

King's Academy Binfield - Secondary

Newsletter: 01/10/2021



King's Academy Binfield

Notes from SLT: Mrs Lee

Open Evening

We had our Open Evening last week, welcoming over four hundred prospective families through our doors. We must give a huge thank you to our staff for working so hard to showcase our academy at its best. An equally huge thank you must be given to every student who helped us during the evening. Every faculty area had student helpers taking part in sports, experiments, games and activities, all of whom were true representatives of King's and our DARE values. Our tour guides also merit a special mention. We had the most glowing feedback from parents about the confidence with which our tour guides talked about the school, answering questions and interacting with the year 6 students and parents. Well done!

Attendance and Illness

An important notice from Mrs Collins, our Attendance officer, please ensure you contact the school **before 9am** on any days that your children are unwell and not able to attend school. Online learning will only be provided for students who are isolating due to COVID 19. When a child is too unwell to attend school, they should not be accessing their learning online, if they are well enough to be learning online, they are most likely well enough to attend school. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that our basic expectation for attendance is 97%. We have seen increasing levels of absence this term; please do not keep your child at home for minor ailments. In order for us to support your child to achieve their full potential, we need them in school every day.

Black History Month

Today is the beginning of Black History Month, widely regarded as one of the most prominent cultural celebrations of the year. We will be honouring the contributions made to society by people of Black heritage and their communities. This is an opportunity to educate and enrich the world with the importance of Black history. Some of our students have been working with Mr Owen to produce an assembly for the whole school, and students will be completing a variety of activities throughout the month of October.



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Visit from Sir Roger Fry



We were delighted to welcome Sir Roger Fry, Chair of the KGA Academies group to King's Academy Binfield on the 21st September. He had a tour of both primary and secondary, seeing the teaching and learning in action and met with students from years 7-10 to talk about their experiences here at King's Academy. The last time he visited we only had our first cohort of students, so a lot has changed since then!

Mental Health Support Team

The Mental Health Support Team is a team who are working across Bracknell Forest as part of their Early Help offer and will begin to work with us to provide support for young people with a range of social and emotional difficulties. These difficulties could include: low mood, mild to moderately severe depression, panic attacks, worry, Generalised Anxiety Disorder, some phobias, sleep problems, stress management, behavioural difficulties and exam stress. Staff will be able to make recommendations for referrals based on their knowledge of students. Parents may also make requests, however, please be aware that this is a new and growing service, which covers schools across the local authority. At this moment, we have only very limited availability and are hopeful that this will grow in time..

The Mental Health Team will also be coming into school throughout the year, to provide staff with training, and to deliver assemblies based on mental health issues. We very much look forward to working alongside the team.

Student Council

Thank you to all of those students who applied to be on our student council. It was lovely to see that so many of our student body care about the decisions that are made within the school and would like to have an opportunity to impact them. Congratulations to those who have been selected to represent their form groups. Mrs Crockford will be organising our first meeting very soon and she looks forward to meeting you all and listening to your ideas! Look out for the picture of our newly elected Student Council members in our next newsletter!



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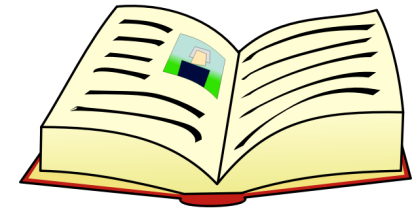
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READKING: Reading at King's!

This first month of school has showcased excellent progress for all our students with their reading, demonstrating a wide-ranging knowledge of a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. We are so pleased that students are reading privately at home, with Key Stage 3 classes avidly filling in their reading logs for their English teachers! Remember, you can receive DARE points, certificates and prizes for the reading you complete in your own time -- get involved!



Also, celebrate! Our library is now open for business. See one of the Library Leaders at break time or lunchtime to be able to borrow a book from the library; look out for their purple star badges.

Finally, keep using our Word of the Week vocabulary from this month too: emphatic, erudite, extol, fabricate. Can you integrate these words into your classroom discussions? Elevate that vocab! Be sure to look up words from your private reading in your dictionary as well - every little [word] helps!

Community Policing Visit

PCSOs Gregory and Molenda visited us to deliver an assembly to our Year 7 students on the role of community policing and also to spend time meeting the students at break time and lunch time. The PCSO team are keen to work with our students and get to know them working on a variety of projects across the academic year to build student confidence and resilience, as well as educating them around current issues taking place in the local area. Make sure you say hello when they are in visiting!



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YPL Updates:

Year 7

We are now half way through the term and I think it is fair to say that year 7 seems to be finding their feet! In tutor time and Personal Development we have been focusing on relationships and discussing what makes a good friend and we will follow that up on Monday by looking at respectful relationships. As Year 7 begins to create new friendships it is imperative that they understand how to speak to one another with respect and to treat each other as they would wish to be treated.

Year 8

Students in year 8 have settled into the term really well. We have been focusing on establishing a community in Personal Development with the students taking part in the Desert Island Project. They have been looking at prejudice and how that has a negative effect on society as well as starting to think about how they need to prioritise tasks with regards to deadlines and using our time effectively. My hope is that these skills will have a positive impact to ensure all the students get into good learning habits both at school and home.

Year 9 and 10 -

During our Personal Development sessions this week we have continued to work on self esteem. Throughout the sessions we have discussed how to boost our own self esteem and developed an understanding of how our actions affect others perceptions of themselves. As we continue to develop our sense of community here at KAB we hope that developing empathy for others and boosting the way we feel about ourselves will create a positive environment to learn in.

