



Dear Parents

### Term 5 starts Monday 16th April at 8.40am

Thank you for your continued support of your son and / or daughter at Kingsdown School. Earlier this month we held two information evenings in which we set out new and exciting plans for the future strategic direction of Kingsdown School. Our Vision is to become “A school of **excellence**, bursting with **pride** and **ambition**”. To achieve this, your ongoing support and partnership are critical.

Kingsdown boasts highly qualified teachers and support staff, each of whom is working exceptionally hard to secure the best possible outcomes for your child. Back in September, each was asked to work as part of a team resolved to champion each and every student, to promote and to embed high expectations. Without exception the team have responded and are delivering. As Head, I am determined to secure the transformation our school so deeply needs - a transformation your child so richly deserves.



Last week I outlined our new Vision and strategic direction to our students. I reminded them that this is their school and these are all for them. I explained too that our high expectations will not be lowered. Today, then, the entire student body is clear as to where we are going and the part they have to play in achieving the excellence expected.

Earlier this term we were visited by the Department of Education advisers and, last month, we had a River Learning Trust Peer Review. As part of the latter, we were visited by 4 Headteachers and 3 Deputies. Feedback from both mini-inspections recognised the considerable progress that the school has and is making. Both reaffirmed that our strategic priorities are the right ones. Further visits to secure greater improvements are planned for term 6.

On Friday 23rd we had a review with an English Consultant who has been working with us since last October. He completed a number of learning walks through Year 11 English lessons. At the end of his visit, he told me of the immense sense of pride he found expressed in all the many books he had seen. He spoke further about the quality of teaching - “From what I have seen today, the quality of the teaching and learning would fit alongside any other Outstanding school”. I am incredibly proud of the work that our teachers and support staff are doing to embed this level of school improvement for all our students.

## MESSAGE FROM MRS LEIGH-BENNETT (Cont..)

On a less pleasant note, all leaders have reviewed terms 3 and 4 in which a common theme is the **unacceptable behaviour of some students**. There are, admittedly, a small minority but their impact is continuing to have a significant impact on the learning of others. I will not and cannot allow this to continue. There are, furthermore, a few students who think it acceptable to be defiant - to refuse to follow or ignore a direct instruction from a member of staff. I need you, as parents, to understand that this will not be tolerated. Where students choose to be defiant I will be issuing a fixed term exclusion. This will mean they will not be permitted to come to school and will need to be educated at home. We will provide them with work and parents will need to attend a reintegration meeting. I have made my position very clear about high standards of behaviour from the very start of my Headship and feel sure I can count on your support.

Term 4 has been year groups complete key assessments, in particular Years 10 and 11. In the majority of cases, our students have prepared well for these and have responded well to very detailed and personalised feedback from their teachers. I know many students are taking advantage of the interventions on offer as well as utilising the numerous online resources available for out of school learning. Thank you again for your support from home and for attending our recent Parents' Evenings. If you need anything or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your son / daughter's teacher directly. As you know, all email addresses can be found on the website.

Attendance is crucial - our expectation is that all students are in school every day - our attendance school target is 95%. Your continued support here is needed. We regularly publish the impact of poor attendance on your son / daughter's progress and advise that, if in doubt, you send your child in. If they are absent they must review Show My Homework and catch up on any missed work.

Term 5 will begin for all students on Monday 16th April at 8.40am. Students must arrive in full school uniform, fully equipped and be ready to learn for 8.30am. As in previous years, students may wear the Summer Uniform (we will accept a plain white poloshirt) although from September we launch our new uniform which will be work throughout the year. Further details can be found on the website.

I continue to feel very proud and privileged to be the Headteacher of Kingsdown. My thanks again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

*Mrs Leigh-Bennett*

# KINGSDOWN SCHOOL - NEW CHAPTER

Thank you in advance in supporting us to embed this important aspect of our school vision. Our vision is to be a school of excellence, bursting with pride and ambition. At Kingsdown we champion every student and have the highest expectations in all we do, and the presentation of our uniform is no exception.

We began working several months ago with RyeDesign, a creative design company who have supported us through this process. They developed the logo you see below, retaining the important and **deep rooted tradition of our Kingsdown lion.**

## The Uniform

RyeDesign have also supported us in getting the uniform right, our uniform includes:

- ⇒ Navy Blazer and Royal trim
- ⇒ Mid-Grey Trousers
- ⇒ White shirt
- ⇒ Optional Tartan Skirt
- ⇒ Optional Navy jumper
- ⇒ Black shoes
- ⇒ No summer alternative to purchase



Our PE Kit includes:

- ⇒ Royal Blue (black trim) polo
- ⇒ Royal Blue (black trim) Rugby top
- ⇒ Black bottoms
- ⇒ Optional ¼ zip top
- ⇒ Optional skort (skirt with fitted shorts)



## The costs

We are very pleased to be able to offer an introductory package for our branded items:

Blazer and tie for **£17.50** for current students (matching the cost of a sweatshirt and tie)

Blazer and tie for **£22.00** for new students

Blazer and tie free of charge for current Year 10 students (to recycle at the end of Year 11)

A support fund is available for those families who may need financial assistance

We have carefully selected a supplier that offers exceptional value and quality. We hope you are able to achieve savings of at least £7.00 over the year. The introductory offer for current students should see a £22.00 saving.

