



Katherine
Warrington
School

HEADS UP

Newsletter no. 16

9th October 2020

We have taken full possession of the Sports Centre. There were a few last minute back and forth issues with the contract that have now been resolved so my apologies for any inconvenience. Clubs have now started to run for Year 8 at lunch. Year 7 will follow shortly.

Tours of the building on a Saturday have been going very well. It's a pleasure to be able to show off the facilities and answer questions about the KWS approach to teaching and learning, our values, chromebooks and Period 7.

We have two more Saturdays of tours left, then I can go and join Mr Alexander with rugby training at Harpenden Rugby Club on Saturday mornings from 9-10am. Mr Alexander was telling me he thinks we've got some rather talented players in Year 8 and 7, female and male.

As far as I can see, nearly all our students have decided to get a locker but very few of them are using it to reduce the weight of the bags they are carrying. Now the timetable has begun to sink in, students should take the resources they need for their next two lessons and leave the rest in their lockers. So before registration, get resources for period 1 and 2, put them in their bag and leave the other resources in their locker; at break get resources for period 3 and 4 and at lunch for period 5, 6 and 7. Please also note that all students with lockers need to have a padlock. Lockers without a padlock are not secure.

In the coming weeks before half term, we are looking forward to welcoming some special guests into school - the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire will be holding an assembly and Q&A session for students; he will be accompanied by our local MP Bim Afolami.

Crumble the school dog is set to return; after an extended lockdown I am sure he will be pleased to meet and greet some familiar and new faces.





Important people, celebrity pets; if only we could get a radio station to broadcast the good news - cue KWS Radio - it's just been installed! Our own radio station so students who are budding DJ's, poets, rappers, reporters or story tellers can show off their talents.

The station will start to broadcast after half term and in the meantime we'll be training any students who want to get involved. KWS Radio - what's the first song that will be played? Students' suggestions should be handed in at reception next week please.

Finally, no positive cases of Covid-19 amongst our school students or staff of late. Please continue to provide antibacterial wipes so students can wipe down tables and chairs as they leave classrooms and remind students to socially distance and not to share resources or food in school.

Tony Smith
Headteacher

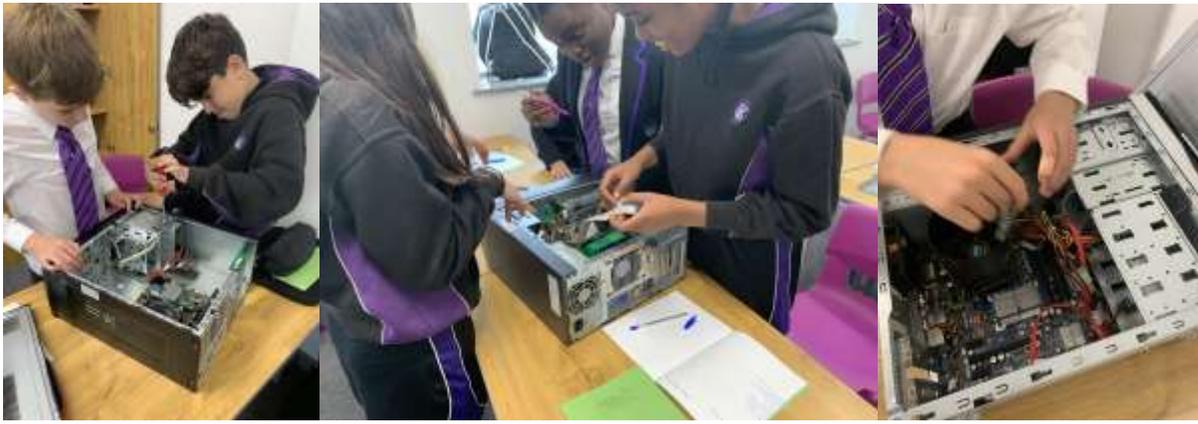
House Points

This week's house point winners are [Keller](#) – Congratulations!

