



# KINGSMEAD LIFE MAGAZINE

ISSUE 16 - JULY 2024



# FOREWORD

It doesn't seem like a year ago when we were welcoming everyone back, fresh after the summer and ready to get started. The 2023-2024 school year has flown by!

We are rightly proud of all the achievements our students have made this year. There have been huge individual and team successes in Sport, Art, Drama, Music and STEM competitions. We also reflect on how the enrichment programme has allowed all students at Kingsmead to pursue their own interests, honing their talent.

Within the wider Kingsmead community, we are struck by the mindful nature our students. This was seen with the our family Christmas party, our strong links with primary schools and projects supporting wider initiatives. Looking back through all the photos of this year, we are reminded of how rich the opportunities and experiences are for a Kingsmead student.

As we say goodbye to our Year 13s and Year 11s who have left a lasting legacy at Kingsmead, we ask they stay in touch and let us know all the wonderful things they go on and do. We hope they enjoy all their celebrations and wish them the very best for the future.

July also gave us a chance to welcome our new Year 7s in transition week. Our transition week really helps our new family members to settle in, begin making friends and look forward to September when they officially start their journey with us.

The end of term brings a full calendar and lots of fun, with Activity Week fast approaching and our summer event Kingsfest giving Kingsmead students and their families the opportunity to say a fond farewell to this academic year.

From everyone at Kingsmead, we wish the best to our students and our JTMAT partners for their SATs, GCSE, BTEC and Sixth Form exam results in August. We hope all our students and their families have a pleasant, restful holiday. We can't wait to see what fun, learning and memories we make next!



# TRANSITION WEEK

We don't like to do anything by half at Kingsmead and, this year, transition for Year 6 students was no different. We have 260 students joining us in September from 30 different primary schools and we wanted to make sure that their introduction was as seamless as possible.

Students attend Kingsmead for a whole five days, experiencing everything that Kingsmead has to offer. They started the week as primary school students but after their 7,800 individual hour of transition they finished the week as a Kingsmead students in waiting.

The aim of the week was for students to feel ready to hit the ground running both academically and socially, so that they begin lessons in September in the best possible way. Year 6 impressed us by taking challenges in Maths, English and Science that allowed us to identify their strengths and areas for development in those subjects. This allowed them to be able to come home on the last day with an individualised PLC for them to work on over the summer. This complimented their Flying Start into English, Maths, Science and Drama taster sessions that they received throughout the week that gave them an insight into learning at Kingsmead.

It wasn't, however, all work and students were allowed to have some fun. The students were placed into Houses by our talking Sorting Crown. They met our animals and had an hour with their new tutor group on our racing zip wire and bouncy castles. They competed in team building activities and sang songs together. They wrote letters to their future self that will be kept in safe keeping until they are in Year 11 and they visited our Room of Curiosities.

# TRANSITION WEEK

At the end of the week we were contacted by parents who said that their child didn't want to go back to primary school for their last few weeks of Year 6. One parent told us, "My son had an absolute blast and I'm so grateful to the entire Kingsmead family for making him feel so welcome and included. He has come home each day beaming with excitement and I couldn't believe how quickly he settled in."

On the last day, students attended an assembly and were treated to a rendition of "Baggy Trousers" by Madness. The refrain of "Oh what fun we had.." seemed quite fitting for the week. Four students were given awards for how they had displayed RIME values over the week. They were given a token for our reward machine with them all receiving vouchers for cake! That means the big money vouchers are still inside the rewards machine and ready to be won once Year 6 become Year 7 in September.



# YEAR GROUP FEATURE: YEAR 10

Wow, what a year it has been for Year 10! This year has seen the start of the students beginning their GCSE subjects. They have truly embraced these changes and approached them with a great mindset. Their maturity and focus has stepped up a gear and they have taken everything they have been met with in their stride.

May saw Year 10 take on their first ever round of mock exams; for a lot of the students this was a massive challenge as it was the first set of official mock exams they have ever done. Alongside a fair bit of stress and worry, this was met in equal measure with a lot of resilience and determination from the students. Following on from their impressive attitude and focus each student in the year group was treated to a cake as a reward for their hard work. This was really appreciated by students and was a well deserving treat following on from their efforts during their mocks.



