



Kingsmead School

Challenge • Achievement • Pride

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DECEMBER
2016
NEWSLETTER

STUDENTS WIN TOP SILVERWARE



The annual Festival of Achievement allowed parents and staff the opportunity to commend students for their academic, sporting and musical achievement. Impressive musical performances from Portia Mills, Jacob Taylor and Sam Lyons entertained and inspired a full Prince of Wales theatre. Students and staff also took to the stage to share highlights of the past year. The awards were presented by Mrs Ryder who retired last year having taught at Kingsmead for over 35 years.

Dates for your diary

16	December	Y7 Carol Service
16	December	Term finishes at 12.00pm
03	January	School opens 9.50am
17	January	Y8 Progress Evening
31	January	Y11 Progress Evening
09	February	Futures Fayre (3.15-5.30pm)
17	February	Half term finishes at 3.00pm
27	February	School opens at 8.50am
28	March	Y9 Vaccinations
02	March	Y10 Progress Evening
09	March	Y13 Progress Evening
15	March	Y9 Progress Evening

Headteacher's Foreword

"I can't believe that Autumn Term has gone so quickly and that we are about to break up for the Christmas holidays. Listening to the wonderful performances at our Christmas concert bought home that the end of term really is nearly here. We have had a busy and productive term in school. Having worked hard, the students and staff will be ready for the opportunity to recharge their batteries. I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Mr I. Bryant

Reece wins Silver at the Men's European Championships

Year 11 student Reece Hawkins (right in the photo) recently competed in his first European competition in Zurich, Switzerland. Already a 2nd Dan in Karate, Reece performed amazingly well and was awarded the silver medal in the Men's senior team kata. Reece has been in the England squad for 2 years having picked up Karate 11 years ago at his local club. He has shown real grit and determination to do so well and balance 10 hours of a training a week alongside success in his school studies.



A Kingsmead Learner ... has initiative

A group of sixth formers helped to organise a number of events to raise money for Children in Need. In total a massive £1,230.38 was raised. One of the talking points of the day was the Kingsmead's Staff Vs Students charity matches. The event was a huge success with over 50 staff and students competing to large crowds in netball and basketball matches.



The sixth formers excelled in the netball whilst the staff team were victorious in their quest for

basketball glory. Overall, the staff team were crowned champions much to their delight, whilst the sixth form were graceful in accepting the 'sorry you lost' trophy. A special thanks goes to Head Boy and Girl, Charlie Walker and Kayleigh Ghent, supported by their deputies, Oliver Thacker and Sophie Wood.

Peer Support in Literacy

Kingsmead are currently training new Year 7 Kingsmead Literacy Champions. Their main job will be supporting students in their lessons but they will also be awarding house points for students seen reading in their own time and helping to promote reading across the school.



Littleton House Remembers

As part of our House Charity Fundraising Littleton Students led the annual Poppy Appeal to raise money for the Royal British Legion. Our students sold poppies at lunchtime and during Form time and we are very pleased to report £297 was raised. Students were encouraged to wear their services uniforms (pictured).

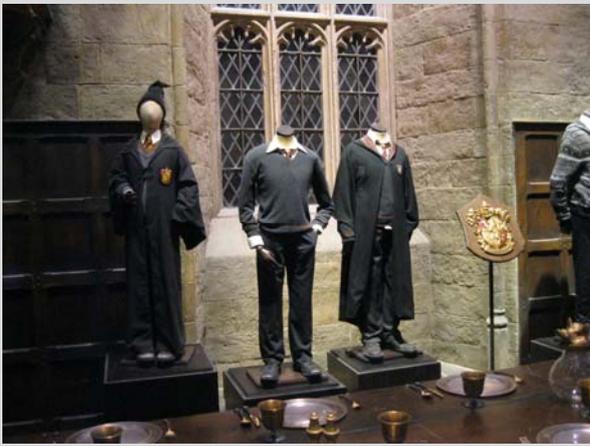


Every Lesson Matters to the Student Council

The School Council wanted to know more about teacher training so representatives attended an after-school training session. They commented favourably on the work they saw. The Student Council have already met twice this year. They have identified and acted on ways to improve the environment and helped in the design of the new school website.

