

KINGSWOOD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Autumn Term
02 October 2020

KHS IS MOVING TO CO-EDUCATION IN SEPTEMBER 2021 - find out more [here](#)

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The Kingswood House Way



Dear Parents

It is hard to believe we are now in October, synonymous with the onset of autumn, and arguably the most picturesque calendar month of all with the changing colours of leaves from verdant green to crimson and gold. Also associated with the Roman Emperor, Octavius, it was originally the eighth month in the Latin calendar, hence why the stem 'octo', meaning eight, is also used to describe an octopus and its tentacles; interestingly, the months of January and February were inserted later into our modern calendar, knocking October back from the eighth to the tenth month of the year. It is culturally recognised as a time of harvest, which is why Harvest Festival is recognised at this time of year – and I look forward to the online contribution of some of our younger boys in this respect before half term. One of the contemporary themes associated with October is **Black History Month**, an opportunity for reflection and to learn lessons from the past, with this year focusing in particular on the contribution of people from African and Caribbean descent. Two of my early influencers were Sir Vivian Richards, the West Indies cricket legend, and Sir Derek Walcott, a poet of immense subtlety and skill, from St Lucia. You will find later in this missive a super power-point compiled by Mrs Haunstetter, Head of History, which is a useful starting point for explaining and understanding Black History Month with your families. Furthermore, you will also see a contribution from Miss Foster, Head of Music, illustrating the significance of Women in Music, a topic which she has been raising with her classes in recent weeks. It is wonderful to see KHS showing a commitment to equality and inclusion in this way.

I was delighted to welcome the Headmaster of Reed's and Deputy Head of Epsom College to KHS earlier this week, both of whom took away a great impression of our school and were complimentary about the courtesy of our boys and warmth of welcome. With two weeks to go until a well-deserved half term rest, it is really important that we maintain these high standards as well as our strong community ethic. A number of the boys are very tired, which is both predictable and entirely understandable, so I would simply ask you to think twice before sending an email that might really not be necessary. Generally, if the school has not contacted you directly about an issue, then it is unlikely to be serious. Communication is clearly important, not least whilst parents are not able to come on site without an appointment, but I must also consider the welfare of the staff team too – and would much rather they spent more quality time teaching, marking and interacting with the pupils than on administration. I am sure you will agree that a balance, and sense of proportion, is a fair compromise. Thank you for your understanding.

Next week, please do ensure that your son wears one small item of red clothing in support of Dyslexia Week and then yellow on Friday for Hello Yellow Day, in support of Young Minds. The Pret-a-Portrait team are also in on Thursday to take class photographs so do ensure please your son comes to school in full, correct uniform, with PE kit to change into if necessary.

I wish you a super weekend.

Yours sincerely

Duncan Murphy

Headmaster



Kingswood House



@kingswoodhouse

@KHSprep

@Sport_KHS



@Kingswood_house

Please find below the calendar dates for next week and any current notices:

OCTOBER WEEK 1			
Monday	05	0900 0900-1530	Divisional Heads' Weekly Update Class Reps Meeting online Year 3 & 4 'Egyptian Day' - postponed <i>Wear an item of red for the start of Dyslexia Awareness Week</i>
Tuesday	06	1630	Year 11B Careers Evening
Wednesday	07	0930-1030 1630	Lower Prep Forest School Year 11B Careers Evening
Thursday	08	All day	Pret a Portrait Class Photos in the Hall; <i>all boys to arrive in school uniform and bring games kit with them if required for that day.</i>
Friday	09	All day	'Hello Yellow' Charity Day—Young Minds Mental Health; <i>wear an item of yellow today</i> Headmaster's Weekly Blog

LUNCH MENU week commencing 5th October

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Assorted Pizza with Home-made Cole-slaw	Fresh Fruit; Yoghurts	Red Thai Chicken Curry; Vegetarian Red Thai Curry (V) with Brown & White Rice	Fresh Fruit; Pears with Chocolate Sauce	Roast Pork; Cauliflower Cheese (V) with Roast Potatoes, Steamed Cabbage	Fresh Fruit; Flapjack	Seasonal Vegetable Pie (V)	Fresh Fruit; Chocolate Sponge with Choc Sauce	Chilli con Carne; Three Bean Chilli (V) with Brown & White Rice	Fresh Fruit Salad

Public Speaking Competition!

A message from Mr Twinley about this up-coming event...

"The time for Public Speaking is once again upon us! As a result of bubble restrictions, it will now be a competition between form groups – although finalists and winners can still contribute points towards their Houses so there is still everything to play for and glory to be won.

The theme is **'Diversity, Inclusivity and Kindness'**.

Boys have been given selected extracts to perform in form time if they would like to try out for a chance to represent their form in the final. However, it is not too late for them to choose or write their own piece if they would prefer. It has to remain within the main theme and be performed in two minutes or under.

