



KINGSDOWN SCHOOL

Parent Newsletter - 18th Sept 2026

Head Boy & Head Girl

I am delighted to introduce Mikey and Iylah our elected Head Boy and Head Girl of Kingsdown School.

Both are wonderful role models for our students from Year 7 - 11.

They will be heading up a team of over 35 student leaders. Mikey aspires to be a Aerospace Engineer in the USA and Iylah a Dentist.

Their priorities for the year are to further improve our student mental health strategy and awareness.

We all wish them well in their leadership role throughout this coming year.



Parental Engagement & Online Safety

At school, we use Securly to safeguard our students while using their school Chromebooks. To help support safe browsing habits at home, parents can access the Securly Home app available on both iOS and Android.

To get started, download the Securly Home app from either the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, and sign in with the email address registered with the school on MCAS.

For direct download links and more information on how Securly supports families, please visit <https://www.securly.com/home-parent>

Attendance - start of term 1 #responsibility

A strong start to the term! Congratulations to Year 7 and Year 11 for achieving over 97% attendance and earning their upcoming non-uniform day. Every day counts. Research shows that students with attendance above 95% achieve one full grade higher per subject on average. Thank you for your continued support in helping your child succeed.

Duke of Edinburgh

34 Year 10 students completed their Bronze award qualifying expedition on the weekend of the 12th/13th Sept. Students navigated their pre planned routes on both days, covering a total of just over 35km. Camping overnight, showing their cooking skills preparing a hot meal and drink and a hearty breakfast in the morning. We were lucky with the weather on Saturday, not so on Sunday, some quite heavy showers but it didn't dampen their spirits. Congratulations everyone on completing the expedition. A huge thank you to the staff who gave their time so willingly to support our students, without whom the DofE award could not continue.



Upcoming college / 6th form dates

Year 11 students have big decisions to make this year for their post 16 provisions, here are a list of open evenings where you can visit these provisions with your child. Please check the websites of these provisions as there are some you need to book in advance:

Thursday 24th September 17:00-19:00 - Farmors

Thursday 24th September 16:00-19:00 - UTC

Thursday 22nd October 18:00-19:30 - Lydiard Park Academy

Tuesday 6th October - The Commonweal School (C6) (no timings on website)

Thursday 15th October 17:30-19:30 - Great Western Academy

Saturday 3rd October 10:00-14:00 - New College Swindon North Star and Queens Drive

Saturday 17th October 09:30-15:30 - Cirencester College

Saturday 13th March 9:30-15:00 - Cirencester College

Thursday 24th June 17:00-20:00 - Cirencester College

Ridgeway - Dates not yet advertised

Planned Lockdown

On Tuesday 22nd September we are doing a planned seated lockdown. Students will be briefed on the lockdown standards at the start of the week.

NGRT Testing

Year 7 NGRT reading tests will be taking place on Tuesday or Wednesday - a reminder that students need a fully charged chromebook and working headphones.

Under 14 Girls Football

The Under 14 Girls' Football Team played in the English Schools' Football Cup against Wood Green School, winning 8-1 with brilliant goals, great play in possession and fantastic teamwork throughout. The girls represented Kingsdown wonderfully both on and off the pitch. A massive well done to our goalscorers: Tilly, Jess, Leni, Keilana (2), and Daisy (3). Player of the Match was awarded to Leni for an outstanding performance as an attacking full-back, creating chances as well as defending brilliantly. Well done to everyone involved, Kingsdown Under 14 girls are through to Round 2!

Very proud of you all,

Miss Viveash



Open Evening arrangements

A reminder that Thursday 24th September is our open evening. School will close to all students at 12:15. Students will be able to purchase food at break time. Work will be set by their P5 teachers for students to complete at home.

Student helpers/leaders will be given a letter to take home and consent will be needed for the students to help with open evening. Students helping out will need to be back on site by 4:45pm in their full correct school uniform. The event will finish at 7:00pm

Google Classrooms

Just a reminder that all students can see their To Do list on google classroom on the side bar on the main page. This will help your child to manage their home learning and their social plans. Thank you for supporting them to check it weekly and organise their time using their planner to make sure they can meet their deadlines and be celebrated.

How to get in touch with our SEND Team

We are delighted to welcome our SENDCO Mrs Clements back from her maternity leave joining our Deputy SENDCOs Miss Ben-Ali Years 9-11 and Mrs Kearns who oversees year 7 and transition.

The SEND team can be contacted via sendco@kingsdownschool.co.uk For routine queries please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

Future events and important dates

- 22.09.26 - Flu Jabs - Whole School Session 1
- 22.09.26 - Planned Lockdown
- 24.09.26 - Open Evening 5.00pm (Students finish at 12.15pm)
- 15.10.26 - Year 7 meet the tutor evening 5.30pm
- 20.10.26 - Prize Evening 5.30pm
- 21.10.26 - Flu Jabs - Whole School Session 2
- 22.10.26 - Half Term
- 02.11.26 - Start of Term 8.15am

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**

