

HEADS UP Newsletter no. 34

17th September 2021

Back to school, leaving the sweltering summer sun and exotic holiday memories behind (we can all dream!). Our summer school to help Year 6 students as they join us in Year 7, was a great success and really helped make the start of the full school term a less anxious time for everyone. Our Year 7 students have made a fantastic start to their secondary school education; they are polite, looking smart and making lots of new

friends along the way.



Our Open Day and invitation to a family afternoon for our existing families could not have gone better. The band was exceptional, as were the student performances in music and drama. I was so pleased that so



many of our staff stayed to enjoy the afternoon events.

KWAF were kept extremely busy with a variety of stalls/activities and several Trustees returned in the afternoon, after attending the morning session meeting and greeting our prospective families. Everyone enjoyed the relaxed, easy atmosphere in the splendid surroundings of our new school and of course the weather was a bonus. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL.

We concluded last term with a survey of our parents. The results are now on our new and improved website - easier to navigate and quicker to click to important sections. Our new prospectus is now on there, plus lots of new photos. Following on from our survey, we are in the process of establishing catering and uniform committees (launching in the next couple of weeks). If you are interested in joining either of these committees please contact our School Business Manager, Dean Inns: d.inns@kwschool.co.uk



It's been Bushcraft trips for our Year 8 and new Year 7 students. The weather held out so there was no repeat of the fabled Knebworth monsoon of two years ago. It's a great bonding trip and excellent for staff to get to know students better outside of a classroom context. Lots of smiles were had by all.



While several of us were demonstrating our outdoor survival techniques, Miss Phillips coordinated our first Careers Day for Year 9 students. Thank you to the medical, PR, military and aeroplane specialists who came to talk to the students. More about the day below.

All said, a strong start in every sector to the new academic year.

Finally, I would just like to remind parents/carers and inform our new Year 7 parents that we do not read nor respond to any social media comments. Should you wish to interact with the school then please do so directly via Reception: admin@kwschool.co.uk

Tony Smith **Headteacher**

Super Curriculum

We are really excited for Monday which sees the launch of our first set of Super curriculum choices. All year groups start their first block of period 7, in the categories of mind, body & soul, plus all our lunchtime clubs commence.

Students have been asked to check Arbor over the weekend to see which period 7 options and clubs they have been allocated. They need to know in advance which room to go to each day, as well as which day to bring their PE kit in. For your information, all Year 8s have their period 7 body options on Monday, Year 9 on Tuesday and Year 7 on Wednesday.

This is the start of our first block of period 7 this year, and we are pleased to have been able to ensure all students have at least one of their first choices this time around. They will get to experience more of their selections in the second period 7 block which starts at the end of November. If your child is querying any of their allocated choices, their first port of call is their tutor to check if it is something they put as a choice or reserve. If not, and there is room for human error in inputting 1620 choices, their tutor will contact me to resolve.

If your child decides they would like to join a lunchtime club or perhaps our orchestra, that they have not yet signed up for, they should contact the member of staff running it to see if there is space. Our schedule for clubs can be found on our website here.

I know our staff are really looking forward to delivering period 7 and clubs and we hope the students enjoy all their experiences. We will be asking for their feedback on them later this term and are already starting to shape our options for the second half of the year based on the popularity of their initial choices.

Zoë Coomber Assistant Headteacher

House Points

The house points winners for this week are Nightingale congratulations!

Form	Overall
Ali	1072
Armstrong	999
Franklin	1029
Keller	1041
Nightingale	1117
Tesla	909

Sports Notices

Rugby training will be resuming on Saturday mornings, starting this week (Saturday 18th September) from 9.00am - 10.00am. Sessions will be on the school rugby field. Gum shields are needed in order to take part in any contact, however if students do not yet have one they will take part in touch rugby. Students do not have to sign up to this club, they can just arrive at school at 9.00am. On a separate note, if there are any parents that would be keen to support the running of these sessions, especially Year 7 parents, please could you email Mr Alexander (j.alexander@kwschool.co.uk). Thank you in advance.

If any students have old trainers or football boots that they no longer use, which are still in working order and an appropriate size for secondary school students, we would be happy to have them to add to our spare PE kit collection! Please drop them off into the PE office and they will be greatly received.

Finally, following the Olympics, Swim England Diving have launched the National Virtual Talent Search in order to find the next generation of athletes as clubs are not currently able to use the Talent Identification & Development (TID) Programme test in schools. Luton Diving Club (based at Inspire Pool) is one of just seven centres in England selected to be a talent centre for this appeal. This is a perfect opportunity for anyone with a background in squad gymnastics, tumbling or acro, or someone who is sporty and a bit of a daredevil! The age range is 8-14 years and anyone can apply. Everyone who submits an entry and who can swim 25m will be offered a free taster session to try the sport. Successful candidates will go through to the next phase in the Talent Search. Details of how to apply are here so why not have a go! https://www.swimming.org/diving/diving-virtual-talent-search/

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 at the latest on the first day of absence and every subsequent day thereafter, giving your child's name, tutor group and full reason for absence.

