

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

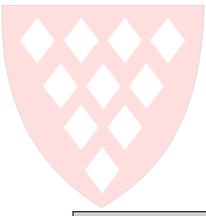
A very warm welcome to this, our Autumn term edition of our newsletter. Can I start by saying many thanks to everyone for supporting the College and our students as we embarked on a productive and action packed start to the academic year. It has been one of the busiest starts to any academic year that I can remember, due in no small part to the enthusiasm and dedication of teachers, students, support staff and of course our highly supportive parents and carers. We have been pulling out all the stops to ensure that we have such a wealth of opportunities available both within the classroom and out and about in the community and beyond this term and making the very best use of the marvellous weather we all have been enjoying. Trips, visits, workshops and fieldwork have been keeping everyone busy, from our Year 7 and 8 students embarking on very worthwhile day visits to East Soar, developing new friendships and strengthening ties across their tutor groups, to our Year 9 and 10 GCSE visits to The Eden Project and St Ives. We are so blessed by the environment we have around us and the learning opportunities it provides.

I would particularly like to welcome our new Year 7 parents and carers to the College community. Our Year 7 students have started exceptionally well and are a credit to you and to their primary schools who have prepared them so well for their transition to secondary school. They have certainly hit the ground running, engaging in the very many enrichment opportunities we have on offer in addition to their classroom studies. I could not ask them to do more. Thank you also for your attendance at our "Meet the Tutor" evening prior to the half term holiday; tutors were overwhelmed by your positive praise and encouragement, thank you.

At the other end of the school community, our Year 11 and Year 13 students have had a very busy start to the term, as we begin their preparation for what will be one of the most important periods of their formal education. Whilst formal pre-public examinations might not have been considered the best start to the year by many Year 11s, it has provided the perfect springboard for improvement with students and teachers working jointly to revisit prior learning, filling those gaps highlighted within the exam responses and becoming yet more familiar with the challenges they will face in the summer term. I have been pleased and impressed by the dedication and resilience of our students and thank parents for all that you are doing in support of their studies.

Lastly, whilst we have had a highly positive start to the year with much to celebrate, we have had some unfortunate staff absence in both Geography, Politics and Mathematics due to illness and hospitalisation. I have done everything possible to minimise the impact that this has had on subject groups and on learning, ensuring that specialist cover staff are employed from elsewhere wherever available. Thanks to parents and students for their patience and understanding, and we wish those staff a speedy recovery.

Kenny Duncan, Principal



Fantastic Start for Year 7!

It has been a fantastic start for our lovely new Year 7s this year: I regularly get stopped by their class teachers to say how wonderful they are to teach and how engaged they are with each of their subjects. They have been a real asset to the school on the Geography trip and each of the East Soar trips where lots of fun was had by all.

Thank you to parents for all your support these past 8 weeks, as well as with the transition from primary to secondary as they really have settled in a treat!

Matt Worthy, Year 7 Leader

Year 7 and 8 East Soar Tutor Group Trip

This term, both Year 7 and 8 have enjoyed tutor group trips to East Soar, many of the groups being fortunate enough to catch the last of the summer sunshine! This has been a wonderful opportunity for our students to mix outside of the classroom and we are grateful to the PTFA for their support. The tutor groups took part in a range of activities during the day. Half walked along the coast from Overbeck's to the East Soar Outdoor Experience, guided by an experienced trip leader. This involved a bit of map reading, some rock scrambling and lots of photography. As well as building their team spirit, we hope the students stopped to take in and appreciate the spectacular landscape that surrounds us. While half of each group walked the coast, the other half took part in various challenges at the farm, expertly led by Schalk and Marijke. Here, they engaged in some competitive shelter-building (and there were some highly elaborate shelters!) and knot-tying, as well as a range of fun team games. The entire tutor group met for lunch and then swapped activities in the afternoon. Throughout the day, the focus was on working as a team, the importance of good communication, and the necessity for respect. Schalk does a fantastic job of combining fun and reflection, and it's clear that the students understand and value the message.

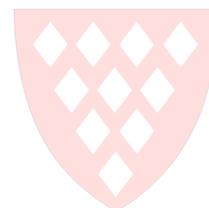
Being part of a tutor group should mean more than simply starting the school day with the same people again and again. Like being part of a year group, it is a collective identity and source of support that exists beyond normal lessons. In Years 7 and 8, this group membership helps individuals negotiate the transition to secondary school. It teaches lessons about managing relationships, difficulties and successes. In Key Stage 4 and 5, the ethos of the tutor group is essential for exam success, as bonds formed over the previous years provide motivation and support when they are most needed. The East Soar trip is all about forging these bonds in the first place. Again, we would like to thank the tutors, trip leaders, Schalk and Marijke and the PTFA for making this possible.

Jon Eaton, Year 8 Leader

Parents' Survey

As you will be aware, we greatly value your comments and feedback on how well you feel the College is doing in caring for the education and welfare of your child. Please follow the link below to complete our online Parent Survey which will remain open until Friday 9th November.

