



Katherine
Warrington
School

HEADS UP

Newsletter no. 30

Friday 28th May 2021

Almost as soon as I sent the email to parents/carers describing the return to mixed year groups after half term, we have had two positive cases of Covid. This has led to several students needing to isolate for 10 days in line with government guidance. Covid is still in the area with several other local schools reporting cases. I anticipate schools having to deal with positive cases for the foreseeable future and the process will remain the same until government guidance changes. Under these circumstances it remains of paramount importance for families to continue to test regularly, twice a week. I also think it is important for our school to return to operating with the education needs and welfare of students at its heart. Students want and benefit from a separate form group and teaching group; they want clubs to restart; they are excited about Period 7; music lessons need to be taught in our music room and students allowed to handle real instruments.

Our student council has returned to effective operation. I received a powerful presentation from Harry H and Freddie C (Year 8) revealing the results of a student survey asking if shorts should be added to the school uniform. Students overwhelmingly want them. These are tailored unisex grey shorts and they would be non compulsory. If students wish to wear them and parents/carers wish to purchase them then that is their decision. I anticipate adding these to the uniform list from September. Well done students - one of the benefits of a new school is the ability for students to use their voice to shape our future.

Another change to uniform is that we have designed house ties. They are the standard tie with a splash of house colour either side of the KWS logo. Our new Year 7 students will be purchasing them in time for September and our current students can buy them if they need to replace their existing ties.



Our two main fields will be open after half term for students. Currently 800 tonnes of sand is being scattered on all 5 playing pitches. Then re-seeding the odd bare patch followed by line marking. Goals/posts are being delivered next week. I genuinely can't wait. The long jump/triple jump will be completed over half term providing the rain doesn't return. Fingers crossed.

That leads me nicely into a date for your diaries - Saturday 11th September will be our Open Day. On that day we will welcome new families as they consider joining us the following September. However, I am acutely aware that many of our existing students' parents/carers, grandparents etc have never had the chance to visit the school, so current students and their families are welcome from mid-afternoon. More details will follow, but please create a space in your calendar as it would be lovely to welcome you and your family.

This week we have been asking students to complete a survey about their experience at KWS. We want to view that alongside the views of parents/carers. Please take a few minutes over half term to complete and return the Parent Survey. The results will be available on our website, be discussed at a full Trustee meeting and available for Ofsted to view.

Finally, please maintain your support as students prepare for their exams after half term. The key approach is to maintain balance of revision time, eating well and healthily, maintaining sleep patterns, exercising frequently and spending quality relaxation time with family and friends.

Tony Smith
Headteacher

House Points

The house points winners for this half term are **Keller** congratulations!

Form	Totals Year 7	Totals Year 8	Overall
Ali	1969	1471	3440
Armstrong	2094	1611	3705
Franklin	1765	1668	3433
Keller	2342	1641	3983
Nightingale	2021	1475	3496
Tesla	1923	1522	3445

Sports Notices

It's been great to be back taking part in athletics fixtures over the last two weeks. Students have gained valuable experience of competition against other schools and learnt a lot from the process. The most pleasing aspect is watching students improve and gain confidence as a result. Special mention to Ben R for winning the 200m; as well as Nathan T (300m), Jack Q (800m), Ingrid S (Javelin), Mollie G-H (Shot Put) and the 4x100m boys relay team coming 2nd in their respective events. Well done to Stella A and Taye L for stepping in at the last minute to compete with guts and enthusiasm in events they had never attempted before. In addition, Jessica H for shining in both the 1500m and high jump, despite competing against students a year older than her.

We look forward to restarting our lunchtime and period 7 sports clubs after half term, whilst also having cricket and two further athletics fixtures. There are exciting times ahead.



Mr Alexander

Exam Week

Over the last two weeks students have continued to use their Period 7 sessions to learn different revision techniques and how to revise.

Students have learnt how to use [Visual Revision](#), [Brain Dumping](#), [Self Quizzing](#) and [Knowledge Organisers](#) to help them retain as much information as they effectively can. Click on the links above to access them.

Students have been having revision lessons in a variety of subjects all in preparation for their exam week. In case you missed it, here is the [exam week timetable](#); Friday's activities will include a film and some inter-house sport.

Please remind students to come to school with the correct equipment including pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers, glue sticks and calculators every day so that they are prepared for their exams and lessons next half term.

Students should also come to school equipped with antibacterial wipes for when they move between classrooms.

Miss Anderson & Mr Martin

English

The English Department is proud to announce that Isobel J in Year 7 has been Commended for her entry into Poetry By Heart's annual poetry competition for her wonderful recital of the poem 'Harriet Tubman' by Eloise Greenfield during lockdown. The Judges commented on how well she showed the passion and attitude of the poem. Well done Isobel!

In addition to this, we are pleased to say the following Year 7 students have completed their Big Purple Reading Challenge! Their names will be added into the Prize Draw and certificates and chocolates are available from Mrs McPartlin in Room 146. Well done and keep reading!

- Will E
- Esme G-G
- Sitali M
- Oli T
- Oliver Sh
- Oli Steadman
- Louisa T
- Jean N

Mrs McPartlin

Hertfordshire Maths Challenge



Well done to Ben, Alex, Maanasee & Fahtima who represented KWS at last week's Hertfordshire Maths Challenge.

Unfortunately we did not make the next round but all four students showed great mathematical skills and thinking.

Congratulations to all of them!

Miss Anderson

Eco Garden



The eco garden is flourishing with onions (photo left) carrots (photo top right) and potatoes (bottom right) all growing well.



If anyone has grown anything for the eco garden at home, please could it be brought into school after half term for planting.

We are also looking for volunteers to come and help in the eco garden after half term. If you would be interested in helping please email s.brandon@kwschool.co.uk.

Ms Brandon



Trust Board

We are lucky as Trustees to have a wealth of training resources at our fingertips; you do have to make your own cup of tea but webinars, podcasts and courses are available 24/7 these days. Much of the training in 2020/21 has been focused on supporting and monitoring Wellbeing. I attended an interesting webinar this week on the proven links between physical activity and academic achievement. It's really common sense: we all know that we feel and focus better after we've moved around. Habits built in adolescence really do carry through into adult life.

As you know Wellbeing is a key part of the KWS ethos and is an area we discuss at every Trust Board meeting. At our last meeting we were delighted to hear that the playing fields are ready for use and the sheep have settled in nicely. The school has such lovely grounds and we encourage all staff and students to take some time in their busy days to get some exercise, relax and connect. The Trustees also applauded the return of Period 7 - the options are really exciting with their clear focus on Mind, Body and Soul.

Well done everyone for a successful half term, enjoy the break (fingers crossed for some sun) and we will see you in June.

Jenny Howarth, Vice Chair

Upcoming Events

Monday 7th June - Year 7 & Year 8 Exam Week

Thursday 24th & Friday 25th June - Year 8 Cuffley Camp

Saturday 11th September - KWS Open Day for prospective and current parents

This week's notices to parents /carers:

- Current Year 7 Bushcraft Trip - September 2021 - Information
- Year 8 Bushcraft Trip - June 2021 - Arbor Consent
- Change to school routines after half term
- Parent Survey

Katherine Warington Association of Friends (KwAF)

If you have any unwanted school uniform please consider donating it to the KwAF second hand uniform sale. All clothes, football and rugby boots can be donated by handing them directly to the school office. All funds will go directly back to much needed fundraising for the school.

If you would like to get involved and support your school's parents' association please email kwaf@kwschool.co.uk or look out for updates on [Facebook @kwafkws](#). If you haven't already done so, please sign up and follow us!

KWS Vacancies

Forthcoming vacancies

- Teacher of Music
- School Counsellor
- Cover Supervisor
- Senior Learning Support Assistant
- Learning Support Assistant
- Admin Assistant

All vacancies will be advertised on [Teach in Herts](#) and on [My New Term](#)

Social Media

Keep up to date with the latest information via the newsletter, website and our social media platforms by clicking on the links below:

[Facebook @KatherineWaringtonSchool](#)

[Facebook @KWSchoolSport](#)

[Twitter @KWSHarpenden](#)

[Instagram @kwschoolharpenden](#)

[Instagram @kwschoolsport](#)

Non KWS Events / Publicity

Harpenden Plus Partnership - Sessions to aid Transition for ASD families

Harpenden Plus Partnership are holding free 1:1 transition advice sessions for families to support their child's transition to a new class, a new key stage, or a new school.

They are being run by two Specialist Advisory Teachers for Speech, Language, Communication and Autism, and are available to families with a child who has either diagnosed or suspected ASD.

Sessions are being run virtually via Microsoft Teams on the 18th of June and the 2nd of July.

To book a place and time slot email familysupport@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk



Transition Advice for Undiagnosed and Diagnosed Pupils on the Autistic Spectrum

1:1 Advice Sessions via MS Teams
Friday 18th June & Friday 2nd July 2021

9.30 am – 9.50 am
9.55 am – 10.15 am
10.20 am – 10.40 am
10.45 am – 11.05 am
11.10 am – 11.30 am
11.35 am – 11.55 am

Louise Howe and Louisa Smyth, Specialist Advisory Teachers for Speech, Language, Communication & Autism, will be holding free 20 minute 1:1 advice and guidance sessions for parents to support their child's **transition to a new class, key stage or school**. The sessions are open to parents with children and young people who have an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Diagnosis or suspected ASD and associated challenges who attend schools in Harpenden, Kimpton, Redbourn & Wheathampstead

Sessions will be held on MS Teams

To book a session or to find out more information, please contact familysupport@saunceywood.herts.sch.uk

CAMHS Education Programme

CAMHS Education Programme is running a 6-Week CAMHS Education Programme for Parents/Carers of secondary aged young people accessing CAMHS, Step 2 or Counselling Services.

This course will provide parents/carers with skills and support to help their child and improve their health and wellbeing. Parents/Carers will learn more about young people's mental health and recovery, effective communication skills, family culture, problem-solving and looking after yourself.

Parents/Carers must book: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/camhdspl5>

DSPL | Delivering Special
Provision Locally
Achieving quality outcomes
DSPL 5 Welwyn and Hatfield


Carers
in Hertfordshire
charity registration number 1065081
Making Carers Count

Online Education Programme for Parents/ Carers of secondary school aged young people who are using a CAMHS* Clinic, Step2 or Counselling Service.

* Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

This free course, held over six weeks, will provide you as parents/carers with skills and support to help your child and improve your health and wellbeing.

Learn more about young people's mental health and recovery, effective communication skills, family culture, problem-solving and looking after yourself.

Where: Online over Zoom, start 7pm and finish 9pm.

When: Wednesday's on 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th June and 7th and 14th July.

To book your place, please click on the link below
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/camhdspl5>

The course is for parents/carers of young people who are experiencing a mental health condition. Please state at time of booking which service your child is using - a CAMHS Clinic, Step2 or Counselling. We have found the course content is not helpful for parent/carers of young people with an autistic spectrum condition.

About Carers in Hertfordshire

We are a leading charity that supports unpaid carers throughout Hertfordshire.

We are partly funded by Hertfordshire County Council and the NHS in Hertfordshire. In partnership with them and other local organisations we provide services to carers to help them with their caring role, improve their health and wellbeing, give them a break from caring and have a voice in shaping services for them. We support carers of all ages, including children, and our services are free of charge.

Carers in Hertfordshire
The Red House, 119 Fore Street, Hertford, Herts, SG14 1AX
Tel: 01992 58 69 69
Email: contact@carersinherts.org.uk
www.carersinherts.org.uk

Our support for parents and carers.

We have Involvement and Development Workers supporting carers of someone with a mental health condition or who misuses drugs or alcohol, who can provide information relevant to your caring role and can help you to speak up to those providing or planning local services. We also:

- Give you a chance to meet and talk to other parents, carers and staff who understand;
- Give you the opportunity to represent your views to the authorities that commission and manage CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) in Hertfordshire;
- Provide training and learning opportunities;
- Offer a Carers' Passport Discount Card that gives savings in shops, restaurants and other venues (contact us to apply for one today!)



Oasis Support Group

Crabtree Church, 139 Crabtree Lane, Harpenden, AL5 5RD

Would you like to meet others?
Have you lost a loved one?
Are you finding it hard to cope
in difficult times?

**You are very welcome on
Tuesday mornings, first Tuesday of each month**

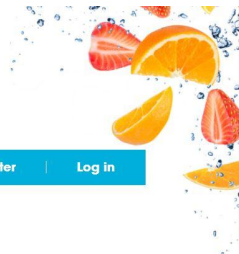
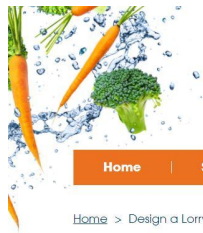
- 10.00-11.00 am
- Coffee/Tea/cold drinks available
- A chance to chat
- Everyone Welcome
- Free parking available
- Please follow Government advice on face coverings.



**Contact: oasiscrabtreechurch@gmail.com
Phone: 07955 592974
Facebook: Crabtree Church**

Aldi Design a Lorry Competition

[Click here to enter the competition](#)



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Design a lorry competition

Can you design a lorry to celebrate fresh, healthy food? Your design could appear on an Aldi lorry and win £1,000 Aldi vouchers for your school!

To celebrate Tokyo 2020, Aldi and Team GB are challenging young people aged 5-14 to get creative and design a lorry that celebrates everything great about fresh, healthy food. The two winners (one from England and Wales and one from Scotland) will see their designs on an Aldi lorry and could win £1,000 of Aldi vouchers for their school! Entries (Entry Templates WITH a Cover Sheet) must be received by Friday 25 June 2021.

We're challenging students aged 5–14 to design an **Aldi lorry**, plus **win incredible prizes** for their school with the **Design a Lorry Competition**.

Two new Aldi lorries will be spreading a healthy eating message across the country, celebrating fresh, healthy food, and we want your students to design them!

Judged by our Team GB athlete panel, featuring **Nile Wilson** and **Shauna Coxsey**, your pupils could bag some fantastic prizes for your school, including a **£1,000 Aldi voucher** and **exclusive Team GB goodies**, in addition to seeing the **two winning designs on a real lorry**!

Simply **register for FREE to Get Set to Eat Fresh** and find everything you need in our **competition resources** by clicking the button below. Send us your entries by **Friday 25 June** for your chance to win!

Enter the Competition

