

14th February 2025

Dear Parents / Carers

Thank you for your continued support throughout Term 3. It has been a busy and productive six weeks.

At Kingsdown we use internal data to review the impact of our strategies that underpin the Quality of Education. Over this last term we have seen that punctuality / lateness to lessons, along with truancy data remains too high and this has a significant impact on the progress that some of our students are making. Students arriving late to lessons is disruptive to teachers and the learning of others in the classroom.

On Monday 24th February we will be welcoming our students back with an online assembly and we will be sharing our strategy to improve punctuality to lessons and eliminating internal truancy. We will also share the details of these with you on Monday 24th. Thank you in advance of Term 4 and reminding your children of the importance of arriving on time to school and to all of their lessons and thank you for ensuring that your child is ready to learn.

Attendance

Attendance year to date =91.8 % Persistent Absence year to date = 23.8 % [less than 90%] Lates = 3.4%			
Year Group	YTD	PA	Lates
Year 7	93.5%	18.6%	1.6%
Year 8	92.2%	22.5%	2.9%
Year 9	91.5%	25.8%	4.2%
Year 10	91.8%	23.6%	3.7%
Year 11	89.3%	30.9%	5.5%

Sporting achievements this term

Term 3 is usually a quieter one for Kingsdown School in terms of fixtures and sporting successes, but there have still been many fantastic achievements.

The **Year 7 Girls' Football team** had an incredible start to their competitive fixtures, winning their first match 5-0 against Commonweal School. They continued their strong form by finishing second in a tournament, winning three games and losing just one. Their success carried on with a dominant 6-0 victory over Royal Wootton Bassett School on January 30th, where **Laura G** was named **Girl of the Match**.



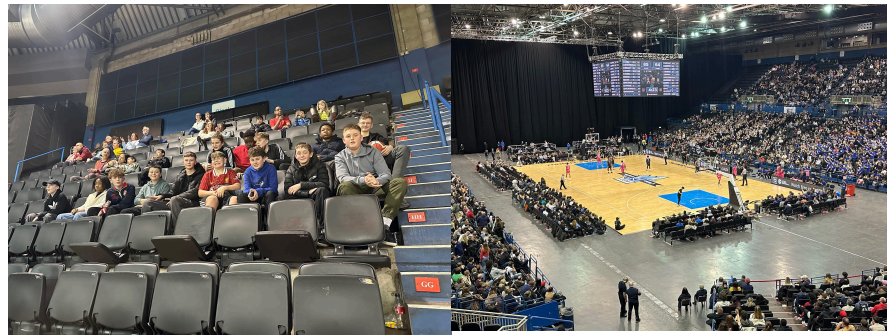
Kingsdown also had strong representation in the **Wiltshire Schools Cross Country event**. **Rawleigh F (Year 9), Levi (Year 7), and Mason (Year 7) Izzie M (year 9) Oliver C (year 7) Oliver S (year 8)** all put in solid performances. Unfortunately, Year 11's standout runner, **Josh S**, had to withdraw due to injury.

A major highlight of the term was the success of **Josh B and Josh G (Year 11)**, who both played for the **Wiltshire Schools Football Team**. Their dedication saw them travel all the way to **Durham** for a match over the weekend, showcasing their talent on a bigger stage. **Chloe O (year 11)** also proudly represented Wiltshire in the **Wiltshire Girls Football Team**. We have been told that all three students represented Kingsdown brilliantly, embodying **Ambition, Pride, Respect, and Responsibility**. Well done!



Another exciting event was a **trip to the British Basketball Super League Trophy Final**, where 15 students, along with **Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Owens**, watched thrilling men's and women's matches. The students were impeccably behaved and represented the school with pride.

To prepare for next term's football fixtures, friendly matches were arranged against Lawn Manor. The **Year 7 A team** secured a **4-1 win**, while the **B team** impressed with a **5-0 victory**.



Well done to all students who took part in sports this term—exciting challenges await next term!

Student safety

In order to improve the safety for our students and community we have invested in 2 additional additions to our carpark. The first is a fence that will be finished over the half term break to prevent overspill into the carpark at peak times. Please talk to your children about using the correct exit as they enter and leave the school site, they should not need to enter the car park unless getting in or out of a vehicle. The second is an automatic vehicle plate recognition barrier to ensure only those with a permit can enter the car park during peak times - more about this to follow.



Year 11 Term 4 Mock Examinations

Detailed information regarding the Year 11 mock exams can be found on the [Year 11 Parent Portal page](#). You will find information about timings, uniform expectations and a revision list for each subject.

Blue Badge Spaces

Please can we ask that you only park in the Blue Badge spaces, at the school, if you have a Blue Badge, we are having incidences when people who need a Blue Badge space are unable to park due to other people parking in the bays.

Future Events

14th Feb - End of Term, students finish at 2.45pm

17th - 21st Feb - Half Term

24th Feb - Students return at 8.15am

w/c 24th Feb & w/c 3rd Mar - Year 11 Mocks

4th Mar - Visiting artists Year 10 art

7th Mar - TD Day - school closed for students

9th Mar - Rugby Trip Twickenham

With our continued thanks. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any further information. Wishing you and your families a relaxing half-term break.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett

Headteacher