One thing that makes Year 10 so special, is their passion to get involved in so many aspects of school life and push themselves to their limits. This year, Year 10 got involved in many parts of Kingsmead life, and this year has been the same. Inside and outside of school Year 10 have been representing Kingsmead brilliantly and have displayed our RIME Values in abundance. In April, they took part in their practice Silver DofE Expedition- the first time Silver DofE has run in school since it first started up. For their practice they enjoyed a walk around Cannock Chase, but their Silver looks to be a bit more demanding with a three-day adventure in Wales; one thing is for sure they will need to show loads of resilience to battle through!



# YEAR GROUP FEATURE: YEAR 10

Year 10's achievements haven't stopped there! There have been countless other accomplishments and experiences they have been a part of this year. 40% of the year made up part of the Shrek cast, we had loads of Year 10 performers in Kingsmead's first open mic night, we have had sporting achievements in the form of the girls' netball team becoming county champions and we saw an influx of year 10 boys gain their football refereeing qualification, using their skills to referee for multiple games across the school.

We have also seen success in MAT-wide Drama competitions with Year 10 students winning special recognition awards. We also had a massive success with Jack winning the Cannock Chase Youth Endeavour Award, for his bravery and determination over the past year. This has been a fantastic year for Year 10 and I can't wait to see what the next year is going to hold as we move ever closer to their GCSEs. Have a great summer Year 10, keep continuing to make me proud!

Miss Hinton



# YEAR 11 LEAVERS'



performances from our very own Sophie and Jack and from Mr Stephens and Mrs Truby. This was followed by a slideshow showcasing photos from their time at Kingsmead, evoking both laughter and tears from all.

Our celebrations continued out on the school field with fun and games on the inflatables, shirt signing and a visit from Mr Whippy with free ice creams for everyone! Staff then formed a guard of honour and celebrated with the year group as they left school for the final time in Year 11.

Wednesday 3rd July saw our highly anticipated Prom take place at the Chase Golf Club in Penkridge. Students arrived dressed to impress, ready to enjoy a final night of celebration together. The venue was beautifully decorated, creating a magical atmosphere and after a delicious hog roast buffet, the dance floor was opened, and students danced the night away making memories to last a lifetime. Our Prom King and Queen were announced, and photographs of the evening were captured by our very own Mr. Summers

As the school year draws to a close, we are delighted to announce that our Year 11 students have successfully completed their GCSE exams, marking a significant milestone in their academic journey. This momentous occasion was celebrated in style with a fabulous, albeit very emotional, Leaver's Assembly celebration and a dazzling Prom Night.

Our Leaver's Assembly, held on the 27th of June, was an emotional and uplifting event where teachers and students gathered in the school hall to reflect on the past five years and celebrate the achievements of our fabulous year group.

Deputy Headteacher, Mr Cope, started our assembly with a heartfelt speech, congratulating the students for their dedication and resilience, especially during the challenges posed by recent years. He said, "you have shown tremendous strength and perseverance and we are incredibly proud of all that you have achieved."

Throughout the assembly, students viewed their favourite school memories, together with 'Good Luck' messages from their tutors and teachers up on the big screen. These personal reflections were complemented by outstanding musical





# YEAR 11 LEAVERS'

As we bid farewell to our Year 11 students, we are filled with pride and optimism for their futures. Whether they are continuing their studies at Kingsmead, starting apprenticeships, or exploring new opportunities, we are confident that they are well prepared for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to you all as parents. Your support and dedication have been invaluable over the past five years.

To our Year 11 students: congratulations on reaching this important milestone. Remember, this is just the beginning. The world is full of possibilities, and we cannot wait to see where your journeys take you.

Best wishes for a bright and successful future!

Mrs G Taylor







# COMMUNITY DAY

We are thrilled to share the highlights of our recent Community Day, held on June 12th. This year, our theme was sustainability, and our newly promoted Year 9 students participated in various events on and off the school site to apply sustainable practices within our local community.

The day involved our enthusiastic students embarking on a litter-picking mission around the school premises and nearby Brickworks Nature Reserve. Students demonstrated resilience and mindfulness as they meticulously collected litter. This activity not only helped beautify our local area but also instilled a sense of responsibility in our students to keep their surroundings clean.

In addition, groups of students transformed our school garden into a vibrant oasis. The students planted a variety of vegetables (such as Pumpkins), herbs, and flowers to continue to help Kingsmead become more self-sufficient. The garden will serve as an ongoing enrichment project, teaching students the importance of nurturing and patience in seeing their efforts come to fruition.

