

Parent Newsletter - 22nd May 2026

Nubian House - Miss Viveash

I am absolutely delighted to introduce myself as the new Head of House for Nubian. I can't wait to lead this brilliant group of students and champion each and every one of them.

My goal is to encourage all students to demonstrate the Kingsdown beats and virtues in all they do and be that 1% better than they were yesterday. I look forward to championing you all, and I hope you have a lovely half-term break.



The Brilliant Club : AI Scholars Programme at Kingsdown School

Twelve talented students are currently participating in The Brilliant Club's AI Scholars Programme at Kingsdown School.

Every Wednesday morning, they are mentored by a guest PhD researcher from Bath Spa University, exploring advanced Artificial Intelligence topics. The students are now working on a rigorous, formally graded, university-style final assessment.

The programme will conclude with a Graduation Ceremony at Bath Spa University on 15th July 2026 to celebrate their achievements.



Ready to Learn for Term 6

To make Term 6 our most successful yet, please ensure your child is ready to learn by encouraging them to arrive punctually each morning, fully equipped for their lessons, and wearing the correct school uniform with pride.

Details of the equipment they need and what is acceptable uniform is available on our website. Please be mindful that eyelashes, facial piercings and acrylic/gel nails are not permitted.

Start of Term timings

Term starts on Monday 1st June. All students need to be at the roll call by 8:15 in their full correct uniform.

All students will have an all school assembly during Tutor time then they will be in normal lessons P1. Please note that students will return on a Week 1.

Summer Uniform

The school is introducing a flexible uniform policy for hot weather to ensure student comfort and safety. When forecast temperatures reach 25°C or above, students can choose to wear either their full school uniform without blazers and ties, or their full PE kit. However, Year 11 students must still wear full uniform, though they may remove their blazers inside the exam hall.

Parents will be notified the afternoon before if these hot weather measures are activated for the following day. Please be rest assured that adjustments will continue to be in made in the lessons to ensure that both staff and students are as comfortable as possible.

Duke of Edinburgh - Silver

Over the weekend of 15th-17th May, 20 year 10 students took part in their practice Silver DofE expedition, camping in the grounds of Westonbirt school, Tetbury. Over 3 days the participants navigated and walked their preplanned routes covering 45km, camping, being self sufficient, cooking and tent management.

Well done everyone we look forward to the Qualifying expedition in June.

Safeguarding over half term

The safeguarding team will be working over the half term so if you need to contact them please do by emailing cp@kingsdownschool.co.uk. Alternatively if you require urgent support you can call Contact Swindon on 01793 464646.

Kingsdown at the Palace

On 20th May Mrs Ridley attended the DofE Gold Award Celebrations in the garden of Buckingham Palace in the presence HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. The event was to congratulate participants who had achieved their Gold award and also to show appreciation and thanks to adults who contribute to making the Award possible. Tea and cakes, guest speakers, the opportunity to walk the beautiful garden at the Palace and a speech from HRH.

A great honor to attend on behalf of all the staff from Kingsdown School, who give so generously of their time and efforts to make the DofE possible to our students. True unsung heroes who make the difference for our participants.



Term 5 Sports Review

This term Kingsdown school teams finished the football seasons, started the rounders league and also took part in Tennis, Athletics and Gymnastics competitions. Plus one of our very own members of the PE team (Miss Viveash) and Swindon Town superstar secured promotion. Well done to all our Kingsdown students who have represented our school teams with such pride. Here are some of the highlights.



Term 5 Sports Review (cont...)



Kai, Oliver, Max and Jenson. Key Stage 3 - Swindon Tennis Champions.
Year 8 Football team winning the Swindon Europa League final!



Well done to Jake, Barney and Mason for winning their gymnastics competitions.



Our Key Stage 4 Tennis team won the Swindon Competition. The Year 8 Rounders team have won their first games in the league.



Finally, our elite Swindon athletes had some fantastic results in the Swindon Team Trials with a number of students making it to the Wiltshire competition on the 13th June. Again, well done to all of our athletes.

Swindon Team Trials

Percy jav 33m 1st
Millie hurdles 2nd (16s 36s)
Thea 1200m 1st, Marlow 4th
Izzie M 1500m 1st
Izzie M Jav 1st
Ollie S 1500m 1st
Jess N 200m 2nd
Bailey 100m 4th
Bow 4th 100m
Phoebe 4th 800m

Percy 4th 100m
Daisy 100m 4th
Izzie M 2nd 300
Ollie C 4th 200m
Ollie C 2nd Long jump, Bailey 1st



Future events and important dates

- 22.05.26 - School finishes normal time for half term
- 01.06.26 - Start of Term 6
- 05.06.26 - DofE Silver Qualifying (3 days)
- 11.06.26 - Year 6 Information Evening 5.30pm
- 13.06.26 - DofE Bronze Practice
- 15.06.26 - Fresh Air Art Trip
- 16.06.26 - Year 11 Leavers Day
- 20.06.26 - Year 6 Uniform Pop Up Shop
(Appointment only 9.30am - 3.30pm)
- 24.06.26 - Recital Evening 6.30pm
- 25.06.26 - Cirencester Open Evening
- 25.06.26 - Year 7 & 8 Athletics competition
- 26.06.26 - Aspirations - workshops

Artwork by Io - Year 9



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



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