



Issue

9

Tuesday 31 January 2017

Diary Dates

Thursday 2 February 2017 5.00pm — 7.00pm
Year 9 Options Information Evening

Thursday 9 February 2017 4.30pm — 7.00pm
Year 9 Parents' Evening

Friday 10 February 2017
End of Term 3

Monday 20 February 2017
Academy re-opens to students

Thursday 20 February 2017
Year 8 Parents' Evening



ABSENCE REPORTING

01536 741857 — OPTION 1

Please report pupil absences as early as possible each day on the main Academy telephone number—01536 741857. Select option 1 (Please note — a call to the Academy is necessary on **EACH** day of absence).

Message from the Principal

No doubt many of our parents will be thinking about the next steps for their sons and daughters. Year 11 parents/carers have received their mock examination results and their reports were distributed at the Year 11 Parents' Evening on 26 January 2017. Year 9 parents will be considering GCSE options with their sons and daughters. The Year 9 Option Evening will take place on Thursday 2 February and the Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 9 February, when reports will be available. Having a goal to focus on in the future is very important for all our pupils, be they in Year 11 or 9, as it will help determine their choice of subjects and work ethic over the coming months and years.

The mock results for Year 11 are a very important indicator of how well they are likely to perform in the summer exams. It was interesting to see the pupils' faces as they opened their envelopes with looks of pleasure, surprise, sadness and worry clearly evident. I firmly believe that most pupils get the results they deserve, ie they are a reflection of their work and commitment over their academy career.

But, crucially, it is never too late for pupils to realise that they need to work harder and prepare more thoroughly in order to maximise their chances of success. Over the coming weeks we will be identifying groups of pupils who need specific support in certain subject areas and highlighting the support that is on offer to them and all pupils. We shall be running master classes after school, departmental revision sessions, mentor groups with senior members of staff, family and parental meetings, revision evening and parent information evenings. Study-hub continues to run Monday to Thursdays after the normal academy day. We will also be looking at coursework catch-up days. All of this will be published on our website so that pupils and parents are able to see what is on, where and when. We shall also be launching our 'Passport to the Prom' initiative that will reward pupils who attend these additional support sessions with subsidised tickets. We will also be pointing out our minimum expectations around behaviour and attendance in order to be eligible to attend the Prom!

If there is anything additional that parents would like to see the Academy put on then please do not hesitate to contact me.

We do appreciate what an important period of time this is for so many of our pupils and parents, which is why I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at our upcoming parent evenings.

Regards, **Andy Burton, Principal**



PUPIL SIGNS FOR LEICESTER CITY WOMENS FOOTBALL CLUB

We are very proud to include in this newsletter information regarding one of our female pupils. Taylor Scully, Year 12, has recently been signed to play for Leicester City Women's Football Club after they put in a transfer request last month. Taylor has already made her debut in the Reserves team and has aspirations for the First team who play professionally in the Women's Premier League.

Taylor says "It is a step up from what I am used to, but it shows what you can do and where you can get to with hard work and determination. Opportunities for young, female players are becoming more frequent and I count myself very lucky to be signed by a high level club". Hopefully more opportunities will become available for Taylor in the future in her bright sporting career.

A very big congratulations from all at the Academy!



Kingswood Secondary Academy Advisory Council Parent Members

Do you want to help make a difference by sharing your expertise?

Are you looking for a new challenge?

The Kingswood Secondary Academy is seeking to appoint up to four new parent members to our Academy Advisory Council (AAC) to ensure we have the capacity and skills to oversee the next phase of our work. Ideally you should have a passion for supporting the development of children and young people and ensuring that every child within Kingswood Secondary Academy can be the best they can be.

The AAC provides advice and support to the Principal of the Academy, represents the interests of the local community and reports to the Greenwood Academies Trust Board on local issues to ensure the Academy is as successful as possible. Council members are required to attend three termly Advisory Council meetings a year; meetings are normally held on weekday evenings. You will also be encouraged to participate in the life of the Academy between Council meetings, attending Academy events and acting in an ambassadorial role for the Academy as required.

The roles are unpaid voluntary positions. Reasonable expenses are paid if appropriate. Positions are advertised for a period of three (3) years (the term may be renewed).

Prospective Council members who best meet our requirements may be invited to speak to some of our existing AAC members.

If you are interested in being part of a thriving Academy and want to help shape the future of our children, please contact Eve Ratcliffe, Clerk to the Kingswood Secondary Academy Advisory Council:

eratcliffe@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org

The closing date for applications is Friday 10 February 2017

To find out more about the Academy, please visit: www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org



To find out more about the Trust visit: www.greenwoodacademies.org

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and we expect all staff to share this commitment and undergo appropriate checks, therefore, all posts within the Trust are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

The Trust welcomes applications from all, irrespective of gender, marital status, disability, race, age or sexual orientation.

