crafting groups and charities can make contact with each other to meet the needs' of the charities.

Amongst shorter term projects, the group have made these lovely bags for us. A huge thank you to Marcelle, Sue & the sewing group - we LOVE them!

If anybody is interested in joining Sew Marvellous you can see the group on Facebook at Sew Marvellous Charity Makes or you can email:
sewmarvellousbrum@gmail.com.



Opening a World of Opportunities

BASE BUSINESS & ACCOUNTING COMPETITION

A group of Year 12 A Level Business students have taken part in the BASE Competition and achieved a place in the National Final!

The competition is designed to give students an understanding of what it is like to be an ICAEW Chartered Accountant. Students worked as a team to take part in an online game. They watched a video outlining the experiences of four trainee chartered accountants and then made decisions on likely options and outcomes that should be taken. The next round involved the preparation and delivery of a presentation to a panel of judges based on investment decisions.

The students were able to apply their business knowledge whilst developing their key employability skills. I was particularly impressed with the team work and ability of the group to work under pressure to meet deadlines. Well done **Matthew, Leila, Phoebe and Charlotte!** We wish you luck for the final competition on the 16th June!

Mrs Neale



BLM POEM

I would like to share this poem created by **Ruby Cooper (Year 7)** during a unit of work in Religious Education where we were looking at anti racism.

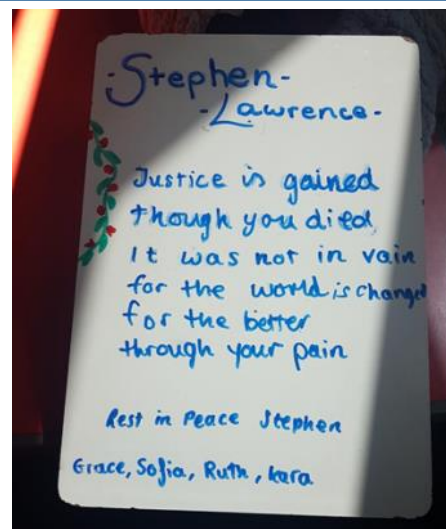
Ms Mitchell

Hey!,
just because I am black
doesn't mean you have to lack
respect
I expect to be treated the same
bame
Black, Asian Minority ethnic
I am proud to say it loud
don't define me by the colour of the skin
the content of my heart
would be a start
please reframe
it is lame that my talent could be missed due to prejudice
you may be wondering why all the chatter
but please be mindful
'black lives "do" matter'

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Students in form time joined in activities to mark Stephen Lawrence Day on 22nd April. Through highlighting Stephen's story and legacy, this annual event aims to encourage young people to consider the part they can play in creating a society in which everyone can flourish. Students produced some moving creative responses commemorating Stephen and his legacy, and also discussed how they as individuals could 'live their best life'. This positive message of inspiring young people to fulfil their potential is central to Stephen Lawrence Day, and our students reflected thoughtfully on what they hope to achieve in their own lives whether in the classroom, their community or a future career.

Dr O'Mahony



FAREWELL CELEBRATIONS - YEAR 11 & 13

YEAR 11 LEAVERS EVENT

Thursday 27th May saw us say goodbye to our Year 11 students. After what has been a challenging year and half, it was fantastic to be able to hold a leavers event to celebrate their achievements with a range of awards and a video full of messages from their teachers, as well as highlighting their 'Best Bits' over the past 5 years. The year group then enjoyed a picnic on the back field.

We wish all of the very best of luck in whatever they are going on to do next and we look forward to seeing some familiar faces back in the Sixth Form in September.



YEAR 13 LEAVERS EVENT

On Thursday 27th May, we held an assembly and picnic brunch on the field to say goodbye to Year 13. The fancy dress contributions were fantastic!! End of Course awards were given out to students who have shown outstanding commitment, academic achievement and progress. Our thanks go to Elliott Carr for his wonderful musical performance and to Jodie Carreon, James Hill and Shaska Nicholson, our Head Students, for their contribution to the day.