<https://goo.gl/forms/lxB8HHbAQnlvVznW2>



Exams Results from Music:

Coral Heath - Recorder Grade 3 Merit

Laura Derry - Flute Grade 1 Merit

Well Done Poppy!

Poppy and her horse Witchcombe Music Man (Red) competed at the British Eventing 90 Regional Final in September, and have now qualified for the Mitsubishi Motors Cup in May 2019 to be held at Badminton! An absolutely incredible achievement for a 13 year old girl in her second season of British Eventing, with a new horse, that she only starting competing this year. She has had the most fabulous summer with this horse; she competed in Cheshire at the Pony Club National Championships, taking part in Eventing, Showjumping and Dressage. She also competed in Oxfordshire at the National Riding Club Championships in Eventing, where she came 2nd Individually and helped her team to finish 2nd! Every British Eventing outing she has been in the top five, a huge achievement in a very competitive environment.

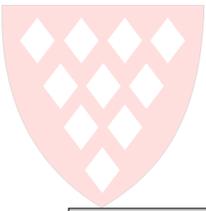
Poppy's next major events are British Dressage Nationals in September and then National Schools Equestrian Association National Championships in October in Bedfordshire. This is with her dressage pony, which also qualified and won at the Pony Club National Championships. Poppy works very hard within the equestrian discipline and she trains before school and after school, whatever the weather.

Noah Claims UK Schools Championship Title

After a lengthy period of lake-like conditions, Newquay's Fistral Beach came alive just in time to welcome surfers to the second stop on the UK Pro Surf Tour. The UK Schools Championships took place on the 16th and 17th July under sunny skies and involved schools and colleges from across the home counties. In the early rounds there were some notable performances from Kingsbridge students in the fun summer conditions. Noah Petersons surfed with power and purpose to smash his first heat, as did Louie Harrow, and both narrowly missed out on further progression. Bo Niblett did a great job in the girls' divisions and Jowan Pegg is starting to show real promise. Jack Parker-Swift surfed with real style and made some tough heats before bowing out just before the finals. All of these results mark an improvement on previous events and are just reward for the time and effort these young surfers are putting in. The signs are really positive for the future and demonstrate the strength and depth of surfers from our local beaches.

By finals time it was left to Noah Capps to represent the College. Having won every heat to that point he wasn't about to be stopped and powered to a convincing victory, beating a number of his rivals to take the Under 16 crown and the rankings lead. In the last twelve months Noah has won the Surfaced Pro in Newquay, the Highland Open in Scotland, the Jesus Surf Classic in Croyde and the most prestigious UK Pro Tour Junior rankings. These are in addition to the English National title he won in May 2017. Next for Noah is his first entry into a senior professional event as he lines up for Boardmasters in early August. The junior tour then recommences in September in the wave pool in Snowdonia. You can follow the action live or catch up on video from the last events on the ukprosurf.com website.

Congratulations to Ben Meek who has been selected for the U15 National Sailing Squad



St Nick's Christmas Fair

Ho Ho Ho, it's that time of year again where we wrap ourselves up warm, and head on out to KCC on Saturday 1st December to enjoy all the delights of the St Nick's fair. This year the event will be running between 11.30am and 2.30pm at the College with a whole host of fun to be had. Expect to see the usual favourites such as the inflatables in the Gym, student stalls, climbing wall, a whole host of different food to try, busking, Bric-a-Brac and much, much more. We will, of course, be running our hamper raffle and hopefully tickets should be out to you already. We will be having a non-uniform day on Friday November 23rd to help raise prizes for the raffle. For more information please see the PTFA message from last week.

We would also like to congratulate the two winners of this year's poster competition, Scarlett Murgatroyd of 7FPR and Marianne Jackson 9RBA, so a huge well done to them, but also a massive well done to everyone who took part. We had over 20 fantastic posters to choose from and it really was difficult: you should all be proud of what you created!

Matt Worthy, Year 7 Leader

Eliot Seigel Workshop

Eliot Seigel returned to KCC once again to inspire and teach the Year 12 students about his fashion and portraiture work and the way he uses the studio.

This year the Art students got to join in also and learnt how to edit and 'fine tune' portraits in Photoshop. Two great days were had by all; it was a great way to teach studio skills and break the ice with the new groups. You may well see some of the edits in our Harbour House exhibition this year!

Mrs Rea

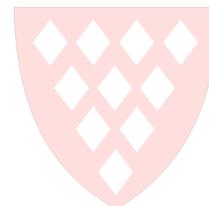
Year 12 Art & Photography Trip to Exeter. October 2018

On the 29th of October, the Art Department took their Year 12 Art and Photography students to Exeter for the day. They had spectacular autumn light and weather and spent the day recording the interesting variety of architecture and structures that the city has to offer. They had a roof top cathedral tour which allowed them to learn about the history of the building and to record it through photographs and drawings.

