



Katherine
Warrington
School

HEADS UP

Newsletter no.17

Friday 23rd October 2020

Another action packed half term draws to an end. It's worth reflecting on what we've achieved during the last seven weeks. First and foremost, we welcomed back 360 students into full time schooling and they have responded brilliantly. It was hard to estimate their response after six months without the structure of a normal school day. Students, though tired, have embraced learning in a classroom again and enjoyed the social aspect of seeing and making new friends. We tried to anticipate the emotional and mental stress students have been through (and continue to go through); with our summer schools for some Year 7 and Year 8 students, our prolonged transition timetable for both year groups at the start of term and our extended tolerance on uniform, punctuality and chromebook issues, we have tried to alleviate some of this. To reward their supreme effort, we will set a very limited amount of home learning over half term in core subjects only. Please do take advantage of our e-reading platform though, with over a thousand titles available for students via their chromebooks.

From a staff perspective, we have all reached milestones in the amount of steps we have covered as we move around a much bigger school site than we had in the last academic year. Our new staff have settled in remarkably well, with our new teachers delivering quality lessons and new support staff finding extra opportunities to develop their experience, including Miss Jones contributing to female rugby on Saturday mornings and Mr Cain developing his radio production skills. There was a very strong student uptake to Black History Month and staff really engaged as well.

Staff have worked across Saturdays to offer those who are interested in joining us in September 2021 the opportunity to see the facilities and meet members of the team. We continue to have a waiting list for students wanting to join us in our current Year 7 and Year 8. We've taken delivery of the Sports Centre in full (now including the dance studio) - sports clubs are running at lunchtime (Year 7 start after the half term break), with several additional lunchtime clubs set to start on our return, such as the environment club; street dance; debate; French club; model making club and drama. In addition, we will be opening the Library as a reading space during lunchtimes.

Our new and already treasured Literacy Intervention Specialist, Mrs Kench, is working with small groups from each year group to support their use and understanding of the written word and maths intervention has gone well for all students using our Period 7 time slots. Our new pastoral structure with Miss Phillips as a non-teaching lead has seen

us pick up issues swiftly. Our remote learning platform is now well established and available online for any student who is not able to be in a classroom.

Our external school effectiveness expert inspected the school last week on behalf of HCC and I was exceptionally proud of the way the senior leadership team acquitted themselves throughout the day. Though not for external publication, I was delighted to receive confirmation that we are on track to reach our ambitious goals.

We will be asking Year 8 parents about their thoughts on GCSE options for their children when we come back and also sending a questionnaire to all parents for thoughts and feedback on the school.

We intended to offer parents the opportunity to attend three 30-minute Mandarin lessons each week so they could support their children in the language. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 that has not been possible. We will, however, launch the lessons after Christmas and make them available remotely. While you won't get the classroom feel, it does mean there is no limit to numbers and you will not be tied to a particular time slot as the lessons will be available after the initial live presentation.

We have been fortunate to only have one incident of a positive COVID-19 test for a student and commend staff, parents and students for the response to the current situation. It is difficult to operate a school in a way that it was not designed for and that puts an extra burden on staff regarding duties, 'blended' learning (real and virtual) and pastoral support. My staff and I thank parents for their continued support and kind messages. A gentle reminder, if you are travelling during this half term, please adhere to government guidance and continue to act responsibly towards the school community in your choice of destination. Our attendance for this half term has remained on target as a result of that community ethos.

The majority of parents have followed our requests regarding drop off and collection of students, extending our consideration as a school community to our neighbours close to the school gates.

Over 90% of all our students (360 in total) have less than 20 negative consequence points which is a testament to the resilience of students returning to a structured school environment, the support of parents for their children and the school and staff's consideration of the unusual past six months for students. I would also like to acknowledge that for a very small number of students, the transition back into school has been fraught and they have found it difficult to make the right choices regarding their behaviour. I thank parents for the tolerance and support for staff as we try to work with these students to ensure a positive outcome for everyone. Through all this it is with great pleasure that I can report our target of awarding at least 7 positive recognitions to 1 consequence has been met, a true endorsement of the 'catch students being good' approach. We end this half term with 47 positive recognition points on average per student and 6 negative consequence points.