One of the most exciting projects of the day was the construction of a bee corridor on our school grounds. Students built a series of bee-friendly habitats, including wildflower beds and insect hotels. This initiative not only supports local biodiversity by providing a safe haven for pollinators, but also educates students on the critical role bees play in our ecosystem. The students' resilience was on full display as they worked collaboratively to dig, plant, and construct, ensuring the bee corridor would be a thriving habitat for years to come.

# COMMUNITY DAY



In addition to on-site activities, some students visited Brickworks Nature Reserve to help the Rangers create wildflower patches, to make spaces for butterflies and bees. Students also took a tour of the Brickworks site to see how the Rangers work hard to protect and up-keep the space as best as they can, as well as the strategic management plans that are put into place, like SUDS, to help against flooding. A massive thank you to those at Brickworks, the students were very excited to share their experience there with staff when they returned.

Throughout the day, it was fantastic to see our school values in action. The students' resilience shone through as they tackled new challenges and persevered despite the physical demands of the activities. Their innovation was evident in the creative solutions they devised for challenges they faced. Mindfulness was a central theme, as students considered the long-term impacts of their actions on the environment. Finally, the focus on employability was clear as students engaged with community members and learned about sustainable practices



We are incredibly proud of our students' efforts and the valuable lessons they learned. As we continue to promote sustainability within our school and community, we look forward to seeing the positive changes that our students will inspire.



THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT  
TEAM IN SCHOOLS ARE OPEN  
OVER THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

# SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Summer holidays offer teenagers a break from school and a chance to explore new activities. However, this period also brings unique safety challenges. Here are essential tips to help parents keep their teenagers safe while they enjoy their summer break.

Socializing is a big part of summer for teenagers, but it's important to ensure their outings are safe. Make sure your teen knows how to reach you or another trusted adult in case of emergency. If you suspect any gang activity, please report it to 101. Please have conversations regarding your child's water and road safety, making sure they are aware of the risks and how to manage these.

Summer can also bring mental health challenges, including boredom and social pressure. If you are concerned about your child's mental health/changes in their mood, please use the below information regarding the mental health hub. It is an NHS service to approach if you feel your child needs mental health support.

Cannock and Lichfield (Non emergency)  
01283 352113



## Online Safety

Teenagers spend significant time online, so it's vital to ensure their digital activities are safe. Please remind your children to stay safe online during the summer. Be aware of what content your child has access to and who they are spending time with online. If you are concerned about your child's safety online and are unsure who to talk to, please use the guidance provided by Childline ([www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)) Wizz is a free social networking app that enables users to chat live online with strangers from around the world and exchange content such as pictures and videos.

## What are the risks?

On the app, young people can mix with adults and can be connected if they accept each other's friend requests. Without a guarantee of age verification, catfishing, grooming, and online sexual abuse are all a possibility. Harmful content can easily be found, and users can also expect to see harmful content on others' profiles or in chat conversations.

Talk to your child about the potential risks and dangers of sharing personal information on any social media apps. Remind them that not everyone is who they say they are online and of the dangers of talking to strangers, just as you would in the real world.



**Big Dreams  
for the  
Future?**

**NO MATTER WHAT YOUR  
CAREER ASPIRATIONS  
MAY BE, GETTING THE BEST  
START IN EDUCATION YOU CAN  
MATTERS!**

# ATTENDANCE

As we will soon be embarking on another exciting school year in September, we want to emphasize the importance of consistent school attendance for your child's academic and personal growth. Our focus is underscoring the critical role attendance plays in your child's journey to success.

Regular attendance helps students keep up with daily lessons and assignments, ensuring they don't fall behind, along with instilling a sense of responsibility and commitment. Attending school daily helps children learn the importance of punctuality and time management, linking to our RIME value of employability.

## **Tips for Improving Attendance**

We understand that ensuring your child attends school regularly can sometimes be challenging. Here are some tips to help improve attendance:

1. Establishing routines that have consistent schedules and prepare the students for the following day.
2. Be involved in your child's education by attending school events and communicating with teachers.
3. Talk to your child about any issues they may be facing at school, such as bullying or academic challenges, and work with us to address them by contacting your child's Progress Leader.

We are trying to instil in pupils that they need to be in school every day to support their future aspirations. The government has issued new guidance and requirements on school attendance from September 2024. We will update you in due course.



