

## Headteacher's message



Dear Parents/Carers,

### Exciting Times for Kineton!

After what has felt like a long wait, we're finally about to embark on the new school building project. This week I have had a final, pre-start meeting with our contractor, Wates, the DFE project team and colleagues from the Stowe Valley Trust. Things will start to change from the 11<sup>th</sup> April as the Wates team set up on the school site. For students, there will be little change apart from the fact that parts of the school will be boarded up. The operation of our school will be as normal and examinations will be unaffected. They have been informed about what to expect when they return and of course, we will fully support our students and staff and involve them fully as the project progresses.

There are 5 main phases of the build but key dates are:

- Spring 2023: Sports Hall completion
- Spring 2024: School building completion and handover
- Spring 2025: Demolition and landscaping completed

Throughout the programme, the school will be fully operational.



I will be sharing further information with parents shortly after the Easter break. However, please be mindful that there will be a traffic management gate along the exit drive to enable access for works traffic (which should all arrive on site by 7.30am) and exiting buses and other school users. I advise all parents to drop children off on the Banbury road or in the village to ease any potential congestion; particularly in the initial weeks.

We are very much looking forward to a break after a really successful term during which our students have been involved in many activities and experiences beyond the classroom. Please read on to find out more.

Finally, I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable Easter. We will see all our students on the 25<sup>th</sup> April.

*Ms Bridge*

## Message from Mr Larner

### Challenge



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we move into a world where we tolerate living alongside the virus, we find ourselves experiencing a degree of consistency again. I want to use the last term at Kineton School this year to refocus the teaching and learning around challenge. We need to strip away some of the extra structure we have provided during previous lockdowns, and revisit creating independent learners who are equipped with the skills to question their world around them.

From the start of the summer term in April until the end of this academic year I am launching four months of challenge for the students at Kineton. April will be themed around “failure” and that failure is perfectly okay, and is in fact when used alongside a growth mindset, very much a valuable learning opportunity. May will shift into a much-used phrase in education around the “learning pit” and equipping the students with grit and tenacity to show resilience when they are finding the learning a struggle. It is often this struggle whereby real deep and meaningful learning is taking place, and the students should crave it. In June the school will pay careful attention to “creativity and interactivity”. Students will have more opportunities for debate to practice their oracy skills, and there will be a no pen day to give students more kinesthetic learning opportunities. Finally, in July we will plan activities around developing the children’s “curiosity” and go back to the fundamental aims of questioning their surroundings and ideologies.

Please talk to the children about this at home and give reasoning for why we are doing this. We don’t want school to become harder, this is still a nurturing environment, but we certainly want to challenge them and develop their views and practical skills ready for a long and successful future.

I hope they enjoy the forthcoming themed months and rise to the challenge.

*Mr Larner, Assistant Headteacher*

**WE DON'T GROW WHEN  
THINGS ARE EASY,  
WE GROW WHEN WE  
FACE CHALLENGES.**

## Message from Ms Loveridge



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has felt like a very busy term for both staff and students. It has been a pleasure to see our Year 10, 11 and 13 students approach their many mock exams with maturity and commitment and we hope they continue to work with such dedication as they move into the Easter break. Year 13 continue to receive their University and apprenticeship offers and we are so pleased to say that this year we have once again had students receive offers from Oxbridge, in addition to other top Universities in the UK and apprenticeships with the Police Force and National Grid.

Throughout this term we have been very busy in regards to careers education, work experience and employment encounters; it was lovely to see our Year 8 students engaging with so many employers and employees on our flexible learning day. Students were able to listen and ask questions about a wide range of industries including song writing; digital production; IT; engineering and health and social care. Students very much enjoyed learning about these areas and I would like to thank the many parents who were involved in this day as well as our alumni. Year 12 also enjoyed a lovely day out to the University of Worcester for the UCAS Discovery Day where they were able to speak to a wide variety of higher education and training providers. This has allowed them to start considering their Post-18 destinations. We were delighted to host our first twilight Careers Fair this week and hope that students and parents found the event useful. We hope to make this an annual event. I am pleased to say that our monthly Careers Bulletin, sent to all parents electronically, has now taken off and hopefully helps to support parents and students in accessing exciting opportunities as well as providing a review of what our students have been up to; if you are yet to see this bulletin you can find it on the [Careers Section](#) of our website.