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 to the school. We would appreciate all dental and non-urgent doctor appointments being made out of school hours.

Please <u>click here</u> to visit the attendance page on our website.

Grace Aikman Assistant Headteacher

Year 9 Careers Day

On Thursday 16th September, Year 9 students were involved in our very first careers drop-down day. The aim of the day was to get students thinking about their future and raising their aspirations.

We were incredibly lucky to secure some fantastic speakers for the day, who volunteered their time to talk to the students about their own career paths and how students, who may be interested in their profession, can embark on their own career journey.

We started with our very own Mr Hiscock, who spoke to students about his vast experience in the military; the army, in particular. Students were fascinated by his experience and were very surprised to learn that combat is only a small aspect of military life.

Dr Anna Mallott then spoke about her career in medicine and being a GP, in particular. Her passion for helping people and her interest in the human body was very engaging for the students and a number of students interested in a career in medicine remained behind after the talk to ask her questions.



Rob Jones, who is a pilot for Easyjet,

spoke to the students about his career, firstly as cabin crew and then as a pilot. He spoke about the skills and qualities that are required of pilots and highlighted the need to remain calm in emergency situations. He had the students fascinated with the story of the American airline that landed in the Hudson River when both engines were taken out by birds!

Our last speaker, Alex Stevenson, is the Press Secretary to the Leader of the House of Commons. He spoke eloquently about life in and around the House of Commons and the role he plays in controlling what information the press have access to. The students were intrigued by his stories, but were a bit disappointed that he didn't have Boris Johnson's telephone number!





As well as being fortunate to be able to listen to some fantastic speakers, students were also involved in classroom based activities that introduced them to Unifrog (an online platform that we are using to assist in our delivery of careers education). Students considered what attributes they have, what careers they may be suited to and learnt how to use the platform to research different careers.

The buzz around students in the classrooms was fantastic to see - many had started to research careers that they had never thought of before and others were starting to plan how they might achieve their career goals.

I would like to thank all of the speakers for coming in to inspire our students on Thursday. We will be running many more careers events in future, where we would love to hear from people from as many different industries as possible. If you are interested in talking to some of our students in small groups and have capacity to give us some of your time, please contact Michelle Phillips: m.phillips@kwschool.co.uk.

Miss Phillips Head of Key Stage & Careers Co-ordinator

KWS Vacancies

We will shortly be advertising for the following:

A part-time Finance Assistant (ideally for an immediate start). The role will initially incorporate the role of School Trips Coordinator. 22.5 hrs per week, worked over 3/4 days to suit. If you would like to discuss the role in advance of submitting an application please contact Karen Peters: k.peters@kwschool.co.uk

Science Technician / Senior Science Technician. Start date: ideally no later than Monday 18th October - 36 hours per week (job share considered). If you would like to discuss the role in advance of submitting an application please contact Sarah Creamer: s.creamer@kwschool.co.uk

These positions will be advertised on Teach in Herts early next week - www.teachinherts.com.

Volunteers Required

Thinking of changing career and would like to gain some school experience or simply have some time to spare? We are currently looking for:

- Science Technician Assistants
- Library Assistants
- Art Assistants

Please contact Julie Fox, Head's PA / Recruitment Co-ordinator: recruitment@kwschool.co.uk

Eco Garden



The Eco garden has thrived over the summer. The beans that were sown and donated by Mr Howarth have flourished as can be seen in the photo on the right and are ready for picking as is the squash. The onions grew so well and in such large quantities, they were offered to staff in exchange for a donation, which will be used to buy more seeds.