Finalists for each form group will be decided by the form teachers and the final itself will be filmed the week we break up for half term, recorded ahead of time and screened in the final form time.

So - time to look through your pieces! Practise and rehearse! Could you be a winner...? Looking forward to seeing and hearing the entries, gentlemen".



LOST PROPERTY:

If a boy has lost an item of kit or clothing, parents should email: lostproperty@kingswoodhouse.org

Please ensure all uniform is NAMED. There are currently a number of coats in the changing room that need claiming but are unnamed...

Every Friday, whilst school is closed, Mr Murphy intends to make a video blog to share some of his thoughts with you regarding the past week or topical, news worthy items. He has asked staff to send him names of those boys that feel deserve a special mention in his 'dispatches'. **You can read the detail below and see his blog: [here](#)**

LOWER PREP

1 & 2 L

Ted R for working hard on his Maths. Mrs Lambert

3M

Zachary B for amazing work in Maths! Mrs Marskell

4S

Torin for always being kind and respectful to his peers and to teachers. Miss Smith

UPPER PREP

5F

Byron M for always being polite and respectful; he always works really hard at everything he tries. Miss Forbes

5S

Enzo B-P for working hard and having such a great attitude.

Nathan J for always being helpful and keeping us stocked with anti-bacterial hand soap and paper towels. Mrs Seiver

Oscar E for perseverance in Games and his brace of goals! Mr Barratt

6S

6S worked very well this week. In particular Alex W and Kieran S who each produced excellent pieces of prep on persuasive writing. Mme Swift

Kieran S is the epitome of a Kingswood House boy. He is respectful of his classmates and staff at all times. I have the pleasure of teaching Kieran once a day and seeing the way he conducts himself is an example to all. Mr Clarke

Alex H for effort in his Science work and Izyan Siddiqui for his greater input into Science lessons. Mr Barratt

Jack G for being so eager to look after a boy who came in for a taster day. Mme Swift

6R

Jackson W for concentration and Tristan Bush for his best day in Science and great experimenting! Mr Barratt

7BA

Conor T - Great participation in French. Mme Taylor

Avaneesh G for his continued fantastic efforts in Science.

7BI

Zac M always has a positive attitude he loves to tell jokes in form time and shows great enthusiasm. Miss Black

Dylan B is always willing to help other people and is very thoughtful of others. Miss Black

Zac M for his focus in science practical work and Jonathan B for motivation in Science. Mr Barratt

Dispatches

Continued...

UPPER PREP

7BI

Joshua I for always being polite, paying attention and trying so hard in his French lessons. Mme Swift

7P

Emir O- Great participation in French. Mme Taylor

7P produced some wonderful drawing based upon the artist Angie Lewin in Art this week. Mrs Wraith

Edward C for his fantastic investigative science skills last week! Miss Patel

8L

Daniel P in 8L has made a real effort in and outside class over the last week. He deserves a lot of credit for his efforts. Mr Clarke

Commendations for Oliver W, Matthew M & Ivan T from Mme Taylor.

Ruari F has been spotted by another member of staff who has commented that whenever he comes to access his locker in a different room he is so incredibly polite and well-mannered. What a gentleman! Mrs Haunstetter

James C performed his prefect duties admirably when he saw one of his peers upset. He was incredibly kind and courteous toward the pupil. Mr Laudy

Ozzy S for his focus and work rate in Maths. Mr Barratt

8T

Commendations for Zachary F, Tharani V & Owen C from Mme Taylor.

Owen C for his focus and work rate in Maths. Mr Barratt

SENIORS

9H

Tyrwhitt B for focus and huge effort in lessons. Mr Barratt

Enan A - Great participation in French. Mme Taylor

9T

Ali Al-Rubaie for his focus and huge effort in Maths lesson. Mr Barratt

10H

Ryan Lunemann has chosen a fabulous topic for his HPQ and has been enthused about working towards it; also, OF for being super polite, opening the door, and generally a real, well-mannered gentleman! Mrs Haunstetter

10W

Theo S and Angelo C were notable for doing an excellent guided tour on our Saturday Open Morning.

Max M-N has been charming and empathetic in form discussions and I have noted several senior boys have been holding doors open for me and standing back to let me go ahead on the stairs which is the type of behaviour we expect from KHS boys. Mrs Weston.

11B

Mr Bailey has been impressed with 11B's consistent hard work and commitment to their studies; they were engaged and motivated in the Study Skills seminar in the week as well, which will benefit them greatly.