Finally from me, we have begun to launch our new digital careers platform Gro Far. The roll out of this careers and work experience software will begin with Year 10 and 12 and will then follow with Year 9, 8 and 7 who will all be registered on the software by the end of the year. The aim of Gro Far is to help students build a comprehensive career and work experience passport and access the resources and opportunities they need to be successful working adults. Students will track any careers or employability related activity they complete, including extra-curricular activities, on the system and will also organise, track and reflect on their work experience through the app. The software also provides students with the opportunity to set targets and goals and reflect on the various skills for life they are developing in and out of school. Parents will receive further information about Gro Far once their child's year group has been set up. This is a really exciting piece of software that will enable students to create and maintain a careers focused passport that continues with them from Year 7 to 13, building a strong portfolio of evidence for personal development.

I hope both parents and students have a wonderful Easter break and return ready in the Summer term refreshed and ready for the challenges ahead.

Best wishes,

*Ms Loveridge, Assistant Headteacher*

## Humanities Club

*Written by Sam, Year 7*

Since starting in Year 7 at Kineton High school this year, I have begun to participate in Humanities Club. If you're not sure, Humanities consists of History, Geography and Religious Studies. It takes place most Wednesdays after school and is in room 24. In Humanities we started making a model of our interpretation of medieval Kineton. Soon, our model will be exhibited in Konnect as part of a museum we are curating. We then started making paper lanterns and candles in honour of any festival of light. It is quite a nice little group of students and Mrs Rutherford-Edge, Mrs McGrattan, and sometimes other Humanities teachers. We have learned how to do a wide variety of skills including doing papier mâché modelling, tissue paper stained glass windows, researching on the computer and reading Edwardian hand-writing.

Recently, we investigated artefacts from World War One, including relic weapons and original postcards, which was very interesting and fun. We also went to King John's mound so we could measure it for our model.



Another thing I like about Humanities Club is the atmosphere in the room. All the teachers who take time out of their evening work hard to make it a nice place to be and to keep us entertained and are very friendly. I feel very included at Humanities because everybody has a role that is very fun and can often take up the whole session! I have made many friends at Humanities since there are people from other classes and some year 8s. In conclusion, I would strongly recommend attending Humanities Club if you are interested in these sorts of topics.



## Warwickshire Secondary Book Award

*Written by Ziyad, Year 7*

I have recently had the opportunity to write this article for the newsletter about the amazing school trip which some lucky Year 7 students were able to go on for the Warwickshire Secondary Book Awards 2022, organised by Warwickshire Books, the Schools Library Service and the County Council.

Over the past months, the participants of the Year 7 Book Awards have been reading six books which have been shortlisted for the awards, written by various authors in the past year. These included lots of stories about topics as diverse as friendship, monsters, and life for teenagers in school. We came together for several meetings to discuss our thoughts and feelings about the books and we had a visit to the school from Angela, who helped to organise the event.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> March, we rode on the minibus to Warwick School where we were able to enjoy an inspiring talk from all six authors about their books, what inspired them to write and even what their favourite snack is while writing! This marked the first time that some of the authors were able to visit in person since the beginning of lockdown in 2020 – three of the celebrated authors were in the Bridge House Theatre itself, whilst the other three joined the talk virtually.

We all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and we were able to have a final celebration for our own librarian, Mrs Johnson, who is now retired after working at this school for 23 years. Signed books from the authors were available and we had a great time meeting the people who helped this book award to take place!

The shortlisted books were:

- ◆ The Humiliations of Welton Blake' by Alex Wheatle;
- ◆ Cardboard Cowboys' by Brian Conaghan
- ◆ The Monsters of Rookhaven' by Pádraig Kenny;
- ◆ Asking for a Friend' by Kate Mallinder;
- ◆ When the World was Ours' by Liz Kessler;
- ◆ The Supreme Lie' by Geraldine McCaughrean.



Out of all of these, the overall winner was Liz Kessler with her book about unlikely friendships and trust during World War II, 'When the World was Ours', although all of the writers did incredibly well to reach the shortlist. You can find all of these books in our school library.

This event was so brilliant to be able to participate in – we all loved every moment of it, so we all wish to say a huge 'thank you' for those wonderful staff who took us on the trip and who gathered us all together to take part!

## Art News

It has been a really exciting term in our department, the creativity is bouncing off the walls!

Year 7 have just finished their Kandinsky and Fauvism projects where they have been exploring colour theory and getting to grips with a paintbrush. They are now starting the Pop art project, which is always a favourite project with staff and students.



