



Serva Fidem

Headmaster: Mr. Duncan Murphy BA (Hons), MEd, FRSA
Member of IAPS & Society of Heads

Thursday 21st April 2022

Dear Parents

I offer you a warm welcome back to what promises to be another busy term.

Firstly, I am delighted to announce the birth of baby Arlo John Witts to Toby and Ines, on 11th April; pleasingly, both mother and baby (and grandma!) are doing well.

A special mention to our Year 11 students who will commence their GCSE examinations next month. The teaching and support staff are proud of your efforts, including coming in for a pre-term revision session on Tuesday, and we wish you well. Remember: exams do not define who you are. The point is that each student, and the value of their education, is much more than a piece of paper with the exam results on. So, although the results are important - it is not 'success' or 'failure' for life. It is your attitude and character that will ultimately determine your pathway in the future.

On a related note, the new Kingswood House Way value for the summer is that of *Endeavour* and our subject enrichment focus is Humanities in the first half of term followed by Citizenship in the second half of term. There will be lots of exciting initiatives in the weeks ahead.

I have challenged the boys and girls to raise their levels of endeavour by showing extra determination and perseverance across the challenges that will confront them in the weeks ahead. Teamwork is also an important aspect of endeavour; it remains fundamentally important for our school community to remain patient and tolerant of one another. It will take time for everyone to regain 'match fitness', as was evident at pinch points during last term. Events in the news show just how important it is that we treat others with respect and understanding at all times.

Staffing

I offer my congratulations to Liam Clarke and Sachin Sukhdeo who will be promoted to Assistant Head roles for Upper Prep and Seniors respectively in September; their day to day roles will remain the same but their new titles are more reflective of the important work that they consistently undertake for the boys and girls in their care.

At the end of term, we will say goodbye to Nicki Lambert who is relocating to the West Country, Stella Taylor who is semi-retiring and Monica Wraith who is moving to a part-time position at Woldingham School. Equally, Katie Edwards is returning to a position closer to her home in Guildford, Pippa Webb has decided to step back from full-time teaching in order to assume Katie's role as Exams Officer in the new academic year and Rana Iftikhar has been

Kingswood House School

56 West Hill, Epsom,
Surrey, KT19 8LG

T: 01372 723590

E: office@kingswoodhouse.org www.kingswoodhouse.org

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appointed as Finance Manager for TCES Schools. We will say more about their contributions to the school at the end of term but they will all leave with our best wishes and huge gratitude.

I am pleased to confirm that Emma Ibbitson and Zoe Smith will become Head of Lower Prep and Assistant Head of Lower Prep respectively whilst Mr Roy Regeling will join us to become Head of Modern Foreign Languages from Reach Academy, Feltham, where he has gained significant experience of teaching French and Spanish up to A-Level. Additionally, Mr Simon Jackson, a 'new' teacher albeit with an extensive career history behind him, will take on a full-time teaching position for Computer Science.

It is also pleasing to be in a financial position to augment our PE & Sports Department due to strong numbers across the school and we will consequently be recruiting an additional full-time member of staff for September. This advertisement, together with those for a new Head of Art and Finance Manager, are currently live and I shall update with you with details of these appointments, as well as any other staffing news, later in the term.

School Photograph – Friday 22nd April

We are looking forward to our first whole school photograph on Friday afternoon at KHS since the summer of 2018, during which time quite a lot has changed! Please note, all pupils should arrive in school on this day dressed smartly in full school uniform with blazers, clean shoes and neat hair.

Sports Day – Friday 24th June

Thank you to Robbie Hendry and the Sports Department in advance for the preparation that running Sports Day will entail. We hope that parents will join us for a day of healthy competition and sportsmanship. Further details and timings will be sent out in due course.

KHA Summer Ball – Saturday 25th June

The KHA Summer Ball will be held at The Queen's Stand, Epsom Racecourse, on the evening of Saturday 25th June. It is a glittering event which always engenders a lot of fun across the school community and I very much hope to see you there in support of this prestigious occasion in our social calendar.

Prize Giving – Monday 4th July

I draw your attention to this compulsory School event which will once again be held at Epsom College – it is the showpiece of our academic year. It should be a splendid occasion with recognition for our prize-winners in each year group and much more besides. You will receive

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further information towards the end of term, but, in the meantime, please ensure the date is in your diary.

Trips

It is very exciting to have a plethora of trips arranged this term across the age ranges with opportunities for all to take themselves out of their comfort zone with a short stay away from home. I extend my gratitude to the teaching staff who have worked tirelessly to book these trips set against a stampede of schools doing likewise. I sincerely hope that everyone has a wonderful time and that team skills rise to the fore as a part of our “learning for life” culture.

Reporting

At the end of term, grade cards and full written reports will be sent out. Please take the time to reflect upon these carefully with your son or daughter and open them together.

Parking

Please act with consideration for other drivers, pedestrians and especially our neighbours at all times. It is important that we maintain good relations with the local community.

Finally, please do check the calendar as well as the newsletter or website for a full list of events, timings and updates in the weeks ahead. This is a supremely busy term and it has been a challenge to fit everything in – some changes are inevitable! You should shortly receive a letter from your son’s form teacher with a brief outline of items that are relevant for each age group but as ever your flexibility and patience will be greatly appreciated.

In the meantime, I look forward to a productive term and trust that we can expect some conducive weather for the boys and girls to make the most of all that is on offer here at KHS.

Yours sincerely

Duncan Murphy
Headmaster

Please see below a summary of our latest policy in relation to managing Covid-19 at school:



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Changes to measures and guidance for managing COVID-19 in education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April

On Tuesday 29 March, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid, set out the [next steps for living with COVID-19](#) in England from Friday 1 April.

Free COVID-19 tests will continue to be available for specific groups, including eligible patients and NHS staff, once the universal testing offer ends on Friday 1 April.

Updated guidance will advise:

- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days

The population now has much stronger protection against COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic. This means we can begin to manage the virus

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like other respiratory infections, thanks to the success of the vaccination programme and access to antivirals, alongside natural immunity and increased scientific and public understanding about how to manage risk.

For education and childcare settings from Friday 1 April:

- regular asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting, including in SEND, alternative provision and children's social care settings. Therefore, settings will no longer be able to order test kits
- residential SEND settings may be advised by their local health protection team to re-introduce some time-limited asymptomatic testing. This would be an exceptional measure, for targeted groups of staff and pupils or students (secondary age or above) in the event of a possible COVID-19 outbreak. These settings are scheduled to receive an automatic delivery of contingency supply test kits during the week commencing Monday 28 March
- the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) will publish new guidance. Most of the specific COVID-19 guidance for education and childcare settings will be withdrawn from GOV.UK on Friday 1 April. The operational guidance on the [testing in education settings document sharing platform](#) will also be removed on the same day

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