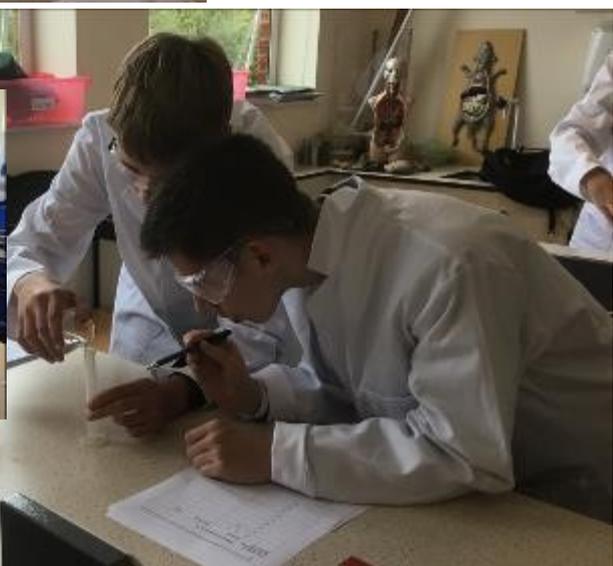
11W

Mrs Wraith has commented, 'It was so lovely to attend your Further Education choices during the Careers Evenings this week and I am sure you will apply the advice given and make the most of your time in and out of school on your GCSE studies. Go for it boys!



Senior Science

This week the Senior boys have been carrying out a range of exciting practical experiments in their lessons. They are very confident with using a range of practical methods to investigate different variables. Keep up the good work, gentlemen, it is good to see your scientific enquiry. *Miss Black*





All Wrapped Up in Ancient History...

As part of their History topic on 'Ancient Egypt', which Year 3 and 4 are exploring together, a willing class mate volunteered to lie very still and be wrapped up like a mummy!

Thankfully no vital organs were removed or popped into canopic jars! Such interactive learning can really help the boys understand concepts that might seem very remote both in time and place.

Great fun, and learning, was had by all.

Mrs Marskell & Miss Smith



Think and Write like an Egyptian!

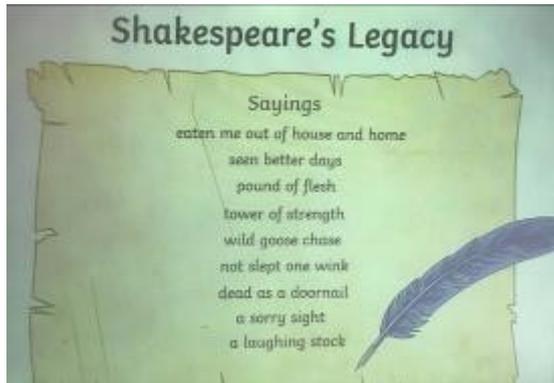
Continuing the Egyptian theme, and with a nod towards their English enrichment, the Year 3 boys have been writing similies about a pharaoh and then decorating a figure of Tutankhamen; the boys were very proud of their work!

Mrs Marskell



English Enrichment in the Upper Prep

As part of our English Enrichment, Year 6 have been looking at Shakespeare this week. We will go on to study a specific play, but the context was important for the boys to grasp beforehand so we discussed his life, society at the time and the types of plays he wrote.



The boys discovered that over 300 words were introduced to the English language by William Shakespeare; we also looked at phrases still used in today's language, their Shakespearean origins and meanings.

The boys will be looking at one of Shakespeare's comedies next week. Do you know the origins of any of the phrases shown left? *Mrs Swift*

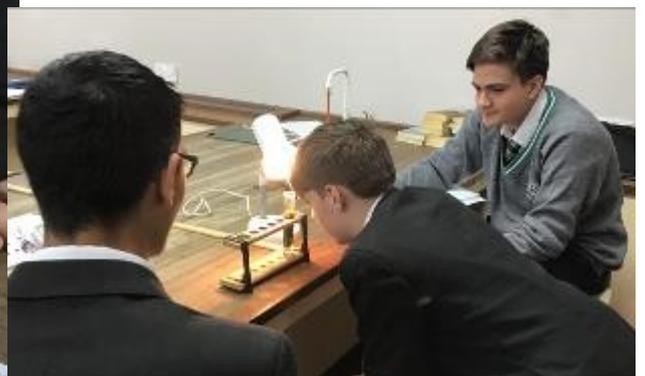
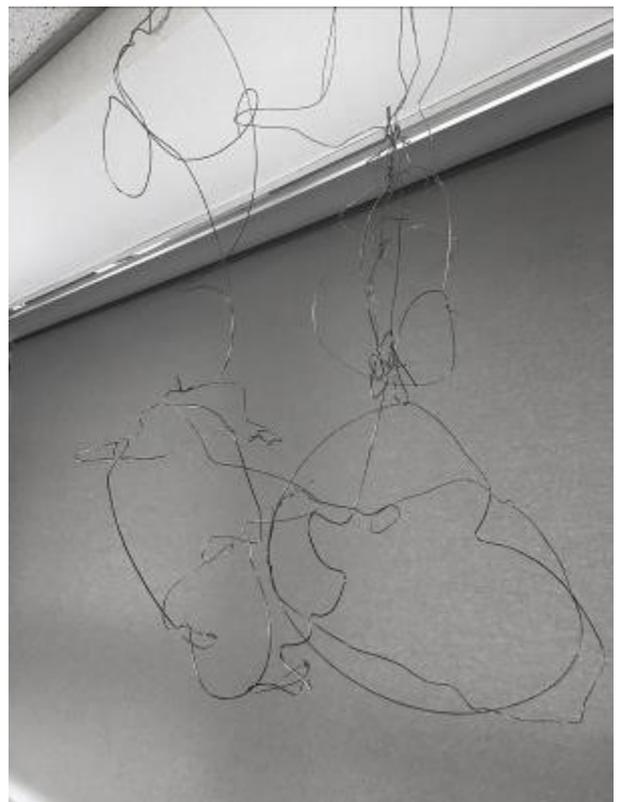