## Girls on Board

Kingsmead is proud to say we are a Girls on Board school- an approach that 'empowers girls in school to navigate the choppy waters of friendship for themselves'. This approach means that school staff support but don't interfere, which empowers our girls to find solutions for themselves. As part of this approach a group of our incredible sixth form students came forward to set up the 'Big Sister Scheme'. Phoebe in Year 12 tells us more:

" As part of the Girls on Board project, we are here as Big Sisters! As many girls may not want to tell a teacher or member of staff any problems which may be bothering them, this is where we come in as 'Big Sisters'. We will listen to any problems girls may have and try our best to give some advice to them. This is based on our personal experiences, as we may have been in their positions and got through it! Any information which is mentioned to us in the session will of course remain confidential-unless it is a safeguarding matter."

Phoebe tells us of a recent success story: "We had a situation with some Year 7s, two of them came one week and told us they were best friends, one of the girls was being picked on and getting talked about behind her back and she had said to us that she felt like no-body liked her and none of her friends were talking to her. We talked to her about how she should try and ignore any negative comments towards her and stick with the friends who weren't being mean!"



# WELLBEING

We also gave the advice that maybe she should sit down with her friends and ask them why they were being mean to her and try to sort it out. She then came back the next week to say thank you, that she had talked to her friends, and they had said sorry to her for being mean to her and had explained why they had said what they had to her. They were then all friends again!"

It is amazing to see our values in action, our mindful and innovative students wanting to help others to be the best they can be.

Big Sisters are based in B14 on a Wednesday during tutor time and break time for drop-in sessions. Please feel free to come and see us!

## Summer Wellbeing Challenge

Self care is vital to our wellbeing and what perfect time to work on our mental health and wellbeing than using the Summer holiday break. This Summer why not give our wellbeing challenge a go? Each day for the length of a month there is a different challenge that you can complete each day. The challenge allows us to perhaps try something new and gives us a purpose and structure to our day. We'd love to hear how you get on! Have a fantastic few weeks - see you in September!

# Summer Wellbeing Challenge



<p><b>Day 1</b></p> <p>Make a set of goals for the month ahead</p>	<p><b>Day 2</b></p> <p>Practice deep belly breathing</p>	<p><b>Day 3</b></p> <p>Make a list of things that make you happy</p>	<p><b>Day 4</b></p> <p>Have a social media detox day</p>
<p><b>Day 5</b></p> <p>Make sure to drink at least 6 glasses of water today</p>	<p><b>Day 6</b></p> <p>Try a new hobby (yoga, painting, new language)</p>	<p><b>Day 7</b></p> <p>Journal your thoughts</p>	<p><b>Day 8</b></p> <p>Note 3 positive things about yourself</p>
<p><b>Day 9</b></p> <p>Do some re-organising</p>	<p><b>Day 10</b></p> <p>Listen to your favourite summer music</p>	<p><b>Day 11</b></p> <p>Watch the sunrise or sunset</p>	<p><b>Day 12</b></p> <p>Run an errand for a loved one, neighbour or a friend</p>
<p><b>Day 13</b></p> <p>Go on a hike or nature walk</p>	<p><b>Day 14</b></p> <p>Take a picnic or eat lunch outside</p>	<p><b>Day 15</b></p> <p>Practice mindfulness - in the moment</p>	<p><b>Day 16</b></p> <p>Ask yourself 'What do i need today?'</p>
<p><b>Day 17</b></p> <p>Practice meditation relaxation</p>	<p><b>Day 18</b></p> <p>Read a good book</p>	<p><b>Day 19</b></p> <p>Assess your sleep routine - avoid tech 2 hours before bed</p>	<p><b>Day 20</b></p> <p>Go star gazing!</p>
<p><b>Day 21</b></p> <p>Practice a random act of kindness</p>	<p><b>Day 22</b></p> <p>Meet up with a friend</p>	<p><b>Day 23</b></p> <p>Get moving! Practice your favourite sport</p>	<p><b>Day 24</b></p> <p>Note 3 things you are grateful for</p>
<p><b>Day 25</b></p> <p>Get outside and notice nature - Listen to your senses</p>	<p><b>Day 26</b></p> <p>Write a letter to someone you care about</p>	<p><b>Day 27</b></p> <p>Try a new food recipe</p>	<p><b>Day 28</b></p> <p>Have a day away from the TV/ screens</p>
<p><b>Day 29</b></p> <p>Pay someone a compliment</p>	<p><b>Day 30</b></p> <p>Go out and explore your area - notice new things</p>	<p><b>Day 31</b></p> <p>Reflect on your month</p>	

# CAREERS



Organising a year-group trip to a university can be an enriching and inspiring experience for students and that's why we offer this year on year for Year 9 students as part of our Careers programme. This years' visit saw 221 students from Year 9 head to Stoke Campus of Staffordshire University to get a peek at what it would be like if they opted for Higher Education in the future.

