

## Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Intense half term; when isn't it!?

As always by the end of May, the exam season is well underway. I'd like to start by saying well done and good luck to all our year groups who are fully in revision mode over the half term (or at least should be with a few well-earned breaks!). A notable well done to all in Year 10 who have now completed their English Literature GCSE. Our lead invigilator commented on how brilliant they were throughout and on the fact that they seemed to all be writing until the bitter end. Many of them had a real sense of achievement, having written the most they've ever written!

Lovely celebration events were held for Years 13 and 11 before breaking up for study leave. It is notable how disrupted their academic and personal journeys have been over the last three years. All students deserve every success; we look forward to the proms at the end of June/ July.

Lots of learning points this half term; thankfully there aren't many schools who have had to implement the lockdown procedure for real, but Kineton did on 19<sup>th</sup> April. We were lucky to have previously booked a security expert, who advises many schools locally, for the following week. With his advice, we've been able to amend and improve further our procedure. I communicated some of the changes to parents and carers and another practice will be carried out before the Summer holidays.

There has been a flurry of recruitment taking place in school over the April-May period. With the sad news that Mr Leahy, our long serving Assistant Headteacher, will be retiring, we set about finding a replacement. I am delighted that David Murphy, currently an AHT at North Oxfordshire Academy, will be joining us in September. He'll be a great addition to our team at Kineton. Wonderful news too that Glenda Boyle, one of our fantastic Heads of Year team, will come back in the new term as Assistant Head for Behaviour and Ethos. This is a new role that will oversee the implementation of our Kineton values: Ambition, Respect and Kindness as well as supporting and leading the work of the pastoral and personal development teams. Many of you will have already had contact with Mrs Amanda Woodward our new SENDCO and Assistant Head. She is currently with us for two days a week and will be full time in September.

It is with great pleasure that I am able to share the news that our safeguarding team is soon to be complemented by an additional DDSL, Ms Esme Platt and a family support worker, Ms Anna Stowe. As education professionals, we work closely alongside social care; the health care system and the emergency services to support all our children and families. I have no doubt that these postholders will have a positive impact on the learning and education of many young people at Kineton. Our aim is to ensure excellence in Safeguarding practice. Many students got involved in activities to celebrate and recognise Safeguarding Awareness week last week (May 22<sup>nd</sup>).



## Headteacher's message



I like to reflect on the many activities that have taken place each half term and despite a rather disrupted May, with Coronation celebrations, bank holidays and strike days; there have been a good number of memorable experiences undertaken. As ever, Mrs Briggs and the DofE team have been busy, there were 50 students on the practice Bronze expedition over the bank holiday weekend.

Mrs Briggs was also a proud parent as she went to celebrate Edward (her son and ex-Kineton pupil) receiving his Gold award from the Prince of Wales. While they were down there, they bumped into Mia and Joe who were also collecting their awards. A fabulous achievement! Congratulations to them all.

I hope all students, staff and parents enjoy a restful Whitsun Bank Holiday; I look forward to seeing students back on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

*Ms Bridge*

## Forthcoming events:

### Dates from calendar/trips:

- ◆ *Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June - half term*
- ◆ *Monday 5th to Thursday 8th June - GCSE Geography fieldtrips*
- ◆ *Thursday 15th June - No Pen day*
- ◆ *Tuesday 20th to Thursday 22nd June - Year 7 trips to Bourton-on-the-Water*
- ◆ *Thursday 29th June - Year 13 Prom*
- ◆ *Friday 30th June to Sunday 2nd July - Silver DofE Expedition*
- ◆ *Wednesday 5th July - Year 6 Transition day*
- ◆ *Wednesday 5th July - Year 6 New Parents Evening*
- ◆ *Thursday 6th July - Year 11 Prom*
- ◆ *Sunday 9th to Saturday 22nd July - South Africa trip*
- ◆ *Monday 10th to Friday 14th July - Gold DofE Expedition*
- ◆ *Friday 14th to Friday 21st July - Dordogne trip*
- ◆ *Monday 17th to Friday 21st July - Enrichment week*
- ◆ *Monday 17th to Friday 21st July - Year 10 and 12 Work Experience*
- ◆ *Tuesday 25th July - term ends*
- ◆ *Wednesday 6th September - start of Autumn 2023 term*

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



## Pastoral Update



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we enter the summer months there is the opportunity for many in our community to enjoy the extensive outdoor spaces in their social time, for others it is the culmination of many years work in the form of public exams.

