# KINGSDOWN SCHOOL

## Parent Newsletter - 27th Nov 2026

### Attendance Matters

Kingsdown hosted a RLT best practice event this week. 9 RLT schools attended and leaders took away so much about the best practice from Kingsdown. We gave a massive shout out for all the support from our parents / carers. Thank you for your continued support.

RLT RIVER LEARNING TRUST

PLAS PENCELLI

### Pencelli Trip 2027

We are looking to run the Pencelli trip for Year 8 and 9 in 2028 at a time that doesn't clash with our final and all important preparations for our Year 11s. Unfortunately this means that the Pencelli Trip in 2027 will not run. We have provisionally booked the last week of term 2028. More details will be shared with parents & carers in 2027.

### Monday 30th November

Monday is a school closure day.

A reminder that students won't be set work to complete on this day.

### Swindon School Nurse Team - Coffee Morning




We are pleased to announce the next School Nursing coffee morning. This is a great opportunity for parents, carers and professionals to come and have an informal meet and greet with the team. There is no specific topic so parents and carers can come and find out what we do, how we can help and have discussions.

## Literature Festival 2026

### Wyvern theatre

On Monday 9th November A F Steadman spoke about her inspirations, experiences as an author and ultimately her success with the brilliant 'Skandar' series. The students received a free copy of the book, along with the opportunity to meet A F Steadman on stage and have it signed. Kingsdown students were a credit to the school!

### Author visit and Workshops

On Wednesday 11th November, Award winning author of book series, 'River of Ink' and 'Secret Breakers', Helen Dennis, came to Kingsdown and spoke to our Year 8 in the Main Hall - we were invited into the world of codes, enigmas and secrets throughout history and across the world. Helen then spent an hour each with a class of year 7s and 9s, delivering workshops where the students had a go at cracking their own codes.

### Ridgeway School Book Quiz

On Friday 13th, Ridgeway school hosted the annual book quiz event, involving teams of 6 students from every secondary school in Swindon. We are so proud of our team of 6 who came first and were presented with the official shield as well as book vouchers worth up to £30. We are incredibly proud of this wonderful achievement!



## Tell us about your child's achievements

We love to hear about the wonderful skills and achievements your children have and are developing out of school. Do keep sharing with your child's tutor. Each week we end our briefing with Champion shoutouts for our amazing students.

## Roll Call arrangements

From x December we will suspending Roll Call. Students will need to arrive on site for 8.15am and go straight to their tutor bases. This decision is made to ensure that students keep warm throughout the Winter months.

## Ready to Learn

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your child has all the equipment that they need for a school day and especially a charged chromebook.

## MCAS App

This is a wonderful way to keep in touch with your child's attendance, punctuality and achievement points as well as school communications. If you need any support in using this App please get in touch via our head@ email and we will be more than happy to help you.

MCAS
My Child At School

## Girls Football

The girls' football in the school has been flying this week with success. It was great to see our Year 7 girls' team play together for the first time in a tournament on Thursday, winning two games and drawing two games. The Year 7 team are currently top of the table for the tournament fixtures. Player of the match - Amber.

The Under 14 girls' football fixture went off with another success on Thursday, winning both their games with a 3-1 and 1-0 win. A massive well done to all students involved.

The under 14s team are also currently top of the table for the tournament fixtures. Player of the match - Emilie.

Massive well done to all students involved.





## Dobbies Christmas Event

A huge well done to our talented Kingsdown School students who brought the festive spirit to Dobbies Garden Centre Swindon's Christmas Charity Shopping Night on Thursday 26th November.

Our choir did the school proud, filling the store with Christmas carols and seasonal cheer while helping to raise vital funds for Alzheimer's Research UK.

It was wonderful to see our students living out the Kingsdown BEATs of Pride, Respect, and Responsibility in the local community - thank you to Dobbies Swindon for hosting us and to everyone who came along to listen and support.



## Future events and important dates

30.11.26 - School closure day (school closed)
03.12.26 - Year 7 & 8 Christmas Disco 4.30pm
09.12.26 - Year 11 Mock Results Assembly
10.12.26 - Year 11 Parents' Evening 3.30pm - 6.30pm
14.12.26 - Church Christmas Concert 6.30pm
18.12.26 - Christmas Jumper/Non School Uniform
18.12.26 - End of Term students finish at 12.15pm
04.01.27 - Start of Term - students to arrive by 8.15am
14.01.27 - Y9 Parents/Carers Option Information Evening 5.30pm




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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