Year 8 have just completed their Surrealism project where they look inside the incredible minds of artists like Salvador Dali and Rene Magritte. They also learn how to use one point perspective and draw a

fantastic room composition. Year 8 are now moving onto the Jungle project where they are taught how to draw animals accurately and explore the paintings of Henri Rousseau.

Year 9 are continuing their Living British Artists Project, looking at and learning about the diverse range of art by fantastic and eclectic creatives including, Yinka Shonibare and Joel Penkman. The sketch books that Year 9 are producing are absolutely amazing and the art department have been blown away by the standard.

Year 10 are exploring the world of historical and traditional art in a project called 'Cultural Decoration' based on the collection of the British Museum. They have been studying artefacts such as African tribal masks and Egyptian sculptures. The standard is incredible!

Year 11 are having their final push towards finishing their portfolios of work before the GCSE moderator descends on us in May. They are completing the course with a project called 'Food and Drink' we are really pleased with the exciting range ideas that have been produced.

Year 12 are working really hard (they are never out of the 6<sup>th</sup> form studio!) on a really diverse range of interesting ideas in both A Level art and Photography. At the moment on the desks in the studio we can see moths, drag queens, mousetraps, otters and lots of bones!



Finally, Year 13, as you walk past the Sixth

Form studio you will notice the distinctive smell of oil paint and the hum of concentration...you will also hear the constant laughter and very friendly chat which ALWAYS comes out of this room! We are really proud of our year 13s, they are working so hard on their final pieces of work for their A Levels, their dedication and hours of work is outstanding!

## Art News

In other art department news, the attendance to our after school clubs and masterclasses are super and numbers are growing all the time! In the summer term we will be continuing with the following:

- ◆ Tuesday – Year 9 Masterclasses (rm 27) & GCSE Support in (r 33)
- ◆ Wednesday – 3D art Club in room 33 All years welcome & GCSE Support in room 27
- ◆ Thursday – 2D art club in room 47 All year welcome & GCSE support in room 33



Years 7 & 8 ILT Independent Learning Tasks have been set both with the same deadline of May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Please take a look at our online gallery on Instagram [kinetonhighschool\\_artdept](https://www.instagram.com/kinetonhighschool_artdept) you can see lots of amazing work by our students.

Finally, we would like to congratulate all our art and photography students for their hard work. It has been great to see so many collecting their 'Lucky 7' awards. We would also like to congratulate the following students for 'Artists of the Term' nominated by their teacher. Enjoy your chocolate prize!

7A2 Jemma G	7B1 Olivia C	7B2 Polly J	7A1 Charlotte C
7A3 Riley T	7B3 Erin S		
8B2 Hazel J	8B1 Hattie L	8A2 Harry S	8A3 Dillon T
8A1 Emily M	8B3 Joe B		
9N Catalina K	9L Sky H-W	9Q Amy R	9M Mollie F
9P Lizzie A			
10 Grace G			
11 Hannah G	11 Sophie M		
12 Photo - Sky S	12 Art - Martha F		
All Year 13 Students!			

## Year 8 Geography Challenge

Year 8 recently took part in a Geography challenge to make an earthquake proof tower using only spaghetti and marshmallows. They all did an amazing job and congratulations go to Sam, Toby, Vlad, Harry, Bradley and Aedan in Mr Lerner's class who designed the winning structure!



Follow our Geography department on Instagram for pictures of student work, lots of interesting facts and images and much more! [kinetonhighschool\\_geogdept](https://www.instagram.com/kinetonhighschool_geogdept)

## Year 12 Geography Fieldtrip

Year 12 went on the A Level Geography Fieldtrip to Birmingham on Wednesday 16th February. We were lucky enough to have a walking tour of the city centre regeneration sites with Kasir Ijaz, Principal Development Planner from Birmingham City Council in the morning. In the afternoon we went and collected data to help us assess if regeneration in Birmingham has been successful.