Looking forward, in order to bring our calendar in line with other local secondary schools, our end of term this summer has been brought forward so we will finish this academic year on Friday 16th July. This is a change to the previously published date.

Finally, we end the half term on a high as students were treated to an assembly presented by Robert Voss, Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire and Bim Afolami, MP for Harpenden and Hitchin. Students researched the distinguished guests roles and responsibilities and asked questions at the end of the presentation.



Tony Smith
Headteacher

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the following who achieved over 60 recognitions this half term!

| | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| Aaron N | Ethan H | Lucas L |
| Alexander McD | Ethan S | Mabel K |
| Alexandra H | Fahtima A | Maisie R |
| Alfie B | Finley M | Marco R |
| Amel A-M | Freddie C | Michael P |
| Andrea C | Gitali G | Nathan T |
| Annabel S | Hannah W | Nawal S |
| Anoushka M | Harry H | Oliver Sh |
| Anton P L | Ingrid S | Ollie T |
| Beatrice H | Isabella H | Oscar D |
| Belle W | Isobel J | Otilia S |
| Benjamin D | Izzy P | Poppy B |
| Blake P | Jack F | Raphael C |
| Charlie A | Jahleel M | Ryaan P |
| Charlie B | James T | Sam C |
| Chloe W | Jayden A | Sapphira R |
| Daniel F | Joanne E | Sarrinah M |
| Dean H | John D | Shakhram S |
| Dillon F | Kaavy S | Tendai M |
| Eesa A | Leigha K | Umar-Farooq S |
| Elise S | Louisa T | |

Well done to all those students who have achieved 100% attendance this half term. You will have received a congratulations email from Mr Smith.

House Points

The house points winners for this half term are **Franklin** - Congratulations!

| Form | Totals Year 7 | Totals Year 8 | Overall |
|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Ali | 1898 | 1391 | 3289 |
| Armstrong | 1709 | 1565 | 3274 |
| Franklin | 1674 | 1779 | 3453 |
| Keller | 1843 | 1570 | 3413 |

| | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|
| Nightingale | 1615 | 1493 | 3108 |
| Tesla | 1610 | 1501 | 3111 |

Sports Notices

We are introducing a 'Going for Gold' PE challenge for all students. It involves trying to complete a series of challenges by December which are listed below. Whilst it is optional, activities can be recorded on a record sheet on Google Classroom and once all challenges are complete, it should be submitted to Mr Alexander.

THE 'GOING FOR GOLD' PE CHALLENGE







- To complete all Silver and Bronze challenges.
- To achieve an 'Outstanding' (i.e. a 4) Attitude to Learning grade.
- To attend 2 different sports clubs more than 5 times.
- To write a match report for a professional game that you watched either live or on TV.
- To read a sports book or article, and discuss with your PE teacher.
- To earn a PE e-postcard.
- To have PE kit for 100% of lessons.
- To represent/train with a club team outside of school, evidenced by a photo or video.

- To complete all Bronze challenges.
- To achieve a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' Attitude to Learning grade (i.e. a 3 or 4).
- To attend at least 1 sports club 5 or more times.
- To learn how to measure your heart rate, demonstrate this to a PE teacher and explain the impact of exercise on your heart rate.
- To demonstrate sports leadership on 5 separate occasions e.g. lead a warm up.

- To achieve a 'Good' Attitude to Learning grade (i.e. a 3).
- To attend at least 1 different sports club 3 or more times.
- To take on the role of a coach, analyst or teaching assistant in a lesson.
- To show your teacher great understanding of the Knowledge Organiser for each sport you cover (quiz scores).

Mr Alexander

We also have exciting news that Menace Sports has joined up with us at KWS and pleased to inform you that we will now be offering an after school club, starting after half term.

Menace Sports will be running a 7 week Tennis/Basketball Course.