For all of our students, however, the summer term provides the chance to reflect on the work of the year and to start to think about their next steps. These will be the two key foci of next term: celebrating the success of the year so far and planning for the future.

Whether students are moving from year 7 to 8, year 11 into Sixth Form or even moving onto post 16 destinations there will be a lot of transition work to complete. As our community starts to focus on the future it's important to ensure that we maintain the standards and expectations of the present.

I have talked recently to students about the values and expectations of Kineton High School. These values of Ambition, Respect and Kindness (or ARK as they have become known) are regularly revisited through our assembly and tutor programme. They remain the pillars upon which our school community is built. Guests and visitors regular reflect on the kindness and respect shown by our students and we are fostering the ambition to succeed right through the community.

So please look forward to more opportunities to both look to the future (for example Year 11 Sixth Form induction day) or to celebrate the year so far (through enrichment week and celebration events), and continue to encourage our students to maintain the values and ethos of Kineton High School throughout their daily lives.

*Mr Gowney-Hedges  
Deputy Headteacher*



## Teaching and Learning



Bear Grylls is a British legend, he served in the UK SAS (Special Air Service) and at one point was the youngest person to climb Mt. Everest in the world, just 18 months after breaking three vertebrae in a parachuting accident. Now the UK's face for Scouts, whose motto is "Be Prepared".



This is an appropriate message to all students at Kineton who need to come to school prepared for every single lesson. Below is some of the ways parents can help their child be prepared, and ultimately successful for their school day.

- ◆ School bag – Students need to pack their school bag the night before, checking their timetable to make sure they are bringing the right things for the right day. It can be too chaotic and last minute if they do it on the morning of the day, so a reminder the night before is really useful.
- ◆ Breakfast – Students will be more awake, alert, and teenagers will have a better temperament if they have broken the fast (breakfast) in the mornings.
- ◆ Uniform – Students must come to Kineton School following the uniform policy. If they are not in correct uniform, they are challenged at the start of the day in form, setting the day off on a negative before learning period 1. If a child is unable to wear correct uniform due to a medical reason, then they will need a parental note.
- ◆ Equipment – Children lose things a lot, but they need to have the right basic equipment for the school day. This includes a pencil case with pens, pencils, green pens for reflective tasks, highlighters, rulers and a calculator.
- ◆ Reading book – Every child should have a reading book that they can take to school and read in English lessons or across other lessons when instructed.

When children are prepared for school, and for learning, they will have a much better day. So a continued thanks for all your support in setting them up to be prepared for the day ahead.

*Mr Larner*  
*Assistant Headteacher*

## SEND Update



Thank you for the wonderful welcome to Kineton. I'm currently in school for two days each week and am thoroughly enjoying meeting the young people. I'm looking forward to working full time at Kineton from September.

I'm grateful to have met with parents and carers of year 7. We will now have a focus on year 8 and our new year 7s for next year.

The department still awaits an administrator and as such, emails are the most efficient way of contacting us:

Mrs Woodward: [Woodward.A1@stowevalley.com](mailto:Woodward.A1@stowevalley.com)

Miss Holmes (Assistant SENDCO): [Holmes.E@stowevalley.com](mailto:Holmes.E@stowevalley.com)

Miss Herdman (SEND Inclusion Mentor): [Herdman.J@stowevalley.com](mailto:Herdman.J@stowevalley.com)

The SEND inbox ([KHSSend@stowevalley.com](mailto:KHSSend@stowevalley.com)) is monitored less frequently.

Please note that morning interventions have now paused temporarily until after the GCSE examinations. This is because out teaching assistants are supporting students with additional needs completing their GCSEs.

Further information about the department and support can be found on our website here: [SEND - Kineton High School](#) (look out for further updates soon).

*Mrs Woodward*

SENDCO



**Stowe Valley**  
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SEND

Special Educational Needs and Disability



May 2023

Mike Few, DSL

## SAFEGUARDING AWARENESS WEEK

at Kineton High School

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### What is Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the Welfare of Children and Protect them from harm.

**Safeguarding assemblies** for all year groups focusing on what it means to be safe

**Tutor activities.** Everyone has a right to feel safe task

**Harmful language** Harmful language will be challenged and can result in a senior detention. Remember the K in ARK is for Kindness in our community.

**SPEAK SHOUT SHARE**



### INFORMATION



#### What is a bystander?

It is likely that we have all been a bystander at some point in our lives. A bystander is someone who sees or hears about something happening but takes no action to address or report it.

In these moments we can choose whether to be a:

#### Passive bystander.

Someone who chooses to ignore what they see or hear, do nothing about it.

OR

#### Upstander/Positive bystander.

Someone who chooses to do something to try and help or stop the situation. Other names for this are being an 'active bystander' or an 'ally'.

We're supporting Safeguarding Awareness Week 2023

22-28 May



**SPEAK, SHOUT, SHARE**

[tes.com/safeguarding-awareness-week](https://tes.com/safeguarding-awareness-week)



## Heads of Year messages

### Year 7

Time has certainly flown since September and we now find ourselves approaching the final summer half term. Soon I will be addressing students in Year 8 with a focus on improved attitudes to learning: effort, progress and attainment. This will be our drive moving forward, underpinned by our ethos of “being the best version of ourselves” in all we do. I will be delivering assemblies on being an ambitious learner, developing independence and being a risk-taker.

Our Peer Mentoring programme has now started to further support Year 7 students, led by Year 12 who have undertaken training across the last month. I hope to be able to extend this across the final half term and into Year 8.

The boys football tournament at lunchtime is now well underway involving over 50 students. We are currently playing league games which will soon be replaced with a knockout tournament. I was impressed with our cricket team’s recent victory and am hoping for silverware from them this year. It has also been pleasing to see so many clubs being attended and the talents and passions of the students starting to shine through; I hope this is continued into Year 8 as it is clear there some extraordinarily talented students in this cohort.

I hope the weather holds to allow us all a relaxing summer break and look forward to speaking with you all very soon.

*Mr Ford, Head of Year 7*



### Year 9

As the half term comes to a close its time to celebrate some of the fantastic achievements in Year 9. As a Year group we have accumulated 34,787 positive house points to date. As tutor groups the competition in hotting up with the leader board as follows;

- ◆ CLM      6239
- ◆ GB        6156
- ◆ BR        5826
- ◆ AMB      5783
- ◆ SEL      5455
- ◆ CP        5328



## Heads of Year messages

The inter form attendance competition reflects a similar pattern with CLM also leading.

◆ CLM	94.2	GB	93.9
◆ CP	92.3	BR	91.7
◆ AMB	91.0	SEL	88.7

A group of Year 9 boys recently took part in the South Warwickshire School games Fits a Knockout competition hosted at Kineton High School. Students took part in a range of fitness activities competing against other schools in the area. Kineton were successful in winning the competition and then represented South Warwickshire in the regional competition. The team of Archie H, Nye M, Harry W, Sam M, Joseph B and Seb HW travelled to Birmingham with Mr Sandford to compete against schools from across the county. Events consisted of bear crawl relays and atlas stone lifting amongst others. Kineton were again the fittest in Warwickshire taking the title of Fits a Knockout Champions! Well done boys!

It has been great to go into Year 9 lessons and get an insight into what students have been learning across the curriculum. I recently visited food technology where students have been researching the cultures of different countries. Some amazing displays and food was sampled as can be seen in the photos below.



With only one half term to go we can look forward to lots of events taking place, students will be visiting Cornwall to surf and paddleboard, during enrichment week there will be a number of trips and of course there will be Sports day when students get to represent their house. Have a good break.

*Mr Daly, Head of Year 9*



## Heads of Year messages

### Year 11

Year 11 started their written exams on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May and they will run until mid-end of June, depending on subjects taken. The practical exams (i.e. Drama, Art Food and MFL orals) were really successful and were a testament to how focused Year 11 has been on their studies.



Their celebration afternoon was on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May from 11.10-12.30 and students were able to leave school early with parental permission, following the assembly. It was a lovely celebration of Year 11's achievements and their Kineton journey. Staff were really excited about sharing their memories and saying a proper goodbye to students.

We also have our Prom on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July; students and staff will be getting dressed up and ready to celebrate. The Year 11 yearbook will be coming out in August and hoodies were given out on Friday.

We wish every Year 11 student the best of luck with their exams and hope that they enjoy their extended summer break!