We started off with information sessions about the different types of universities there are: from campus based, to city universities, small and large, local or Russell Group, students brushed up on all the terminology associated with university.

Next, we dispelled some myths: you don't have to be the top of your class, or rich to go to university. Understanding that there are courses for everyone depending on the grades you achieve, as well as the financial support that students can access, students were reassured that university is for everyone, if you want it to be.

The campus tours saw students exploring the facilities; from lecture theatres to the sports centre, the student zone to the library – it certainly brought back lots of memories for the staff on the trip who were engaging with students about their own personal experiences of university.

Finally, onto what was everyone's highlight – the taster sessions. Staffordshire University kindly put on 8 taster sessions so all students could get a real feel for university. The Sports Journalism group got to practice scripting as if they were a Radio Presenter watching a live Football match. Mr Taylor said the group were super engaged and some students plan to consider this as an option for the future.



# CAREERS



Mrs. Seymour, who attended the Business session, said “the workshop had high energy and they pitched it perfectly to the age of the students. The Lecturer got them all involved in a task negotiating business deals between a fruit juice maker and a glass bottle maker and it became quite tense in the board room until hands were shaken and a price was agreed! It was excellent”. Other taster sessions included Games Design, Film Studies, Engineering and Psychology.

Executing the trip like this takes months and months of planning, but if we can provide students with a valuable glimpse into university life, helping them to envision their future educational paths and inspiring them to achieve their academic goals, it makes it all worth it.

As this academic year draws to a close, the Careers team are proud of how students have engaged with our careers activities over the past year. From trips out, to assemblies with employers, careers days and more, students are continuously building on the knowledge and skills that will help them for when the time finally comes to make decisions about their futures, and they move onto pastures new. With this in mind, we want to wish our Year 11s and Year 13s all the best for their post-16 and post-18 pathways and we look forward to hearing about their career successes in the coming years.





# YEAR 13 LEAVERS'

## Celebrating Year 13 Leavers: A Day of Reflection and Aspiration

In a ceremony filled with emotion, laughter, and a touch of nostalgia, our school recently celebrated the Year 13 Leavers' assembly, marking the end of an era for our departing students. Held in the school Glass House, the event was attended by students and their teachers.

The assembly commenced with an inspiring speech from Mr. Cope, who highlighted the resilience and determination shown by the students. "Today, we celebrate not just your academic achievements, but your growth, your perseverance, and the bright futures ahead of you."

This was followed by a speech from Mrs Bawn, the head of Year 13, and Assistant Head Teacher Mr Russell, each sharing anecdotes and words of wisdom.

The assembly also featured a presentation of awards, with predictions of future outcomes of the students 'Who is most likely to get an Olympic medal' and 'Who is the most likely to achieve an Oscar' for their talents.

A touching moment of the assembly was the slideshow of memories showcasing photos from their time at the school. There was much laughter in the room as everyone reflected on the journey shared over the years.

Congratulations, Year 13 leavers! May your futures be bright, your journeys fulfilling, and your dreams realised.



# STUDENT LEADERSHIP



Selected student leaders represented Kingsmead at the annual JMAT pupil leadership extravaganza. They delivered an exceptional presentation on our RIME Funding initiative showcasing the innovative learning that takes place around our school. Huge congratulations to Callum, Phoebe, Ben, Charlie, Patrick, Martha and Jessica for showing other schools how leadership is done at Kingsmead!



We would like to welcome our newly appointed Head Students, Phoebe and Callum, into their new roles. They already began their leadership journey by attending their first meeting and discussing their next steps alongside their fellow council members. It's been so exciting to see our young leaders grow into mature students over the years, and we wish them the best of luck in their new roles!



# THE HOUSES

With Sports Day up and coming next month, it is time to see which House has the most dedicated supporters!

Our new House competition is to design and make a banner supporting your House ready for Sports Day. It can be big or small, include the house logo, look like a flag, or even be professionally printed; the choice is yours.

