



# Parents' Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Dear parents and guardians of Sixth Form students,

For those of you lucky enough to get a coveted ticket for the school production of *Les Misérables* this week, you will no doubt share our feelings of immense admiration and respect for the students involved, and their commitment, hard work and resilience. Sixth Form students took leading roles not only on the stage, but also in being superb role models for younger pupils 'behind the scenes'. This week's run of productions has been a wonderful demonstration of the exceptional standard of work our young people are capable of, given the encouragement and opportunity. We're really proud of them, and grateful to the staff involved in the many hours of rehearsals beforehand.

In our **Next Steps** programme, a representative from **PricewaterhouseCoopers** came to speak about the education and training possibilities created by large companies, such as degree apprenticeships and sponsored degrees. We ensure students have access to information about all of the available options and routes into further and higher education and employment, and encourage them to use the **Unifrog** platform to explore these in further depth. Unifrog has a wide range of information and further resources on everything from degree subjects to transferrable skills useful for employment – ask your son/daughter to show you around the website: it might lead to some interesting discussions!

A representative from South Hams **Citizens Advice Bureau** led an interactive session with both year groups today about the information and support available for 'real life' issues such as employment law, consumer rights and financial questions. We were also very glad to host the CEO of **Plymouth & District Mind** in Year 13 assembly on Monday, to speak about the work done by this mental health charity and to celebrate the fundraising efforts of 13PJO/SMI last year – they raised a total of £1061 for Mind (with a little help from their friends, family and wider community).

As well as inviting the world in to us, we also go out to meet it: this week, our Chemistry students had a fascinating time at the **Royal Society of Chemistry Christmas Schools' Conference** at the University of Bristol, while Politics students attended the Plymouth Marjon University's **Symposium on Justice**, which included discussion of topics such as social inclusion and issues in global justice. It's always a pleasure to take our students to events such as these: they are terrific ambassadors for KCC and it is great to spend time with them outside of the classroom.

We hope your Christmas preparations are going well, and look forward to seeing many of you at Year 12 Parents' Evening next week!

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

- Sixth Form Awards Presentation (invite only) – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 6pm
- PPEs (mock exams) for both year groups – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> January

## Year 12

- Parents' Evening – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December