The uniform takes effect for all in September 2018. The PE kit will see a transition year and will be compulsory from September 2019. The uniform will be available to purchase from June 2018 from our supplier [Uniform Direct](#).

A copy of our Dress Code Policy is available on our website [www.kingsdownschool.co.uk](http://www.kingsdownschool.co.uk). It sets out clearly what is and isn't acceptable. Please do get in touch if you have any queries.

# YEAR 11 COUNTDOWN TO SUCCESS

Thank you to all parents who engaged so purposefully in the Steps 2 Success meetings that took place on Monday 26th and Tuesday 27th March. Really positive conversations about progress and preparation in the lead up to the formal written examinations took place.

Can I take this opportunity to remind you about the information on the school website that will be updated regularly next term. All information about Easter and May half term revision is available on the website as are the links and access details to the PiXL Maths and Literature Apps that all students have access to.

Can I enlist your continued support in encouraging your child to get into good revision habits and to keep to their revision timetables over the coming weeks.

## KEY DATES

- Students will be expected to attend school until Friday 8th June.
- GCSE Written Examinations and Compulsory exam preparation - Mon 14th May - Thurs 21st June
- Structure revision sessions will be set in place ahead of every formal examination
- A study room will be set aside for any students who need a revision base in school after 8th June
- The year 11 celebration assembly will take place on Friday 22nd June and further information will be provided about this event later next term.
- Year 11 Leavers Ball (Prom) takes place on Friday 6th July.

Mrs Drayton

## TD Days 2018-19

3rd September

4th September

5th November

7th January

25th February

## RECITAL EVENING

Recital Evening was held on Wednesday 14th March having been postponed due to snow earlier in the month. It was well worth the wait. An encouraging number of students took part from across all five year groups ranging from some people giving their first performance in front of an audience to much more experienced performers.

We heard performances on the piano, drums, guitar, flute, keyboard and voice and the range of styles provided something for everyone.

Recital Evening also allows us to chart the progress of our students over a number of years and so it was particularly good to listen to some of our Year 11 GCSE students who the next day would be completing their GCSE Performance exam and have shown such dedication and commitment to the musical life of the school throughout their time at Kingsdown. It was also encouraging to have the support of many parents and families, members of staff and members of the wider community giving the performers an appreciative audience.

Thanks need to be given to Cameron Rhead our technician who helped create a lovely ambience with the lighting and sound and Mrs Norris and Miss Bryant for their help with the refreshments.

As Mrs Leigh-Bennett said in her closing remarks, each student involved showed real courage, determination, dedication and outstanding levels of effort; all attributes that should make up the Kingsdown student.

Mr Wicker

## PARKING AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

We would kindly request that parents/carers be considerate to the local residents when parking in the Kingsdown Gate area for school pick up. We would like to remind you that there is parking available at the Kingsdown Sports Centre. Many thanks.

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Like us on Facebook!



@KingsdownSchool



[www.facebook.com/KingsdownSchoolSwindon](http://www.facebook.com/KingsdownSchoolSwindon)

# CRICKLADE TOWN FC PROUDLY PRESENTS



## ***AN EVENING WITH RAY PARLOUR THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 2018, FROM 7.30PM***



Cricklade Town FC are hosting a Sportsman Evening with Ex England, Arsenal & Middlesbrough midfielder Ray Parlour, on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Swindon Town FC legends bar from 7.30pm

Comedian: Anger Brown

Hosted by: Phil King (Ex Swindon Town, Aston Villa & Sheffield Wednesday)

Fish & Chip Supper with auction and raffle tickets are £20 each

Smart casual dress

For more information and tickets please ring Richard Austen 07955 280220 or E-mail [Richard.Austen1973@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Richard.Austen1973@hotmail.co.uk) or ring Luke Alford on 07554 998388

## **SUMMER UNIFORM**

A reminder to parents that we will accept plain white polo shirts or white shirts for our summer uniform this year, therefore parents do not have to purchase the house colour trimmed polo shirts.

# BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

As a reminder for you, set out below are Kingsdown's basic rules & expectations with regard to behaviour:

## 3 Expectations:

- We all take pride in our future dreams and ambitions
- We all stretch and challenge ourselves
- We all show respect for the rights, roles and responsibilities of others

## 3 Rules for Every lesson, every day, students will:

- Follow a direct instruction first time
- Be respectful
- Challenge and stretch themselves

## At the start of the Lesson

- Students enter in silence
- Students go to allocated seat
- Students place planner & equipment on desk & start do now activity (DNA)

## If students break the rules:

- E.g. shouting out, swinging on chair, not working, teachers will:
- Take **action** – students are encouraged to refocus
- Give a **warning**
- Arrange an **exit**

There are also clear expectations around the use of **mobile phones** and they are:

- Phones must not be used at any time.
- Phones must always be switched off (not on silent mode) and kept out of view.
- If you breach these rules the phone will be confiscated and given in to the main office. Phones will be returned to students at the end of the school day and a notification will be sent home.
- Phones must not be taken into examinations.

### **In other words**

- **Mobile phones must be turned off and kept out of view at all times of the school day.**

If mobile phones are seen and used, they will be confiscated and returned as per the BfL policy.

Please also be aware that ear phones are not permitted on school premises, if students are wearing them they will be confiscated until the end of the day.

The Behaviour for Learning Policy can be read in full on the School's [website here](#).

Finally, I would draw your attention to the uniform policy which can be found here on the [school's website](#). Students must wear their full school uniform each day. If they fail to do so, we will provide them with the items that are incorrect and expect that they rectify the issue the following day.

As always, your assistance and support here is essential to facilitate the smooth running of the school so that staff can focus on teaching and students on learning.

## SPORT UPDATE

### **Year 11 BTEC students get great results!!**

BTEC students are celebrating after getting some fantastic results in their exam. The hard work and extra revision really paid off. Results came back 30 Passes, 17 Merits and 4 Distinctions. Please take that effort in to the rest of BTEC and your other subjects throughout the year. Amazing, well done.

### **Kingsdown Year 10 - Football**

The Year 10's put on a fantastic performance against a decent Lawn Manor team.

The first half was eventful as Kingsdown took the lead through a dubious goal from Will Day, who looked to be offside before slipping the ball past the helpless keeper, 1-0.

Some sloppy play by Kingsdown let Lawn Manor get back into the game as they tried to play the ball at the back. Lawn Manor took full advantage of a short pass and slotted past Corey Wise in goal. They then had a chance to take the lead but the effort was coolly dealt with by Wise.

Day then hit the bar towards the end of the second half. 1-1 HT.

Kingsdown came out slowly and let Lawn Manor take the lead, a cool finish from their front man past Wise, with nothing he could do with the finessed shot into the corner. 2-1.

Sam Saunders and Tommy Lawrence started to turn on the heat with some fantastic runs and passes through the middle. Kieron Curtis got himself forward and into the box to finish a fine pass. He hammered the ball into the top right corner leaving the keeper standing. 2-2

Shortly after, a Lawrence run down the right caused all kinds of havoc with the Lawn Manor defence and a simple square ball across the keeper gave Day his second and Kingsdown's third to go 3-2 up. Great run and pass from Lawrence and brilliant positioning from Day.

Kingsdown were now dominating the game and playing some lovely football, any attack they had was thwarted by the Kingsdown defence. This allowed Kingsdown to play forward, releasing Marty Goldfinch down the left, beating the offside trap. He drove the ball powerfully past the right back but then seemed to miss kick the ball and it trickled to the unexpected Lawn Manor keeper, the pass somehow, mystically passed through his gloves and into the net, a loud raw came from Goldfinch, who had clinched Kingsdown's fourth and possible most important goal, to put the game to bed.

There was still time for one more and Goldfinch was released down the line again. His powerful run and decent cross into the box fell to Day who twisted and turned, wiggled and wriggled, confusing two Lawn Manor centre backs. He unleashed a thunderbolt into the top left corner of the net, nailing his hat trick, unfortunately, due to it being a school game he was unable to take the match ball. 5-2 Kingsdown. Well done to all the lads involved.

## Sports Relief Relay Walk

Committed sporting students were selected to represent Kingsdown on 22nd March in a Sport Relief Relay walk event. Along with a cluster of primary schools in the local area. Kingsdown participated in the event in order to raise awareness for Sport Relief and promoting the positive link between Primary and Secondary schools.

The baton was passed onto Kingsdown students from St Catherine's Catholic School who ran the distance with their teachers. 20 Year 7 and 8 Kingsdown students then took the baton and walked the short distance to Beechcroft Infant School where the baton was again passed on. Eager and enthusiastic primary school students from Beechcroft greeted our students with open arms and a 'high-five' train.

All of our students were an asset to Kingsdown in their behaviour and interaction throughout the journey and on arrival to Beechcroft. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all - thank you to all that have been involved in the event!!



