

National Reading Championship

On Tuesday, February 10th, Kingsdown students Duda, Sam, Martha, and Stanley secured an impressive 7th place out of 34 teams in the National Reading Champions Quiz. Building on this success and the school's commitment to the National Year of Reading, students are encouraged to read for 10 minutes daily across any genre. Looking ahead, the school will host various World Book Day events in March and an interhouse reading quiz this summer.



Chair of Governors

I am delighted to introduce myself as the Chair of Governors at Kingsdown School. I joined the governing body in 2022 and have previously served as Vice Chair and Co-Chair before taking on the role of Chair.

I became a governor because I strongly believe in the power of education to shape young people's futures and open up opportunities, and encourage anyone who would like to be involved to look into becoming a governor here at Kingsdown.

It is a privilege to support the school's leadership team and to work on behalf of our pupils, families and staff to ensure Kingsdown continues to thrive as an ambitious and inclusive community.



Teaching & Learning

This term, Kingsdown has enhanced its teaching quality by embedding the TEMPO framework, specifically focusing on "live modelling" through the 'I Do, We Do, You Do' approach and real-time progress checks using mini-whiteboards.

Students have successfully embraced these new routines, demonstrating the school's BEATS values by taking responsibility for their learning and striving for academic excellence.

Cakes with the Head

Congratulations to the students who are involved in the Lexia Reading Programme.



Start of Term 4 arrangements

We are looking forward to seeing all students on Monday 23rd Feb at 8.15am.

Thank you for reminding students to go to their Roll Call areas and checking uniform and equipment.

Thanks for sharing our revisions to the Parking process over the holiday and supporting our commitment to no low level disruptive behaviour.

Calling all volunteers - Share your career insights with Year 10 students

We are seeking volunteers to lead workshops and share career insights with Year 10 students during our Aspirations Event on Friday, 26th June 8.45am - 1.05pm. If you would like to inspire the next generation by sharing your professional journey, please contact careers@kingsdownschool.co.uk to get involved.

Head Student Assemblies

This week we had the privilege of hearing from our head student candidates in assemblies who spoke to the student body about why they should vote for them. We are so proud of each and every one of them who are fantastic role models and embody our BEATs each and every day. This will be an incredibly exciting process going forward and an incredibly difficult decision to make as to who will be our new Head Student team for 2026-27.



Internet Safety Day 2026

Internet Safety Day 2026, held on Tuesday 10th February 2026, is a reminder for families to work together to build smart, kind and secure online habits.

The internet offers exciting opportunities for learning, creativity and connection, but it also brings risks. Parents are encouraged to talk regularly with children about privacy settings, strong passwords, online scams, balancing screen time and respectful online behaviour.

As artificial intelligence tools become more common, it is also important to discuss safe and responsible use of AI, including protecting personal information and using it ethically for learning. For resources and advice, visit <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026>

Keeping our Children Safe over the holiday

The holidays are a time for relaxing and having fun, However, we also want to make sure every child stays safe and happy while school is closed. If you see or hear something that makes you worried about a child's safety, please do not keep it to yourself. **Who to call if you are worried** - If you think a child is in immediate danger, always call 999 right away. For other worries or if you need advice, you can use these services:

Contact Swindon: This is your local team for help and support.

Phone: 01793 464646 (Monday-Friday)

Out of hours: 01793 436699 (Nights, weekends, and bank holidays)

NSPCC help line : A national service for adults who are worried about a child.

Phone: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

Future events and important dates

- 13.02.26 - End of Term - students finish at 2.45pm
- 23.02.26 - Start of Term
- 23.02.26 - Year 11 Mocks start
- 25.02.26 - GCSE Art visiting Artist
- 26.02.26 - Y8 & 9 HPV
- 26.02.26 - Year 10 Information Evening 5.30pm
- 02.03.26 - Drop down morning
- 04.03.26 - Cirencester College
Program of Excellence Info Evening
- 05.03.26 - World Book Day
- 05.03.26 - Last day of Year 11 Mocks
- 06.03.26 - Staff Development Day
(Students not in school)

Artwork by Monika Year 10



With our continued thanks. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any further information. Please be reminded that we have a 5 day response time.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett
Headteacher



KINGSDOWN
SCHOOL