The Photography students spent the day getting to grips with film cameras whilst the artists used a range of media to record the city.

A great day was had by all and the work generated will inform the rest of their structures unit.

Mrs Rea



School Production

The barricades are being built for Kingsbridge Community College's performance of Les Misérables that is set to take place in December on the 4th 5th 6th and 7th in the Main Hall. Tickets will be on sale in Reception from Friday 23rd November and cost £10 and £8 with all proceeds going to cover the cost of staging this amazing musical.

KCC productions have an excellent reputation for their professional quality and with over 60 students involved from all year groups, the stage is set for a memorable night's entertainment.

Martin Lewis, Director of Performing Arts

Year 9 Art & Photography Trip to the Eden Project, Cornwall

Students have made a fantastic start to their Natural Forms & Structures GCSE projects, fuelled by a trip to the Eden project. This visit allowed students to focus on drawing and taking photographs from first hand observations, focusing on the architectural structures and the diverse shapes, forms and colours of the plants.

This is the starting point for personal project work being undertaken back in school developing skills using Photoshop digital manipulation in Photography and mixed media paintings in Art.

Mrs Ryrie

Year 10 Art & Photography Trip to St. Ives, Cornwall

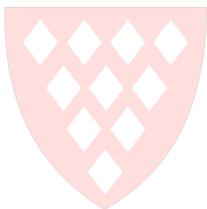
For an inspiring start to the autumn term, GCSE Art & Photography students in Year 10 had a trip to St Ives, Cornwall. With strong winds, rain and sunshine forecast we braced the elements as we arrived in the home town of Barbara Hepworth, Ben Nicholson and Peter Lanyon; some of the most inspiring artists that played a major role in the development and understanding of modern art and sculpture in the post-war period. The Tate, St Ives offered students first-hand experience to absorb the fantastic visual response to the world that Patrick Heron created in his bright, bold abstract paintings. The Barbara Hepworth museum and sculpture garden provided a striking collection for students to photograph and draw. Following the visit, the students have produced fantastic sketchbook pages with their personal responses to the day and will continue to develop two and three-dimensional pieces informed by this valuable experience.

Extracts from student sketchbooks:

"The shape of the carving makes it look impressive. It is mysterious and has shadows contrasting light and dark, highlighting the gradients"

"The deadly night sand met with emerald sea. The ocean sky empty of clouds but filled with seabirds. Houses framed the sea view with sun kissed to bone white brick. The overcrowded town with the enchanted music in the background reminded me of a magical place".

Mrs Bodmer



Healthy Eating Week

Mon 15th to Fri 19th Oct

Head of PE, Helen Tully, is passionate about students understanding the importance of looking after themselves! She commented, "they only have one body and one mind, that will hopefully be with them for a very long time, so they need to look after it!"

During the course of the week all year groups had an assembly looking at physical, mental and social health and understanding ways in which they can make positive changes to their lifestyle. At the end of the assembly students had to make a pledge as to how they would improve their health. Suggestions included getting more exercise (60 minutes a day is the World Health Organisation's recommendation), eating more nutritious foods, taking a walk with nature, reducing screen time, talking to and supporting one another, and giving back to the community. In order to support students in making healthy choices at break time and lunchtime, the food outlets around the College prepared more healthy food.

Francesca French and Sophie Olsen in 7HTU commented, "when there's tray bakes on sale, then we buy them. When they're not there, we have to buy more healthy foods and actually they taste nice too and they're better for us!"

A student who has never attended a sports club went along to the Fitness Suite on Thursday lunchtime. When I asked why, she commented, "I need to do more exercise. It was the pledge I made this week!"

This is why we introduced health week at KCC!

Many thanks to Michelin Star Chef Peter Gorton for supplying tasters and talking to students about healthy food.

COLLEGE TERM DATES 2018-2019

Autumn Term

Tue 4th Sep 2018 - Fri 21st Dec 2018

Half Term

Mon 22nd Oct 2018 - Fri 26th Oct 2018

Christmas Holidays

Mon 24th Dec 2018 - Fri 4th Jan 2019

Non pupil days

Mon 3rd Sep 2018

Fri 19th Oct 2018

Spring Term

Mon 7th Jan 2019 - Fri 5th Apr 2019

Half Term

Mon 18th Feb 2019 - Fri 22nd Feb 2019

Easter Holidays

Mon 8th Apr 2019 - Mon 22nd Apr 2019

Summer Term

Tue 23rd Apr 2019 - Fri 19th Jul 2019

Half Term

Mon 27th May 2019 - Fri 31st May 2019

Non pupil days

Mon 6th May 2019 (Bank Holiday)

Mon 3rd Jun 2019

We currently have some mobile cleaner vacancies based at KCC

41 weeks per year

From 3.30pm to 6.45pm

Monday to Thursday

From 3.30 to 6.30pm on Friday

Please contact: Janet.SEDGEMAN@educationsouthwest.org.uk