



# Katherine Warrington School

## HEADS UP

### Newsletter no. 20

11th December 2020

It is very sad that we have had several recent cases of Covid-19 in school. I said in a previous newsletter that we had been fortunate not to have had more cases at that point. That good fortune has now run out. Since last Saturday, there have been four positive tests for the virus. We have followed government guidance to the letter and done so with a level of urgency. Two cases have been in one year group - when the second confirmed positive test came through we closed that 'bubble' and asked students to isolate and work from home remotely. At that stage, the student population in school was seriously depleted. Hertfordshire County Council understood our position and agreed to allow us to go to full remote learning from today, Friday.

If your child develops symptoms, please get a test and inform the school immediately via [admin@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@kwschool.co.uk) - this email address will be monitored throughout the day/evening (until 8pm, including weekends) up to and including 23rd December.

Staff have also been affected and a number are self-isolating. The decision to close the school to all but children of key workers/vulnerable children who were not isolating was taken to preserve the quality of our remote school offering and hopefully everyone's Christmas. Normal timetabled lessons are available via our remote school platform including 'live' lessons from core subjects: English, maths and science. We had previously surveyed parents regarding access to suitable wi-fi at home and provided devices, dongles and chargers where needed. If your child is having any technical issues, then please email: [helpdesk@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:helpdesk@kwschool.co.uk). Our remote learning platform is working well, and students are engaging with the work.

Again, with deep regret we have had to cancel plans for our remote Winter Showcase and Christmas choir. Our Christmas lunch will be postponed until January. If you have purchased a ticket but would prefer a refund rather than postponement, we will refund onto your normal lunch account, please let us know by emailing [finance@kwschool.co.uk](mailto:finance@kwschool.co.uk). Clubs and sports events such as Saturday rugby training are cancelled until the New Year.

With that as a backdrop to the end of term, it is good to be able to identify some positives. We have successfully appointed a new Head of maths following the promotion of Mrs Coomber to Assistant Head from next September.

Our remote learning platform is working well and students are engaging with the work. Our allotment space is coming on nicely and our library facilities (real, digital and audio) are being used extensively. The radio station is a real hit and our daily joke competition received over 200 jokes from parents (overall winner to be revealed on 18th December).

The School Council is up and running and we intend to be back with our cherished Period 7 in January. From a personal point of view, a massive positive is the quality, dedication and professionalism of staff at KWS who time and time again go above and beyond my expectations and take every challenge in their stride. Thank you to all those parents who have sent kind and supportive emails acknowledging this during the term.

We will not be issuing any compulsory home learning over the Christmas break. There will be the opportunity for students to engage with some learning but it is their choice.

On behalf of all the staff at KWS, I would like to wish all our school community a happy, relaxing and peaceful Christmas.

Tony Smith  
**Headteacher**

### House Points

The house points winners for this week are **Armstrong** - congratulations!

<b>Form</b>	<b>Totals Year 7</b>	<b>Totals Year 8</b>	<b>Overall</b>
Ali	1790	1692	3482
Armstrong	2015	1626	3641
Franklin	1623	1882	3505
Keller	1760	1520	3280
Nightingale	1835	1341	3176
Tesla	1726	1374	3100

**Miss Anderson**



# *A Writing Competition for Senior School Students in Harpenden*

**Could you be one of the best writers of your age in Harpenden?  
Why not enter this competition and have a go?**

You can write:

1. A factual piece about what local communities and schools should be doing about Climate Change.
2. An account about how you would survive being stranded on a desert island.
3. A story on any subject you like!
4. A think-piece about how *you* would like Harpenden to be, 10 years from now.

It must be **interesting, original** and **no more than 1500 words long**.

**Prizes are book tokens up to the value of £100**

Your English Teachers have added this task as a **Google Classroom Assignment** for you and the **deadline** is the 1st week back after Christmas.

**TELL ME A STORY**  
Writing competition for senior school students  
in Roundwood Park, Sir John Lawes, Katherine Warrington & St. George's  
Organised by The Harpenden Society

We're challenging students to write an original story up to 1,500 words about one of the following subjects:

- What initiatives should the local community and schools be doing to reduce the impact of climate change.
- How would you survive being washed up on a desert island?
- A fictitious story on a subject of your own choosing.
- How you would like to see Harpenden 10 years from now.

The competition is open to 3 age groups: 11-13 years; 14-15 years & 16-18 years

There will be a 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize for each age group. Prizes will be in Book Tokens of £100, £50 & £25

The judges will be looking for:

- An interesting, relevant and original read.
- It must be your own work
- It must not have been previously published or used elsewhere
- No spelling mistakes
- No more than 1,500 words; 14 point, double-spaced (if typed)
- Non-fiction work must include sources and references

Closing date for your entry: Jan 15 2021.  
Judges to announce winners on: March 15 2021.  
Prize presentation TBC

Ask your Teacher for details:

## Trust Board

This week Trustees met (virtually) the Members of the Harpenden Secondary Education Trust (HSET) for our AGM. HSET represents those establishments who came together to found Katherine Warrington School: Roundwood Park School, Sir John Lawes School, St George's School, the University of Hertfordshire and Rothamsted Research. We reflected on our achievements since opening in September 2019; it seems a long time since the buses to the University buildings and Camp Knebworth! All Members and Trustees agreed that, despite the many twists and turns and all 2020 has thrown at the world, KWS has got off to a great start thanks to the tenacity and resilience of staff and students who deserve to be very proud.