We would like to take this opportunity to commend our Year 13's for their hard work and resilience in unusual circumstances, and to wish them the very best of luck for the future.



HEAD OF YEAR NEWS

Attendance Week

We've recently had a highlight on attendance as our theme of the week where students thought through how any barriers to school attendance might be overcome.

The school has altered elements of the attendance policy to reflect a more supportive language, recognising there are some students who battle with unavoidable health barriers. Students also considered the effect that missing lessons has and looked at ways to reduce the impact of missed work. This included organising a planned program to catch up and reduce the feeling of being behind.

We would also like to celebrate and congratulate the students that have received 'Student of the Week' awards:

Year 7: Aimon Qazi, Amelie Auger, Astrid Royal, Ava McCormick, Emma Caldwell, Evie Cann, Flora Astbury, Grace Singleton & Molly Oldershaw.

Year 8: Annie Wilks, Carys Harland, Ellie Hitchens, Gabby Balderson, Isabella Tigue, Izzy Davies, Milly Hodgkinson, Nieve McNally & Tik Broughton.

Year 9: Betty Curtis, Caitlin Hopwood, Emily Tipton, Isabel Band, Phoebe Glover, Ruby Batten & Toni-Nicole Taylor.

Year 10: Anya Lopez, Elizabeth Jones, Grace McCormick, Haalah Sultan, Jaya Gohil, Katie Nixon, Maist Saunders & Susie Catling.

Year 11: Anya Dasgin, Chloe Johnston-Sinn, Daljit Sambhi, Elyn Carreon, Esme Abraham, Freya Jackson, Isabel Watley, Lina Monsur & Lucy Jones.

SIXTH FORM NEWS

SIXTH FORMERS RESTORE KNCS PONDS

The ponds that sit behind the Science Block were originally built in the mid 1990's by the then Head of Science, Mr Gray, along with the help of a group of volunteers.

With Year 13 now having finished their studies they have been using their time to restore the ponds to their former glory.



Before...



Ponds re-lined and cleared.



After...



Despite the heavy rain the Sixth Formers have made fantastic progress, with the ponds now fully restored and the project celebrated with a reopening ceremony.

Well done everyone the ponds look fantastic!

SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS 2021

Kings Norton Sixth Form have had a phenomenal amount of applications this year for September 2021. So far 385 applicants have accepted conditional offers; 115 of these are from our current Year 11 students, and 270 are external applications.

TRANSITION TO YEAR 12

We are hoping to organise a transition event for Sixth Form applicants and further details will be provided after half term.

Summer work for each subject will be available to all of our applicants on the school website from Monday 7th June. This work is designed to aid transition from GCSE to A Level.

ENROLMENT

Our applicants who have accepted their conditional offer will receive enrolment packs before the end of term in July. These will provide all the necessary information regarding enrolment day in August.

ASSESSMENTS

Year 12 will begin two weeks of assessments after half term. We know they have all been revising hard and we would like to wish them the very best of luck.

UCAS

Once Year 12 have finished their assessments we will be beginning the UCAS process with them. We will be providing them with lots of information and tips, and will be encouraging them to carry out thorough research into their post-18 options. They have UCAS and Unifrog at their disposal to provide them with lots of information concerning higher education courses, training and apprenticeship opportunities. It's never too soon to start planning!

DROP OFF & PICK UP AT KNKS

The majority of parents continue to support us in keeping KNKS students safe by driving and parking in a safe and responsible manner.

Unfortunately, there are some parents/carers/family members that continue to stop on the yellow lines (zig zag and single lines), block our neighbours' driveways and carry out dangerous turning manoeuvres in the road. All of this in spite of being asked politely by school staff not to do so.

PC Tony Harris from Bournville Lane Police Station has asked that we take photos of future offences so that he is able to trace individuals by their number plates and contact them formally.

