

## Headteacher's message



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a very intense and focussed Spring Term which has included so many positive events and experiences. A few highlights of the Term for me have been the incredible production of We Will Rock You; the visit from our World Book Day guest, Dan Freedman, author of the Jamie Johnson series and the Careers Fair held this week. There are many opportunities for our students to have memorable experiences at Kineton, but these are notable for the numbers of students who got involved in such an enthusiastic way.

Congratulations to our exam year groups. Notably Year 11 and 13, who have completed their final practice exams in preparation for the exam season which begins on our fourth week back. We will look forward to seeing everyone back in school on the 17<sup>th</sup> April.

In the meantime, I wish everyone a very Happy Easter and a peaceful and enjoyable break.

*Ms Bridge*

### Year 7 Easter Gardens

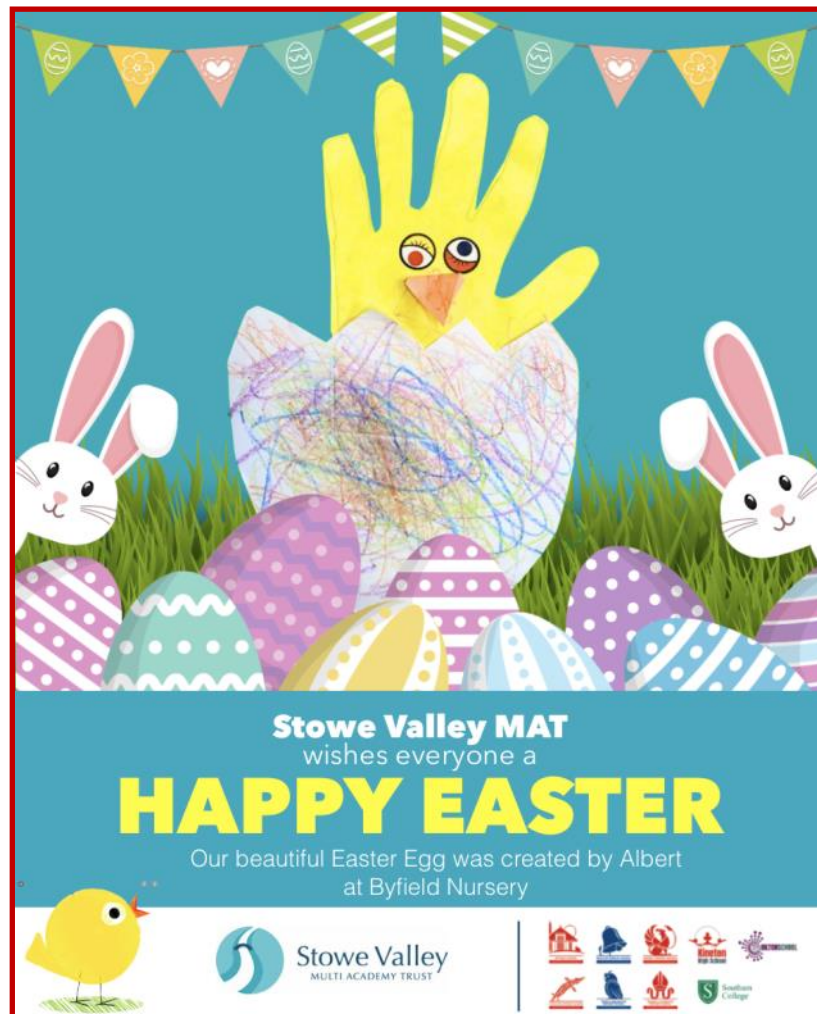


## Forthcoming events:

### Dates from calendar/trips:

- ◆ *Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April- Easter Break*
- ◆ *Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th April—Gold DoFE practice expedition*
- ◆ *Monday 17th April - term starts*
- ◆ *Thursday 27th April - Year 9 Geography trip to Cadbury World*
- ◆ *Thursday 4th May - Year 12 and 13 Back to the Future Musical trip*
- ◆ *Monday 15th May to Wednesday 28th June - A Level and GCSE exams*
- ◆ *Monday 27th May to Friday 2nd June - half term*

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



## New Build Update

This term has seen significant and exciting changes to the development of our new school buildings. Several weeks ago, the Leadership Team were delighted to be shown around the site and to the rooftop of the new sports block. Not only are the views amazing but we were all fascinated to hear about the biodiversity that the spaces will host, in addition to the vast numbers of solar panels to support the school's carbon neutral status.

We can't deny that there has been some noise as the cranes move enormous steels into precise positions, but students and staff alike have been keenly interested in watching the progress; it seems to be happening very quickly!



There is of course, much infrastructure to be carried out and we are kept up to date on the progress of this via frequent reports from the Wates and DFE teams.

The PE department is very much looking forward to moving into the new Sports Hall with its activity studio, fitness suite and an additional classroom. We anticipate this will be by the end of this academic year ready for a September start.

Some of our students have enjoyed being shown around and have written reports as part of their Literacy curriculum and we are grateful to the Wates team for coming to our Careers Fair this week.



## Careers and Information Fair

On Wednesday afternoon Kineton High School held its annual Careers and Information Fair. There were over 30 exhibitors from local Colleges, Training Providers, Companies, and nationwide Universities, all offering excellent advice on the different career pathways available to our students.

The event was well attended, and we hope that the information available has helped provide inspiration to our students, helping them to narrow down their preferred destinations upon leaving Kineton High.

Finally, we would like to thank all that attended to help make this year's event such a success.