*Mrs Simpson, Head of Year 11*

### Sixth Form

It has been a busy and exciting half term in Kineton Sixth Form. The Year 13 students are well underway with their exams and are working hard both in lessons and on their independent revision. The students continue to demonstrate fantastic work ethic, resilience and high aspirations. We had a lovely send off for the students on their last day on 12<sup>th</sup> May, with an assembly including leavers videos and a kahoot quiz, as well as group games and activities such as rounders on the field.



Year 12 have also had a successful half term, with students busy completing their enrichment activities alongside their studies. The Gold D of E students successfully completed their practice expedition in The Brecon Beacons. The students completing their EPQ are also working hard, with their final draft deadline approaching after half term. Our New Kineton Cabinet student leaders have made a great start and are excelling in their roles. Keep up the great work everyone, and best wishes to students completing their exams.

*Mr Bonfield, Head of Sixth Form*

## Careers and Work Experience

Welcome to this half term careers department update. We have been busy this half term determining the destinations of all our year 11 and 13s, supporting those still looking for sixth form and college places and apprenticeship opportunities.

Next half term, work with these students will continue, along with supporting the Character and Culture department organising the School's Enrichment Week from 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July. During this week, all year 10 students having not secured work experience placements will take part in certificated virtual work experience days, and year groups 7-10 will meet with external Companies from a variety of sectors for presentations, question and answer sessions and practical activities.

Throughout this newsletter you will see advertisements from local colleges and companies offering open events, work experience and part time and permanent work for students. There is also a free webinar taking place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June from 4-5pm - 'A guide to Apprenticeships, career options & opportunities' – please register your interest via the following link: [Apprenticeships webinar for years 11, 12 and 13](#)

For any questions from students from all years, regarding future career opportunities and how to get there, please contact Ms S Turnbull by emailing: [Turnbull.S@stowevalley.com](mailto:Turnbull.S@stowevalley.com)

*Ms Turnbull, Careers Coordinator*



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Powering Up with Siemens Energy

**What's included?**

Who is Siemens Energy? Where does our power come from? How can I prepare for the world of work? To help build your understanding of these areas and more, Springpod and Siemens Energy have partnered up to bring you a fantastic programme that'll provide you with valuable insight into areas of focus within the company, employability skills, and ways to stand out.

**What's included?**

This programme will cover everything from sustainability and sources of power, to energy transmission and employability skills. You'll have the chance to take part in great quizzes and amazing activities, and you'll even have the chance to hear from leading industry experts along the way!

**Benefits**

- Students aged 13-19 are welcome to apply
- Certificate of completion
- Approximately 10 hours to complete
- Attend live webinars
- Complete at a pace that suits you

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**BALANCE**  
**CREATIVE INDUSTRIES SHOWCASES 2023**

**BANBURY CAMPUS**

**ART & MEDIA**  
THURSDAY 22ND JUNE  
8.30PM - 8.30PM

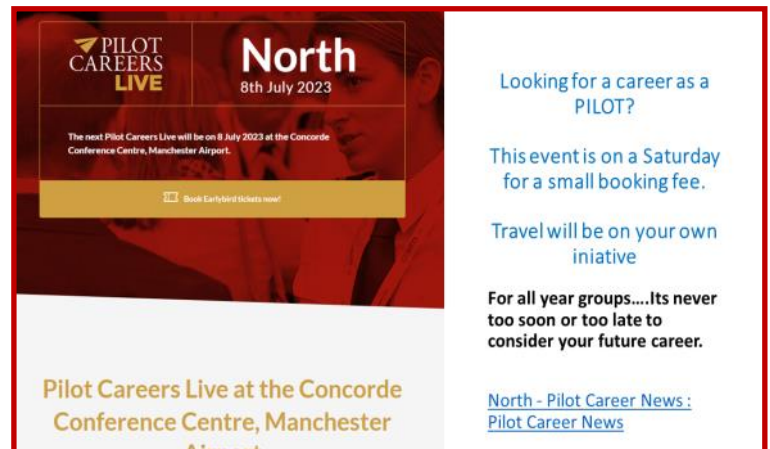
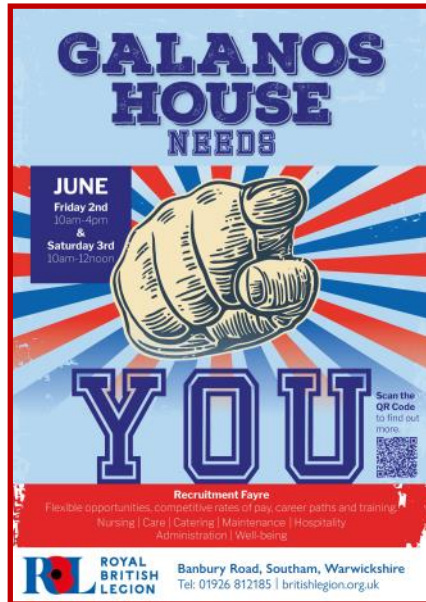
**OPENING NIGHT**  
26TH TO 30TH JUNE  
10.00AM - 3.00PM