The Highway Code, <https://www.highwaycodeuk.co.uk/parking.html> section 243 states:

DO NOT stop or park:

- near a school entrance
- opposite another parked vehicle
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property



There are over a thousand students entering and leaving the site on a daily basis, please don't put them at risk just because you want to save a few seconds.

Drive, stop and park responsibly.

Mrs Skinner - Business Manager

BROMSGROVE BEARS BASKETBALL CLUB - LOOKING FOR NEW PLAYERS...

GIRLS
PLAY

THE 11 - 18yrs

GAME

BASKETBALL

EVERY WEDNESDAY from 19th MAY
6pm till 8pm

BEARS

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT

Sport Birmingham

Bromsgrove Bears Basketball Club are looking for new players, training takes place at Colmers Farm School. Further information can be found at: <https://www.bromsgrovebearsbasketball.com/> or alternatively contact:

Dawn Hall
Director & Head Coach
07906402636
dawnkhall@hotmail.co.uk

Chris Gibbs
Team Manager/Safeguarding
07973778905
chrisgibbs@blueyonder.co.uk

Opening a World of Opportunities

HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD USING GCSEPOD



What is GCSEPod?

GCSEPod is an award-winning expert in subject knowledge. We provide 3-5 minute bursts of audio-visual, teacher written learning which can help to reinforce and consolidate key GCSE topics covered in lessons. Experts read and explain everything clearly including all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and diagrams on screen.

Tips and Tricks

Watch online or offline

Ask your child to download Pods to their mobile device so they can learn on the go!

Favourites

Challenge your child to 'favourite' 10 Pods on topics they find difficult.

Watch the Pods together and use one of our other suggested learning techniques to help simplify what it is they're struggling

Personalised Playlists

Use the My Playlists area to create bespoke playlists.

Having personalised playlists means your child has fast access to Pods that will help fill knowledge gaps.

Support Homework

GCSEPod isn't just for revision, it's to help expand your child's subject knowledge.

If your child is struggling with a piece of homework, you can search for the topic on GCSEPod and use the Pods as an additional resource.

Memory Cards

Watch Pods together and then write down key facts, dates, diagrams and quotes.

Test their knowledge to see how much they remember.

Check & Challenge

Use our unique Check & Challenge feature to challenge your child to win at least 10 diamonds for each C&C they complete.

See if they can beat their previous score each time!

How does your child access GCSEPod?

If your child has already activated their account, they simply need to log in with the username and password they've created.

If your child has not yet activated their GCSEPod account, simply follow these simple steps!

1. Go to GCSEPod.com and click 'LOG IN'
2. Click 'NEW HERE? GET STARTED!'
3. Select 'Student'
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create a username and password



 gcsepod.com

 info@gcsepod.com

 0191 338 7830

Free Money Advice Services

These are difficult times financially for many individuals and families.

- Do you need advice on your entitlement to welfare benefit?
- Do you have debts & need help managing your money?

If so, please do not hesitate to seek help, advice and support from accredited organisations acting on behalf of Birmingham City Council.

Confidential advice is available over the telephone from qualified advisors and without any charge whatsoever to Birmingham residents.

Please call the advice provider for the constituency or area nearest to where you live:-



"How
can I
help
YOU?"

North Birmingham:
Sutton, Erdington, Shard End

Spitfire Advice Services; Tel: 0121 747 5932

South Birmingham:
Edgbaston, Selly Oak, Northfield

Citizens Advice Birmingham; Tel: 0344 477 1010

East Birmingham:
Hodge Hill, Yardley, Hall Green

Citizens Advice Birmingham; Tel: 0344 477 1010

West & Central Birmingham:
Ladywood & Perry Barr

Birmingham Settlement Tel: 0121 250 0765

Alternatively, contact Birmingham City Council's Contact Centre for a range of advice (welfare benefits, council tax, housing & more) on 0121 216 3030.

DON'T WAIT FOR A SMALL PROBLEM TO BECOME A BIG ONE - CALL TODAY. *

* (Most advice providers operate between 10am & 4pm Monday to Friday and, at times, extend advice services beyond those core hours.)