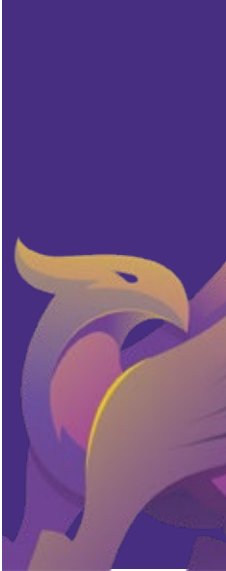


## HOUSE POINTS

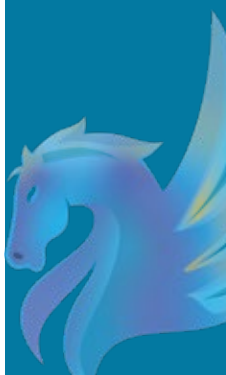
**28801  
PHOENIX**



**26487  
GRYPHON**



**24480  
PEGASUS**



**25334  
DRAKON**





# GREEN FLAG AWARD

This year, our school has achieved the prestigious Green Flag Award, a testament to our commitment to environmental sustainability and education. This achievement is the culmination of dedicated efforts involving students, staff, parents and the broader community in various eco-friendly initiatives and projects. The Green Flag Award is an internationally recognised accreditation given to schools that demonstrate exceptional environmental management and educational practices, and earning it requires meeting rigorous standards set by the Eco-Schools programme.

The journey towards the Green Flag began with the establishment of our Eco-Committee, a group of students and teachers all involved in the Eco and Gardening clubs with Mrs. Small and Miss Powell who spearheaded our sustainability efforts. This committee was responsible for conducting an environmental review of the school, identifying areas where improvements could be made, and developing an action plan to address these issues. The review highlighted several key areas: waste reduction, energy efficiency, water conservation, biodiversity, and the promotion of healthy living.

This term, Community Day has cemented our efforts for the Green Flag Award, the school worked with Brickworks to enable students to litter pick and create a wild flower bee corridor. Biodiversity was promoted through the creation of a wildlife habitat on the school grounds. Native plants were introduced to attract local wildlife and bird feeders and insect hotels were installed to provide shelter and food for various species. These efforts created a vibrant outdoor classroom where students could observe and learn about local ecosystems first-hand.





# GREEN FLAG AWARD

To take sustainability further next academic year, we will introduce a comprehensive recycling programme. We already recycle plastics, however paper and card can also be recycled easily. Recycling bins will be placed in every classroom and common area. Energy efficiency is another critical focus. The school has invested in energy-saving measures such as installing LED lighting, motion sensor switches in some office spaces, and energy-efficient appliances. These are being rolled out in a programme to make the whole school sustainable by August 2025. In addition, students are being encouraged to grow and consume their own produce from the school garden. Students have recently planted a pumpkin patch, which will soon be expanded to include other vegetables like tomatoes.

Achieving the Green Flag Award was not just about implementing these projects but also about fostering a culture of sustainability within the school community. This prestigious award is a reflection of our collective effort and a significant milestone in our journey towards sustainability. It demonstrates our commitment to creating a healthier, greener future for our students and the planet. We will proudly hoist the Green Flag, we are inspired to continue our work and serve as a model for other schools striving for environmental excellence.

# ROAD SAFETY

As one of three schools in this close area we are very aware of the issues that can sometimes be caused by congestion on the roads around the school. As you will all appreciate, the safety of all students (primary and secondary age) is our priority.

We have tried to alleviate some of these issues by changing the timings of the school day and raising our concerns with the local authority, but we need your help to make the roads around school as safe as they possible can be. Wherever possible, please avoid double-parking and parking on either the corners or pavements immediately outside school, instead consider dropping your child(ren) off a short distance away and they can walk in if it isn't raining.

In addition, the roads are considerably quieter before 8am and the House of Pi is open for students to get a free breakfast if they wish. Thank you for your continued support with this.



# SIXTH FORM TRANSITION

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Kingsmead Sixth Form recently welcomed prospective new students for a series of transition days, held from Friday, 28th June to Tuesday, 2nd July. These informative and engaging days were designed to introduce our future students to the vibrant life at Kingsmead Sixth Form, setting the stage for their academic and personal growth over the next two years through Year 12 and 13.

The transition days kicked off with assemblies where students met the dedicated sixth form team. These sessions provided valuable insights into what students can expect from their time at Kingsmead, highlighting the support and resources available to help them succeed as they progress along their sixth form journey and continue onto a life beyond it.

