

# KINGSWOOD WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Spring Term  
09 February 2024

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Dear Parents

After the most spectacular school production of *The Lion King* at the Adrian Mann theatre last Thursday and Friday, we have had a change of pace with our Well-Being Week under the charge of Ms Timothy. She has ensured, both our staff and pupils, are looked after in terms of their mental health and well-being, and that this is just as an important issue as our physical state and learning.

We have had talks and webinars, a therapy dog in school, sessions of yoga and breathing techniques, as well as a mufti day, at which we could all 'dress to express'. Despite there being a lot of black garments on staff and pupils, let's hope that is more of an indication of fashion interest, rather than our current mood! Many thanks to Ms Timothy who works tirelessly to support our mental health and well-being.

Our Year 6s were valiant in their presentation of their joint Assembly down in Christ Church on Wednesday; we enjoyed hearing about Spring events on the calendar and some favourite books and authors looking ahead to World Book Day in early March. Oscar's performance of Frank Sinatra's *That's Life* was a superb way to end the service and got us all thinking and toe-tapping and appreciating this very talented KHS pupil! Although we had to postpone our House Pancake Day races on Thursday, because of the wet and muddy conditions of the field, we hope to run this event in early March.

Looking ahead to half term with your families, I wish you all a relaxing yet fun time – whether at home or away—with plenty of pancakes and racing if you so wish! All the best to our annual ski trip participants—have a great week and keep an eye on social media for our updates!

Yours sincerely

Interim Headmaster

Mr Liam Clarke



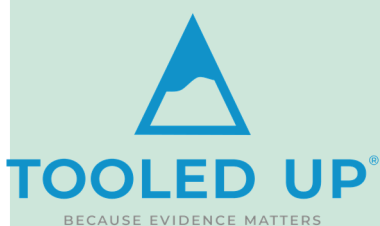
Kingswood House



@kingswoodhouse



@Kingswood\_house



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

2024 FEBRUARY			
Monday	19	1230-1400 1900-2100	Year 11 GCSE PE Climbing at White Spider Centre KHA Meeting—Langlands
Tuesday	20	0935-1055 1630	Year 9 Emotional Intelligence & First Aid Course—session 5 Staff Meeting
Wednesday	21	0845-0915 0930-1025	7A Assembly Lower Prep Forest School
Thursday	22	1700	Parents' Information Evening for Geography Trip to Iceland
Friday	23	1900-2200	KHA Quiz Night

### House points - this week - Whole School

Drake - 445

Marlborough - 491

Nelson - 390

Wellington - 403

### House points - totals - Whole School

Drake - 1816

Marlborough - 2090

Nelson - 1913

Wellington - 1683

**A message from the KHA, The KHA Quiz Night is nearly here!**

Join us on the 23rd of February for an evening of quizzical fun and see if we can finally beat the teachers! You can come on your own and meet new parents, or build your own team with your year group (or strategically pick your team members for a win!) Tickets are priced at £15 each and include a fish and chip supper (veg option available). Bar (cash only) opens at 7pm. Please use the QR code to access the booking form or book [here](#)



### LUNCH MENU for week beginning 19.02.2024

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Macaroni Cheese or Roasted Tomato Sauce & Spaghetti (both V)	Fresh Fruit; Jelly	Five Bean Chilli (V) with Potato Wedges, Wraps & Salad	Fresh Fruit; Apple Crumble & Custard	Butchers Burgers; Veggie Bean Burger (V) in a Bun with Cheese, Fried Onions, Lettuce &	Fresh Fruit; Yoghurts	Chicken Tikka Masala Curry; Cauliflower & Spinach Curry (V) with Brown & White Rice	Fresh Fruit; Peaches & Chocolate Sauce	Salmon & Pea Pasta Bake	Fresh Fruit; Rice Pudding



# SPORTS NEWS



Mrs Jennings tells us,  
*"Another successful U15 hockey fixture on Wednesday this week against Harrodian school; we achieved a 14-4 victory! Well played everyone."*

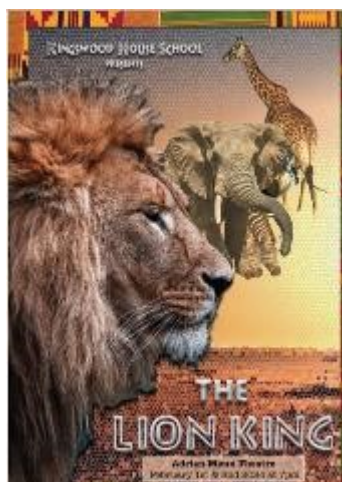
*Player of the Match was awarded to Ben H (11W) and Daniel P (11H)"*



## Kingswood Active—Easter Holidays

Parents, please note the dates and activities scheduled for the Easter holidays at Kingswood Active are now available on our website [here](#).

Any enquiries to Mr Clarke [kingswoodactive@kingswoodhouse.org](mailto:kingswoodactive@kingswoodhouse.org)



## Production DVD!

Dear all, I do hope you enjoyed this years production as we all certainly did! I just wanted to make you aware that the DVD of the show is now ready to order so please do contact me directly asap [b.horley@kingswoodhouse.org](mailto:b.horley@kingswoodhouse.org) and I will get the order together. This should ensure they are ready for us after half term! The DVD costs £16 and will be added to your fees invoice for the Summer Term. I do wish you all a very lovely half term and hope you all get some fun and rest.

Kind regards,

Mrs Horley



Please find Mr Clarke's topical thoughts for the week [here](#) and the pupils who have been the subject of a ***'Staff Shout Out'*** below,

### **LOWER PREP**

Haris A (2M) for his brilliant informal letter writing example in English. Mrs Martins

All of Year 2 for their efforts this half term, especially in their English creative writing linking it to Kenya. Mrs Martins

Dilan C (4S) for increased effort and productivity in lessons. Miss Sumners

### **UPPER PREP**

Maye B (5F) for always being happy and upbeat. Also, he has produced some lively work over the last few weeks. Miss Forbes

Eliza B-P (6S) and Honor Fitzgibbon (6S) for always showing excellent support in lessons and helping to hand out/collect in the books so efficiently. Mrs Jennings

Year 7 Science: Hugo H (7A) – focused in class and Phoebe F (7B) – increased contribution to lessons. Mr Barratt

James H (7A) for supporting his peers so well and sharing his knowledge in Science this week. Mrs Jennings

Elinor F (7B) for showing outstanding commitment in the Lion King and for putting in a particularly inspiring performance - very proud of you! Mrs Jennings

Year 8 Science: Etienne W(8C) – working hard in lessons with a big smile and Aurelia G (8L) – increased performance and positive attitude in lessons. Mr Barratt

Year 8 Maths: Indi D (8L) for increased performance and understanding. Mr Barratt

Tom F (8C) - fantastic rugby performances against both Homefield and Tower House. Fantastic running with the ball and huge tackles. He has also scored around 8 tries in 2 games...Mr Cowie

'Shout Out' to Indi D (8L) Chris K (8L) and Rufus J (8L) for fantastic umpiring and work during the hockey fixture against Harrodian. They took it in their stride and were fantastic. Mr Westcott

What a wonderful performance from Jensen W, George P, Byron M, Ben C and Peter S who represented 8L superbly in *The Lion King* last week. Mr Laudy

George W (8L) for his contributions in English lessons. Mr March

### **SENIORS**

A big SSO to Kittie C (9J) for fantastic efforts in Games for the past 2 weeks. Working hard to improve her hockey. Keep up the good work. Mr Westcott

Y9 Maths: Conor MA (9A) and Oscar D (9P) both legends in the classroom – quantity and quality of work! Mr Barratt

During a hockey match for Surbiton, that I was umpiring, Pippa T (9A) had the common sense to stop play around her as she saw an opposition player with a head injury. This showed the KHS way, outside the school environment. Mr Westcott

Well done to my Y9 Classics group for adhering to the 'Presentation of Work Guidelines' in their exercise books, which makes all their work look exceptionally neat and tidy, and benefits them by making study easier. Well done class. Mrs Weston

Oli F (9J) for working consistently hard in GCSE PE. Mrs Jennings





More **'Staff Shout Outs'**

**SENIORS** *continued...*

Avaneesh G (10R) for the way he has learnt all his musical cues in *The Lion King* and how they perfectly align with the music. Mr Allen

Conor T (10R) for first-rate leadership skills and inspired, insightful writing in HPQ lessons. Ms O'Shea

Archie N (10R) for the interest, ability and endeavour he is displaying in his report writing in the HPQ course. Ms O'Shea

Ivan T (11H) for having the confidence to perform the songs in the show with gusto, and being aware of leading the rest of the cast during the choruses. Mr Allen

A 'shout out' for Mingwan K (11W) He has shown the most amazing resilience in his GCSE English classes and is working extremely hard, even asking for extra papers to complete to improve his grades. I'm very proud of you Mingwan – you truly are a superstar! Miss Smith

James C (11H) has been working hard in Geography all term and smashed his end of topic vocab test last week. Keep it up. Mr Laudy

Totally blown away by everybody who took part in *The Lion King* production. Just wow! Mrs Seiver



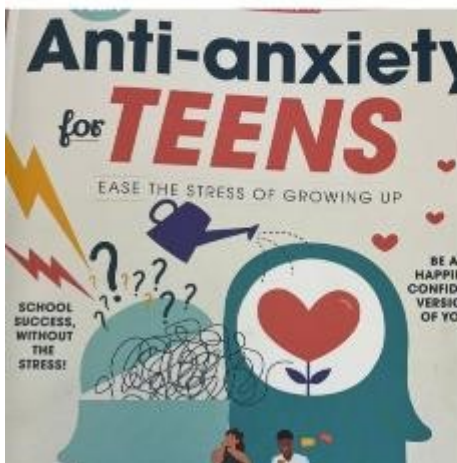












## Well-Being Week

The start of our Well-Being Week in school saw many resources and displays for all to engage with and a talk by [The Samaritans](#) volunteers which encouraged our Senior age pupils to recognise their feelings, gave them some vocabulary to discuss them and confidence to be a better listener when someone is opening up and acknowledging their emotions with us. It was a session very well-received by our pupils and tapped into some of their vulnerabilities and hopefully, gave them ways to tackle them by sharing, talking and listening. Many thanks to Ms Timothy for organising this event—one of many this week.

Year 4s, 5s and 6s enjoyed the company of Jackson the therapy dog this week, and were able to relax with him in class during their Pupil Briefing and library sessions; very little can top a comforting pat or cuddle with a furry friend to raise our happy hormones.

The whole school enjoyed taking part in a mufti day on Thursday—the theme for this was DRESS TO EXPRESS. Ms Timothy explains, *“To express yourself means to show or reveal how you are feeling. There are so many ways to express yourself ... the clothes we wear and how we style our hair. Therefore we invite our pupils and staff to dress to really show their individuality. Beyond tomorrow we all need to work on how to express ourselves in life and be less focused on impressing others”*





Some of our pupils who showed an independent interest in completing a Science project earlier in the term, were rewarded this week with a trip to the iMax cinema in London.

They then went along the South Bank, enjoying the sites of the London skyline, to the London Aquarium.

Miss Patel and Miss Sumners said the group were a credit to KHS!





### *Half Term Assembly*

A big 'Thank You' to our Year 6 pupils who led our half term Assembly at Christ Church on Wednesday; they reminded us of all the events in February to look forward too, including a nod towards World Book Day at the start of March and some favourite books and authors. Mr Clarke was delighted to present Mathew with his well-earned Senior Prefect badge—Congratulations!—and also to hand out some Headmaster's Star awards to some of our Year 11 pupils who came to the rescue of an elderly lady who had fallen in Epsom.

### **Dear Parents *SHARE YOUR VIEWS & OPINIONS ABOUT KINGSWOOD HOUSE***

As you may know, we have recently been conducting a series of consultations designed to help us better understand what parents' value most about Kingswood House. We have used the views and opinions shared in these early consultations to help develop a survey we can use to invite a broader contribution across the whole parent body.

The survey can be accessed via the link [here](#) and should take no more than ten minutes to complete.

You are an important part of the school community and your feedback matters to us. Please try to find the time to let us know what you think, by the end of next week if possible. Many thanks in advance. *Mr Clarke*



Dear Mr Clarke & KHS Parents

At the University of Reading, we are working with the dyslexia community to find out what they would like to be researched in future, to ensure that what is researched aligns with community priorities, so that it can be of real benefit. As a CReSTeD-accredited school supporting students with dyslexia, we wondered if you might be happy to promote our survey among your families? We are really keen to get responses from as many people as possible, so that it can be as representative of the community as possible. We have pasted a description of the study here and attached a poster – but let us know if it would help to have information in any other format.

### **What are the research priorities for the dyslexia community? Help us to find out!**

Researchers at the University of Reading and the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity are asking people with dyslexia and family members or caregivers about what their research priorities are, so that future research efforts can be guided towards the areas that matter most to the dyslexia community. We are looking for people who are aged 18 years or over in the UK who 1) have a diagnosis of dyslexia or self-identify as having dyslexia, OR 2) are a parent/caregiver/other family member of a person with a dyslexia diagnosis. You will complete a survey which will take under 15 minutes. You will be asked to rate the importance of a range of research questions about dyslexia. If you would like to find out more, please contact Dr Cathy Manning [c.a.manning@reading.ac.uk](mailto:c.a.manning@reading.ac.uk) 0118 378 3454, Beverley Jennings [b.j.jennings@pgr.reading.ac.uk](mailto:b.j.jennings@pgr.reading.ac.uk) or Professor Holly Joseph [h.joseph@reading.ac.uk](mailto:h.joseph@reading.ac.uk) By getting in touch, you are not committing to participate in the study.

*If you would like to take part, you can access the survey here:* <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/YVRT3C9>

University of Reading School of Psychology and Clinical Languages Sciences Research Ethics Committee reference: 2021-190-CM

### **Dr Cathy Manning**

Lecturer in Psychology, Student Experience Lead  
School of Psychology and Clinical Language Sciences  
University of Reading

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#### **Who can take part?**

People who are aged 18 years or over in the UK who:

- Have a diagnosis of dyslexia or self-identify as having dyslexia  
OR
- Are a parent/caregiver/other family member of a person with a dyslexia diagnosis

#### **What will I do if I take part?**

You will complete a brief online survey which will take around 15 minutes. You will be asked to rate the importance of a range of research questions about dyslexia.

**Find the survey here:**



#### **CONTACT**

**If you want to find out more please contact:**

Chief Investigator: Dr Cathy Manning  
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(Professor)  
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