Magnetic Max!

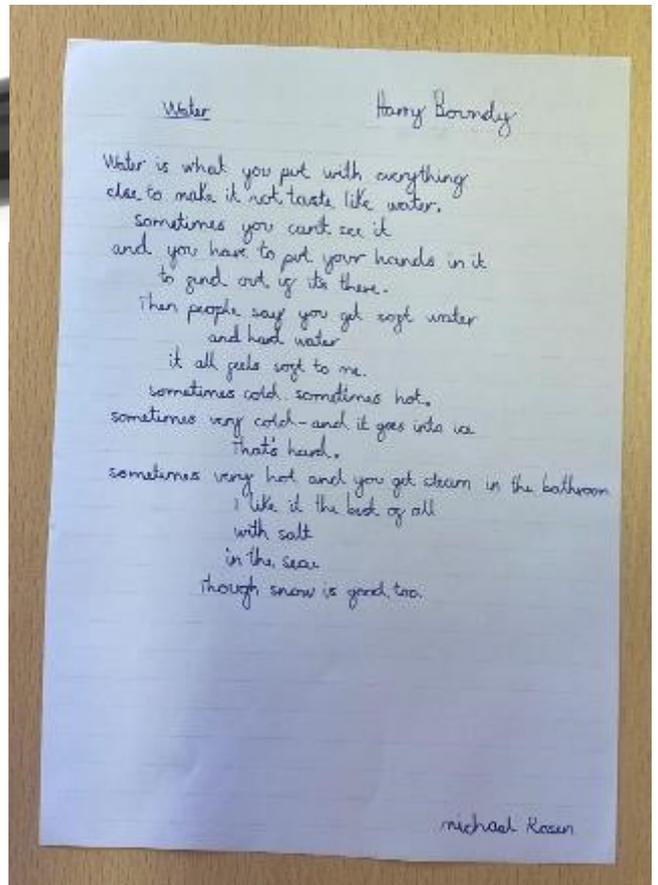
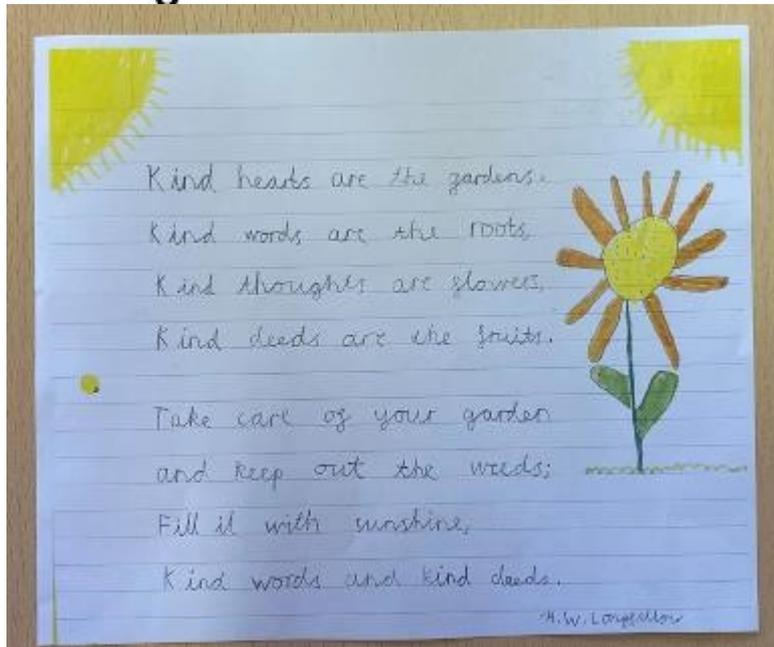
Max in Year 7 here is having a great time testing the magnetic properties of various items... Wonder what he would make of Year 4's collaborative Alexander Calder inspired mobile in wire ...?!