Year 7 - Tuesday 4:00-5:00pm

Year 8 - Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm

The sessions will be split into 2 sports; 30 minutes of tennis and 30 minutes of basketball.

Spaces are limited and will be on a first come first served basis.

Menace Sports are Ofsted registered and are an award winning holiday and after school club!

The course costs £70.00 for the 7 week half term.

To book please email info@menacesports.com for an application form.

The deadline for sign up is Friday 30th October and spaces are limited to the first 24 students to sign up in each year group.

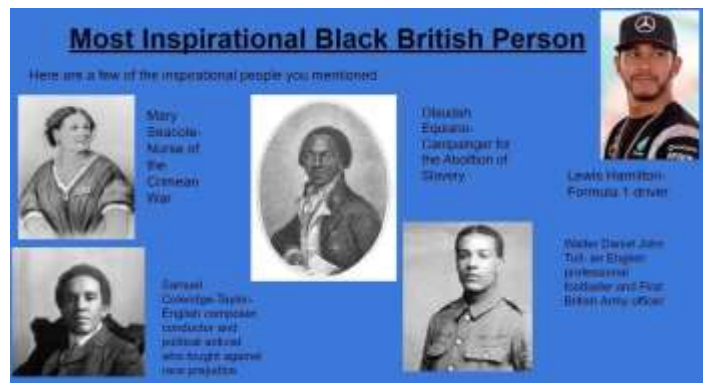
Mr Inns

Black History Month



This week we ran a number of activities in celebration of Black History month. Within the history department students have been sending us work on their most inspirational black British person.

So far there has been work about Mary Seacole, Lewis Hamilton, Olaudah Equiano, Walter Tull and many more. It has been great learning why and how these people have inspired the students and I can't wait to add them to the history display I am developing.



We were also really proud to see so many students attending the Black Literature Lunch this week. Music as a form of poetry was explored as well as some fantastic discussions. Thank you to all who attended.

We will be continuing with this subject after half term with the King's Speech competition, more information to follow.

Mrs Stockwell, Mrs McPartlin, Miss Hassan and Mrs Aikman

Year 8 Options

Our Year 8s will be turning their attention, later in the academic year, to future offers here at KWS via our key stage 4 options process. In the first instance we would like to gain an insight into thoughts surrounding the options process and in particular courses that may become popular or requested.

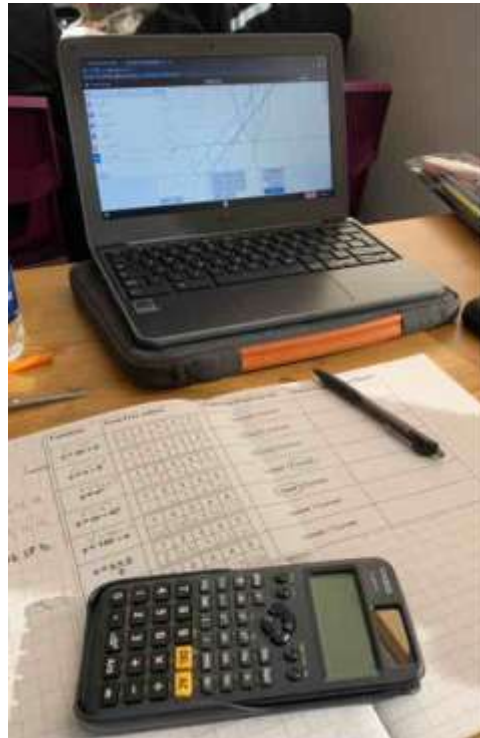
A survey will be sent to all students and parents in the first week back after half term for us to gain feedback. Over half term you may wish to start the discussion regarding GCSEs and possible subject choices that your child is interested in.

Mr Martin

Maths

Exploring Graphs

In Maths, Year 7 have been getting to grips with some algebra and last week we explored how some sequences would look on graphs using Desmos, an online graphing tool.



Spanish

Year 8 students have been learning about the weather in Spanish. Finley M created this outstanding piece of homework, the effort that he has put into this work is incredible.



Mrs Brookfield

Mandarin



This week students in Year 7 have been using pasta to make Chinese characters.



