

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is difficult to believe we are already at the end of January, what a start to 2021 it has been! We have reached the end of week 4 of remote live lessons and I continue to be thoroughly impressed with what the students are achieving with the support of you at home alongside with amazing staff. We have managed to support many families through the DfE laptop initiative and also have received some incredibly generous donations from friends of the College that will continue to support some of our more educationally vulnerable students. I feel privileged to be part of such a cohesive community.

The consultation on the summer exams closes today, and the outcome of which are due to be published early next week. We will await the publication and will be in touch directly with students and families that this affects. Hopefully we will gain the clarity we need to move forward.

We now know that schools will remain closed to the majority of children until at least 8<sup>th</sup> March and I will keep you informed through our usual methods of communication, as and when we know more about when students will be able to return to College.

Thank you for all of the messages of appreciation that you have sent to us. I delight in passing on your thanks to our staff and they are hugely grateful for the time and effort that you have taken to send such kind words.

Best wishes

*Tina Graham.*

### **Former KCC pupil appears in Netflix ‘Bridgerton’**

We are delighted to share with you that Lucy Booker, former KCC student has a part in the period drama - Bridgerton. Read this link to find out more:

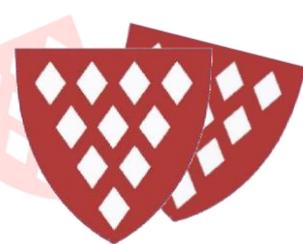
<http://www.southhamsjournal.co.uk/2020/12/former-kcc-pupil-appears-in-netflix.html>

### **Young Enterprise Team Success**

It was wonderful to see the work of this group recognised locally on the front page of the Gazette last Friday. After their success in gaining sponsorship from local businesses, selling over 250 packs of their environmentally themed playing cards and winning multiple categories in the Plymouth area YE finals, ‘Holesome’ donated much of their £950 profit to local 6<sup>th</sup> Kingsbridge Sea Scout group who spent it on tents for their expeditions. This team have worked so hard, developed a myriad of skills and we are most proud of them for their attitude which is always focused on what they can give back to their community. The team would like to thank Kingsbridge Estuary Rotary Club for their ongoing support and we are looking forward to the next YE team whose business ideas are already looking very promising. Watch this space!

### **Careers opportunity**

Thank you to Mrs Devine and Mrs Joyce who have developed an opportunity for our Year 9 and 10 students. On Monday 1st February, students in Years 9 & 10 will have the opportunity to take part in a STEM event being run by the Royal Signals and Royal Logistics Corps of the British Army. Please encourage your child to take part. **There will be no live lessons timetabled for Years 9 and 10 on Monday.** Year 9 and 10 students were informed in their Teams assembly this morning.



### Sixth Form

The Sixth Form team and teachers would like to say well done to all students and families who are working so hard to access and engage with online learning and to thank you for your support. Attendance has been excellent in lessons and registration and students are working so hard in really challenging circumstances. Please do keep encouraging your daughter/son to access the morning sessions where we have systems in place to support with welfare and mental health. Please get in touch if you have any concerns about your child's ability to access online learning.

### UCAS and Next Steps

103 UCAS Applications have now been completed by Year 13 students and processed by the Sixth Form team and many offers are now coming through. My thanks go to parents who have supported in this process; looking towards those future pathways feels more important than ever. Applications can still be processed even though we have passed the UCAS external deadline for 'equal consideration'. Please see our recently published careers bulletin which details some exciting opportunities and sources of information and careers guidance for all future pathways <https://www.kingsbridgecollege.org.uk/834/careers-bulletin> .

### Sixth Form Admissions

Today is the deadline for applications to KCC Sixth Form. Thank you so much for all the applications received; much care and thought has gone into them and they are of a really high standard this year. We are very pleased to report that it is looking like we will be able to run the vast majority of the courses advertised this year. If your child is still considering applying, please do encourage them to complete an application as we are still accepting them; we try our best to offer a course selection which caters for what our students wish to do <https://www.kingsbridgecollege.org.uk/518/how-to-apply> .

### IT Parental Controls

We have had conversations with lots of families about the challenge of young people being able to self-regulate their access to the internet, games, phone, social media etc., especially at the same time of having to focus on remote live learning. In one of these conversations recently, a parent drew our attention to the following internet blocking software: [www.kaspersky.co.uk/safe-kids](http://www.kaspersky.co.uk/safe-kids)

The parent had used this to block games websites etc. for their own children. It sends updates about their web browsing during the day and allows the parent to set time limits. This software has a cost (£14.99 per year) and therefore we are not advocating that you purchase this particular one as there are other free parental controls available, but have included the link in case this useful to you.

<https://account.microsoft.com/family/about> lets you lock your child out of the Microsoft store where they can download games and this is free of charge.

### Key Dates:

11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	-	Year 8 Parents' Evening
15 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Half Term
4 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Year 9 Options
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	-	<b>Non-pupil day</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Year 7 Parents' Evening
2 <sup>nd</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Bank Holidays
6 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Easter Holidays
22 <sup>nd</sup> April	-	Year 10 Parents' Evening
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	-	Bank Holiday