Here too are some Year 10 boys measuring the effects of changing light levels on the amount of oxygen produced by pondweed. They also found some worms and other pond creatures that made for entertaining study!

Miss Patel



Congratulations



English Enrichment—Handwriting Competition

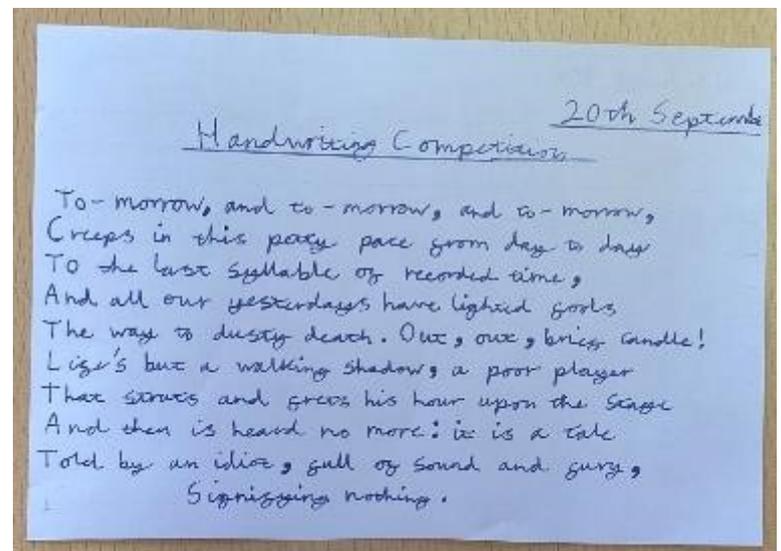
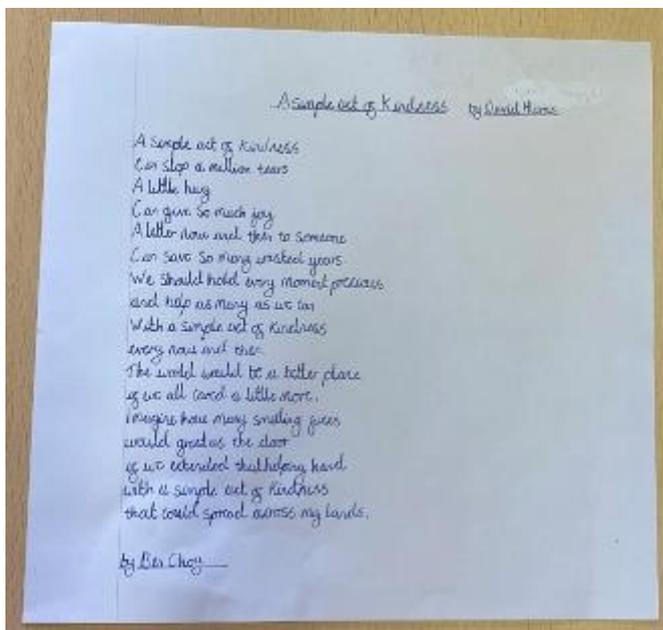
Thank you to all the boys who submitted entries for our handwriting competition. Mr March was very encouraged to see the high standard and fluency of scripts despite our recent, increasing dependence on typing and keyboard skills. Well done to all. Congratulations to the winners in each category...

Lower Prep Winner: James W, 2L

Years 5 & 6 Winner: Harry B, 5F

Years 7 & 8 Winner: Ben C, 8T

Seniors Winner: Milo R, 10W



congratulations



Le Shopping!

In French, Year 7 have been looking at shops, what items they sell, the quantities and costs. In Tuesday's lesson, the boys had to write a short piece for a role play exercise between a shopkeeper and a customer. They had to use the vocabulary we had covered in class, but it was lovely to see that most wanted to extend their knowledge by using new words and phrases. They read their pieces in front of the class and did a great job. Excellent preparation! *Madame Swift*



Last Saturday was the European Day of Languages and here at KHS we celebrated it on Thursday and Friday in school with various activities in some of our classes, as we do every year. The European Day of Languages takes place on 26th of September each year. The general objectives are:

Alerting the public to the importance of language learning and diversifying the range of languages learnt.

Promoting the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe.

Encouraging lifelong language learning in and out of school.



In school, we looked at why learning a language is so important and some of the older boys had some fun trying to work out the English equivalent of French idioms. For example, did you know that "*avoir le cafard*", or "to have a cockroach" means being down in the dumps? Or that if you look like a hen who has found a knife—"*avoir l'air d'une poule qui a trouvé un couteau*", you are looking very puzzled?! Well you probably would be! Luckily none of this is "running on my bean" - "*il me court sur le haricot*" or getting on my nerves!