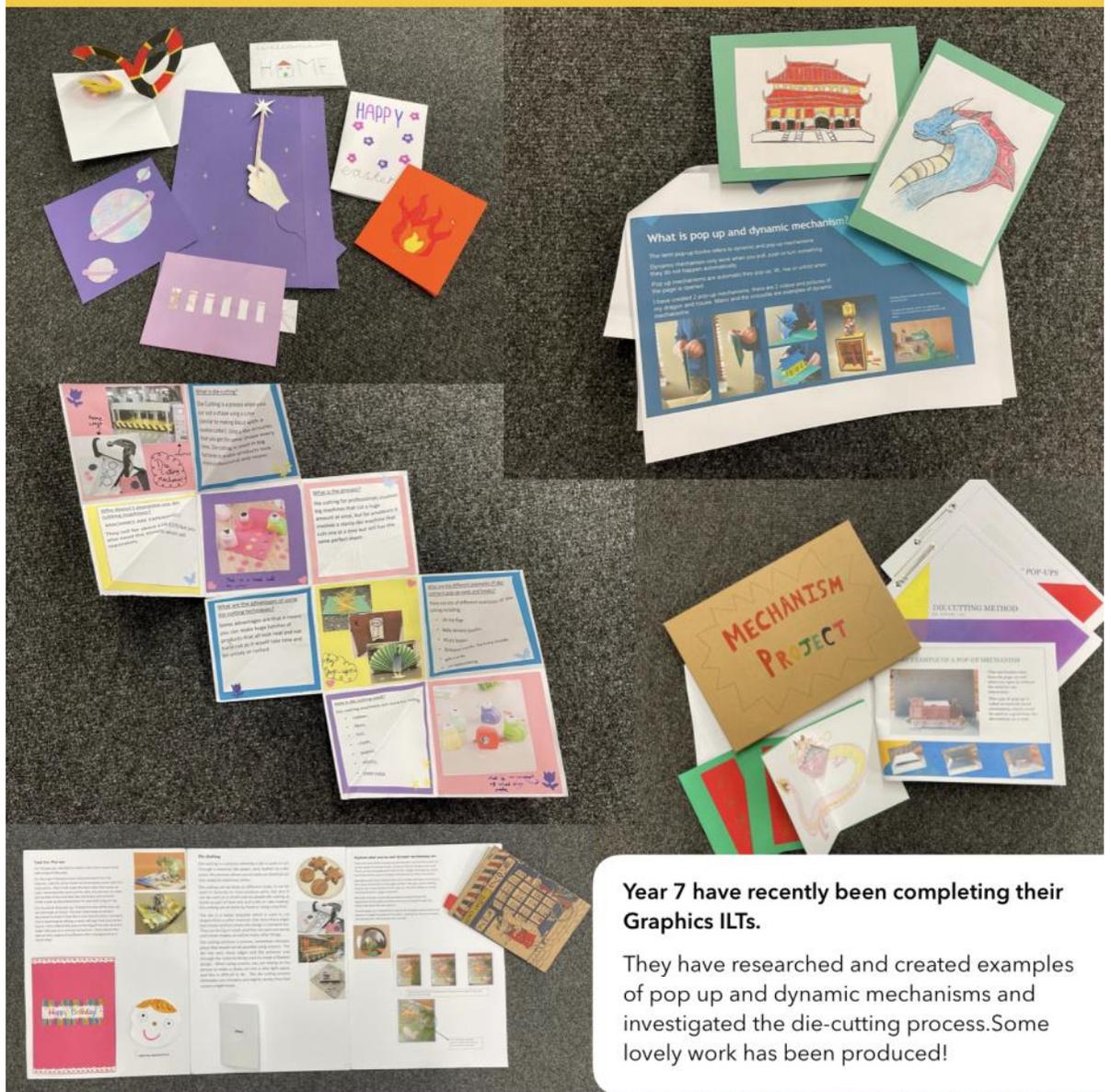
*Mrs Lovell, Head of Geography*



## Year 7 DT

KINETON HIGH SCHOOL MARCH 2022

### YEAR 7 DT ILTS



Year 7 have recently been completing their Graphics ILTs. They have researched and created examples of pop up and dynamic mechanisms and investigated the die-cutting process. Some lovely work has been produced!

**RESPECT • EQUALITY • COLLABORATION • RESILIENCE**

## Stowe Valley MAT Latest News

### STOWE VALLEY MATHS PROJECT DAY



**Kineton High School were delighted to host the first Stowe Valley Trust Maths Project Day last week.** Year 9 students from Bilton School, Southam College and Kineton took part in a range of tasks and challenges throughout the day focusing on developing problem solving, teamwork and communication. We were really impressed with all the hard work and congratulations to Kineton students who were the winning team overall.

**Thank you to Mr Moulder for organising and running the day, it was enjoyed by all.**



LATEST NEWS | MARCH | 2022



## World Book Day

KINETON HIGH SCHOOL MARCH 2022

# LATEST NEWS



### Author Visit

On Monday 28th February Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils were treated to a visit by well-known children's author, Bali Rai. During his three sessions, Bali talked and enthused about on a variety of different issues relating to his life as an author and his books. Topics included diversity, prejudice, empathy, citizenship and politics. Bali's passion, combined with his humour and relaxed style, meant that despite the serious content the sessions remained fun and were totally engaging. Overall, his message is that by having an open mind set, students can change their path and increase their chances of future success, and it starts with reading!