Form	Totals Year 7	Totals Year 8	Overall
Ali	1193	917	2110
Armstrong	1207	1032	2239
Franklin	1180	1212	2392
Keller	1382	1105	2487
Nightingale	1067	847	1914
Tesla	1125	934	2059

Computing this week

This week in computing our students have been getting to grips with technology in some really interesting ways. Our Year 8 students have been taking some computers apart to identify their key components, including the hard drive, RAM and CPU.



Our Year 7 students have had their first opportunity to use our class set of virtual reality headsets. They got to explore the Northern Lights, the Milky Way, see a snowboarder in action and experience a roller coaster ride.



Mrs Coomber & Mrs Wall

Sports Notices

Unfortunately, due to a prior booking of Harpenden Rugby Club, there will not be rugby this week (Saturday 10th October), however it resume next week (Saturday 17th October). Here are some photos from the first session.



We are delighted to have now been given access to the fantastic new sports hall. Year 8 students have now been fortunate enough to take part in KWS extra-curricular sports clubs this week, as well as timetabled curriculum lessons.



Please note that students must now have white soled trainers for PE and lunchtime clubs in the sports hall.

Year 7s will be commencing clubs from the first week after half term. The timetable for both year groups is below:

KWS PE Extra-Curricular Timetable

Due to COVID-19, clubs will run in 3-4 week blocks for each year group in the sports hall. Clubs will operate by a student register – with a maximum of 30 students at one time. Students should come into school in PE kit when they have a club. On Fridays, priority will be given to those that were unable to play on either Tuesday or Wednesday. STUDENTS ARE TO HAVE THEIR LUNCH AFTER THE CLUB!

Year 8 clubs: 5th-23rd October; 23rd November – 18th December
Year 7 clubs: 2nd-20th November; 4th-22nd January

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Before School 7:40-8:15am	COMING SOON!					
Lunchtime YEAR 8 Mon-Thurs: 12:45-1:35pm Fri: 1:05-1:40pm YEAR 7: Mon-Thurs: 12:35-1:25pm Fri: 12:05-1:35pm	Netball CBI & AMC 	Boys' Football DCA & JAL  	Girls' Football JAL  	Basketball SWA & AGR 	Football JAL  	Rugby @ Harpenden Rugby Club 9-10am JAL 

Show My Homework

Thank you to parents who have been in contact with the school flagging up an issue with Show My Homework (SMH). The issue relates to a field that staff have to input stating 'How students should submit their homework?'. SMH made some changes over the summer and have created a default option of 'submission via SMH'. This has now been raised with staff and an option of 'no submission required' has been created. This is useful in instances where the task is to revise at home. We hope the new option and cascading of information to staff will resolve this issue going forward.

Mr Martin

Music

Instrumental/Vocal Lessons

I am pleased to say that we are now able to offer wind, brass and vocal tuition once again. These lessons will take place in our large well-ventilated music teaching rooms when class lessons are not taking place. Please contact Rhythm Room to register for lessons: www.rhythmroom.co.uk. They currently offer flute, voice, guitar, piano and drums, but are keen to offer more instruments if there is demand. Or contact me if you

would like to set up a lesson as a private arrangement between yourselves and a different tutor: a.bailey@kwschool.co.uk.

Miniband

The highlight of my week was without doubt our first live band rehearsal since March. I cannot tell you how exciting it was to work with eight keen Year 7 instrumentalists and to hear live music around me once again. The only sadness is that we are currently restricted to just eight musicians in this group, in order that we can provide adequate space and ventilation. But it is a positive start. I will be adding the band parts to the KWS Music Site which can then be accessed by any student to practice at home, regardless of whether they are in the band or not. The Year 8 ensemble will begin next week.



Reggae Project

Well done to Year 8 students who have just completed a three week reggae project incorporating a range of activities: listening and research, garageband composition and ukulele performance. Some impressive skills were displayed; independent learning, analysis, technical skill and collaboration. I was particularly pleased with the way many students embraced the challenge of learning to play ukulele chords to accompany Bob Marley's 'Three Little Birds'; requiring great coordination and determination to succeed.