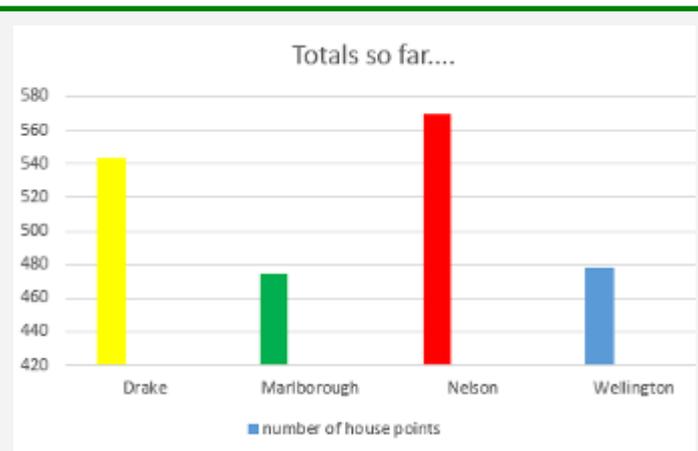
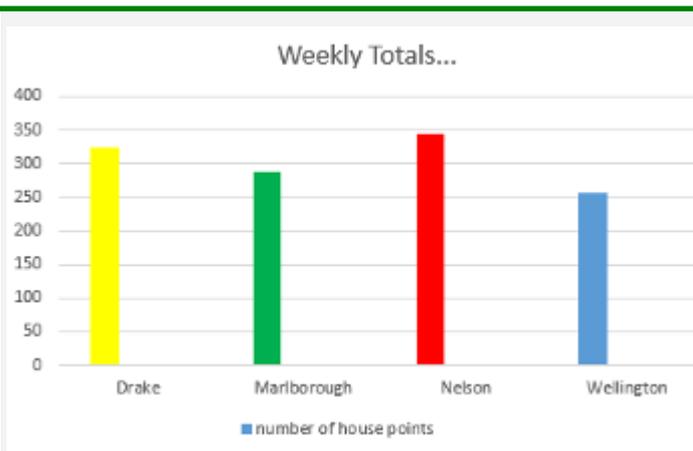
We also had some exciting news to give our Year 5 and 6 boys. Sadly, the pupil exchanges we normally have with our partner school, Ombrosa, in Lyon, will not be able to take place this year.



But instead, we hope to maintain the links we have built with Ombrosa, in the form of mini projects between our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils and their French counterparts, as these are traditionally the classes who travel to England. These will begin after Half Term and we are all looking forward to them! *Mme Taylor & Mme Swift*

Eco Club

The Eco Club Warriors have been hard at work this week, keeping the school grounds immaculate! They got into their bubble groups and took it in turns to collect any litter that was spotted and disposed of it. We also learnt a lot about what can and cannot be recycled and how long it takes for certain items to degrade. We now have big plans for how we can recycle better in our classrooms...watch this space! *Miss Hylands*



HOUSE POINTS

A busy week for everyone at Kingswood house as each house has earned hundreds of house points this week. A close race to the top spot by Drake and Nelson; Nelson just sneak into the top spot with 344 house points this week!

Overall it's VERY close at the bottom with Wellington and Marlborough, just 3 points between them. At the top sees Drake catching Nelson up, however Nelson reach top spot so far with a total of 570 points. Keep working hard, boys!

Miss Smith

Music News

During our weekly Hymn Practice, Miss Foster has been keen to engage with the boys even though they have not been able to participate in group signing sessions - so she has been setting them challenges and topics to explore. This week's focus has been on 20th Century female musicians, specifically within the Jazz genre so the boys have been introduced to the work of [Esperanza Spalding](#), [Melody Gardot](#) and [Diana Krall](#)

Miss Foster has also been sharing videos of herself playing; this week it was 'Smile' by Charlie Chaplin on the marimba; what a positive role model for us as we head towards co-education!



Black History Month

Mrs Haunstetter has prepared a very detailed learning resource—some slides from which can be seen on this page and the next - which has been distributed to all form teachers to introduce discussion and context for our boys.



Black Lives Matter Being Black in Britain



- It is often assumed that Black British History is a relatively new part of this island's story.
- This, in fact, is not the case.
- The earliest evidence of black people living in this country goes back 1800 years to Roman times.
- The Romans had conquered Britain in AD43 and ruled until AD410. They built a wall, called Hadrian's Wall, near the Scottish border to keep out the Picts (Scots).
- It was on the western edge of the Wall, in a place called Burgh-by-Sands, where there was a Roman garrison (a place where soldiers were based), which consisted of black soldiers – who were there to protect the Wall.
- These soldiers, part of the Roman army, originally came from North Africa.

