

FameLab Academy Programme

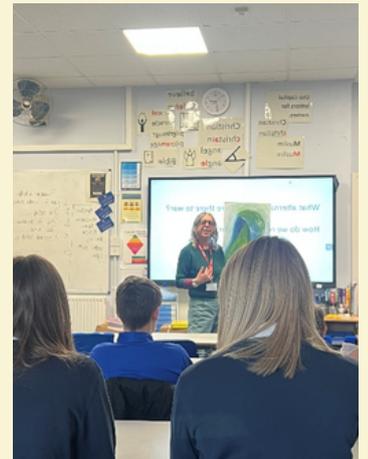
We are filled with pride in four of our wonderful students who recently took part in the FameLab Academy programme. Students were set the exciting challenge of delivering a three-minute science speech, a real opportunity to stretch themselves. They showed great ambition, took real responsibility in their preparation, and represented Kingsdown with confidence. We are especially proud that two students reached the finals, competing against two other schools a fantastic achievement for them and for Kingsdown.



Quakers

Last term, Year 11 stepped away from the exam-season noise to welcome speakers from the Swindon Quaker community. The visit transformed textbook theories into a lived experience of "faith in action." In an era of TikTok-speed distractions, students practiced "expectant silence."

Rather than an absence of noise, they explored it as a space to find the "Inner Light." As one student noted: "We're so used to being told what to revise; ten minutes of just 'being' actually helped me focus."



The session directly tackled key Paper 1 and 2 themes: The Nature of the Divine and Crime and Punishment.

STEM Trip

On Tuesday 24th February, some of our Year 10 Triple Science students visited Cotswold Gliding Club. They explored the practical applications of Physics within our current 'Forces' topic, engaged with the theory and simulated practice of gliding, and researched STEM careers in aeronautics and engineering.



Peer Review Feedback

In late January we had our annual RLT School Peer Review. Five RLT reviewers visited the school for a day. Our focus was on how well was our Teaching & Learning framework embedding across all our Departments. We were delighted with the feedback and below are some highlights and areas for development.

Positive Feedback

What leaders at all levels describe and say is fully happening as part of daily classroom practice.

All teachers and Heads of Department really value the TEMPO training that they are receiving and say that it is making a massive difference.

Teachers in every lesson use their visualisers and this supports high quality modelling and effective learning.

There is a positive learning climate at Kingsdown - corridors and classrooms are warm, calm and predictable.

Continued areas of focus

Keep the focus on high expectations and high student participation. Keep designing lessons that make students think really hard.

Keep supporting Heads of Department with time so that they can continue to give high quality feedback to each member of their team.

Containers for students when cooking

If your child is cooking, please can you ensure they always bring a large container into school to take their product home in. A large sandwich box or celebration container is a perfect size.

Unfortunately we do not have any spare containers to hand out to students for their cooked product.

Future events and important dates

- 09.03.26 - Geography Field Trip
- 10.03.26 - Geography Field Trip
- 10.03.26 - Y10 Exam Assembly
- 10.03.26 - DofE Training Session 2.45 - 3.45pm
- 11.03.26 - Recital Evening 6.30pm
- 11.03.26 - Y10 Art Mock
- 13.03.26 - Y11 Drama Dress Rehearsal
- 16.03.26 - Y11 Music Ensemble Performance
- 16.03.26 - Y10 French Speaking Exams
- 17.03.26 - DofE Training Session 2.45 - 3.45pm
- 19.03.26 - Year 10 Mocks
- 21.03.26 - DoE Training Walk 1
White Horse Hill

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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SCHOOL**