Ms Bailey

Attendance Procedures: Reminder

If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, urgent appointments or other reasons please telephone the 24hr school absence line on 01582 314800 or email absence@kwschool.co.uk **by 8.30am on the first day of absence and every subsequent day thereafter**, giving your child's name, tutor group and explain the reason for absence.

We would encourage that if students are well enough that they engage in Remote School whilst absent. [Click here](#) to see an explanation video from Mrs Aikman and the link to access Remote School. Students can contact their subject teachers directly by email if they have any queries about the work set.

Where possible, please give plenty of notice for any planned absence, for example hospital appointments, and **provide a copy of any medical/dental appointment letters/cards/screenshots to the school**. We would appreciate all dental and non-urgent doctor appointments being made out of school hours.

If your child or anyone in your family are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 please follow the latest government advice.

Please [click here](#) to visit the attendance page on our website.

Mrs Aikman

Trust Board

The Trustees are delighted to hear that the Sports Hall has been handed over to the school. It looks fantastic and we know the staff and students will be excited to use it. Health and wellbeing is crucial to all round success so it is great to hear that lunchtime sports clubs are up and running. We thank the staff for their support in providing clubs that enrich our students' experience at KWS. We are also pleased that the Hall will be used for after school sports activities for local children.

The Trust board met this week. It sounds like the academic year has got off to a good start and our new staff and students are settling in well. We discussed a wide range of issues including the KWS Remote School for those who need to self-isolate at this difficult time and the use of Period 7 to support learning in maths and English.

Trustee training and CPD is a priority for our Board to ensure we can support the school as effectively as possible. Our Chair, Helen Parkinson, has recently undertaken a DfE funded School Leadership programme. Our new Trustees, Dimple Mistry and John Burt, are busy completing Governor Induction courses. Other Trustees have attended a variety of webinars and training sessions on topics ranging from student wellbeing and teenage mental health to risk assessments and data analysis.

Finally, we would like to extend our gratitude to all the staff who have made possible all the Open Days for Year 6 families and the lovely new Katherine Warington prospectus. We know these efforts will be appreciated by those considering joining the school.

Jenny Howarth - Vice Chair

Upcoming Events

10th October – Rugby training is not taking place

17th October – Rugby training resumes

10th and 17th October - Year 6 tours of the school (Must be pre booked)

26th - 30th October - Half term

This week's notices to parents /carers:

Year 7 Home School Agreement

White soled trainers for PE and lunchtime clubs in the sports hall.

Park and Stride zonal parking map

KWS Vacancies

We are currently looking for a Finance Trustee to join our board of Trustees. Please [click here](#) for booking information.

Social Media

Keep up to date with the latest information via the newsletter, website and our social media platforms:

Facebook @KatherineWaringtonSchool,

Twitter @KWSHarpندن.

Instagram @kwschoolharpندن

If you haven't already done so, please sign up and follow us!

Supporting children with Additional Needs - Teenage years.



NESSie



Supporting Positive Mental Health in Schools



AUTISM & ADHD SUPPORT
for parents/carers of children with
ADHD and/or on the Autistic Spectrum

TRAINING OVERVIEW:

This forum is designed to give parent/carers of children in their teenage years awaiting assessment or displaying traits of ASD and/or ADHD.

This online training aims to:

- Support families with an awareness of the impact of conditions of this age and stage of life;
- Equip families with skills to support them during the Teenage years
- To support parents/carers with a place to explore how to manage the pressures of supporting a child /children with additional needs in their teenage years

Date: Monday 12th October 2020

Time: 1:00-2:30pm

Venue: online. A link will be sent out via email on booking the training.

Cost: no cost funded by Hertfordshire county council.

For more information visit:

nessiein.com/events

This course is funded by Hertfordshire County Council and open to residents of Hertfordshire



NESSie parent training provides guidance on supporting children with additional needs in their teens. [Click here](#) to book a place.