Although October gives us the opportunity to focus on this important aspect of our lives in this country, the history of black people in this country and around the world is something which our students will be learning about throughout the year, in order to help them appreciate the struggles, heritage and diversity that makes society what it is today.

Early historical records of black lives in Britain have come from archaeological finds and modern techniques of reconstruction...



Black Lives Matter Being Black in Britain



- During Roman times, York was a key location for the Roman population.
- In 1901, excavation in the city uncovered a skeleton. Recent analysis of that skeleton has found that it was the body of a North African female, who was about 18 – 23 years old.
- Around her body were numerous goods of value, such as bracelets, pendants, earrings, beads, as well as a glass jug and mirror. This indicates that she was a woman of high status.
- Using facial reconstruction, scientists were able to use her skull to discover what she would have looked like
- She is called the 'Ivory Bangle Lady'



Black Lives Matter Being Black in Britain



- There are no further historical references to black people living in Britain until over one thousand years later in the Tudor times.
- That does not mean that there were no black people in Britain at that time – just that there are no records or evidence of them.
- It is almost certain that there would have been some descendants of the black Romans, through inter-marriage.
- The next historical record of black people comes in 1511.
- John Blanke appears on the 'Westminster Tournament Roll' which was produced in 1511 to celebrate the birth of Catherine and Henry's first son, who died soon after. It is the first known image of a black person in England.

Henry VIII's Tudor England has visual artefacts showing different races are more prevalent in society.



Black Lives Matter Being Black in Britain



Our Year 8s are currently learning about the history of slavery and their empathy, maturity and sensitivity to the topic has been wonderful to see.

- Eventually the British government agreed that the slave trade and slavery were wrong and should be abolished. In 1833 it became illegal to buy/sell or own a 'slave'.
- In Britain, the government awarded compensation to the white people who were former owners of slaves for their loss of their 'property'.
- The cost of this, and the debt it caused for the British government, was only recently paid off in 2015.
- As slavery was ending, the British Empire was expanding. During the reign of Queen Victoria, Britain controlled over a quarter of the world. In colonies such as Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, the black native people (such as the Aborigines) were treated appallingly by the British.

They have been making very clear links to 'Black Lives Matter' and very much want to ensure we have a more equal future – something which completely chimes with The Kingswood House Way. Mrs Haunstetter

Here are more slides from Mrs Haunstetter's presentation that was disseminated to all classes for use, as appropriate, over the course of Black History Month.



Black Lives Matter Being Black in Britain

- This racism was evident again, after the Second World War.
- Many thousands of black people came to Britain after the war, seen here with the first arrival of the 'Empire Windrush' from the Caribbean in 1948.
- Not everyone was happy to see them and have them work here and contribute to the economy and society, as this sign in a window demonstrates.



Black Lives Matter Being Black in Britain



- 70 years on from the Windrush generation, Britain is a country with a rich, diverse culture, society and heritage.
- Many black people are key figures in our country.
- But, there is still a long way to go to eradicate prejudice and racism and we must all work together for #BLM



'15 Minutes With...' Mrs Julie Haunstetter, Year 10 form teacher, Head of History

- Favourite car **One that gets me from A to B safely**
- Favourite place **Okavango Delta, Botswana**
- Favourite food **Cheddar Cheese**
- Favourite band or singer **The Beautiful South**
- Favourite film **Hidden Figures**
- Favourite smell **The smell of my children when they were babies**
- Favourite sport / team or player **Dina Asher-Smith**
- Who in the world would you like to be? **Dan Snow**
- What were you like at school? **Hard-working**
- What is an interesting fact about yourself? **I am 11% Viking!**



...and your 12 choices 'either / or':

Dog / Cat

Netflix / Instagram

Phone Call / **Text**

Facebook / Twitter

Swimming / Sunbathing

Take away / Fine dining out

Skiing / Surfing

Passenger / Driver

Pen / Pencil

City / **Countryside**

Paperback book / Kindle

Colourful / Single colour block



Harvest Festival 2020

Mrs Lambert and Mrs Weston would like to remind you about plans to celebrate Harvest in school this year.

We will be holding a virtual Harvest Festival assembly on the morning of Wednesday 7th October and as previously, we will be donating to Age Concern.

However, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we are unable to collect physical food donations this year. As an alternative, we will be asking for a monetary donation of £2 per boy, which will be added to your invoice at the end of this term. Should you wish to opt out, please email the Bursar, [Mrs Sally Witts](#).