Students show initiative and win big prizes

The first bronze and silver awards were awarded this half term. Students had to complete a number of challenges independently in and outside of lessons. All awardees received a winners brunch and a tie badge as well as being entered into a draw for big prizes. The prizes recognise the initiative shown to complete the challenges and included a Samsung tablet, a scooter, cinema tickets and Amazon Vouchers. Who will win the prizes next half term?



A Touch Of Magic

The Media department took a group of students to Warner Bros. Studios to visit the making of Harry Potter. Kingsmead students had the opportunity to see many iconic sets, props and costumes that were created especially for the films. There was the chance to ride a broomstick in a green screen room as well as reliving excerpts of the famous films. Students were given the opportunity to gain an insight into how many of the secrets of Harry Potter are filmed and put together by viewing all aspects of the film production. This will help students with their Media studies.



Success for Abi & Ellie-Mae

Abi Phipps and Ellie-Mae Perkins have both been awarded Diplomas for their successful progress at the Youth Chef Academy. They have been trained over a number of months completing dishes like fresh onion soup and sticky toffee pudding. Both Abi and Ellie-Mae have been offered places to gain experience at the Moat House in Acton Trussell.



Kingsmead Music Groups Wow Crowds

22 students from Kingsmead Vocal Group performed at the Hednesford Town Christmas Light Switch-On. Their performance pieces were Winter Wonderland, Somewhere Only We Know, and Real Love, all of which were sung in 2 and 3-part harmony. They sang beautifully and had lots of excellent feedback from members of the general public. Mrs Williams, Miss Grice and Mrs Pritchard were impressed by the students' behaviour and professionalism throughout the evening. Well done to all who performed!



Success for Lily

Lily Walker has been selected for the U-16 England Hockey squad. This involved going through a gruelling selection process over a period of time. Lily performed at a high level over a number of different occasions over the regional training camp. We are proud to note that Lily is currently one of the youngest members of the squad.



Laura Gooch

Laura studied A levels at Kingsmead. She took Music, Maths, Physics and Biology. Laura left Kingsmead to complete a Science degree first and then to study Medicine at Keele University. We are pleased to share that Laura has now qualified as a Neuro Surgeon. Well done Laura.



Y8 Girls learn more about IT careers at Barclays

The IT and Business department took a group of Year 8 girls to the state of the art Gadbrook Park to learn more about careers in IT. Other trips this half term have included visiting JCB in Rocester and a visit to two local Colleges. Kingsmead have been visited this half term by a number of professionals in our Career workshops called 'an audience with...' These have included a Police Officer, the Navy, a Midwife, a Computer Designer and Mechanical Engineers.

PE Kit items for sale

We have some last few items of PE kit for sale. Please see Reception staff to buy these items:

- Sprint Hoodie size 22/24
- Response Shorts (Girls) Size 18/20
- Haze Polo Shirt (Girls) Size 22/24
- Icon 1/2 Zip Sweatshirt Various sizes

Kingsmead are keen readers

Students in Year 7,8 and 9 have continued to improve their reading with the accelerated reader programme. This has led to a large increase in the number of students reading above their expected level. The Youth Teen Fiction (YTF) Club have been actively involved in a number of reading events. They have even helped choose new books for the library. In October they were invited to meet this year's YTF winning author Narinder Dhami.



Pictured: A Kingsmead Christmas tree at the St Luke's Christmas Tree Festival. Students and staff worked together on ideas for the tree.

SMILE team visits

The SMILE outreach team have visited both St Peter's Primary School and Pye Green Academy to deliver anti-bullying workshops to Year 4 and 5. A special thank you to our Year 11's Jude, Amber, Brandon, Olivia and Isobel for their hard work planning the sessions.

Current House Leader Board



Coppice = 11766



Hayes = 9135



Littleton = 10326



Uxbridge = 7583



Valley = 10406



Wimblebury = 9461

Going into the last week of our second half term, Coppice lead the way again with Valley and Littleton in second and third place. This would be the second half term cup in the row for Coppice who have made a really strong start to this school year. Can Valley or Littleton catch them over the last week? We will wait and see.