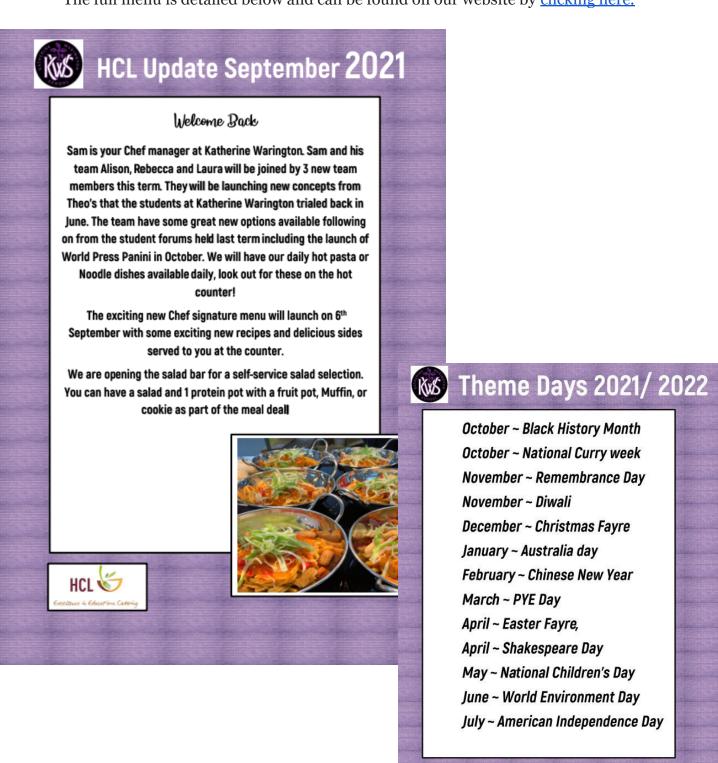
Towards the end of the summer term, the school was provided with sunflower seeds from a company called Allwag, in order that we could enter their tallest sunflower competition. They were sown just before the summer holidays. As you can see from the photo on the right, they are now extremely



tall and whilst they won't be measured until the end of September, we hope they will carry on growing for the next two weeks before we take the final height measurements and we are hopeful that they may make the final.

School Meals - Herts Catering Limited

The full menu is detailed below and can be found on our website by <u>clicking here.</u>



HCL 🍆



Signature Menu

Week 1

Monday

Sausages with Onion Gravy & New Potatoes

Fiesta Vegetable Quesadilla (V)

Tuesday

Pulled Pork with Cantonese Stir fry Vegetables& Rice

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Roasted Vegetable Lasagne with Garlic Bread (V)

Wednesday

Roast Chicken with Stuffing Coasted Roast Potatoes

Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes M

Thursday

Traditional Boof Lasagne with Herby Bread

Cool Mexican Wrap with Brown & White Vegetable Rice (V)

Friday

Fish Fillet with Chips

Cheese & Tomato Calzone with Chips (V)

Week commencing 06/09/21, 27/09/21, 18/10/21, 08/11/21, 29/11/21, 20/12/21, 05/01/22, 24/01/22, 21/02/22 & 14/03/22

All Served with a selection of Seasonal Vegetables Enjoy our meal deal by trying our Dessert of the day or fresh fruit for £2.50

n – Please ask our team for ingredient information for food that contains celery, crusta





Signature Menu Week 2

Monday

Spanish Chicken with Cous Cous

Macaroni Cheese with Wholemeal Garlic Bread (V)

Tuesday

Beef Chow Mein

Vegetarian Chilli with Brown and White Rice & Nachos (V)

Wednesday

Roast Gammon with Pineapple & Roast Potatoes

Sweet Potato & Spinach Curry with Naan Bread Shard (V)

Thursday

Chicken Meatballs in BBO sauce with Vegetable Rice

Or

Cheese & Tomato Quiche with Potato Wedges

Friday

Fish Fillet with Chips

Posh Quern Dog with Chips (V)

Week commencing 13/09/21,04/10/21, 18/10/21,15/11/21,06/12/21,10/01/22, ,31/01/22,28/02/22 & 21/03/22

All Served with a selection of Seasonal Vegetables

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istard, peanuts, sesame, soybeans, Sulphur dloxide, sulphotes and tree

Enjoy our meal deal by trying our Dessert of the dayor fresh fruit for £2.50



Monday

Signature Menu

Week 3

Chicken Curry Pasta Carbonara with Brown & White Rice

Or

Vegetable Enchiladas with Tomato Salsa (V)

Tuesday

with Herby Wholemeal Bread

Sweet Potato Slice with Paprika Potatoes (V)

Wednesday

Roast Beef Dinner ۸r

Roasted Quorn Sausages with Mediterranean Vegetables (V)

Thursday

Chicken Pie with **New Potatoes**

Or

Sweet & Sour Quorn with Noodles (V)

Friday

Fish Fillet with Chips

Or

Vegetable Quarter pounder with Chips (V)

Veek commencing: 20/09/21.11/10/21.22/11/21, 13/12/21, 17/01/22, 07/02/22, 07/08/22.28/06/22,

All Served with a selection of Seasonal Vegetables

Enjoy our meal deal by trying our Dessert of the dayor fresh fruit for £2.50

Allergen information - Please ask our team for ingredient information for food that contains celery, crustaceans, eggs, fish, gluten, lupins, milk, mulluscs, mustard, peanuts, sesome, saybeans, Sulphur dioxide, sulphotes and tree





Trust Board

To all of our new families and those of you returning to KWS, I would like to offer you a warm welcome to this new academic year. The Trust Board also welcomes new people and I would like to thank them and all of the current Trustees for the time they volunteer and a warm welcome back. Please do look on the website for information about our current board if you would like more detail about the experience our Trustees bring to the role.

A number of Trustees were able to attend the open morning and the KWAF family fun afternoon recently and it was fantastic seeing so many people enjoying the school after the difficult year everyone endured. It was especially encouraging to see so many students proudly giving tours and offering their insights into life as a student at KWS. Thank you to all of those who helped with the planning and execution of a great day of celebration.

Helen Parkinson Chair of Trustees

Forgotten items for school

It is important that students take responsibility for being prepared for the school day, to ensure that they have every item that is required on a daily basis, therefore we strongly discourage forgotten items being brought into school during the school day.

Upcoming Events

- Mon 20th Period 7 & Clubs Start
- Mon 20th Prospective Student Tours start during the school day

Katherine Warington Association of Friends (KWAF)

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!

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

Hertfordshire County Council Bike to School Week Scheme

This year Bike to School Week takes place from Monday 27th September to Friday 1st October and for the first time, Sustrans want to try and track how many families take part.

Bike to School Week is a UK-wide event that Sustrans run every year in partnership with Bikeability trust. Together we celebrate cycling and non electric scooting to school and the massive benefits this brings to children's health and the environment.

Everyone can take part in Bike to School Week and there is no registration process for schools. Instead, all Sustrans ask is that you let them know if you and your family will be cycling or scooting to school from Monday 27th September to Friday 1st October by pledging your journeys via the form below. Your school journey can be made with any type of cycle, for example, handcycle, tagalong, cargo bike or non electric Scooter.

By pledging your journeys, you'll be in with a chance of winning a child's Frog Bike worth up to £400. Read the terms and conditions. They will also send you a free guide to walking, cycling and scooting to school with lots of great tips and activities.

To take part in Bike To School Week click here

Harpenden Sustainable Market

HARPENDEN Sustainability Market Sunday 19 Sept 10am - 3pm Harpenden High Street



support local businesses!





DO YOU NEED FINANCIAL HELP FOR EDUCATION OR CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES?



JMF has always supported under 25s living in Harpenden and Wheathampstead, but now we also offer grants to those living in Kimpton, Redbourn, Flamstead and Markyate.



LAST YEAR WE AWARDED OVER 350 GRANTS

•Further education courses

·College/University costs

 Extra-Curricular activities: sport, music, creative arts

- Scouts/Guides and DofE
- ·Laptops and printers
- Residential school trips
- School uniform

Grants are quick and easy to apply for using our online application form.

T: 01582 760735 | E: grants@jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk www.jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk | Charity No: 1181004

Jean-Christophe Novelli Academy Masterclass

The Jean-Christophe Novelli Academy specialises in Indian Cuisine offering a masterclass. The day-long courses will be running on Wednesday 29th September and the Friday 12th November 2021 where celebrity chef Jean-Christophe Novelli will be available to welcome guests. Click here for more information.







The Jean-Christophe Novelli

Academy are excited to introduce you to Shahnaaz Ayub who will be hosting her popular master classes in Indian cuisine. Shahnaaz is a cookbook author (Perfectly Easy Indian Food), host of tv series (For the Love of Food) and food writer.

Classes will be hands on and will include a three course meal, drinks and nibbles throughout the day and gifts to take home.



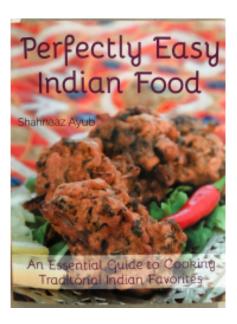
You will also have the chance to meet Jean-Christophe Novelli during your course.

Please visit the website and email Shahnaazayub-regency@hotmail.co.uk for all enquiries.

The first classes will be held on the 29th September and 12th November 2021 at the academy (15 minute drive from Harpenden), from 10.30am to 4pm.

For further information please click the link below.

https://www.jeanchristophenovelli.com/ shahnaaz-ayub/



Harpenden Food and Drink Festival

The Harpenden Food and Drink Festival on Saturday 18th September is set to be a highlight for residents and visitors to the Town with an incredible array of attractions across the High Street and green spaces. With delicious food stalls, community seating areas, live music and lots of entertainment.

The day will include a Children's Zone at the Sensory Gardens, featuring a pop-up beach with interactive activities and outdoor games. Food stalls to suit everyone's taste will line Bowers Parade and make a great refreshment stop on the way to the Statty Fun Fair on the Common. Additionally, there will be live music for all the family on the Concourse, a DJ and fabulous artwork to admire at Art on the Common.

The Roundtable Festival Field, in Rothamsted Park, also has some fantastic activities including a climbing wall, arts and crafts, and inflatables. The Cookery Theatre, may be of interest too with entertaining demonstrations from professional chefs.





You can view the brochure by <u>clicking here</u>. It's going to be a great day for all the family - we do hope to see you there!