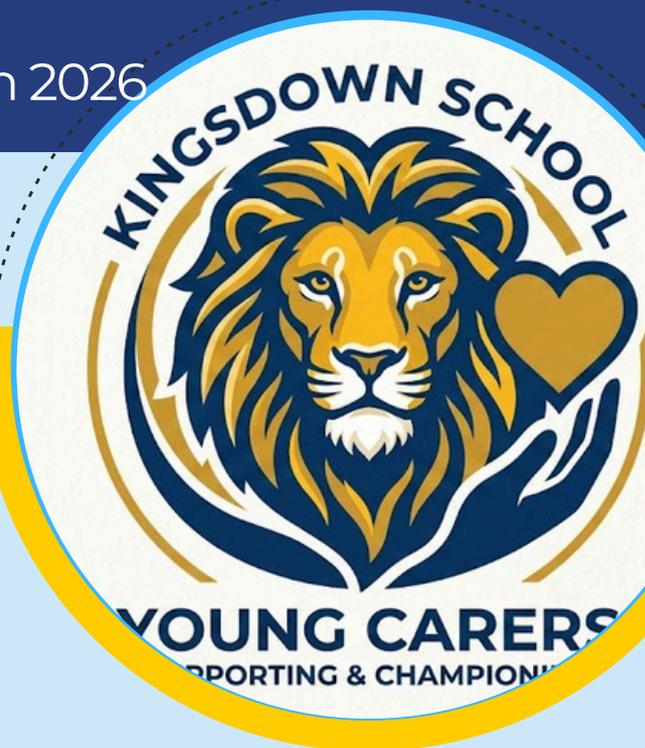


Young Carer Lead at KDS

I am delighted to introduce myself as the Young Carer Lead at Kingsdown School. My mission is to champion our students who provide care for family members, ensuring they don't just "get by" but truly flourish. I am dedicated to removing barriers to their success and celebrating the incredible skills they bring to our community.

If your child has caring responsibilities at home and could benefit from extra support, please contact Mrs. Joachim at ajoachim@kingsdownschool.co.uk.



Duke of Edinburgh

We have had a record number of students signing up for both the Bronze & Silver awards for this year. They have already taken part in 4 afterschool training sessions for an introduction to the Award, basic first aid, putting up tents, map reading skills and are due to take part in their first training walk around White Horse Hill and Woolstone in a few weeks. We wish them well with their Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections in the coming months.



Year 8 & 9 Maths Challenge

Four of our top Mathematicians, two from year 8 and two from year 9, competed in the Team Maths Challenge run by the UK Maths Trust. Working together to put their problem solving and maths skills to the test. Competing against 17 other teams across the South West, our students from Kingsdown School placed 3rd. We are very proud of the hard work they put in!

Year 7 & 8 Gymnastics

Nine Year 7 and 8 students represented Kingsdown School at a gymnastics competition at Delta Gymnastics. The team had a fantastic event, achieving 11 placings across floor, vault, overall results and age categories against other schools.

Special mentions go to Darcey (Year 7), who placed 1st on vault, 1st on floor and 1st overall, as well as 1st overall in the Year 7 category. Amelie placed 2nd on floor, while Emily achieved 3rd on floor and 3rd overall. In Year 8, Taliyah placed 1st on floor, and Keilana finished 2nd on floor, 3rd on vault and 2nd overall. A huge well done to everyone involved for representing the school so well.



Year 7 & 8 Football

Nine students from Kingsdown School represented Swindon Town in the Utilita Cup at Foundation Park. After winning two previous qualifying tournaments against other schools and town teams, reaching this stage was already a fantastic achievement. The team faced strong opposition including Millwall, Bristol Rovers, Reading, MK Dons, Wimbledon and Norwich. They narrowly missed out on a semi-final place, finishing 5th out of 8 teams on the day.

Overall, they placed 5th in the South region - a brilliant effort from all involved.



Year 11 Geography Field Trip

On the 9th and 10th of March, nearly 100 students took part in a geography fieldtrip to Gunwharf Quays and Hotwalls Beach as part of their preparation for the Paper 3 fieldwork element of the course. Students collected a range of data in the field, helping them to understand how geographical investigations are carried out in real locations.

We were extremely proud of how well the students represented the school throughout the trip. Their behaviour was excellent and they approached the fieldwork with enthusiasm and maturity.

The experience will directly support the Paper 3 examination, which will be assessed in June. Over the coming weeks, students will be working hard in lessons to analyse the data they collected and to develop the skills needed to confidently answer the fieldwork questions in the exam.

Persian speakers

We are appealing for anyone in our community who is fluent in Persian to be available to assist with our GCSE speaking exams.

If you are able to help please contact Mr Coomber, gcoomber@kingsdownschool.co.uk

Young Green Briton Challenge

Congratulations to the Year 8 team behind Punch Padz, the winning idea from our Young Green Briton Challenge. Their concept was a punch wall that converts the energy from each punch into electricity, demonstrating how movement can generate renewable energy. The idea stood out for its creativity, clear link to sustainable energy, and confident presentation.

The work continues for Punch Padz. They will collaborate with Mr Newman and the Eco Club to develop a presentation and an information campaign, ready to showcase at the Young Green Briton Challenge Final on 2nd July at City Hall, London. Good luck!

Future events and important dates

- 21.03.26 - DoE Training Walk 1
White Horse Hill
- wc 23.03 - Schools' Football Week
- 24.03.26 - DofE Training Session 2.45 - 3.45pm
- 25.03.26 - Pencelli Parent Information Meeting 6.00pm
- 26.03.26 - Y11 Parents' Steps to Success Evening
- 27.03.26 - Non-Uniform Day
- 27.03.26 - End of Term

Students finish at 12.15pm

- 13.04.26 - Start of Term 5
- 14.04.26 - Y8 & 9 HPV
- 21.04.26 - Y11 GCSE Art Exam
- 22.04.26 - Y11 GCSE Art Exam
- 23.04.26 - Y11 GCSE Art Exam
- 25.04.26 - DofE Training Walk - Badbury

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**

