

STORIES

from the Journey:



KCS Head of Senior School Update

10. 01 . 2023



Senior School students canoeing at Camp Arowhon.

Year 3 began with more students, more grades, more staff, and a great start to enriched experiential learning. Enjoy these updates since our [May Stories from the Journey](#).

AWARD-WINNING FACILITY

Thanks to the vision and expertise of our architects at Architecture Counsel, the KCS Senior School has earned a first-place award in the Interior category of the Metamorphosis Awards. Sponsored by U.S.-based Retrofit Magazine, our school was one of only two Canadian nominations to earn an award. The school was also featured in the magazine [Canadian Architect](#).

Of course, we're looking our best when filled with students, staff, learning, and leadership. More than just a beautiful space, the design supports it all.

GROWING ARRAY OF COURSES

We are building a full complement of offerings in science, English, math, social sciences and humanities, communications technology, computer science, business, physical education, French, the arts, and more.

Our [2023-2024 Academic Handbook](#) shares this year's offerings.

Fun fact: In addition to the more familiar multi-sport P.E. course that takes place onsite, at [Eurostep Basketball](#), [The Boulevard Club](#), nearby fields, and more, we are the only school east of British Columbia to offer a rowing-focus course option for a Grade 9 P.E. credit.

In partnership with the Argonaut Rowing Club (ARC) and with the dedicated instruction of an ARC coach as well as a KCS P.E. teacher, students enrolled in this option dedicate much of their P.E. time either on the water, in ergs at the club, or engaged in other training to grow as a competitive team. Participating in regattas is part of the course.

Our annual process for selecting course offerings includes asking students what they're interested in taking the following year. As such, course offerings can vary based on interest. Our partnership with [E-Learning Consortium Canada](#) further expands the courses available.

KCS SENIOR SCHOOL MOMENTS



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- 1: Students at Camp Arowhon
- 2: Grade 9 Rowing
- 3: Experiential Learning Visit
- 4: First Cross-Country Meet
- 5: Great City Wide Scavenger Hunt

PLACE-BASED LEARNING ORIENTATION WITH THE GREAT CITYWIDE SCAVENGER HUNT

KCS Senior School students regularly learn about their subjects by seeing them in action.

The first week of school included the second annual Great Citywide Scavenger Hunt as an orientation to the opportunities and responsibilities that come with place-based learning. Students were assigned to groups of six with one teacher.

All were dropped off at Queen's Park and given a list of destinations and tasks, plus the expectation they would navigate their way to as many as possible while making sure to end up at High Park two hours later.

It was an exercise in teamwork, citizenship, orientation, and time management, with the teacher available only as backup and photographer. This exciting challenge is also a taste of the many sights, sounds, and areas for inquiry that will be woven into future coursework.

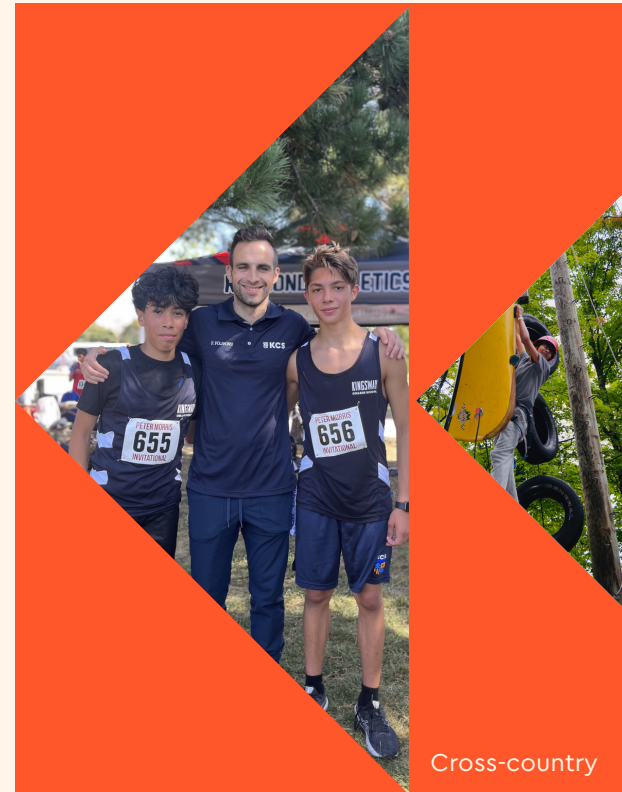


CLUBS AND TEAMS

Clubs and teams are based on student interest. Here are the faculty and Learning Partner-run clubs and teams being offered this fall:

- House Captains
- Flag Football
- Coding, Programming, Virtual Robotics
- Service Club
- Cross-country team and Sports Cross-Training
- Student-led Kafé Club
- Investment Club and Competitive Team
- Debate Club and Competitive Team
- DECA Club and Competitive Team
- Girls' Club
- Art Skills and Mural Club

In addition, we look forward to student-led offerings joining the list of extra-curricular opportunities throughout the year.



Cross-country

KCS BY DESIGN

Where every student is engaged in authentic school leadership.

Each year, every student joins a committee of their choosing in which they will help build the school experience. This year's committees include:

- Academics
- Arts
- Athletics
- Citizenship
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Social and events planning

Meeting each week, our faculty guide students through a design thinking process so they can brainstorm, learn about, ideate, and initiate ways of making a difference of their choosing, whether within the school or beyond. [Here's an article](#), published after our founding cohort kicked off the program, that describes KCS By Design in more detail.

STUDENT-DRIVEN LEARNING IN THE KCS PATH PROGRAM

The KCS Path Program provides time and support for students to exercise the traits of a lifelong learner.

Guided by their Faculty Advisor, each student chooses one or two topics that most pique their interest. Each Wednesday, students take the lead in learning about their chosen topic(s) from an academic, artistic, athletic, citizenship and offsite perspective.

They are also assigned a Path Mentor who is an external expert in their topic. It makes for a fascinating variety of passion-driven learning.

The magazine Humber Happenings recently published [an article describing Path](#) and sharing what some of the learning and leadership looks like.





CAMP AROWHON FOR COMMUNITY AND OUTDOOR EDUCATION

From Tuesday, Sept 12 to Friday, Sept 15 our Senior School students headed north to Camp Arowhon in the heart of Algonquin Park. Our days were filled with canoeing, kayaking, hiking, personal strengths workshops, spoon carving, paddling a voyageur canoe, team building, rock climbing, and so much more!

The final evening included a talent show where the students were given the opportunity to perform for their peers, and a slideshow of over 100 pictures from the week. As we sat in our gratitude circle on Friday morning students were able to reflect on the week and share one thing that they would bring back to KCS from the camp experience.



OPEN HOUSES

We have many **Open Houses** scheduled this year, including one on **Thursday, October 5, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., at the Senior School.**

Please visit www.kcs.on.ca/academics/senior-school to learn more about the KCS Senior School and how it allows students to thrive at school and beyond. Even better, [sign up for an Open House](#) so you can see for yourself! If you have questions or wish to book a personal tour, please reach out to Nichola Ward, Office Manager, at nward@kcs.on.ca.

I hope you've enjoyed this update as much as we're enjoying the journey.

Kind regards,



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