Mrs Brookfield and Mr Chen

Year 7 Big Purple Reading Challenge

Did you know that reading for pleasure is statistically linked to better exam grades, higher salaries and even improved emotional and mental wellbeing? In a bid to increase the quantity and range of our students' reading, we have challenged all of our year 7 pupils to read 10 fiction books between now and the summer. There will be prizes for effort and participation as well as for completing the challenge at school. Thank you in advance for your help and encouragement from home.



Haunting Story Competition

All students are invited to take part in a fun writing competition if they so wish, to write a ghastly, ghoulish and ghostly story in no more than 300 words. Please submit this through Google classroom by the end of half term. Please note this is not a compulsory task.



Mrs McPartlin and the English Department

Food Hall Opening, Menu and Daily Spend Limit


We are pleased to announce that after half term students will be able to buy food and drink from the food hall at morning break. With this in mind, please discuss with your son/daughter their use of the food hall and agree a daily spend limit if you feel this is appropriate. A daily spend limit will cap the amount they are able to spend across the whole day which, as you can imagine, can quickly add up!

All students have automatically been given a £5 daily spend limit, unless we have already been advised otherwise by parents. If you would like to set a different limit please email finance@kwschool.co.uk with the amount you require. For students who are eligible, the daily free school meal allowance is £2.30 (which covers the lunchtime daily meal deal), this can be topped up by parents if they so wish.

In order for students to use the food hall their lunch accounts must be in credit.

Please monitor your son/daughter's lunch account carefully on [iPayimpact](#) to ensure it is kept topped up. To help manage your account it is also possible to set up automatic payments. Please click on the 'Auto Pay' button on your school meal fund within [iPayimpact](#) to set up regular weekly/monthly payments.

We also have a new Lunchtime menu. Please find below the updated 3-week cycle starting on Monday 2nd November and a breaktime price list.

| SCHOOL LUNCH MENU <i>Homestyle</i>  | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| WEEK ONE | Week Commencing: 2nd Nov, 23rd Nov, 14th Dec, 4th Jan, 25th Jan, 22nd Feb, 15th March | | | | |
| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| | Chef's Choice Chicken Curry and Rice | Spaghetti Bolognese | Roast Chicken with Sage and Onion Stuffing and Roast Potatoes | Sausage and Mash with Onion Gravy | Fish Fillet with Chips |
| | Vegetarian Roll with Paprika Potatoes | Quorn Sausage with Roasted Mediterranean Vegetables and Mixed Rice | Cheesy Vegetable and Potato Bake | Vegetarian Burrito with Spicy Wedges | Macaroni Cheese |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| WEEK TWO | Week Commencing: 9th Nov, 30th Nov, 11th Jan, 1st Feb, 1st March, 22nd March | | | | |
| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| | Beef and Tomato Meatballs with Tagliatelle and Tomato Sauce | Chicken Enchiladas | Roast Beef Dinner with Roast Potatoes | Chicken Pie with New Potatoes | Fish Fillet with Chips |
| | Cheese and Onion Quiche with New Potatoes | Sweet Potato and Spinach Curry with Savoury Brown and White Rice | Sage and Onion Coated Quorn Fillet with Potato Wedges | Italian Pasta Bake | Cool Mexican Wrap with Chips |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| WEEK THREE | Week Commencing: 16th Nov, 7th Dec, 18th Jan, 8th Feb, 8th March | | | | |
| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| | Beef Chilli with Rice and Nachos | Salmon on Croustade with Baby Potatoes | Roast Pork and Apple Sauce with Roast Potatoes | BBQ Chicken with Sticky Rice | Fish Fillet with Chips |
| | Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread | Quorn Hot Dog with Onion Relish | Cheese and Potato Slice | Tomato Bolognese with Pasta Twists | Quesadilla Stack with Chips |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

A selection of seasonal vegetables, fresh fruit and yoghurt are available daily.

| Break Time | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Cheese on Toast | £0.60 |
| Cereal | £0.80 |
| Bacon Roll | £1.20 |
| Hash Browns | £1.20 |
| Croissant | £1.20 |
| Sausage Roll | £1.20 |
| Vegan Sausage Roll | £1.20 |
| Hot filled Bagel | £1.60 |
| Toastie | £1.60 |
| French Bread Pizza | £1.90 |



Poppy Appeal

We will be taking part in this year's British Legion poppy appeal during the week beginning 2nd November. Students will be able to purchase a poppy, please can students bring in a donation if they wish to take part.

