

THE AUTUMN ISSUE

ISSUE #1

October 2020

KIM G S

NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Careers Education

Speech Night

Covid-19



HEAD MASTER'S PAGE

DEAR PARENTS & CARERS,

This particular introduction to The Kings Newsletter was harder than usual to write, though you will be able to anticipate some of its content very easily. This is the year of a pandemic, and it casts its shadow into every corner of life.

Students are at the heart of what The King's School means, and we have had to learn how best to care for them in new ways and at great speed over these last few months. For students in normal times The King's School is a place of academic study, friendships and fun - the closeness of a community. As the new academic year begins, we are all working together to try to provide as much of that success, friendship and fun. It is for this reason that I am delighted that Speech Night is celebrated in this issue, along with the academic achievement, sporting activities, extra curricular and the full curriculum being delivered.

The actions that we have had to take to open the school are seen by some as going too far and by others not far enough. However, as is always the case, where there are challenges there are opportunities. It was such a pleasure to hear the speech from the Head Boy, Rory Mapletoft, where he spoke of overcoming adversity and quoted Churchill: "The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

Our students performed better than ever in the A level examination and in the GCSEs this summer. We had the best Universities profile for a significant number of years with nearly half of all A level grades being either A* or A, with similar profile being achieved at GCSE. We, as a school, congratulate them on this fantastic achievement.

It brings me great pleasure to see all of the new Year 7 students settling in well. Their start could not have been more disruptive,

however, they rose to the challenge of 'blended' learning and have returned eager and ready for learning.

The lock-down period taught us a lot as a school about the quality of our Information Technology infrastructure and I have been working hard with my colleges to bring the internal systems 'up to speed'. We now have full Microsoft 365 capability and a number of students have accessed lessons through this platform over the past weeks. Can you please ensure that your son can access his 'Teams' and all of the Year 7, 8 and 9 students have had training on their IT lessons.

I am hopeful that the school is able to function effectively throughout this term, however, I am aware that a number of my colleges in schools in England have whole year groups out.

With Christmas approaching I would like to remind you that the school has for some time been supported by parents who have purchased through www.easyfundraising.org.uk/kingschoolgrantham. You can also support the school financially: <https://www.kings.lincs.sch.uk/page/?title=Fundraising+%2D+Regular+Giving&pid=238>

Thank you for your continued support.

Simon Pickett

Head Master



Student Success in Lock-down

Cambridge University

Oliver Fernandes of Year 13 used his time during lockdown to enter an essay competition at the University of Cambridge's Economic Society's (Marshall Society) for pre-university students.

This is a prestigious essay competition for those wishing to study Economics as part of their studies and attracts entries from schools across the globe. Oliver wrote about climate change economics and whether it was worth tackling climate change now or in the future and to what extent with regard to the economic cost to global human welfare. Oliver committed a great deal of time to further reading of the current thinking on this issue. Oliver achieved joint second place in the competition which is a fantastic achievement and worthy of his efforts.

Well done Oliver.



Cambridge University

Hamish Stephens of Year 13, has been awarded an Honourable Mention in the Gonville and Caius College Schools' Prize Competition in Engineering.

There were a very large number of entries, with many of an outstanding quality and Hamish's entry was judged as being 'really superb'. The judges were extremely impressed with the standard of work on display.

Hamish was required to create a feasibility study on building a freight rail link between Felixstowe port and the rest of the UK considering the costs and environmental impacts of such a project. When restrictions permit, Hamish has been invited to tour the College.

Well done Hamish.

Covid-19 vs Winter illness.

Issue	Issue	Return to school when
My son has Covid-19 symptoms.	Your son must not come to school. Organise for a test. Ring King's to inform us of the absence (01476 563180) and email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk . Self-isolate the whole household. Inform the school immediately about the test result.	If the test comes back negative and no one in the household is still awaiting test results then your son may return to school.
My son tests positive for Covid-19.	Your son must not come to school. Contact school to inform us. Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). Self-isolate the whole household.	Your son may return to school when 10 days have passed since symptoms began and your son is now symptom free.
My son is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.	Your son must not come to school. Ring King's to inform us of the absence Ring on each day of illness.	Your son should return to school once he is well again.
If someone in your household has Covid-19 symptoms.	Your son must not come to school. Ring King's to inform us of the absence and email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk Self-isolate the whole household. The household member needs to have a test.	If the test comes back negative and no one in the household is still awaiting test results then your son may return to school.
If someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.	Your son must not come to school. Ring King's to inform us of the absence and email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days). Self-isolate the whole household.	Your son should return to school once he has completed 14 days of isolation and he has not developed any symptoms.
NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	Your son must not come to school. Ring King's to inform us of the absence and email admin@lincs.sch.uk Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 14 days).	Your son should return to school once he has completed 14 days of isolation and he has not developed any symptoms.

Issue	Issue	Return to school when
NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.	The household member must self-isolate for 14 days.	Your son should come to school.
A sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to their being a positive case in their school.	The sibling must self-isolate for 14 days.	Your son should come to school.
My son has travelled abroad from a country or territory that is NOT on the exempt list of countries. [Quarantine is needed according to Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) - please check their website for up to date travel information].	Your son must self-isolate for a minimum of 14 days self-isolation as should all of those who travelled. Please contact school to inform us you are back in the country and we will agree an earliest date for possible return to school.	Your son's quarantine period of 14 days has been completed.
My son has travelled abroad from a country or territory that IS on the exempt list of countries.	Your son should come to school.	Your son should come to school.
If you have travelled from a country that requires us to quarantine but your son did not travel.	As long as you have not had symptoms in the last 14 days, your child can continue to attend school. The person who has travelled self-isolate, this includes not picking up and dropping of your son.	Your son should come to school.
If you have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	Your son must not come to school. Ring King's to inform us of the absence and email admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk Shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again.	Your son should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding has ended for him.
My son's 'bubble' is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.	Your son must not come to school. Your son should continue with remote education.	Your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days. Other siblings in other bubbles or other schools may continue to attend school.
If you are unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms.	If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your son and anyone they live with must stay at home and self-isolate for 14 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home.	Your son should return to school once he has completed 14 days of isolation and he has not developed any symptoms.

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Jenny Longstaffe has joined King's as a Careers Adviser this year, helping students to make decisions that will support them to grow their future career. Jenny has written this careers article as an opportunity to share some useful information about the world of work and some tips on how students can begin to explore further.

It is helpful for young people to think about the labour market as a place where they (workers) will trade their time, energy and skills in exchange for a price (wages).

So rather than being too preoccupied with what you will be, it can be helpful for you to think about what skills you have and what you want to trade on the labour market at any time. This might develop and change over the course of your working life.

It is really important to know about the labour market, but you will be learning about it throughout your life. What jobs are out there? What skills do different jobs need? What qualifications are required? Where are the jobs? What kind of working conditions should I expect? What will I be doing in my day to day job? That last question is crucial, because in order to find roles that will make you happy and give you what you want in life (money, purpose, prestige) you will need to know about the world of work. Try to be open and flexible, optimistic and thoughtful when starting your research.

The current restrictions have made gaining experience of the workplace and attending lectures, events and open days a real challenge, but it has actually resulted in a variety of online resources.

OPTIONS AT 16+

COLLEGES & SIXTH FORMS

If you are looking for new options at the end of Year 11, then keep checking the websites of other colleges and sixth forms in the area, many of these are running virtual open days, but they may also be able to offer you a tour. This is a great chance for you to see if there is somewhere that is a good 'fit' for you. Ask about the entry requirements and the courses on offer, including A levels and BTECs, and make sure that you apply if you are interested - even if you see this as a back-up plan.

APPRENTICESHIPS

An apprenticeship is based on a relationship between a learning provider (for example a college) and an employer. Apprenticeships have different levels (intermediate, advanced, higher and degree) and are suitable for school leavers at 16 or 18. There are currently apprenticeships in this region in mechanical engineering, graphic design, business, accounting, childcare and the armed forces. Many more are added each week and you should keep checking throughout the year as more will be advertised from spring onwards.

Opportunities are listed at www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk but don't be afraid to contact employers directly if you are interested in working for them - check out their websites and follow them on social media.

OPTIONS AT 18+

Accessing virtual work experience or listening to talks online is a helpful way to expand your horizons and demonstrate to universities and employers that you are interested and motivated. Below are a few examples of what is available:

Barclay Life Skills have a huge range of resources to help you understand the world of business and finance and develop a wide range of employability skills. <https://barclayslifefskills.com>

Birmingham NHS Trust and other hospital trusts have moved their work experience online. Explore the huge range of roles available in Healthcare starting at <https://medicmentor.co.uk>

Virtual work experience opportunities in a range of areas, including Medicine and Law. <https://nybep.org.uk/home-learning-support/virtual-work-experience>

Showing universities and employers that you have engaged with ideas and learnt more about your chosen area is crucial and listening to some TED talks is an easy way to demonstrate this. Ideas worth spreading at www.ted.com/talks

University Open Days. It may be harder than usual for Years 12 and 13 students to gain a real insight into universities this year, but university recruitment teams are doing their best to promote



their institutions. Some are offering virtual open days while others are adding to their online profile and including campus tours, accommodation visits and Q&A sessions with academic staff. The Universities of Leeds, Manchester and Durham are good examples of this. A full list of Virtual Open Days can be found at www.unitasterdays.com, including:

- 24 October: University of Nottingham
- 28 October: The University of St Andrews
- 7 November: University of Suffolk
- 21 November: Oxford Brookes University

Alternatives to University. These are worth exploring even if you have always thought university is the path you will take. Websites such as www.notgoingtouni.co.uk and www.allaboutschooleavers.co.uk are advertising opportunities at GCHQ, IBM, BT and Ernst and Young. The Government website is still a great resource www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk. Some opportunities might be visible now and other will only be advertised later in the year. If you are interested in this pathway, check the websites each week or sign up for alerts. If you are thinking about taking a gap year there are some great resources online. Prospects gives a great overview of some things you could be thinking about: www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/gap-year

TRY TO KEEP POSITIVE AND MAKE THE MOST OF THE HUGE NUMBER OF RESOURCES BEING PLACED ONLINE TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR FUTURE STEPS.
ALWAYS ASK FOR SUPPORT IF YOU WANT IT.

Mrs Longstaffe was scheduled to deliver a careers talk this term on 'alternatives to university'. we are delighted that she has recorded her presentation and made it available for students and parents at ...



DEPARTMENT NEWS

ENGLISH

The Power of Drama

As part of the Year 7 curriculum, all of our new entrants are taught one period of Drama per week. Topics of study include 'Introduction to Drama', 'Improvisation' and 'Poetry and Drama'. In Years 8 and 9 Drama is delivered as part of the English Curriculum.

Although the prospect of teaching Drama in socially-distanced times filled the department with trepidation, our new students have embraced the challenge in these unusual times. Several Forms were invited to participate in a journalistic competition, tasked with reporting what Drama involves in these socially-distanced times.

The winning article is by Joe Sahaya Arbin, who reflects on Drama lessons at King's this term. Well done Joe.

KEY STAGE 3 DRAMA CLUB

Although we had planned to continue the Key Stage 3 Drama Club previously run by Mrs Cunningham, the current social distancing and year group bubbles have made it impossible to re-commence the club at present.

Students will be informed by Mr Kearney when the Drama Club is able to begin again - it will be a fun opportunity to work collaboratively in teams, strengthening your confidence and discovering your inner Thespian!

WHAT IS THIS DRAMA, MAMA!?

By Joe Sahaya Arbin, Form 7S

WHAT IS 'DRAMA'?

Drama is the study of emotions, feelings, action and performance. Drama involves theatre and entertainment, led physically on the stage or by a digital screen through movies or films. Drama is all about impact on others and teamwork. Drama is the exaggerated version of action or individuals. Drama puts people on full alert of what is happening.



WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED IN IT ?

In Drama we have learned how to define Drama and what it is important for. Through freeze frames and duologues, we have acted out some scenes of surprise, such as 'Holiday Cancelled' and 'A Birthday Party Gone Wrong'. We have also learnt what makes a good drama or movie scene. We have explored the importance of skills such as confidence, support, enthusiasm, fun and lots more, which form part of Drama.

Drama is one of the few subjects in school that does not involve lots of writing; instead, all you need is yourself and a partner! We have also used songs and videos to support our Drama work, including 'There's No Business Like Show Business' from Annie Get Your Gun, and 'We Are One' from The Lion King II. The Lion King II song was used by Mr Kearney to 'knight' us individually to welcome us to our Drama lessons! These songs helped to show us how our expression changes other people and their attitudes when they have contact with us.

HOW IS IT IMPORTANT?

Drama is important for emotional purposes. Drama can entertain others when they are feeling a bit down in the dumps - particularly when playing games such as 'Zip-Zap-Boing' and 'Wink-Wink-Murderer'! Drama is also useful because it helps you to practise the art of 'pretending' and characterising your attitude to impact others. As all of these are useful, you have to be enthusiastic about every single action taking place and you have to demonstrate interest in it, or it won't be emotional, hysterical or impactful.

TRIVIA TIME!

Did you know that the first Drama play was in the 5th century, performed in the Theatre of Dionysus?

The first actor was a priest of Dionysus, who engaged in a dialogue with a Chorus. His name was Thespis and nowadays, the best actors like to call themselves 'Thespians'.

Drama is actually a type of physical literature. Drama is the Greek word for action, but most focus is on relationships.

FRENCH

The House Spelling Bee

On 22 September Year 8 representatives from all Houses took part in a French Spelling Bee competition. Students had been working on spellings from topics varying from Harry Potter to sport and food during the lockdown period and were invited to come and compete to be the fastest speller in the school.

The boys were excellent and were able to spell an impressive number of words correctly, in French, in their allotted 2 minutes. A couple of boys were even valiant enough to step up and use the French alphabet rather than the English word for their chosen word groups - impressive! The final rank order was as follows:

- 1st 8C
- 2nd 8F
- 3rd 8N
- 4th 8M
- 5th 8S
- 6th 8B.





MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

With the return to school we have seen lots of positivity from students, parents and staff about being able to come back into school and see people face to face again. However, with change there comes some uncertainty and maybe anxiety for some as we come to terms with another 'new normal'.

Mental Health

Uncertainty and change are always around. This can be positive and exciting and sometimes not so much. However, through all of this change it is important to look after our mental and physical health as a way of keeping grounded, staying in the moment and keeping well. There will be a new mental health page launching on The King's School Share Point site which will be a one-stop place for all things mental health and support for young people.

If you would like face-to-face support around mental health, the school has two counsellors available to make appointments with during school hours. Please contact your Head of Year or justin.dixon@kings.lincs.sch.uk for further details. The School Counsellor, Mrs Wigham, is also available to offer advice about, and make referrals to, external support agencies for our local counties. Please get in touch if you are worried or concerned about any mental health issues you or someone in your family far facing, and we can support you to get the right help.

Young Carers

Some of our students at King's we are young carers. A young carer is someone under 18 who is caring unpaid for a family member or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or addiction problems. They often take on practical or emotional caring responsibilities that would normally be expected of an adult. Research suggests there are at least 700,000 young carers in the UK, but many do not realise they are a young carer.

We are launching a Young Carer's Support Group at school in the coming weeks, but in order to do this we need your help to identify any young people who are in this situation who would like to be involved. The support group will run once a term for each year group, and will be a chance to meet other students who are facing similar situations to have support from each other and feel part of a community.

To help us, please get in touch with your Form Tutor, Head of Year or Mr Dixon and we can work with you to help find the right support for your situation. Any information received will be treated sensitively, and no information will be shared without your knowledge.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

CYCLING

During the summer holidays Jenson Sealy from Year 9 completed the 'Coasts and Castles' cycling tour. He started from Newcastle upon Tyne on Friday 28 August and finished in Edinburgh on Sunday 30 August. The route was 204 miles in total and involved 2,380 metres of climbing. An amazing achievement considering he was cycling into 30mph head winds for the first 100 miles. This was Jenson's first cycling tour. An excellent effort and well done Jenson.



TAE KWON-DO

Congratulations to Jason Zhuo who has reached the level of first degree black belt. Jason was tested by a panel of ninth degree world masters. He was judged on his fighting skills, self-defence techniques, shadow sparring and a power and accuracy test. Well done Jason.

TABLE TENNIS

Joe Marlor of Year 10 has raised hundreds of pounds for two good causes in memory of his late table tennis coach, Russell Winfield. Joe completed a challenge to raise awareness of table tennis and disability.

Inspired by this year's 'virtual London Marathon' Joe decided to 'Facebook Live' his table tennis challenges and raise money in Russell's memory. Joe's challenges were not straightforward. He chose to take on each task for 26 minutes (a minute per mile of the Marathon) against his mechanical practice partner.

He took on each challenge with a difficulty similar to that experienced by a player experiencing a disability. His first challenge was with a bat taped to his hand. His next was on leg and then restricted to a chair. His final challenge was 26 minutes playing with the bat in his mouth.

A cheque for the funds raised was presented to the deputy chairman for The Talking Newspaper of which Russell was a life-long supporter.

Well done Joe.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Ethan Bain of Year 8 has been involved in a project called 'Disordnary Architecture'. The project is about engaging architects 'to promote activity that develops and captures models of new practice for the built environment'. The organisers of this were delighted with Ethan's work and hope to ask him to become involved with other projects in the future.

Well done Ethan.

FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Congratulations to Finn Wood who was Manager of the Month for September for the Sixth Form League.



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Higher Education Guidance

We were delighted to welcome Savannah Robinson from the University of Leicester into school this term.

Savannah presented to both Year 12 and Year 13 students via Microsoft Teams which enabled 300 students to have access to Higher Education guidance at their respective stages of their school careers. She detailed the importance of making a strong start in Year 12 and offered further guidance on the UCAS application process to Year 13.

We are continuing to build close relationships with the University of Leicester and look forward to further exciting opportunities in the future.



Careers Guidance

Further to Jenny Longstaffe's Careers Newsletter earlier in this publication, Year 12 students were introduced to her recently.

Jenny invited Year 12 students to make appointments to see her to assist in their decision-making for the future. Her primary focus will be supporting students who are looking at alternatives to Higher Education.

Aspiring Medics

Our Year 13 aspiring medics recently had the opportunity to meet with Dr Rebecca Windle, Junior Surgical Fellow at the Sheffield University Teaching Hospitals. The meeting was held via Teams and was an informal Q&A session.

Six students, who have all applied for medical degree places, were able to gain insight into the life of a Junior Doctor and what studying for a medical degree is really like.

Dr Windle discussed areas of medical interest, hints and tips for the interview process and her own experiences of studying for a post-graduate degree in Medicine at the University of Manchester.

We are extremely grateful to Dr Windle for giving her time to talk to our students and helping to guide them on what is sure to be an exciting and rewarding journey.

NEWS FROM THE LRC

In the challenging times we all currently face, books can provide a much-needed solace and opportunity for relaxation.

Following the school's full re-opening in September, the LRC has also re-opened with necessary social distancing requirements.

LUNCHTIME OPENING

As part of year group bubble requirements, the LRC is open at lunchtimes on the following rota:

Monday	Year 7
Tuesday	Year 11
Wednesday	Year 10
Thursday	Year 9
Friday	Year 8

Pop-up - it would be great to see you! Why not use some of your designated lunchtime in the LRC to work through your homework, so that the winter evenings aren't taken up by stacks of homework?

LRC Clubs

Unfortunately it has not been practicable to run our traditional LRC clubs in Term 1. However, hold onto your hat ... we have grand plans for activities when things are a little more normal! More news will be released in the next Newsletter.

CLASSICS COLLECTION

A fancy, speedy and fresh spinner shining out of the catalogue was too much for us to resist - and so we have invested in a new display unit for our neat collection of Wordsworth Classics books. They include works by the Brontes, Dickens, Orwell and Woolf, together with many others. Cathy and Heathcliff would be rightly proud - 'Wuthering Heights' takes pride of place! Take a look - it's located in the LRC Reception area.

ONE-LINER REVIEWS

A big thank you to Mr Kearney's Form Group - 7M - who have shared some of their favourite books, summarised by these enticing one-liners:

Samy A-M: The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes (Suzanne Collins) - "I really recommend this book! An intriguing mystery book based on the 10th annual Hunger Games!"

Oliver B: Grandpa's Great Escape (David Walliams) - "I like it because of the way it flows and it's a suitable length. It is about a Grandad who escapes in a plane!"

Archie C: The Lightning Thief (Rick Riordan) - "This book is a real page turner. I keep wondering what is on the next page! Percy Jackson is no ordinary boy who is on his first school trip. This 12 year old boy might have accidentally vaporized his maths teacher ..."

Will H: Harry Potter Series (J. K. Rowling) - "Journey with Harry through all seven books and follow him from his first encounter with Voldemort, his years at school and the final battle. These action-packed fantasy novels tell the ultimate story of Hary and his companions, and the fight for good over evil."

Joshua L: One of Us is Lying (Karen McManus) - "A great book where truth and dare becomes deadly".

Alex P: The Hunger Games (Suzanne Collins) - "The Hunger

Games is my favourite book because it is fast-paced, exciting and impossible to predict. It takes you to the dystopian world of Panem and follows the story of Katniss Everdeen, fearless hunter and compassionate sister".

NEW ACQUISITIONS

"Buy that one! That one too! And that one!" That was the sound of Mrs Mattison and Mr Kearney during lockdown as we perused the online book catalogues. We used the time afforded by the school closure period to purchase, catalogue, cover and shelve 100s (literally) of new books - both fiction and non-fiction. Here's a taster of some of our new, non-fiction resources:

Book Title	Author	Subject & Classmark
Trials of the State: law and the decline of politics	Jonathan Sumption	340.115 Social Sciences
GCSE WJEC Eduqas English Language: for the grade 9-1 course: the revision guide	CGP	420 Languages
Short Stories in French for Beginners	Olly Richards	448 Languages
Short Stories in German for Beginners	Olly Richards & Alex Rawlings	438 Languages
Hidden Half: Unseen forces that influence everything	Michael Blastland	523 Sciences
Elephant Whisperer: learning about life, loyalty and freedom	Lawrence Anthony	590 Sciences
High Performance: when Britain rules the roads	Peter Grimdsdale	629.1 Technology
Modern Drama: A Very Short Introduction	Kirsten Shepherd-Barr	792 Arts
The Student Handbook for Drama	Brian McGuire	792 Arts
Shakespeare's Sonnets & Poems: A Very Short Introduction	Jonathan Post	821 SHA Literature
No Fear Shakespeare: Hamlet	Sparknotes	822.33 HAM Literature
This is Shakespeare: how to read the world's greatest playwright	Emma Smith	822.33 SHA Literature
Appeasing Hitler: Chamberlain, Churchill and the road to war	Tim Bouverie	941.084 History
Vietnam: Epic history of a tragic war	Max Hastings	959.7 History
David Bowie: A Life	Dylan Jones	920 BOW Biographies
Eternal Boy: The Life of Kenneth Grahame	Matthew Denison	920 GRA Biographies

If you have a book that you would like to recommend for purchase, please speak to Mrs Mattison or Mr Kearney and we will see what we can do to accommodate your request.

Mrs Mattison & Mr Kearney

SPEECH NIGHT

Speech Night 2020 was a very different affair from the decades of events before it. Nevertheless, despite the difficulties caused by current restrictions, it was important for us to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students.





HOME TO SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Communication between home and school is one important part in enabling the school to maximise the support we can give to your son.

It is often difficult to communicate directly with teachers as they have a full timetable or other commitments and of course many parents have busy lives too.

Contacting School

The most direct way of communicating with teachers is to write a note in your son's planner. Your son should show the note to the teacher and if further communication is required, the teacher will contact you either by telephone or email.

Medical and other appointments or absences should be notified to the school office via email: admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk or telephone: 01476 563180.

If you would like to speak with a member of staff on a more urgent matter, please email or telephone the school. Office staff will then relay this message to the staff member as soon as they can, usually via email. Teachers are usually engaged in teaching, duties or other related matters and not always in a position to check emails immediately. Part-time staff may take longer to respond, and therefore emails should only be used for non-urgent communication that cannot be done via the student's planner.

With over 1200 students at King's the day to day care, welfare and safety of your son is managed by the staff closest to them. In the first instance, please address communication to the following members of staff who are responsible for your son, in the following order:

Form Tutor - for day to day or pastoral concerns.

Head of Year - for pastoral concerns or Subject Leader - for specific Subject concerns.

Deputy Head Master - Mr Dixon on matters of complaint or safeguarding

Head Master

If you urgently need to see or speak to someone, e.g. if there is a serious family emergency, serious issue or a child protection issue, please telephone the school and the office staff will find a senior member of staff.

Meetings with staff should as far as possible be pre-arranged so that schedules can be adjusted if necessary.

For non-urgent meetings we will aim to meet with you within 5 working days.



School contacting home

If there is an emergency with an individual student, for example, in the case of illness, we will telephone parents as soon as possible.

In normal circumstances information for the attention of all parents is sent via email. Please ensure that your email contact details are up to date and any changes notified to the school office.

School website. Please check the school's website for any further information.

Parents, Teachers and Friends Association



Annual General Meeting

The Parents, Teachers, Friends Association actively supports the school, teachers and pupils by organising events to raise funds for the school community.

Due to restrictions in place, our ability to hold face to face events and raise funds is currently limited; therefore the PTFA is working on how to continue the fundraising efforts by organising remote events.

We rely entirely on the goodwill, energy and participation of parents and teachers and would like to welcome anyone wanting to get involved.

The PTFA AGM will be held on the evening of the 17th November 2020 and we would like to invite all parents to join us to hear about the plans for 2021. We currently have 2 vacancies, Chairman and assistant Treasurer, therefore we would welcome any parents interested in supporting the PTFA in either of these functions.

Details of how to join the video call to attend the AGM will be sent after the half term break and we look forward to seeing you on the 17th November.

Gold Card Club

The King's Gold Card Club scheme is a monthly cash prize draw that helps support the work of the King's PTFA, which in turn supports the school in various projects. The Gold Draw is open to anyone over the age of 18, not just parents/carers - so grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends and former students are welcome to participate too - this is an easy way to make a difference to the school.

An annual payment of £10.00 entitles participants to be included in the ten monthly prize draws, which currently stand at £60.00, with two prize draws of £450.00 each year. Check out Gold Club Card details in the PTFA section of the school website.

Keeping in Touch

You can look up information on what is happening or get in touch with the PTFA via:

 @KingsPTFA

 @KingsGrantham

 Kings PTFA Secondhand uniform - ptfauniformshop@gmail.com

 admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk

We look forward to seeing you at one of the meetings or events and would like to thank you again for your support.

Please have a look at what we do in more detail on the school's website. Find us in the PTFA section of the website under 'Parents & Students'.

Combined Cadet Force

The Contingent has faced some challenges this year as a consequence of the SARS-Cov-2 Pandemic and has not paraded since March 2020.



Contingent staff, under a strict Covid-19 Risk Assessment, returned to training on 1 September 2020. They have conducted revision training to ensure CCF adults skills are back to the levels they were before the restrictions. My thanks to them all, as this has been a concentrated effort to ensure our cadets receive the best training King's CCF can provide.

On 8 October our senior cadets returned to training, wearing facemasks where necessary, and maintaining social distancing. They are pictured revising their Drill Skills with SSI Pulfrey.

All cadet groups will be working in their own bubbles and parents should note the following:

Years 12 & 13: Parading on 16 and 22 October

Year 11: Parading on 5, 12 and 19 November

Year 10: Parading on 3, 10 and 17 December.

We are looking at Year 9 students joining the CCF in the New Year.

At the moment there is no Gliding or Flying for the RAF, and no Shooting or Fieldcraft exercises for the Army CCF Section.

Training will be very limited but my team and I will keep a positive outlook on activities and try our best to maintain the cadet's interest in the months to come.

Thank you for your understanding

R M Ogg, BEM

Lt Col

Contingent Commander

R M Ogg, Lt Col

Contingent Commander





The King's School
Brook Street
Grantham
Lincolnshire
NG31 6RP

Tel: 01476 563180

Fax: 01476 590953

E-mail: admin@kings.lincs.sch.uk