

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

Sir Terry Leahy, at the time the CEO of Tesco, was asked at a conference for his top tip for a school leader. Leahy had taken Tesco from a middle-ranking supermarket to a world-wide, market-beater. His reply was disarmingly simple: I go on the shop-floor and I listen to my customers. They are the ones that tell me the truth.

Since starting as Principal in September, I have spent a lot of time talking with students and parents, and even more time listening. I have heard of your pride in our academic achievements, the success of our sports' teams and our musical productions – tickets for "Oliver" are already heading for sell-out. I have also heard about your concerns about the behaviour of some students, and about the involvement in drugs of some.

We all know that the vast majority of our students are polite, considerate and eager to learn. Yet the small minority who are not, can exert an influence much greater than their numbers. These students have often had successive traumatic events in their lives that make it difficult for them to accept the boundaries that College imposes and yes, drug use outside of College is also an issue for a few.

I wanted to reassure you that I understand why this is a concern, and that we are uncompromisingly tackling issues when they arise. We have clarified our behaviour policy and are rigidly enforcing it. The hiding places that were there in the past have been stripped away. Some students are in the process of moving elsewhere to continue their education in a more suitable setting. We are tackling some root problems in ensuring that teaching is appropriately pitched for all students with differing needs. We are making sure that being at College is a positive and affirming experience for all our students, whatever their starting point. We have always tackled drug misuse with a twin strategy of education and rigid zero-tolerance. I support that whole-heartedly, and am in addition working with the police, parents and other organisations to ensure that this is a community response to a problem that is a community problem.

Kingsbridge is a great school but not a perfect one. We might never achieve perfection, but by working together we will get close. Keep talking to me and thank you for your support.

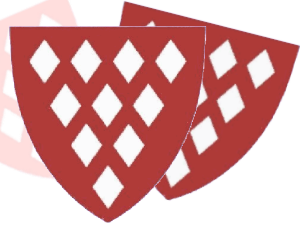
Tina Graham.

Parking and dropping/picking up at College: there has recently been an incident with a moped and car due poor visibility as a result of parked cars on the yellow lines on the road outside of College. To ensure the safety of our students, can I please remind parents not to park/stop on the corners of the roads and double yellow lines.

Hockey v Stover

Congratulations to the Year 7&8 hockey teams who had some well-contested matches against Stover on Monday 4th November. Final scores were 0-3 for the Year 8 and 3-3 for the Year 7s. Well done to all girls that played demonstrating excellent sportsmanship and competitive spirit!

Hockey club takes place every Monday for Year 7&8 and Tuesday for Years 9-11



DofE Gold Practice Expedition

Over the October half term, 6 students from the Sixth Form completed their DofE Gold practice expedition on Dartmoor. Their aim was to study the impact of different industries on the moor, and their route took them around Dartmoor's old tin mines, farms and even movie sets! All students were successful and are now planning their final expedition to the Peak District, which they will complete in the summer holidays.



NSEA



Tabitha Stephenson (Year 10) represented KCC at the NSEA (National Schools Equestrian Association) Championships at Pontispool on Sunday 3rd November. She finished 2nd in the 80cm show jumping, which means she has qualified for the National finals in Hickstead in May!

Very well done to Tabitha!

Fencing

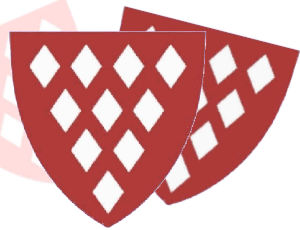
Work has begun this week to continue the perimeter fencing work that was started last year. The aim is that by Christmas we will have a complete fence around the site. There will be no impact with regard to parking on the College site and visitor access arrangements will be communicated in due course.

E-Safety

This link takes parents to a guide about Call of Duty - a popular game amongst young people. Please may we remind you that this is rated an 18. <https://bit.ly/37oZx2k>

Key Dates:

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|-----------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| November | 28 th | Year 11 Parents' Evening |
| | 29 th | Non-uniform day |
| December | 7 th | St Nick's |
| | 10 th -13 th | School Production - Oliver |
| | 16 th | Sixth Form Awards Evening |
| | 20 th | End of term |



PTFA NEWS

St Nick's Fair 2019 - Saturday 7th December, 11.30 - 2.30 pm

St Nick's raffle prizes – bumper hampers of goodies – are always a huge hit. Today each student has been given one book of five raffle tickets costing £1 per ticket. Please sell these and as many more as you can to family, friends and neighbours. **More raffle books are available from college reception where you should also return any unwanted tickets ASAP.**

The tutor group that sells most tickets will win **a film afternoon at school** to see a film of their choice (from the available selection) AND the individual who sells most tickets wins a **£25 Amazon voucher!** To win students must write their name and tutor group on the back of each stub and these must be returned to school by Thursday 3rd December.

Mrs Graham has agreed to a **non-uniform Day on Friday 29th November in exchange for prizes.** Hamper items such as: **luxury chocolates & biscuits, wines or spirits, gifts, special/festive food or drink items, toiletries, tickets for events ~ things you would love to win in a hamper yourself!**

Donations for other stalls from Monday 2nd December

Accessories - jewellery, belts, bags, hats, scarves, gloves, socks – **laundered** if at all possible - **PLEASE no jumble** – thank you.

Bric-a-brac - anything in good condition that will sell – **PLEASE no jumble no clothing** – thank you

Books, CDs and DVDs - good clean condition only - **no videos**

Preserves and chutneys homemade jam, chutney, mincemeat, pickles...

Toys and games - - in good clean condition

Tombola - tins, bottle, jars **in date** please...

Cakes please - **large** cakes sell really well - **please deliver on the day from 10am.**

Plants – indoor or outdoor! **Thank you**

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Like to help at St Nick's?

The rota is now open. Go to <https://1drv.ms/x/s!AkBONe7ep9IIf-4L37LkTHNNI34?e=ahn3JO> and click on 'Edit in Browser'

Just sign up and come along – you will be made very welcome!