LIGHT UP YOUR FUTURE



HELPS YOU WITH LEARNING, HOMEWORK AND REVISION

REMEMBER- GCSEPod is now available at Kingswood Secondary Academy!

GCSEPod has over 4,000 teacher-written, audio-visual pods which have been produced specifically for learning, homework and revision. The Pods contain all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success. They won't need to use GCSEPod for long to see the impact; in fact, consistent use of just 10 minute chunks is proven to support achievement whatever your child's target grade is.

The GCSEPod website can be viewed on mobiles, tablets and PCs and the Pods can be downloaded for offline viewing. The Pods are mapped to the curriculum and students can access pre-set exam playlists which collate all the Pods relevant to a specific exam into a neatly organised list.

Parent information letters have been distributed to pupils in Years 9,10 and 11 and for more information select the link on the Academy homepage or alternatively visit www.gcsepod.com.

LETS LIGHT UP YOUR FUTURE!

ART TRIP TO THE DAVID HOCKNEY EXHIBITION

The Art Department has organised a day trip for pupils to visit the Tate Britain in London to view the David Hockney Exhibition.

The trip will take place on **Friday 3 March 2017** and will provide a rare opportunity to see the work of David Hockney's art as a collection and the experience to add further supporting studies to accompany coursework already started in Year 10. Places are limited and will be issued on a first-come first-served basis. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Evans, Art Department, at the Academy or by email on:

tevens@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org.

YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY

The progress reports for Year 9 pupils have now been completed and will be issued at the above parents' evening when you will be given the opportunity to discuss your child's progress with their subject teachers.

Please ensure you use the Kingswood Secondary Academy online appointment booking system, as this will enable you to make an appointment directly with your child's teachers. The online facility will be open for appointments from 9:00am on 2 February 2017 until 3:00pm on 9 February. The login details have been supplied to you in letter form therefore please visit:

<http://kingswoodsecondaryacademy.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

and choose the 'Year 9 parents' evening 2017' and follow the on-screen instructions.

If you are unable to use this system your child should speak to the Year 9 Office directly to make appointments. Please arrive 10 minutes before your first appointment to give you time to look at your child's progress report before meeting their teachers.



LIVE LOUNGE AUDITIONS

'Live Lounge' is an annual concert run by the Year 11 BTEC Music group as part of their course. Pupils are given the opportunity to play/sing a cover version of a song to a paying audience. The experience encourages working together, listening to other views, and gives experience with planning and decision making.

The annual 'Live Lounge' show will be taking place very soon. The group is currently in the process of producing the show and need talented pupils or staff to audition. As a group, the pupils produced a sign-up sheet to register for the auditions that will take place after school on Wednesday 1 February 2017. This show is one not to be missed.

Good luck to everyone involved and **WATCH THIS SPACE!**

Year 11 BTEC Music Group

Year 9 Options Information evening - Thursday 2 February 2017

In preparation for their option choices, all Year 9 students are participating in an options guidance programme and should soon be in a position to make informed choices after further discussions with you.

As part of this programme we would like to invite you and child to a Year 9 options information evening.

The evening will include a formal presentation in the Main Hall where you will have the opportunity to find out more about the options that your child will have next year. Curriculum leaders from each Faculty will be available, in the Atrium, to answer any questions you may have about their subjects at Key Stage 4 and this presentation will be repeated in the Main Hall at 5:00pm and 5:45pm. Faculty staff and their displays will be in the Atrium from 5:00pm until 7:00pm.

Your child should have already received a comprehensive curriculum guide called 'Options 2017'. This will be explained in detail the range of courses on offer in Years 10 and 11. We will be joined by Ian Doherty, our Prospects advisor, who will be available if you wish to speak with him for additional guidance. Apart from during the formal presentations I will also be available to answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Jon Lawson
Deputy Principal



Safer
Internet
Day 2017



Safer Internet Day 2017

Be the change: Unite for a better internet

Tuesday 7th February 2017

www.saferinternetday.org.uk

#SID2017

Kingswood Secondary Academy is joining the global Safer Internet Day campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day will take place on **Tuesday 7th February 2017** with the theme 'Be the change: Unite for a better internet'.

Celebrated in over 100 countries, Safer Internet Day will see Kingswood Secondary Academy join hundreds of organisations right across the UK and globally to 'be the change' and help create a better internet. To celebrate the day Kingswood Secondary Academy is launching "Stay Safe Online" week and will be part of a nationwide day of action involving the #SID2017 social media campaign and youth events where young people will have the opportunity to have their say about the digital issues that affect them.