We followed that meeting with a full Trustee Board meeting where we said a sad farewell to Steve Angus who has been our finance Trustee for the past five years. We then welcomed two new Trustees - Charlotte Zacharia and Alex Vickers - who both have financial expertise and have joined the Trust Board as part of the Resources Committee. We currently have a vacancy for a Trustee with experience in SEND, details can be found on the website.

As we head towards the December holiday, we would like to thank staff, students, parents and carers for all the hard work and enthusiasm which has gone into making this Autumn term such a success. We hope all our KWS community stays happy and well, and enjoys a well-earned break.

## Upcoming Events

Monday 4th January - Staff Inset and training day - **no students in school**  
Tuesday 5th January - **students return to school**



# Katherine Warington Association of Friends (KwAF)

## Silent Auction & Raffle

Thank you to all our local business who have donated prizes

**GOING, GOING, GONE!**  
KwAF Presents  
**2020 Silent Auction & Raffle**  
Bidding closes 16<sup>th</sup> December

**AUCTION**

LOT 1: Health & Fitness Bundle    LOT 2: Food & Drink Bundle    LOT 3: Family & Kids Bundle

LOT 4: Beauty Bundle    LOT 5: Hand Made Jewellery

Place your bids at: <https://auctionofpromises.com/2020XmasAuctionForKwAF>  
**GOOD LUCK!**

**RAFFLE**

Over 60 amazing raffle prizes to be won!  
£2 a ticket or £7 a strip of 5.  
**TOP PRIZES:**  
Photography voucher for Family photoshoot & 5 images.  
Courtesy of <https://karenpaynephotography.com/>  
£30 Flowers gift voucher, courtesy of <https://flowersbycatherine.com/>  
Fruit & Veg voucher, courtesy of PJ Garrity

Raffle ticket payment via ipayimpact

**GET READY BID**

We've decided this year to split our prizes into both a silent auction as well as a traditional raffle both with a focus on 'support local'.

To check out our auction lots and make your bid [click here](#).

Our Christmas raffle has over 60 great prizes. You can purchase tickets via iPayImpact for £2 a ticket or £7 for a strip of 5.

For our top prizes see the poster attached. Winners will be announced on 18th December.

We couldn't do this without the generous donations from our local businesses. Please show your gratitude by supporting them

BooBear Jewellery	Beats Uniform shop	Bake with Katheryn
Beauty at the Barn - Markyate	Natasha Murphy Dog Walker	Bakehouse
Naturally Blessed	Clair Carr Pilates	PJ Garrity
Sugar, sprinkles & Joy	Black Rock Rugby	Jessamine's Garage
Sean Priestly Massage	Farr Brew	Godfreys Fish & chips
Sarah fisher Pilates	Good toy guide	Gazapi sport

Good luck to everybody and for all the latest information please join the [KwAF Facebook group](#) here!

### ***KwAF Team***

### **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!

### **Non KWS Events / Publicity**

BeeZee Bodies offer support to families in Hertfordshire and are holding a series of family webinars that will start in January.

See the flyers below or [click here](#) for more information.

# FREE WEEKLY WEBINARS TO HELP YOUR FAMILY BE HEALTHIER!



Our award-winning BeeZee Families healthy lifestyles programme has gone virtual! Over 12 weeks of webinars, we'll cover topics such as healthy snacking, balanced meals, portion size and physical activity. The webinars are fun and interactive, with games and quizzes, and prizes to be won!

Our team of family nutritionists are experts at engaging children around healthy eating and exercise, and can help you turn one healthy behaviour into a good habit for life!

Funded by Hertfordshire County Council, this free service is available to children aged 5-15 who have a BMI above the 91st centile (we can help you work this out if you're not sure).



"We got a lot out of the online sessions, it really helped us to make some positive changes to our eating habits. I liked the idea of having the quizzes and polls as you still felt really involved, and both Jamie and I had lost weight after just 6 weeks."  
Jamie (7 years)



"The online programme was run brilliantly. Informative, interactive and interesting. We all found it helpful and picked up useful knowledge for life! Jake has lost 11kg and he looks and feels so much better! Thanks BeeZee Bodies for giving him a lifetime of skills to keep this going!"

Jack (16 years)



# FREE WEEKLY WEBINARS TO HELP YOUR FAMILY BE HEALTHIER

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
5-8 year olds	X	16:30 - 17:45 OR 16:45 - 18:00	
9-12 year olds	17:00 - 18:15 OR 18:00 - 19:15		X
13-16 year olds	X	X	18:00 - 19:15

Sign up at [beezeebodies.com/live](http://beezeebodies.com/live)



STARTS 18th JANUARY for 12 weeks