*Ms Turnbull*  
*Careers Coordinator*



## Stowe Valley MAT Articulate Event

This week the first Articulate event was held and hosted by Bilton School. The afternoon was a huge success with students and teachers from Southam College, Kineton High School and Bilton School talking about three different key issues. They enjoyed a working lunch together provided by the fantastic catering team at Bilton.

Articulate is an initiative across the Stowe Valley MAT to develop confident learners and to enhance oracy skills. Going forward, Articulate events and visits will be happening on a termly basis to aid and support students across the Trust.

**For further information on Articulate speak to :**  
**Southam College: Mrs Savage**  
**KinetonHigh School : Mrs Adams**  
**BiltonSchool : Ms Ansell**



# ARTICULATE

An initiative across the Stowe Valley Mat to develop confident learners and to enhance oracy skills across the MAT

**FIRST ARTICULATE EVENT**  
 is for 6th form students and will be hosted by Bilton School on Tuesday 28th March at 12.30pm

**TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED**

- ✓ Is vegetarian the solution to climate change ?
- ✓ Should the awards system for actors and musicians be gender neutral ?
- ✓ Should the government repeal the Human Rights Act ?

A maximum of 15 students per school to sign up speak to :  
 Southam College : Mrs Savage  
 Bilton School : Ms Ansell  
 Kineton : Mrs Adams and/or Mrs Rutherford-Edge





## Student Success

### Year 12 - Will B

Congratulations to Will B in Year 13 who won 2 gold medals at the Stourport rowing competition at the end of January. One was for a singles race and the other was a doubles race.

He represented the Stratford Upon Avon Boat Club. If you're interested in rowing they run summer camps every year, watch out for the flyers.



### Year 10 - Richie M

Congratulations to Richie M in Year 10 who recently took part in the English Schools Cross Country Championships held at Wollaton Park, Nottingham. Richie had a great day and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience.



## British Biology Olympiad

Mrs Hancock is delighted to share the results of the recent British Biology Olympiad 2023. Despite the competition window running during Year 13 mock examinations, four students took up the challenge of sitting two 45-minute online papers under exam conditions.

The British Biology Olympiad (BBO) challenges and stimulates students with an interest in Biology to expand and extend their talents. It enables students to demonstrate their abilities and to be suitably rewarded with publicly recognised certificates. They were presented with topics and ideas with which they were not familiar, and so needed to use their problem-solving skills and understanding of core principles. Over 13,000 students from 800 schools worldwide took part in this year's competition.

- ◆ Peggy S and Hugh K were both Highly Commended and will receive certificates.
- ◆ Edward S was awarded a Bronze medal, placing him in the top 20% of participants.
- ◆ Melissa M was awarded a Gold medal, which places her in the top 5% of participants worldwide – a truly fantastic achievement!

For further information please visit their website: [British Biology Olympiad – UKBC \(ukbiologycompetitions.org\)](https://www.ukbiologycompetitions.org)



## Year 7 RE ILTs

Year 7 have been researching and making a religious dish for their ILT. They also did some research to find out why the dish is important to the people who eat it. Some students brought their dishes in to share including Hanukkah chocolate gelt coins, Holi multicoloured milk fudge and Hamantaschen (Haman's ears). We had the opportunity to sample foods that are eaten at Ramadan which some students are currently observing such as Atayef and halva. There were some larger meals like Tandoori chicken and some vegetarian food such as spring rolls that are linked with the Buddhist festival of Vesak.

*Mrs McGrattan, Teacher of RE*





## Year 8 Geography ILTs

8A2 produced some fantastic ILTs earlier this month. They had to create a newspaper article on a tectonic disaster of their choice. The students have gone above and beyond and I'm so proud of them and the work they have produced.

*Mrs Lovell, Head of Geography*



## Year 10 Spray Painting Workshop

A group of Year 10 students recently had the opportunity to take part in a Spray Painting Workshop. The pictures depict their first workshop - trialling their dexterity skills with a double handed drawing task and a lesson on spray painting to then working on bringing their mural design to life with the street artist Michael Batchelor.

*Miss Webb, Teacher of Art*



## Sports News

### Football



On Wednesday 25th January our Year 11 team drew 1-1 in a match against Studley High School.



Congratulations to our Year 9 football team who won the Mid & South Warwickshire 6 a side Tournament on Wednesday 25th January.



Well done to our U16 and U14 girls teams who came 4th and 5th in the South Warwickshire 7 a side Tournament on Wednesday 8th February.



Tuesday 7th March saw our Year 7/8 girls team take part in the South Warwickshire 7 a side Tournament at Stratford High School.

## Sports News

### Football



On Tuesday 21st March our Year 7 boys team played Henley School. The final score was 1-1.

### Netball



On Wednesday 22nd March our Year 7 team took part in the South Warwickshire Tournament held at Stratford High School.

### Athletics



Well done to our Year 7 and 8 girls Athletics teams who came 2nd and 6th at the South Warwickshire Indoor competition on Monday 30th January.



On Tuesday 31st January our Year 7 and 8 boys teams took part in the South Warwickshire Indoor competition at Alcester Grammar School and came 4th and 7th.



# Leave of Absence

## During Term Time 2022-23



### 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 [khsattendance@stowevalley.com](mailto:khsattendance@stowevalley.com). 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

<https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/key-information/attendance-and-absence>

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 <https://www.kinetonhighschool.org.uk/about-us/policies>



# Leave of Absence During Term Time 2022-23



The Supreme Court clarified has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). 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.

The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:

Head teachers **shall not grant any** Leave of Absence during term time **unless they consider** 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. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.

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.

Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

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

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. 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 School pupils recorded 93,366 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2021-22.**