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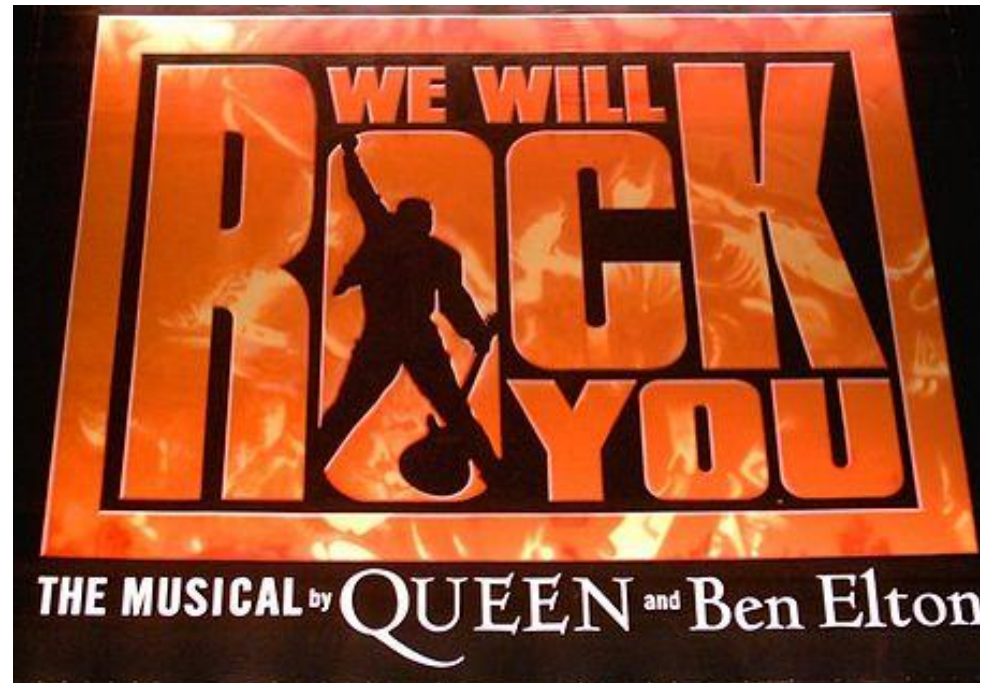
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OUR FIRST SCHOOL PRODUCTION!

We are very pleased to have now launched King's Academy, Binfield's first school production; **We Will Rock You**.

We were very excited by the amount of students who came to the launch meeting and subsequently those who have signed up to audition for a role in the production.

Auditions will take place the week of 11th October for lead roles and ensemble roles.



Sign up sheets can be located on the door of the CAPA office and students have access to a Google Classroom where all the audition materials can be found. We are very much looking forward to the auditions and being able to cast our first production. Further information about the production will be released in due course.

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PE Updates:

Wow what a couple of weeks we have had since the last newsletter, we have seen a massive increase in numbers at extra-curricular clubs which is fantastic and we welcome everyone to join.

Next week we have our first rugby fixtures, which we are extremely excited about and we wish all the teams the best of luck. We already have a number of netball and football fixtures booked in as well, so it is really starting to feel like the old way again.

We are only a couple of weeks away from our first inter-house competition of the year and the first one is linked into the London Marathon. Everyone will take part in 2.6 miles and this will take place in the final PE lesson of this half term. We look forward to seeing which house comes out on top.

Student Success

A massive congratulations goes to Poppy in year 9 for getting through the first round of Girls Football County Trails. Well done and good luck for the second round.

A massive congratulations goes to Jay-Jay in year 10 for being involved with the British Shooting Pathway Programme and that we hope your winter training is successful ready for the 2022 events. Good luck for these events.

A massive congratulations to Aden in year 10 as he is now ranked 5th in the south-east region for backstroke and is within the top 22 for all other strokes and in the top 50 in England for all strokes. Well done and good luck for your next meet.

If you have any student sporting success please feel free to contact Mrs Sword on lauren.willimott@kingsacademies.uk

Spare Kit

If you are having a clear out and have any unwanted trainers or King's Academy branded PE kit that no longer fits, we would love to top up our spare kit stores. If you have any donations that you would like to make, please bring them into reception or get your son/daughter to bring them to the CAPA office (1.40). We thank you in advance, as having spare kit really helps our lessons to run smoothly.

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Below is our extra-curricular timetable, it is the same as before except we have moved the day of year 9 rugby from Thursday to Wednesday. Just a reminder that students do not need to sign up, they can just turn up. We also see the start of our Sports Club next week, so please check to see if you have been invited!



Autumn Term

King's Academy Binfield PE Extra Curricular Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
No Clubs due to Staff Meetings	Netball All Years Year 7 Rugby	Sports Club **Invite only** Year 8 and 9 Rugby	Year 10 Rugby
All clubs will run until 4.15pm unless stated.			



Autumn Term

Upcoming and important dates for the remainder of this half term:

Date	Event
18th October 2021	Year 7 - Meet The Tutor Evening
21st October 2021	Year 7 - Meet The Tutor Evening
25th October 2021 - 29th October 2021	Half term week - no school



Resources for help and support

We know that times are extremely challenging at the moment, we are compiling a list of resources and websites to help supporting your children with their mental health and wellbeing

[Young Minds - Mental Health Support](#) **YOUNGmINDS**



[Safer Internet Centre - Resources for parents/carers](#)

[Kooth - Free online counselling support](#) **kooth**



Remember, we are all still here to support you, please reach out if you need any support. The first point of contact should be Form Tutors or YPLS. Mrs Spooner and Mrs Collins are also on hand to address any wellbeing issues.