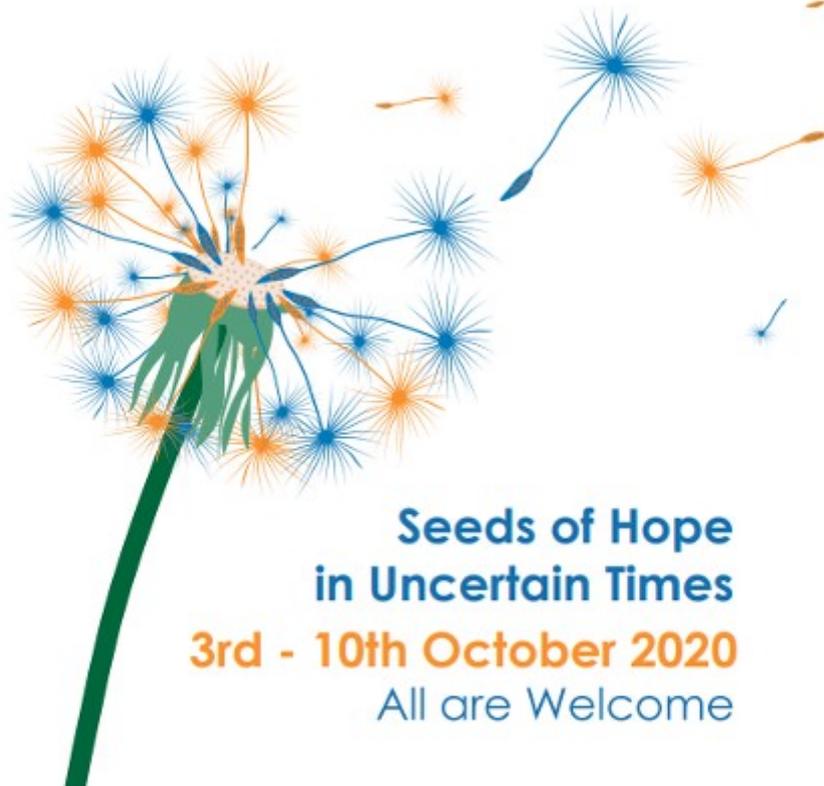
AGE Epsom & Ewell
Concern

Electrical Discovery in Year 3 and 4

Years 3 & 4 have been learning about Electrical Conductors and Insulators in Science this week. Their work was very practical and explored a range of materials as their depth of knowledge and scientific enquiry grew. Good investigation, boys; can you spot any other types of conductive or insulator around you? *Mrs Marskell*



Epsom Mental Health and Well-Being Festival



Mental Health

We would like to share with you all details of this week of online mental health promotion starting Saturday 3rd October organised by a small charity based in Epsom called *Love me Love my mind*.

There will be a whole variety of topics across the week that may be of interest to our families putting well-being at the forefront of our concerns.

Thank you to Mrs West, one of our LSAs, for passing the details on.

www.epsommentalhealthweek.org.uk

The Festival is online this year with **Festival at Home Packs** for people without access to the internet. More details in September on our website.

www.epsommentalhealthweek.org.uk



Follow us @ [lmimmepsom](https://www.instagram.com/lmimmepsom)    

Epsom Mental Health and Well-Being Festival is organised by Love Me Love My Mind, a charity dedicated to promoting understanding about mental health issues. Registered charity no:1177683

Time for a Cuppa?!

Macmillan Coffee Morning is always a welcome event for staff on the calendar and this year's was no exception with the staffroom table positively groaning with baked and shop-bought goodies catering for the Gluten free and Vegan diets amongst us.



These spectacular creations were home made by Mrs Conner's daughter and were almost too good to eat... but we managed!



Huge thanks to all who contributed and donated online; the link should you wish to support KHS fundraising for this excellent cause is [here](#) A big 'Thank You' to the lovely Katey Timothy for organising us all. Thank you.

Christmas Card Competition

We have been invited by Chris Grayling, Member of Parliament for Epsom and Ewell, to submit entries for his official Christmas card for 2020! The card will be sent out to community groups, local businesses as well as to the Prime Minister and members of the cabinet. There will be prizes for both 4-7 and 8-11 age groups. The winner will also be invited to collect their trophy from the Houses of Parliament, or Mr Grayling will visit the school to present it. Mrs Wraith would love to submit entries from our boys but she needs your art work by 9am on the **14th. October—time to get creative this weekend...**

All work should be submitted on A4 paper in felt tip pen, please avoid collage and glitter as it does not print very well! The following details should be clearly stated on the back of your art work:

Name of pupil

Year group

Age

Name of school



Lots of schools from the area will also be entering. Good luck to all! *Mrs Wraith*



This week in school has seen bursts of bright colour on various days as we recognised and supported the start of Dyslexia Awareness Week 2020 on Monday by wearing something red with our uniform—whether socks, a tie, sweatshirt or baseball cap, and then on Friday it was all yellow for 'Hello Yellow' recognising mental health in young people.

Huge thanks for all the parental support in helping the boys mark these events.