Will Gardner, Director of the UK Safer Internet Centre and CEO of Childnet, said:

"Safer Internet Day is an opportunity for everyone across the UK and globally to unite for a better internet. Whether you are a young person, parent, carer, school or organisation, we can all 'be the change' and take positive actions to make the internet a better place. Hundreds of schools and organisations have pledged their support for Safer Internet Day and it is this collaboration that helps ensure Safer Internet Day has such a positive impact, reaching 40% of UK children in 2016 and growing year on year."

Find out more and get involved at www.saferinternetday.org.uk.

The UK Safer Internet Centre – a partnership of three leading charities; Childnet, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation – provide resources for children, schools and families, and tools for getting involved at www.saferinternet.org.uk.

Globally, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries, coordinated by the joint Insafe/ INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe.

The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet.



"Technology is not the problem. It is how we use it!"

Online Safety Newsletter

January 2017

Welcome back

I hope you had a restful and peaceful break. January is another busy month in the world of online safety and please don't forget about Safer Internet Day in February.

As I travel around the county I come across a lot of common issues which I thought it might be useful to highlight here as a reminder to everyone:

- How aware are your staff about CSE? This is a great resource: <http://www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk/tackling-child-sexual-exploitation-cse/>
- Are you highlighting online safety risks in staff meetings? Just 10 minutes updating staff on new apps, current concerns can be really useful. Have you checked out Netaware by the NSPCC.
- Lots of work still needs to be done with young people around sex and healthy relationships. Are we shying away from the more 'difficult' subjects? Are you aware of Real Love Rocks produced by Barnardo's?
- Are young people in your setting fully engaged in online safety work? Have they come up with their own rules about keeping safe online? Can young people also help engage parents?
- Are we reminding students about how important it is to use different user names and passwords? Do you know what a safe user name and password look like?
- Get safe online provide lots of useful information: <https://www.getsafeonline.org/>

Great App! Encourage parents to download the InternetMatters app. It's great fun on a tablet and really does assist with online safety at home. Also check their website out! It is full of information for parents and is a great source of information for schools and organisations as well.



Safer Internet Day
7th February 2017
February's newsletters will be dedicated to Safer Internet Day!

With February just around the corner I hope you have lots of ideas planned for Safer Internet Day. The County Council and the Police are running activities throughout February to promote keeping safe online. Activities include:

- Poster competition for years 5 and 6
- Keeping safe on Snapchat campaign for secondary schools.

Information will go out to all head teachers in Friday's safeguarding bulletin via the safeguarding board. Please keep an eye out!

Why do young people and children use social media?



Understand the risks children may need to deal with

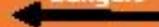
What they could see or do:

- Seeing or sharing of violent, sexual and pornographic content
- Inaccurate or false information and extreme views
- Promotion of harmful behaviours including self-harm, anorexia and suicide
- Over-sharing of personal information
- Actively or unintentionally getting involved in bullying or hurtful behaviour

Who they might meet:

- People who might bully, intimidate or frighten
- People posing behind fake profiles for:
 - Mischief-making
 - Sexual grooming and stalking
 - Blackmail and extortion
 - Identity theft and hacking

Can you advise parents that if young people are using social media they will be exposed to a number of **dangers**





Children's Mental Health Week 6-12 February 2017

Kingswood Secondary Academy is proud to support Children's Mental Health Week 2017 (6-12 February).

Many children go through tough times just like adults and in those moments, the smallest acts of kindness can make a big difference. That is why Kingswood is joining hundreds of other schools to **'spread a little kindness'** by taking part in Children's Mental Health Week.

The Week is hosted by children's mental health charity Place2Be, who support pupils, families and teachers in schools across the UK. During the Week, we will be organising assemblies, form time activities in order to raise awareness of Children's Mental Health. One of the activities will be getting involved in an academy wide project called "Tower of a Thousand Cranes". Details about the origins of this fantastic project are also on our website for your information.

If you would also like to get involved and support the campaign, Place2Be has created helpful advice and resources for parents and carers which you can find on their website:

www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk.

Here are a few simple ways to encourage your child to spread a little kindness this week, and beyond...

- **Point out kindness** whenever you see it: in the news, in a bedtime story, in your family, on the street helping your child notice acts of kindness all around them will inform and inspire them.
- **Involve your child** if you're helping out a friend or a neighbour, doing kind things together can be really fun and they will learn from your example!
- **When you notice** your child being kind, comment on it. A little bit of kindness goes a long way.
- And finally, **be kind to yourself** – something that's all too easy to forget. Being a parent or carer can be hard work, so don't be too tough on yourself.

Don't forget: If you're worried about your child, talk to your GP or someone at your child's school. You can also find a list of organisations that provide support and advice for parents, on our website (www.place2be.org.uk).

Visit www.ChildrensMentalHealthWeek.org.uk to find out how you can get involved and support Place2Be