Upcoming Events

2nd November - 6th November - British Legion Poppy Appeal

Term Dates:

Autumn Term

Inset Day: Friday 2nd October - No students in school

Half Term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October

Autumn Term Ends: Friday 18th December at 12.05pm

Spring Term

Inset Day: Monday 4th January 2021 - No students in school

Spring Term Starts: Tuesday 5th January 2021

Half Term: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

Term Ends: Friday 26th March at 12.05pm

Summer Term

Inset Day: Monday 12th April - No students in school

Term Starts: Tuesday 13th April

May Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May

Half Term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Term Ends: Friday 16th July at 12.05pm

KWS Vacancies

Library Volunteers

We are looking for a bank of volunteer parents/carers/grandparents who could lend a hand in our Library for 1 hour a day over lunchtime.

No previous experience required.

Interested? Please contact Julie Fox: j.fox@kwschool.co.uk. Tel. 01582 314777

Social Media

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

Facebook @KatherineWaringtonSchool.

Twitter @KWSHarpenden.

Instagram @kwschoolharpenden

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

Non KWS Events / Publicity



During the dark Autumn and Winter months pedestrians can often become invisible to drivers.

Always remember to be bright and reflective when walking, cycling or running at night.



Child in dark clothing



Child in bright clothing

Just Talk Herts

Just Talk is our Hertfordshire multi-agency mental health campaign, designed collaboratively with young people. More details can be found on www.justtalkherts.org and pupils can now follow us on Twitter and Instagram for positive mental health messages, and practical tools for looking after their mental health @JustTalkHerts

The OLLiE Foundation



Parents' Wellbeing Training

A free programme of support to manage increased overwhelm, anxiety or crisis within your family

Parenting can be lonely and if you don't feel supported in their struggle or your kids are struggling despite all of your care and attention, it can take a real toll on your wellbeing.

So whether you are feeling the pressure of life in lockdown, or the stress of supporting a child a long waiting list for specialist support, or simply feeling the pressure of family life, you will want to know about our fully funded support programme. This includes [3 practical online training sessions, to support you and provide practical tips for supporting your family's wellbeing.](#)

| Training Session (on Zoom) | Date & Time | What you'll learn |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Parents' Wellbeing Training | 5 Nov 2020 10.00am | tools and techniques to discover your own inbuilt wellbeing and resilience |
| Supporting Children & Young People to Manage Anxiety and Stay Safe | 10 Dec 2020 10.00am | how to support your child's wellbeing, including how to manage a mental health crisis |
| Suicide Prevention: Talking about Suicide 10 Tools | 22 Jan 2021 1.00pm | how to have a conversation with a loved one about suicide and 10 tools to save a life |



As part of this parent support programme, you will also be able to access OLLIE's weekly online **Parents' Wellbeing Cafes**. This is a safe space to share your experience, unpack what you have learnt from the training or simply to talk to other parents in similar situations. Each session will be led by an experienced Mental and Emotional Wellbeing Facilitator. The cafes will provide an informal place for connections and continued emotional support within your St Albans community.

To book your place, please complete the information below, by either completing this word document electronically and emailing it to louise@theolliefoundation.org, or by sending the following information within an email to the same email address.

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Name: | Number of Children |
| Mobile Number: | Ages of children |
| Address: | |
| | |

Parents signing up to this programme must be able to attend all 3 sessions.

FREE



**POTENTIAL
KIDS**

www.potentialkids.org
info@potentialkids.org

MENTAL HEALTH and WELLBEING Workshop during COVID-19

For GIRLS | BOYS | SEN Students

This interactive (1hr) workshop will offer Information, Support and Strategies to understand and improve Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing at this difficult time.