Throughout the transition days, students participated in a variety of taster lessons across different subjects, giving them a glimpse of the exciting curriculum ahead on their chosen courses. These lessons were an excellent opportunity for students to explore their interests and get a feel for the teaching styles and academic expectations at the sixth form level before they officially start in September.

In addition to academic sessions, wellbeing was a key focus. Students attended wellbeing sessions with our in-school councillors aimed at promoting mental and emotional health, ensuring they are equipped with the tools to manage stress and maintain a balanced lifestyle during their studies.

Another significant aspect of the transition days was the time allocated for researching university degrees and life beyond sixth form with the team and Kingsmead's career advisor. This forward-thinking approach helps students to start planning their future paths early, with guidance on university applications, career options, and the skills needed to thrive in their chosen fields.

We were thrilled to introduce our prospective students to the sixth form centre, which will soon become a central part of their lives. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were evident throughout the three days, and we are confident that they will bring this same energy and passion into their studies.

As we look forward to welcoming these bright young minds in September 2024, we are excited to support them on their journey to success. The transition days were just the beginning, and we can't wait to see how our new students will grow and achieve their goals at Kingsmead Sixth Form.

Thank you to all the parents and teachers who supported these transition days and helped make them a resounding success. We look forward to a fantastic year ahead!





# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

## Student Achievement

Wow, what an absolutely brilliant academic year Kingsmead!

Students have been going above and beyond, displaying our RIME values in and out of school. Our students have represented the school in a huge range of sporting events, music and drama performances and academic events. As a school, we have awarded over 105,000 XP to our Kingsmead students, with every single student in the school from Year 7-13 achieving XP throughout the school year.

Our XP vending machine has been used a lot this academic year, awarding prizes to our Top XP students in each year group. Over 200 students have received a prize - from a free school meal deal or a jump the lunch queue pass to amazon vouchers or a book token. We have handed out almost 500 Certificates and Badges for students who have achieved their Bronze, Silver and Gold Award. Special mentions go to: Lucy Gouge (402) Joseph Rana (351) Isla Higgins (344) Chloe Frost (304) Edward Spalding (303) Macy Tranter (303) and Bella Pemberton (300) who all hit 300+ XP and received their Gold awards this week. We also rewarded the new Year 6 students for displaying the RIME values during their transition week with a prize from the machine as well.



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

We are all really excited for our Activities Days coming up on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th July. We look forward to celebrating what has been a brilliant academic year with lots of fun and smiles during the two days. We have a great choice of activities on offer from water fights to escape rooms, FIFA tournaments to zombie runs and many more. All students will get the chance to do the inflatables, water slides, zip wire and sports, plus the two specific activities they requested.

Next year, we are looking forward to many more House Events offering more opportunities for students to achieve XP! We are also going to be carrying out more student voice to gather more information about what other prizes students would like to see going into the XP vending machine, so watch this space!



# THE SPORTS REPORT



Hednesford Town Football Club and Mr Allars from Gorsemoor Primary school ran a Primary School Tournament at the 5s Pavillion in Hednesford. Five of our Year 10 students volunteered to support the event and referee the matches.

The students gained their referee qualifications recently when Kingsmead hosted the FA refereeing course and it is great to see them using their skills to support the local community.

They received a trophy for taking part and most importantly, got to have their photograph taken with Hednesford Town's very own Pitman Pete. Well done lads!

# THE SPORTS REPORT



A Fantastic day for Year 8 student Travis, who represented his country Wales on Sunday 16th June, with a fantastic performance at left back and gaining a 2-2 draw. Well done Travis!

We were really proud to hear that Hayden in Year 7, has successfully completed his grading and is now a purple and white stripe belt.

Hopefully, it won't be long before he is celebrating achieving his black belt. Huge well done Hayden!



# THE SPORTS REPORT



Our Year 8 Rounders team played in their district tournament this week where they won three games, drew two, and lost two which lead to them finishing in 5th place. There were some excellent fielding skills including outstanding one-handed catches and lots of stumpings, and some great batting which improved as the tournament progressed.

They worked really hard and supported each other as a team throughout. Well done girls!

The Year 9 Rounders team played in the District rounders tournament this week and were unbeaten in all of their games! They have therefore been crowned District Rounders Champions!

Their fielding skills were exceptional, taking some long range catches and stumping out many of the opposing players, and they also batted consistently well. They were a joy to watch and the whole team has made us proud! Well done.



# THE SPORTS REPORT



Both Luke and Charlie were part of the Cannock and District team for the County Athletics event held at Northwood Stadium in Stoke at the weekend. They both ran 1,500m for junior and intermediate boys in separate races. They both got great times but unfortunately just missed out on the qualifying positions for the next stage. However, it's more experience for them both as they also compete in YDL (young development league) for their Cannock and Staffs athletics club. We are very proud!

Well done to Year 10 student Ben, who recently completed in a Canoe Regatta in Belgium. This was the first international event that Ben has attended alongside his Canoe Club. He took part in the Junior U16 200m, 500m, 1000m and 5000m events. Ben also competed in a doubles event with a teammate from the Netherlands. Ben had a fantastic weekend racing and finished 8th out of 23 in the 5000m event. A fantastic achievement Ben and we hope to see your success continue in the future!



Yet more sporting success from Year 10 over the holiday. Jack competed in the RS Feva Nationals for Sailing. Jack competes to an exceptionally high standard in his sailing and has gained a place on the RYA RS Feva National Training Squad as a result of his fantastic endeavours in his sport.

Jack again performed amazingly during his most recent competition and finished in 7th place out of 106 boats. He also placed 2nd in the mixed pair overall. An absolutely incredible achievement. Well done Jack, we are so proud of you!



**FROM EVERYONE AT KINGSMEAD, WE WISH  
YOU ALL A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER HOLIDAY.**

**SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**





# Let's Stay in Touch...

Kingsmead is a partnership. We value our links with parents and our community. We use a number of tools to ensure we maintain effective communication for each core area of a child's schooling. This approach provides parents full access to up to date information about their child and our school. We felt it would be useful to share the tools in one place as a reference point.

You (and your child) can use the same username and password for all of these tools of communication


**Satchel One**  
*(formerly named Show my Homework)* Homework



How?: through the app, their website or ours

*This tool is how staff set home learning. There is a student view and a parent view. Everyone can see what work is set and when it is due. It is possible for some Pieces to be submitted online. If this is the case, students should use their account (and not their parents) to do this.*


**Blended Learning Platform** Support



How?: through the app, their website or ours

*This tool is how staff set home learning. There is a student view and a parent view. Everyone can see what work is set and when it is due. It is possible for some Pieces to be submitted online. If this is the case, students should use their account (and not their parents) to do this.*

**MCAS**  
*(My Child at School)* Communication



How?: through the app

How we communicate with parents

**Go4Schools** Support



How?: through the App, their website or our website

*How we share data on attainment, progress and attitude to learning*

- You will see rewards given to your child 'live'
- We will share how your child is understanding each subject every 6 weeks
- For each subject you will see a checklist of core learning. On this you will see what they are secure in and what they need to work on at home
- You can use the blended learning platform to select activities that will help them at home to close gaps

Don't forget you can also contact us through.....

Socials

 [KingsmeadSchool](#)

 [kingsmeadonline](#)

 [@kingsmeadonline](#)

Email



[office@kingsmeadschool.net](mailto:office@kingsmeadschool.net)

Call Us



01543 227 320

Our Website



[www.kingsmeadschool.net](http://www.kingsmeadschool.net)



**Gold package** £25.00

Photo of your chosen animal.

Certificate of sponsorship for your animal

Fact file to learn all about your animal.

Keyring with your chosen animal's name on together with your own name

Spend a morning with our Animal Technician learning about how to look after our animals and exotics at the farm. You will even get the chance to pet and feed the animals.

**Silver package** £10.00

Photo of your chosen animal

Certificate of sponsorship for animal

Fact file to learn all about your animal.

Keyring with your chosen animal's name on

**Bronze package** £5.00

Photo of your chosen animal.

Certificate of sponsorship for your animal

Fact file to learn all about your animal.

# PTFA NEEDS YOU!

## Do you want to help Kingsmead school raise money and maintain outstanding education?

### Benefits

- Join the team who make the magic happen
- Free cake and coffee at all meetings
- Meet the governors and leadership team before PTFA meetings
- Use of school facilities for events
- Make a difference to your child's education
- Give back to your community
- Support fun, exciting fundraisers like Christmas Fayre, Summer Fayre, Community days and Scarefest

Please contact [m.ordidge@kingsmeadschool.net](mailto:m.ordidge@kingsmeadschool.net) to register your interest.