# LUNCHTIME SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND PE CLUBS

## Lunchtime Sports Activities

Day/Year Group	7	8	9	10/11
Monday	Old Gym - Table Tennis	New Gym – Dodgeball	3G – Football	3G – Football
Tuesday	3G – Football	3G – Football	New Gym – Dodgeball	Old Gym - Table Tennis
Wednesday	New Gym – Dodgeball	Old Gym - Table Tennis	3G – Football	3G – Football
Thursday	3G – Football	3G – Football	Old Gym - Table Tennis	New Gym – Dodgeball
Friday	x	x	3G – Football	3G – Football

### PE CLUBS - Term 5

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p><b>Rounders</b> (AllYears) School Field Mrs Wright/Miss Maller/Miss Winwood</p> <p><b>Lunch time - Dance</b> (AllYears) Drama Studio Miss Winwood</p> <p><b>Softball</b> (AllYears) School Field Mr Shepherd</p>	<p><b>Athletics</b> (AllYears) School Field Mr Mason/Mr Shepherd</p> <p><b>Dance</b> (All years) Dance Studio Miss Winwood</p>	<p><b>Fitness</b> (All years) Fitness Suite Miss Peters</p> <p><b>Tennis</b> (AllYears) Courts Miss Maller</p> <p><b>Year 10/11 BTEC</b> Coursework Catch up (Year 10/11 C2.7) Mr Mason</p>
<b>All clubs run from 3.15-4.15pm approx.</b>		

# WE NEED YOUR FOOTBALL SKILLS!



Will you be "Under 13's" next season?  
Are you looking for a fantastic opportunity to take yourself to the next level in your game and develop and maximise your existing football skills?



Do you want to join a successful and talented Junior Premier League (Cirencester Centurions) and/or current Division One Sunday League Team (Fairford & Lechlade Celts)?

We are looking for talented plays **TO JOIN US** next season.

Come and experience how epic, friendly and supportive our teams are. Start attending training now to show us your talent!

## WE NEED YOU IF YOU ARE:

- A team player and a talented footballer with a passion to push yourself and your potential further
- Keen to play at a challenging level which could bring you opportunities to travel, play abroad and enjoy return host events
- Keen to benefit from skilled and qualified coaching where you will enhance your techniques and sportsmanship qualities



## WE CAN OFFER YOU:

- Coaching - your skills will be encouraged and developed
- A great social experience combined with a competitive game
- Like-minded and motivated team mates
- Supportive and well behaved parents
- Fabulous modern facilities including indoor / outdoor grass and 4G pitches and a Club House

**INTERESTED? ... CALL US TO ARRANGE A TRAINING VISIT**

**Contact : Tony Warrington—Tel 07713 468326 or Email [tony.warrington@pappillon.co.uk](mailto:tony.warrington@pappillon.co.uk)**

## SWINDON STORIES: KINGSDOWN SCHOOL



Thirty Year 7 Kingsdown students had a fantastic opportunity to hop aboard the Swindon Stories Literacy Bus on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February! Sponsored by the National Literacy Trust, the Literacy Bus was making a tour of Swindon Schools to promote the importance of literacy skills.

Students were treated to a top speed, tongue twisting rap, celebrating the power of the English language and they couldn't wait to join in with the catchy chorus! They were then lucky enough to be given a free book! Students were visibly excited to open their bags to see which brand new book they had been gifted and couldn't wait to start reading.

Sophie Keeble, Year 7 said: 'This was super fun because of the music and the singing. I really enjoyed it. And also, I got a free book!'

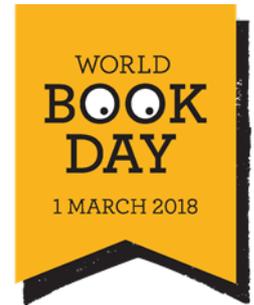
Thank you for visiting Kingsdown School!



A great time was had by everyone involved in our World Book Day quiz with twelve teams competing to see who would be crowned champions! The teams answered six rounds of questions based on popular teenage fiction with English teacher, Ms. Baird, doing the honours as our amazing Quiz Master! First place was awarded to the reigning champions, 'Introverts Outside!' with 'Dumbledore's Army' coming a close second! Congratulations to the winning teams, who all received W.H. Smith gift vouchers. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part!



*Introvert's Outside!*  
Imogen, Niall, Faith & Rhys



## Riveting Readathon

Fifteen of our Year 9 students have signed up to participate in our annual Riveting Readathon! The students will be reading five specially selected, newly published books, and at the end of June will meet up with students from Highworth Warneford School and Dorcan Academy to debate the merits of each of the titles read. The students will each cast a vote for their favourite to see which book will be awarded Riveting Read 2018! This year's shortlisted titles are:

