

Headteacher's message



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been an intense term and as it comes to a close, I'm delighted to inform you that students isolating due to a positive COVID result has reduced by 75% this week. It's great to see classrooms much fuller in every year group.

Thank you so much to all parents for your ongoing support and ensuring you continue to test children twice weekly (if they haven't had the virus in last 90 days). This is so important as it supports us in early identification of the virus and in our ability to minimise it being in the school. The Kineton High School community was incredibly fortunate last academic year in that we had very few cases of the virus but that fortune has reversed somewhat this half term, despite all the measures we put in place.

Of course, the school has been fully open and operating as normal this half term and we've been so pleased to be able to offer a full, and growing, programme of extra-curricular activities; sports fixtures and trips. These have included Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and Geography Field trips (all undertaken with an additional COVID risk assessment). There have been some great sporting successes from individual students representing the school (Riche and Izzy in Cross Country for example) and also incredible achievements from students pursuing sport outside of school; Megan, Hope, Meg and Millie in equestrian sports. We love to hear what our students are doing outside of school so please do let us have news of their achievements and successes.

For me, a highlight of this term has to be our wonderful Open Evening that took place on 23rd September. It's always a privilege to welcome parents and members of our community to the school but this year I was so proud of our students. The many positive comments we had, mentioned how friendly, loyal and enthusiastic our students were about the school and about learning here. Please commend your children if they volunteered; there were many who helped on the night doing a variety of activities.

Plans for our new school building are still underway and work is anticipated to start in April 2022 after a slight delay. A public consultation will go ahead in the week after the half term; please check the website which will be updated once we have confirmation from our contractor.

Finally, we'd like to congratulate Bilton and Southam schools, our partner secondaries in the Trust, on their inspection reports published this half term. Fabulous validation for all the hard work of the teams at each school!

I wish all our students a safe and happy half term; please can everyone take a LFT test on the Sunday before returning on the 1st November.

Ms Bridge

Message from Mr Larner



Dear Parents/Carers,

I have joined Kineton High School this September in the role of Assistant Headteacher, taking the lead on teaching & learning, and developing the curriculum for all of our students. I shared some of the same nervous feelings the new Year 7s may have had back on their first day. One being how would I ever suss out the layout of the school with its labyrinth of corridors and odd room numberings. Fortunately as the Year 7 students will have experienced by now, the teaching and non-teaching team here at Kineton go the extra mile to make everyone feel safe and welcome. The family orientated community at the school welcomes everyone from all walks of life with open arms, and provides a platform for the children to realise their ambitions.

Having spent some time here now, and firmly at the driving seat for teaching and learning, I would encourage all parents or carers to have three conversations with their children over half term.

1. Encourage them to take some time out to read. It's great for mental well-being and is one of the best ways to prepare them for their lifelong academic journey.
2. Ask them what homework they have over the half term. The curriculum is incredibly knowledge intensive, students are expected to know a lot and to remember it. Students should and will have homework over half term, and will need some help organising it alongside all of the more fun stuff.
3. Discuss with them what they might like to do when they're older. It doesn't have to be a career driven conversation, but certainly setting up some goals and realising what is potentially out there would be very beneficial to all of them.

I hope the students have a good half term break, and come back ready and eager to learn in the second part of the Autumn Term.

Best wishes,

Mr Larner

Assistant Headteacher

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Back at the start of September the Year 13's headed to the Dark Peak area of Derbyshire for the practice expedition. They worked well together, overcame the discomfort of blisters and made it to the end in good time. They seemed to have learned lots in preparation for the qualifying. Lets hope they don't forget their waterproofs this time.



In September the Year 10s got to complete their qualifying expedition for their Bronze Award. The weather was okay on the whole, a little wet on the Sunday though. Well done to all of them as they met the challenge admirably. This included the overnight camp which was a first for some of them. Most seemed to thoroughly enjoy the experience there was the odd "never again".

This weekend the Year 13's are off to the Lake District to complete their Gold qualifying. Good luck to you all.

The scheme has been launched this half term to Year 9 Bronze, Year 10 and 11 Silver and Year 12 Gold. I am sure they are all raring to go. Covid isolations have put us behind slightly but we will catch up.

If any students need help with getting sections signed off then Mrs Briggs is around on Tuesday afternoons to assist.

Congratulations to the following students who have recently completed their awards:

BRONZE; Poppy R, Sophie M, Milly O, Jessica H, Jamie H, Grace A, Charlie A, Chris L, Grace L

SILVER; James K, Elena W

GOLD; Edward B

Certificates and Badges will be issued shortly for Silver and Bronze.

Edward will be heading to either Buckingham or St James Palace to receive his award.

Mrs Briggs, DofE Coordinator

Library News

Library Lessons

Library lessons have resumed for Years 7, 8 and 9. Once a fortnight students come to the Library during an English lesson and are able to enjoy a relaxing read, choose new books and take Accelerated Reader quizzes. Students are expected to read for 20 minutes per day and take an AR quiz on a book as soon as they finish reading it.

Accelerated Reader

Most of KS3 have now completed a Star Reading Test and have been given a new ZPD to enable them to choose books in line with their reading age and ability.

Many students have taken Accelerated Reader quizzes, and we will be keeping a track of the best AR English classes and forms on the run up to Christmas. Their will be prizes!

Well done to the top five AR readers from each year so far:

Year 7 - Julian, Polly, Oliver, Katy, AJ

Year 8 - Francis, Emily, Archie, Freddie, Kaela

Year 9 - Hannah, Grace, Isobel, Hazel, Georgie



Student Librarians

Thank you to our wonderful team of Student Librarians from Year 9 & 10 who give up their free time to help in the LRC at break and lunch times: Mark, Lucy, Marty, Lily R, Molly, Lily M, Samuel, Libby, Letty, Kacie, Lizzie, Tyler, Ellie,



Hannah, Isobel and Otto. Applications from Year 8 students are invited!

Our New Library system

Accessit, is designed to support the whole school community, engaging and motivating students and supporting digital literacy. To see how this looks for students, please take a look at this short [demo](#).

Accessit



Coming soon.... Warwickshire Secondary Schools Book Award

Each year we take part in the Year 7/8 Warwickshire Secondary Schools Book Award. The 6 shortlisted books will be announced in November and students will then be able to sign up to take part. More details to follow!

WANTED!

We are in urgent need of new or used copies of **Manga/Anime**, as they are proving extremely popular with our students! If you have any that are no longer used or needed, please consider donating them to the library and get in touch with Mrs Johnson.

Maths News

Year 7

Congratulations to Year 7 for making it through what proved to be an unusual half-term. In Maths, they have all sat a GCSE Paper from 2012 and have come out smiling. They have enjoyed the challenge of Maths at Kineton so far judging by the thank-you cards I have received from them.

Students have been placed into sets based on the test but we do keep an open mind so if we feel that students are misplaced, we do move them. The next of our termly assessments for Year 7 is in January. We will release some revision topics nearer the time so watch out for a TEAMS message regarding this. In the meantime, MyMaths, Corbettmaths, Pixi Maths and Dr Frost are all very good online resources that students could use at home to revise or work from.



Year 11

Year 11 have come back from the Summer ready to meet the challenge of the GCSE. I've been delighted with their attitude towards work since September.

They are all aware of their forthcoming mock exams and which tier they are currently entered for. Given what's happened in the past couple of years, I don't have to remind them of their importance. Most of Year 11 have now started to revise for it at home. Mymaths, Corbettmaths, Dr Frost and Pixi maths have some excellent revision resources. Maths club is also available weekly with their class teacher – Covid restrictions permitting.

There is a video from the BBC that has some useful advice from Matt Parker and GCSE Examiners for anyone taking a GCSE Maths exam. Please click [here](#) or search GCSE Maths on the BBC website.



Online Help for Isolating Students

I understand that working on new concepts in maths is very difficult even given the high quality video help from Corbettmaths. I would always encourage students to seek help from mymaths or similar sites before contacting staff as it's much quicker and easier for them to do so. However, there are times when this becomes too much and a little tuition would make life easier.

I have therefore, set up a dedicated email account for students to ask for help from teachers at Kineton High School that will be checked daily by maths staff. Students can email: MathsHelp@kinetonhighschool.org.uk if they get stuck with the maths. Staff can then triage the help required and even set up a TEAMS meeting for a virtual face-to-face lesson. This email will not help students if they can't find the work or they are unsure which task to do. They will need to contact their teacher directly for help those issues.

Mr Richmond
Learning Leader of Maths

Sports News

Football



Year 10 demonstrated excellent team work, resilience and character on Wednesday 15th September, beating Champion 4-1 and drawing against Henley 2-2.



Year 7 played their first match against Henley on Wednesday 22nd September, giving a superb performance which resulted in a 3-2 win. Player of the match: Chase.

Netball



Year 11 took part in a Netball tournament on Wednesday 29th September with 7 other teams. They showed great sportsmanship and excellent teamwork, finishing 4th overall.



On Thursday 7th October Year 10 took part in a Netball tournament at Stratford High School. They played really well and made lots of progress. Players of the match: Grace and Libby.

Cross Country

A number of our Year 8 and 9 students took part in the South Warwickshire Cross Country races on Tuesday 21st September, giving great performances. Well done to Isobel and Richie who won their races.



Sports News

2021 Virgin Money Giving Mini London Marathon

Students and staff took part in the 2021 Virgin Money Giving Mini Marathon during PE lessons between 4th - 8th October. They had to run, walk or jog 2.6 miles to raise money for our chosen charity; Birmingham Children's Hospital. In the spirit of the London Marathon, some students wore fancy dress and prizes were awarded for the best costumes. Well done to everyone who took part; we have raised over £1200 which is fantastic!



Do follow us on Twitter and Instagram for ongoing news and information:



Student Achievements

British Dressage Petplan National Championships

Congratulations to Megan in Year 11 who qualified for the British Dressage Petplan National Championships after successfully competing in the Regional Area Festivals. Megan came 1st in both and Medium and Medium Freestyle to Music and 2nd in Elementary. Well done Megan!



British Equestrian Vaulting Championships

Congratulations to Millie in Year 9 who won the 2* Individual Child National at the British Equestrian Vaulting Championships, making her the British Champion! Millie was also part of the EVS Senior Squad who won the 3* British Championship Title. Well done Millie!

The Horse of the Year Show 2021

Congratulations to Hope in Year 11 and Meg in Year 8 who recently competed in The Horse of the Year Show 2021. Their team finished as Prince Phillip Cup Reserve Champions, coming 2nd overall. Hope is also one of only 6 riders to have ridden at both The Royal Windsor Horse Show 2021 and The Horse of the Year Show 2021. Well done to both Hope and Meg!



Notices:

Worcester Warriors Rugby Tickets

Worcester Warriors are offering children up to 4 free tickets for their home game against Bristol in the Premiership Cup on Saturday 20th November at 3.00pm. Click [here](#) to book: and use promo code: BOXKICK21



WORCESTER
WARRIORS

Rockademy Music Lessons

Rockademy are running lessons in Guitar, Drums, Keyboard, Bass and Ukulele, either 1:1 or in small groups, For further details and to enroll please contact Rockademy directly via their [website](#).



Forthcoming events:

Dates from calendar/trips:

- ◆ *Monday 25th - Friday 29th October—Half Term*
- ◆ *Tuesday 2nd November 5.00pm to 7.00pm—Sixth Form Open Evening*
- ◆ *Tuesday 9th - Thursday 11th November—A Level Field Trip to Preston Mountford*
- ◆ *Monday 15th - Friday 30th November—Year 11 Mock Exams*
- ◆ *Thursday 18th November 4.00pm to 7.00pm—Year 13 Parents Evening*
- ◆ *Tuesday 7th December—Year 10 'Too Much Punch for Judy' Performance*
- ◆ *Thursday 9th December—Year 11 Parents Evening*
- ◆ *Monday 13th - Friday 17th December—Charity Week*
- ◆ *Monday 13th - Friday 17th December—Year 11 MFL Mock Exams*
- ◆ *Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January—Christmas and New Year Break*
- ◆ *Tuesday 4th January—Teacher Training Day*

Do follow us on Twitter and Facebook for ongoing news and information:



STAYING SAFE IN THE COMMUNITY

Only talk to people you know

Always tell someone where you are going and what time you will be back

Never walk away with a stranger

Remain with friends rather than going somewhere alone

Tell someone if a stranger approaches you and never keep it secret

If you are travelling alone sit near other families on the train or bus

If you must use a lift, make sure your parents have agreed this. If the drivers behaviour is a concern, ask to be dropped off and call for help

If you are lost, ask for help from a police officer, another grown up with children or someone working at a nearby shop

Ensure you know your home phone number or parents' mobile numbers by heart

Stay alert and keep personal music equipment players turned off so you can hear what is going on around you

Stick to busy, well-lit roads and avoid short cuts through alleyways if alone

If you think someone is following you, cross the road or go to a place with lots of people around like a bus stop or a shop

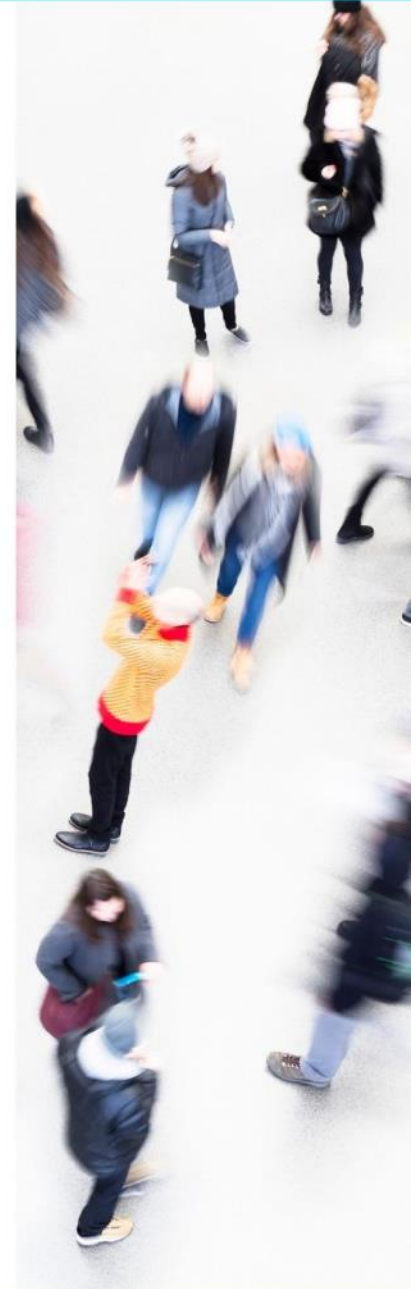
If someone tries to take something from you, let them have it and call the police. You are more valuable than possessions

Keep mobile phones and other valuables out of sight

Avoid places where you know that others engage in risky behaviours

Speak out if you're being bullied or feel you might be in danger

Protect yourself with sensible strategies rather than weapons



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KNOW YOUR SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS IN THE COMMUNITY

Knowledge is powerful in protecting yourself. Know the right language.

Country roads

Always use footpaths/pavements where available. Be safe, be seen! Wear something bright or reflective. Don't use your mobile phone while crossing the road.

County Lines

County Lines is where illegal drugs are transported from one area to another, usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced into it by gangs. The 'County Line' is the mobile phone line used to take the orders of drugs.

Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) - County Lines

Child Criminal Exploitation is common in county lines and occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a type of sexual abuse. When a child or young person is exploited, they're given things, like gifts, drugs, money, status or affection, in exchange for performing sexual activities. Children and young people are often tricked into believing they're in a loving and consensual relationship. This is called grooming. The young person may trust their abuser and not understand that they're being abused.

Open Quarry Water

Quarry water is much colder than rivers, lakes, and the sea. A sudden plunge into cold water could cause your body to go into shock.

Mental Health

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.

Sexual Harassment/Abuse

Sexual harassment can happen in the workplace, education or social situation and involves making unwanted sexual advances or obscene remarks. Sexual abuse is being persuaded or forced into undesired sexual activity.

Prevent

Prevent is about safeguarding and supporting those vulnerable to radicalisation and extremism. Prevent is 1 of the 4 elements of contest, the Government's counter-terrorism strategy. It aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism.

Honour based Violence

Honour based abuse is a collection of practices used to control behaviour within the family and community in order to protect perceived cultural and religious beliefs and/or honour. Abuse can occur when perpetrators perceive that a person has shamed the family and/or community by breaking their honour code.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

(FGM) is a procedure where the female genitals are deliberately cut, injured, or changed, but there's no medical reason for this to be done. It's also known as female circumcision or cutting, and by other terms, such as Sunna, gudniin, halalays, tahir, megrez and khitan, among others.



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Leave of Absence During Term Time 2021-22



Student Absence Procedure

If your child is unwell and cannot attend school please call the **24 hour Absence Line on 01926 645 611 before 8.50am**, stating their name and form, your name and the reason. This must be done for each day they will be absent.

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason other than illness, planned or emergency (part day, full day or multiple days), please always complete a leave of absence form and send it by email to enquiries@kinetonhighschool.org.uk. This form should be used for all appointments (medical, dental, music exams or external sporting activities), holiday requests, religious observance dates and all other reasons or circumstances where your child will be absent from school.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Unauthorised Absence

There are times when children are absent for reasons, which are not permitted by law. Examples of unauthorised absence are parental illness, term time holidays or a family day out. Where there is no explanation for an absence or where the explanation or reason for the absence is considered unsatisfactory absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised'.

Unauthorised Absences have to be reported to the Local Authority. The Attendance Compliance Enforcement Team may contact you where unauthorised absence continues to be a problem.

Unauthorised absence could result in a Fixed Penalty Fine or other legal action. We are always concerned about the amount of school time pupils miss as a result of term time leave. There is no entitlement to time off during term time. Leave of absence is only granted in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Headteacher in accordance with the school policy as agreed by the governing body.

Leave of Absence forms are available on our website

<http://kinetonhighschool.org.uk/absence-form/>

We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

It is our policy:

- Only in an exceptional circumstance will term time leave be allowed. Parents/Carers wishing to apply for leave of absence need to fill in an application form well in advance and before booking tickets or making travel arrangements.
- If term time leave is taken without prior permission from the school, the absence will be unauthorised and you may be liable for a fixed-penalty fine or other legal action.
- Please remember that absence for whatever reason disadvantages a child by creating gaps in his/her learning. A good understanding of the work and good progress can only take place when the child is in the classroom regularly and on time.

If you think you have exceptional circumstances please talk to us without delay and before arrangements are entered into or money committed. If exceptional circumstances are accepted the Headteacher will determine how much absence will be authorised. Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

The full Attendance policy can be found under

<http://kinetonhighschool.org.uk/information/school-policies/>



Leave of Absence During Term Time 2020-21



The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire Secondary School pupils recorded 6,651 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during academic year 2018/19. This is an increase of 602 on the previous year.