**OPENING TO PUBLIC**

BANBURY CAMPUS, BROUGHTON ROAD, BANBURY, OXFORDSHIRE, OX16 9QA



## Careers and Work Experience



On behalf of the school, parents and our students, I would like to say a BIG Thank You to all local and national employers and their staff for hosting our young adults because it makes such a difference to help shape their future choices, builds their confidence levels and gives them invaluable experience

**Work experience week is 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023 and students in both Year 10 and 12 are encouraged to contact their chosen employer (s) over the next few weeks to check any final arrangements, such as their required start time, who to report to, dress code etc and if, possible and local, perhaps, pop in, to introduce themselves, so Day 1, is a little less daunting !**

**Many congratulations to all those students (and thank you to their parents/carers for their patience !) who have secured their places. For those few who are still to return confirmation, please chase this up and approach employers, in person, over half term**

It's great to see the variety of businesses and industries supporting our students, which include Engineering and Automotive (Prodrive, Aston Martin Lagonda Ltd), Retail (Waitrose, Pets at Home, Wellesbourne Pharmacy, HMV), Building and Trades (Bensons Homes, Hillman Builders, Adapt Electricals), Food and Hospitality (Caffeine and Machine, Lighthorne Pavilion Cafe), Environmental and Energy (National Grid, Natural Green Creative Spaces), Health (Kineton Manor Nursing Home, Charlbury Dental Practice), Sport and Leisure (Oxford City FC, The Warwickshire, Stratford Golf Club), Arts and Culture (Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum, Wellesbourne Airport, Cotswold Wildlife Farm, National Herb Centre, British Motor Museum), Defence (Kineton MOD).

*Mr Perkin, Work Experience Coordinator*

## Duke of Edinburgh Award

3 Ex students all attended Buckingham Palace on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May to collect their Gold Awards. All 3 of these students have shown great determination in completing their awards over the last few years.

The country went into its 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown 5 days before Ed's year were due to do their practice expedition, they had planned all their routes practice and qualifying, completed all their training and then lost both the practice and qualifying expeditions. They had to adapt rapidly but his determination paid off, eventually an alternative expedition took place and even though it was not the experience he was expecting, 500 miles cycled albeit on static bikes, 3 bikes refurbished and donated to charity the temporary changes to the DofE programme allowed him to complete all sections. Ed has shown great resilience and adaptability through the challenges that this threw at him.

Mia and Joe put their faith in us to deliver the programme for their year group as things started to get back to some "sort of normal" as we tentatively came out of the pandemic. Training done, practice done we managed to squeeze in a qualifying expedition late in the season for them, the weather was a challenge, daylight hours were short and 1 of their team was still recovering from a recent bout of Covid. They dug deep on that expedition worked together and kept going.

All 3 also managed to complete the residential section which is the main sticking point for those enrolling on the gold award but it really is a fantastic opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and try something new. When

speaking to the students enrolled they are all quite nervous about this section but don't be everyone is in the same situation of not knowing anyone else but it really is a fantastic opportunity.

A nudge to our year 12 and 13 students, keep going, complete the sections, sign up to a residential and have a great time. The DofE message is "# youth without limits" Well done to these 3 who did not allow the pandemic to limit them.



## Duke of Edinburgh Award

Expedition season is here. Over the last few weeks we have had a Gold practice expedition to the Brecon Beacons. This was a very wet and windy experience, conditions added to making this a challenging experience for the year 12 students. Despite some initial navigational difficulties they worked well together as a team and spirits stayed high. It did mean a late finish on day 1, pitching tents in a continued downpour everything was soaked including the ground they were trying to pitch on. The wind was very strong and cooking was proving challenging but they showed great determination to get through it .