TUESDAY
27 Oct 11am-12pm
or
3 Nov 5:30 - 6:30

BOOKINGS: POTENTIALKIDS.ORG/ACTIVITIES

Platform: ZOOM

Age: 12+ Years



Small groups only to promote social interaction

1:1 sessions also available

For further info: susanna@potentialkids.org



**SAFE, INCLUSIVE &
NON-JUDGEMENTAL.
AN INFORMAL
OPPORTUNITY TO
#JUSTTALK**



"I found it nice to talk to you. It was good to hear different perspectives on things. I've thought a lot about some of the advice you gave me. I am going to try hard to do that" Hannah 15

Hertfordshire Updates

Local High Needs Funding Panels (LHNF)

Information has been sent out to all settings about the new LHNF panels which now replace ENF clusters. For information, the application form, banding tool and guidance are all now available on the local offer [here](#). The first panel in DSPL7 will be held on November 12th from 9.30-12.00. Only schools and EY settings can apply.

The training session in July which many people struggled to access is available on YouTube [here](#).

Advisory Service Advice Lines

A SEND Telephone Advice Line flier has been produced with the key phone numbers for the EP Service, Specialist Advisory teams, the Attendance team, SENDIASS and Kids Hub. This is available on the DSPL7 website and Facebook page.



Occupational Therapy Training for Parents

Two online training sessions have been made available for parents this term. Follow the links below for fliers and information:

[Understanding your child's sensory processing](#)



[Supporting you child's sensory Self-Regulation Development](#)



ADD-Vance ASD/ADHD online training –

ADD-vance have released dates for a number of online workshops covering a range of topics. Book through [eventbrite](#).

FREE online workshops open for booking now!

A series of online workshops for parent/carers funded by Hertfordshire County Council

| Date | Time | Topic |
|------------------------|---------------|---|
| Tuesday 6th October | 10 – 11.30 am | Identifying ADHD and/or Autism in your child |
| Wednesday 7th October | 10 – 11.30 am | Understanding Autism |
| Thursday 8th October | 10 – 11.30 am | Understanding sensory differences |
| Thursday 8th October | 7 – 8.00 pm | Supporting your child's education during Covid 19 |
| Tuesday 13th October | 10 – 11.30 am | Understanding Autism in girls |
| Wednesday 14th October | 1 – 2.30 pm | Supporting siblings living with ADHD/Autism |
| Wednesday 14th October | 7 – 8 pm | Supporting your child's education during Covid 19 |
| Thursday 15th October | 10 – 11.30 am | Understanding ADHD in girls |
| Thursday 15th October | 7 – 8.30 pm | Understanding teens with ADHD/Autism |
| Tuesday 20th October | 10 – 11.30 am | Understanding behaviour that challenges |
| Thursday 22nd October | 10 – 11.30 am | Understanding anxiety |
| Thursday 22nd October | 7 – 8.30 pm | Supporting siblings living with ADHD/Autism |

For more information and to book, please visit [eventbrite](#)



Supporting young people in Harpenden and Wheathampstead since 1722

In 1722 a local man, James Marshall, left a remarkable gift in his Will. He created a charity that would support young people, living in the Parish of Wheathampstead and Harpenden, to achieve their dreams.

Almost 300 years later, James Marshall's legacy lives on and in the last six years, the Trustees have awarded grants of £1,000,000.



James Marshall Foundation CIO can provide financial support to under 25's, living in Harpenden and Wheathampstead, from families of limited financial means, for educational and career-related opportunities.

The Foundation makes grants to young people towards such items/activities as school uniform and equipment, extra-curricular activities, residential school trips, courses, college/university accommodation or travel costs, apprenticeships and could support a business idea.

Since 1 April 2020 we have awarded over **150 grants to secondary aged pupils** in the local community.

Please do get in touch if you think the Foundation could help.

Phone no: 01582 760735

Email: office@jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk
grants@jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk

Website: www.jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk

