



Katherine Warrington School

HEADS UP Newsletter no. 9

24th January 2020

This term's period 7 options are underway and it is really energising to walk around seeing students engaged in enriching learning, including traditional strategic games, small animal studies or Gaelic football to name but a few. It puts a smile on everyone's face as they end the school day.

Our end of term non-uniform day raised nearly £200. It's a voluntary £2 so with 180 students we are hoping to raise more for the non-uniform day when we break up this Easter.

As part of the Red Tractor 'Buy British Produce' campaign, students were treated to a visit from farmer Will Dickinson and Kristine Humphreys. Students sat through an assembly presentation explaining meat and cereal farming, healthy eating and the impact on the environment. Then they got to sit in the tractor!



All parents are invited to our Parents' Forum meeting at the school on Wednesday 5th February, (starting at 7pm) when we will feedback the results of our parent survey.

We will be writing to parents with details of our cycling proficiency campaign shortly. The aim is to bring all students up to Level 3 by offering further tuition in the summer term for those students not already at that level. We hope that more students will cycle to school over the summer months.

We intend to celebrate Chinese New Year in school with a specially designed menu in our canteen on Wednesday 29th January. The Chinese food available is detailed on the flyer below. 新年快乐! (Happy New Year!).

Several neighbours have asked us to remind parents that if you are collecting students (at least 5 mins walk away from the school gates), please remember to turn off your engines while you wait for your child to reduce fumes and pollution. See poster below for more information.

I took a tour around the main school build this week. It really is coming on at pace and it's looking great.



Finally, I'd like to add my own personal thanks to Philip Waters, who has stepped down as Chair of Governors. It's been a journey!

Tony Smith

Headteacher

Trust Board

It has been a week of changes for the Trust Board. We said a fond farewell to our outgoing Chair, Philip Waters, and elected his successor, Helen Parkinson. We also welcomed a new Trustee, Fiona Haynes.

Philip has been steering the KWS project for a decade and has been pivotal in delivering a new secondary school. He has led the Trust with great skill and wisdom, maneuvering through the choppy waters whilst keeping a firm hold of the Trust's initial intent and aims. From chairing public meetings to being the voice of the Trust at many local and national government meetings over those years, Philip brought a calmness and clarity to every meeting. Having seen the school get off to such a great start, Philip felt that the time was right to hand over the reins. He will remain part of the Trust board, using his considerable experience in transport to guide the work of the Travel Committee.

Helen Parkinson, formally Vice Chair, was unanimously elected as Chair to succeed Philip. Helen brings a wealth of school governance experience to her new role; she was previously Chair of Governors at Sauncey Wood Primary School. We will elect a new Vice Chair to assist Helen at our next meeting.

Our new governor, Fiona Haynes, has previously served on the governing body of several local secondary schools and is an expert in provision for students with additional learning needs. We are delighted to welcome her to the Trust.

Student Achievement

Our Year 7s have made an excellent start back following the Christmas break and are already storming ahead when it comes to recognitions. This week students have achieved **1,420** recognitions and since September have achieved an impressive **14,991** recognitions in total.

Congratulations to the following students for achieving the most recognitions so far this half term with 35 or above:

- Harry H
- Rayan P
- Eesa
- Rory

- Neomi
- Toby B
- Leigha
- Cameron
- Nathan
- Maanasee
- Alexander
- Umar-Farooq
- Samuel L
- Jada
- Effie
- Ben W
- Isabel
- Tiffany
- Joshua T-O
- Toby G
- Smaran B
- Ibrahim
- Freddie C

Well done to all of our students.

Mrs Aikman

Sports Notices

Last week saw KWS netball teams travel to Roundwood and Sir John Lawes for netball fixtures. These were our first real outings as teams, with new combinations and positions in some cases. Although we didn't come away with the wins, I was impressed with the girls' sportsmanship, perseverance and teamwork and our second match showed great improvements on our first. Well done to Jasmine D and Joanne E who were given opponents' player of the match.

Mrs McPartlin

Swimming Gala: We have a number of talented swimmers at KWS and the opportunity has arisen for some students to be selected for a gala representing the St Albans District schools. This is a selection event so if your child would like to be considered please fill out this form and the district swimming organisers will be in touch. <http://www.stassa.org.uk/2020-inter-district-gala-entry-form.html>

Rugby v Sandringham: After a very well-fought and tough game we unfortunately lost to Sandringham 8-7 on Tuesday. Tries were scored by Henry H (x5), Nathan T and Ethan W. It was an impressive display and I am very proud of how we both played and conducted ourselves on the field. I would like to say a continued thanks to Mr Hutchins, our site manager and minibus driver, who continues to support sport at KWS. Mr Hutchins was very impressed by our team this week enthusing that "They inspired each other, it was a great game of self-belief, passion and confidence. The whole team have every right to be proud of their performance" - he is really rather proud of them. Keep up the good work boys!

Fixture Organisation/Team News: Now that students have been at KWS for a term we are going to switch to them taking responsibility for finding out if they are on a team and sorting their own arrangements to get home afterwards. Each Monday morning any fixtures for the coming week will be put on our team board and released via Twitter for you to see. We will assume that students can play unless they find the teacher leading the fixture and tell them otherwise. Fixtures this year are always away, so we will assume that students will be coming back to KWS on the minibus unless they inform us that they have permission to walk home, or that they are being collected directly from the venue. You can view upcoming fixtures on our website.

Selecting Teams: Going forward we have decided to base our selection of teams not only on ability, but also on students' behaviour in school. Students are representing KWS when they go on fixtures and if their recent behaviour choices in school have been poor then we do not feel they should be representing our school.

Miss Anderson

Apps on Chromebooks

As you may be aware, we have moved to a 'Whitelisting' approach for apps linked to our students' KWS google accounts, which they use on their Chromebooks. This means that as a school we will only deploy apps that have educational value, and we can be sure that those we do deploy have been checked and verified to be compliant with Data Protection regulations.

If students wish to install their own apps on their Chromebooks they can do this by creating a personal google account and using this outside of school. Whilst at school they will only be permitted to sign in with their KWS google account to prevent game playing/misuse in lessons.

If your child believes they have found an app with educational value, please ask them to check it with the relevant subject teacher and then speak to Mrs Coomber or Mr Inns.

Mr Inns

Faulty Chromebook Swapout process

- Parents/Carers must first report the issue online at <http://freedomtech.co.uk/help/>
- The device should be brought into school after it has been reported and handed to Student Services. We only need the device and not chargers/accessories.
- Subject to availability, we will loan a school device to the student whilst awaiting the replacement device.
- A replacement device will be delivered to the school within 24/48 hours.
- We will then deliver the replacement device back to the student.

Unfortunately, we are unable to log the initial call with FreedomTech and it is important that Parents/Carers do this as soon as possible to ensure there are no delays in the replacement process.

Mr Inns

Year 7 Exams, Reports & Parents Evenings

As per the [school calendar](#), we have Year 7 exams running for two weeks from Monday 16th March. The exact schedule for these will be confirmed nearer the time but there will be no exams on either Wednesday 18th March or Thursday 19th March due to the Voice in a Million trip.

With most GCSEs now assessed as end of course exams, it is important that we start to get our students used to exams and revising a significant amount of content for different subjects. This year they will have exams for most of their subjects and these will be sat in

their normal teaching group rooms. We have planned these for the late part of the Spring term so that we can act on the results and work with students to further strengthen their learning over the summer term.

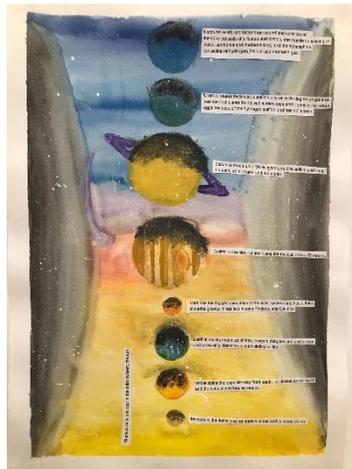
After February half term we will be running a series of sessions to help our students take responsibility for planning their revision, and will explore a range of effective revision techniques with them. Throughout the year students regularly undertake recall quizzes and are given Knowledge Organisers for all units of study, which can support them in their revision. In addition students will have some revision sessions in their subject lessons during the week before the exams.

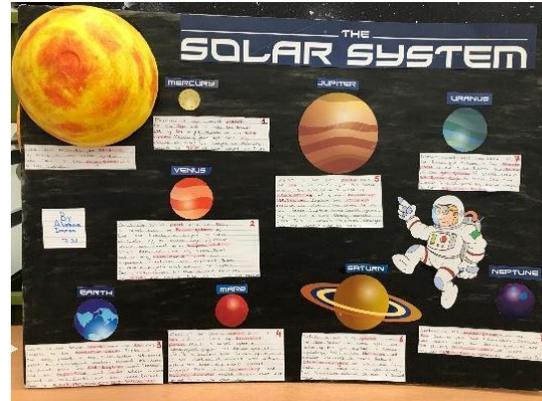
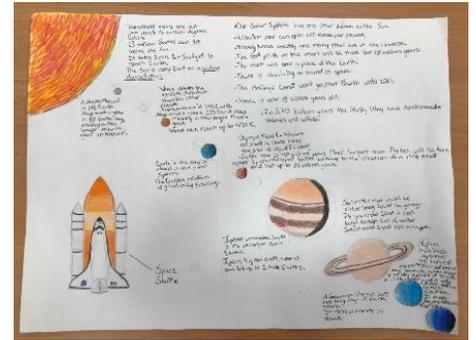
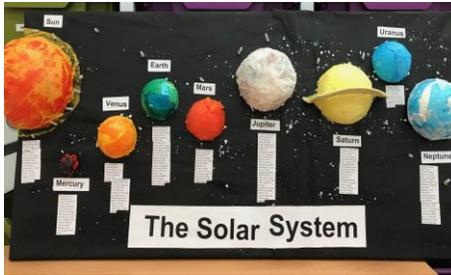
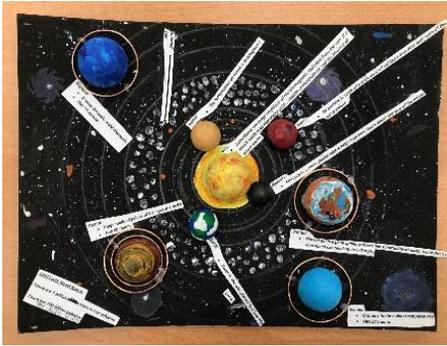
The results of these exams will be moderated with our partner schools in Harpenden and then fed into our next reports home, on Thursday 7th May. You will get the opportunity to meet with subject teachers to discuss these reports at one of our two parents' evenings on Thursday 14th May and Wednesday 20th May.

Mrs Coomber

Science

In Science we started the New Year with the topic Earth and Space. Students have really enjoyed learning about the solar system, how we use the theories and models of the Universe to explain day and night, year and seasons, the Moon phases and our Earth's magnetism and gravity. We have used VR to explore space, which was absolutely amazing. In addition to this, the students made a fantastic effort in creating their solar system posters/models. Here are a few photos attached to show their outstanding work! Well done Year 7s!





Upcoming Events

Wednesday 5th February - Parents Forum meeting

This week's notices to parents /carers:

Term Dates for 2020 – 2021 are now available to view on the website by [clicking here](#).

The Science department are looking for donations of unwanted items that we can use. We require 30 dice and 15 old style plugs that can be unscrewed and students shown how they are wired. If you are able to assist please send them in to Student Services.

Padlocks for lockers.

Chinese New Year

As mentioned earlier, to celebrate the Chinese New Year, Herts Catering Limited (HCL) will be providing a special menu on Wednesday 29 January. Students can choose from a range of these options on the day.



Social Media

Keep up to date with the latest information via the newsletter, website and our social media platforms: **Facebook @KatherineWarringtonSchool** and **Twitter @KWSHarpden**. If you haven't already done so, please sign up and follow us.

Non KWS Events / Publicity

The Spring Herts for Learning Online Safety Newsletter can be viewed by [clicking here](#).



**TURN OFF YOUR
KEY
BE IDLE-FREE**

This is a campaign to reduce the number of people parked outside school gates leaving their car engine running. The main source of locally generated air pollution in Hertfordshire is road traffic and idling.

Car fumes are not just a smelly nuisance they affect the health of thousands of the most vulnerable in our community – particularly children, expectant mothers and people with lung or heart conditions.

Pollution can cause many health problems including Asthma, Heart Disease and Lung Cancer.

KEY MESSAGES

- Improve air quality – reducing pollutants can help cut heart disease, reduce lung cancer and prevent asthma attacks
- Turning off an engine and restarting it after a minute or two (or longer) causes less pollution than keeping the engine idling and uses less fuel.
- By turning off you reduce fuel costs
- You suffer from more pollution when sitting in a stationary car with the engine running
- Vehicle idling is an offence against the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) (Fixed Penalty) (England) Regulations 2002. The law states that it is an offence to idle your engine unnecessarily when stationary. This could result in a fixed penalty notice of £20.00



SARACENS Mavericks

Netball Camps

DATE	TYPE	WHERE	TIME	COST
Monday 17th February	Junior Camps (School Year 5-6)	Samuel Ryder Academy AL1 5AR	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Tuesday 18th February	Senior Camp (School Year 7-9)	Samuel Ryder Academy AL1 5AR	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Tuesday 18th February	Mini Camps (School Year 3-4)	Heath Mount School, SG14 3NG	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Wednesday 19th February	Junior Camps (School Year 5-6)	Heath Mount School, SG14 3NG	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Thursday 20th February	Junior Camps (School Year 5-6)	Robert Bloomfield Academy SG17 5BU	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Thursday 20th February	Junior Camps (School Year 5-6)	Hornchurch Sports Centre RM11 1JU	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Friday 21st February	Junior Camps (School Year 5-6)	Becontree Heath Leisure Centre RM10 7FH	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Friday 21st February	Junior Camps (School Year 5-6)	Basildon Sporting Village SS14 3GR	10am - 3pm	£35.00
Friday 21st February	Senior Camp (School Year 7-9)	Robert Bloomfield Academy SG17 5BU	10am - 3pm	£35.00

For more information and to book visit
www.mavericksnetball.co.uk/Community-Netball/Netball-Camps