

IN TOUCH



HEADTEACHER'S LETTER 1

19TH SEPTEMBER 2008

KINGSDOWN SCHOOL
www.kingsdownschool.co.uk

Dear Parents

Welcome to the new academic year, especially to the students who have joined us for the first time in year 7. I am pleased to report that our year 11 GCSE results this year were the best in the school's history.

Congratulations to all the students on their achievements and I would like to pay tribute to all the staff for their hard work and commitment. We are well on our way to becoming an "Outstanding School".

The school is looking better than ever, we have invested almost £200,000 in the upgrading and maintenance of the schools facilities. We now have a fantastic humanities suite equipped with the latest Technology. Redecoration has taken place in a variety of locations around the school and the whole site now has a wireless network. The school hall has had a "makeover" including new curtains and is looking very good.

I hope as many of you as possible will take the opportunity to visit the school during our open evening on Wednesday 24th September (REMINDER that school will close to students at 11.55am on the 24th September). Although open evening

is aimed at year 6 pupils, all are welcome. Guided tours are available, please let us know if you wish to attend.

We have had a very positive start to the new term and students and staff are adapting well to the new school day.

I am pleased to inform you that Mr Wilson is now out of hospital and is making a good recovery at home.

Wendy Taylor, Headteacher

SCHOOL UNIFORM

On the whole, students have come back to school this September looking extremely smart. I would however like to take this opportunity to remind you that **all** students must be wearing their black school jumper. We have noticed that some children have stitched logos on to non-uniform jumpers, this is not allowed. A small number of girls have taken to wearing fitted shirts, again these are not allowed.

For full details of the school's uniform policy, please check the school website or your child's year book.

Thank you

Mr S Lowe, Deputy Headteacher

KINGSDOWN SCHOOL FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (KSFA)

The KSFA is looking to recruit new members for this year. Last year the parent members helped raise £3,600 for the school which has been invested in a wide array of equipment, from new seating to interactive technologies. With a number of key members stepping down this year there are positions of responsibility available. This valuable group cannot run without you so please help!

If you are interested Contact either Mr Ralsey on the school number, 822284 or attend the AGM on 14th October 2008 at 7.00pm.

ENGLISH—MINI SAGAS COMPETITION

CONGRATULATIONS go to George Adams (Year 9) and Danielle Cole (Year 7) who have been published by the Forward Press from the mini-sagas competition and now immediately go into the competition to win £1,000.

Holly Carter (Year 9) did not win but she was highly commended for her creative writing in her age category by The Henry Williams Society.

Mr L Simpson, Head of English

Key Dates for your Diary**September 2008**

Weds 24th	School closes 11.55pm for students Open Evening 6.00pm
Thurs 25th	Distar Parents Evening 6.00pm

October 2008

Weds 8th	Year 7 Welcome Evening 7.00pm
Fri 10th	Teacher Development Day (students not in school)
Tues 14th	Enrichment Day 1 Year 8 Real Game KSFA AGM 7.00pm
Fri 17th	16+ Morning
Tues 21st	E Safety Awareness Evening 6.00pm
Mon 27th - Tues 4th Nov	HALF TERM

November 2008

Weds 5th	Teacher Development Day (students not in school)
Fri 14th	Presentation Evening
Mon 17th – Fri 21st	National Enterprise Week
Weds 19th	Recital Evening 7.00pm
Tues 25th	Provisional Drama Trip
Weds 26th	Academic Tutoring Day
Thurs 27th	Provisional Drama Trip

December 2008

Weds 3rd	Year 11 Parents Evening 5.00pm-8.00pm
Thurs 4th	Year 8 Girls – HPV Vaccinations
Thurs 11th	Christmas Concert 7.00pm
Fri 12th	Senior Citizens Christmas Concert 2.00pm
Mon 15th	Church Christmas Concert 7.00pm
Fri 19th	School closes 11.55am
Mon 22nd – Fri 2nd Jan	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

January 2009

Mon 5th	School begins
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*****Internet Safety Parent Awareness Evening*****

A MUST FOR ANY PARENT WHO'S CHILD HAS A HOME COMPUTER

21st October 2008 at Kingsdown School 6.00pm for 6.30pm start until 9.00pm - Refreshments will be provided

Dads & Lads Archery Taster

A session dedicated to dads & lads!

Come & join us for two and a half hours learning the basic skill of Archery.

Please come prepared for outdoor conditions and bring ample refreshment.

Suitable for ages 8 and above.

Friday 31st October 2008

Time: 1pm – 3.30pm

Cost: £5.00 per family(1 adult, 1 child)

Venue: Kingsdown School, Hyde Road, Swindon



Who's in your family?



An introduction to provide families with the knowledge and confidence to access online resources enabling them to research their family history and information on where to go after online resources dry up.

Please bring any birth, marriage or death certificates that could aid you in your search.

Friday 31st October 2008

Time: 10.00am -12.00 or 12.30 - 2.30

Cost: £2.50 per session per family

Venue: Kingsdown School, Hyde Road, Swindon

Indian Cookery Made Easy!



Family Cookery Session

Rita Patel recently conducted a cookery demonstration at the Swindon Mela and

was heard on BBC Radio Wiltshires Saturday cookery programme.

She has written a booklet on Changing Ways with a Touch of Spice.

Monday 3rd November 2008

Time: 10.00am -12.00 or 12.30pm - 2.30pm

Cost: £2.50 per session per family

Venue: Kingsdown School, Hyde Road, Swindon

To reserve your place at any of these events contact Lesley Bayliss

l bayliss@kingsdownschool.co.uk or call 837152