The 2<sup>nd</sup> day saw a slight improvement in the weather, a chance to get out on open ground and see some amazing views after the previous day round and round a forest. Lack of sleep, and low confidence meant they travelled slowly in the morning, checking and double checking their navigation. Confidence grew through the day and the afternoon saw an improvement in their self belief and their pace. The 2<sup>nd</sup> campsite was a much better affair, a barn to cook under cover, nice toilets, some hot water and the opportunity to relax.

After a good nights sleep day 3 dawned bright and dry. With renewed confidence the group smashed day 3, keeping excellent time and their navigation was spot on. Next for them is their qualifying expedition in the Lake District in July. Hopefully the weather is kind.

The Bronze groups had their 1<sup>st</sup> experience of expeditions on their practice expedition at the beginning of May. They were all fantastic! They started at Burton Dassett hills or Tysoe and were then navigating to Horley, on the Sunday they then would head to the opposite start point. They all coped very well with the navigation and groups were keeping good time. Some still think it is a competition as to who gets their first, but all groups worked well. There was some fantastic meals cooked at camp which was brilliant to see and made such a change from pasta and tomato sauce. They enjoyed their time at camp in the evening but most settled well to a night in a tent.

Sunday morning was a lovely bright start to the day if a little chilly and some of the students had found it a bit cold overnight. They soon got moving though and all tents were packed away, breakfast cooked and they were off again. Another fantastic day with very few navigational issues, all groups finished in high spirits even the groups who ended their weekend with a climb up to the top of Burton Dassett. Not long now until their qualifying expedition.

So only the 3 qualifying expeditions left for this year. The bronze group are heading to the Cotswolds, the silver group to the Peak district and the Gold group off to the Lake district. If any participant is needing assistance with the other sections please remember to come and have a chat.

Achieving Personal Best



# KHS Update

Volume 5, Issue 4

26th May 2023

## Duke of Edinburgh Award



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## Year 13 Geography Conference

Year 13 went down to London In April to be part of the Edexcel A Level revision conference. As always, they were amazing and picked up some good hints and tips for their forthcoming exams.

*Mrs Lovell, Head of Geography*



## Maddox Jones visit

On Tuesday 25th April, all students in Year 7, 8 and 9 had the brilliant opportunity to be involved in listening to a live set performed by the artist Maddox Jones.

Maddox came to Kineton High School alongside his guitarist Dave to play some of his own songs to our students. A few students were also lucky enough to get involved in singing on stage alongside Maddox with some classic hits such as 'Sweet Caroline' and 'Wonderwall'.

Alongside getting involved in the singing and cheering, students also heard important messages from Maddox about a range of topics related to maintaining a positive lifestyle. This touched on the negative impacts and effects of smoking/vaping, alcohol and drugs. There was also discussion about maintaining a positive mental health and well-being as well.

This was a very positive experience for many of our students, and we have already received a lot of positive feedback from both students and their parents.

*Ms Bonser, Personal Development Lead*





## Year 12 Geography Trip

Back in February the Year 12's went to Birmingham to evaluate the success of regeneration strategies being used in the city centre. We were lucky enough to be given a walking tour by two of the planning team from Birmingham City Council's planning department. The students were fantastic and it has hopefully given them some ideas for their own independent study.

*Mrs Lovell, Head of Geography*



Achieving Personal Best



# KHS Update

Volume 5, Issue 4

26th May 2023

## Year 12 visit Oxford University



Stowe Valley  
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## Sporting Achievements

### Year 9

Huge congratulations to our Year 9 boys who came first in the County Finals of the School Games Fits-a-Knockout competition on Tuesday 16th May. They represented South Warwickshire against schools from Coventry, Warwickshire and Solihull. The day



consisted of 8 different events including Bear Crawls, Atlas Stones, Box Jumps and Sled Pushing. This is a fantastic achievement, well done - we are extremely proud!

### Year 7

Back in April, 3 of our Year 7 students took part in one of the largest grassroots football tournaments at Butlins in Minehead, where 21 teams participated in a weekend of high quality football matches.

We are delighted to announce that Finn, Ollie and Hector played for Stratford Youth and were unbeaten, winning the final 1-0 to earn the team a space at the National Finals taking place at the home of England football -St George's Park.

Huge congratulations and well done to our students and their team; we wish them the very best of luck for the Nationals.





# 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.**