As well as reading from a couple of his own books he recommended several other excellent YA authors writing about real-life situations and characters (all of which can be found in the school library!)

Bali also met with Year 12 English Language and Literature students in the library for a workshop on how to create empathy in creative writing.

Judging by the comments from pupils and the number of Bali's books borrowed from the library, the visit was a resounding success!



RESPECT • EQUALITY • COLLABORATION • RESILIENCE



## Year 13 Go Ape

KINETON HIGH SCHOOL APRIL 2022

# LATEST NEWS



### Year 13 Go Ape

Year 13 have had a great day at Go Ape Coventry today; taking risks, working together and enjoying a memorable experience after all of their hard work this term on their mocks!



RESPECT • EQUALITY • COLLABORATION • RESILIENCE



## Sports News

### Football

We are extremely proud of all 6 of our Football teams who qualified for the semi-finals of the District Cup this term.

Our Year 10 team made it to the final and played a brilliant game against Southam College on Wednesday 6th April. Sadly they missed out on bringing the cup home as the match finished 3-2 to Southam. The team have played some outstanding football all year and were undefeated until this game. They are a credit to our school having shown great sportsmanship throughout.



**FOOTBALL**  
**DISTRICT CUP FINAL**





## Sports News

Trampolining

KINETON HIGH SCHOOL MARCH 2022

### SPORTS NEWS TRAMPOLINING



We are extremely proud of our Year 7/8 girls trampoline team who finished 1st overall in the South Warwickshire Trampolining competition this week. Our Year 9/10 girls also took part and came 3rd! Well done to all involved, amazing effort!

**RESPECT • EQUALITY • COLLABORATION • RESILIENCE**



## Sports News

### Athletics



Well done to our Year 7 and 8 Sportshall Athletics teams who competed on Tuesday 8th February at Alcester Grammar School. Year 7 came 5th and Year 8 3rd !

### Hockey



Our Year 7/8 Hockey team took part in the South Warwickshire Tournament on Tuesday 1st March. They played some great Hockey; winning 1 match and drawing 2.

### Netball



On Thursday 10th March our Year 8 Netball team gave a great performance in the South Warwickshire tournament. Well done to everyone involved for representing the school.

### Cross Country



Huge congratulations to Richie M and Isobel W who represented Warwickshire in the English Schools Cross Country on Saturday 20th March. Richie was the 2nd Warwickshire athlete to finish and Isobel the 5th—well done!



## Notices:

### Congratulations

Well done to Ms Purnell's Form 8CP who held a cake sale to raise money for Cerebral Palsy Teens Charity. They raised over £70 which is fantastic. Thank you to everyone who made and donated cakes.



### Year 11 Maths Revision

To mitigate for the variety of effects of lockdown, the government has decided that exam boards can release information about the exams to students. These have been printed and given to all Year 11 students. The information consists of topics that are appearing on each paper and they are in topic order. The lists can be found on the Year 11 website here.

<https://kinetonhighschool.org.uk/key-information/year-11-2021-2022>

Also with the lists is the official formula sheet given in the exam and a list of websites that are useful for revision. If you have any questions please email Mr Richmond, Learning Leader of Maths [srichmond@kinetonhighschool.org.uk](mailto:srichmond@kinetonhighschool.org.uk)

### Work Experience

Congratulations to Year 10 and 12 students who have successfully found excellent work experience placements. Any pupils that need help with finding potential employers can speak with Mr Perkin on Tuesdays in the Library. We would like to thank all the organisations who have agreed to host our students.

## Forthcoming events:

### Dates from calendar/trips:

- ◆ Thursday 7th April - Careers Fair 3.30pm to 6.30pm
- ◆ Monday 11th to Friday 22nd April - Easter Break
- ◆ Monday 25th April to Monday 9th May - Year 10 Mock Exams
- ◆ Monday 2nd May - Bank Holiday
- ◆ Wednesday 4th May - Year 12 Reports issued
- ◆ Thursday 5th May - Stowe Valley Maths Challenge Day
- ◆ Thursday 12th May - Year 12 Parents Evening
- ◆ Monday 16th May to Wednesday 29th June - A Level and GCSE Exams
- ◆ Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June - Half Term

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



# 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](mailto: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.**