



School Newsletter



KWS Newsletter - Issue 39 - 3.12.21

Heads up

Over the last few weeks we have had two occasions when people have come to the school to see staff without appointments and then becoming less than polite to staff when it is explained to them that the staff member is not available. Time is precious to us all and being polite is a common courtesy that my staff rightly show to parents/carers and expect in return. Please arrange appointments before coming to the school. We do not have the capacity for staff to drop everything else without due notice to attend an unscheduled meeting.

In a recent meeting of secondary headteachers in Harpenden and St Albans and a further meeting with primary and secondary headteachers in Harpenden and surrounding areas, it became plain that recruitment issues in schools are growing. This is relevant to us as we begin to focus our attention on expanding our staff to accommodate our yearly growth next September. We have recently appointed a Finance Assistant and a Library Manager (and writer in residence, as she is a published children's author). However, we are currently looking to recruit a **Cover supervisor** and a **Learning Support Assistant**. Please spread the word. On the teaching side, our first new appointment will be an Assistant Headteacher to start in September 2022 - this vacancy will open shortly.

The government have stated that secondary schools are required to test students returning after

the Christmas break. We intend to begin testing on the 5th January (the day before students return to school). You will be asked to select a timeslot. More details will be emailed to all parents shortly. If there are any parents willing to volunteer on that day for a few hours to assist, we would be very grateful. Please email j.fox@kwschool.co.uk

We are proud of our record of sustainable and environmentally friendly travel and as a school we have just achieved Silver rating on Modeshift stars for Education. It is good to see students cycle to and from school. However, it is important that they wear a helmet and have working lights on their bikes. If your child cycles, please remind them that helmets and lights help protect them and they certainly need working lights for the journey home now the clocks have changed.

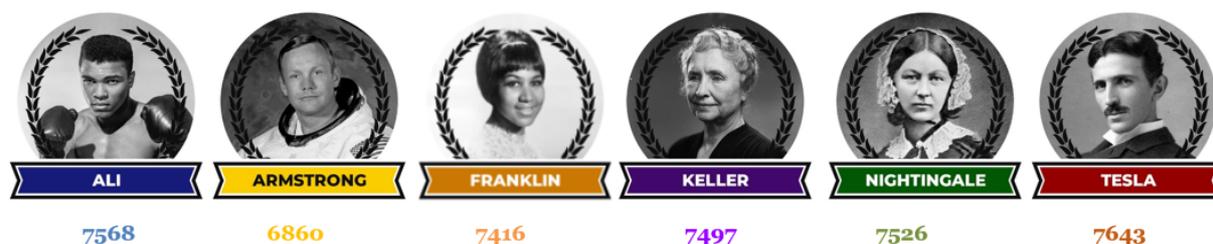
Our evenings of Performances from the West End have sold out. We are looking forward to two memorable evenings and students are rehearsing vigorously. Deadline for any Christmas cracker jokes is upon us. If you haven't submitted those rib tickling, witty gems then [click here](#) and do so before the end of this evening.

We are all looking forward to our Christmas lunch day on Tuesday 14th December. If you have purchased this for your child (meat or vegetarian option) then payment was due by the end of school today (Friday). If you have missed it or decided not to indulge then please ensure your child has a packed lunch that day as no alternative food will be available to purchase and there will be no food sold at breaktime.

Tony Smith
Headteacher

House Points

This week's house points winners are **Tesla** congratulations!



Student Council

Student Council We are delighted to announce that after reading through well-thought and put together applications, we have ourselves our Student Council for the current academic year:

Year 7 Student Council: Erin H Nissi M Saskia W Sofia D Harrison W Carter D Gabriella D Florence C Shea M Mia K Kayla F-K Imogen D

Year 8 Student Council: Ollie ...

[Read more](#)



Eco-Garden Winter Tidy Up



On Saturday 20th November a team of parent and student volunteers came and spent the morning getting the school garden tidied up for Winter. After clearing all the beds of weeds (and a few stray veggies) these areas were covered up and can now have a well earned rest until next Spring. A big thank you for all the enthusiasm ...

[Read more](#)

12 Days Of Reading

We continue to promote literacy at KWS. Students this half term have been taking part in Read Aloud, various year group reading challenges, and not to mention literacy week. We have just appointed a library assistant and she is very excited to get started in helping to manage and develop our school library. We are hopeful we will have many ...

[Read more](#)



Celebrating Cell Models

Year 7 have been busy creating fabulous cell models to help explain the differences between plant and animal cells. The students were tasked with showing as many different organelles (little organs) as possible on their model. We had a fantastic array of models submitted: 3D printed cells, carved pumpkins, clay creations, creative cakes and even scientifically accurate pizza models! It ...



[Read more](#)

Making Slime



Year 9 have been busy making slime as part of their 'Making Materials' topic: demonstrating the process of vulcanisation- whereby crosslinks form between polymer chains (in this case in Polyvinyl Acetate- a.k.a. PVA glue!) The Science Department

[Read more](#)

Period 7 Zoology - Design an animal competition!

Tuesday 14th December - Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th December - A Night in the West End - 7pm - 9 pm

Friday 17th December - School closes at 12:05 pm - Non-Uniform/Christmas jumper day

Wednesday 5th January - Inset staff training day - No students in school

Wednesday 5th January - Covid testing by appointment - More details to follow

Thursday 6th January - Students return to school

Notices

12 Days of Reading

KWAF Winter Offers

Christmas Joke Competition

The School Walk Online Survey

Careers Website Resource and Webinars

Non KWS Events / Publicity

Sustainable St Albans - Thermal Imaging Camera

Is heat leaking from your home?



Join a free short online information session to learn to use a camera.

The District's residents can then borrow a camera.

Borrow one of Sustainable St Albans' Thermal Imaging Cameras to find those draughts and cold spots.

Improve your insulation where needed.

Create a more energy efficient home this winter!



FIND OUT MORE!

www.sustainablestalbans.org/thermal-imaging



Registered charity no 1173118

James Marshall Foundation - Vacancy for Foundation Associate



JMF
JAMES MARSHALL
FOUNDATION
EST. 1722

Supporting young people for education and career development opportunities

Vacancy for Foundation Associate

James Marshall Foundation awards grants to young people aged under 25 years living in Harpenden, Wheathampstead, Kimpton, Redbourn, Flamstead and Markyate who need financial help for education and career development.

We require a part-time Foundation Associate to join our small team working for this long established charity, based in our Harpenden office:

- 3 mornings (9.00am – 1.00pm) per week from May – October
- 2 mornings (9.00am – 1.00pm) per week from November – April

The key responsibility of the role is the administration of our grant awarding process.

We are looking for someone with a friendly and flexible approach along with strong organisational skills and excellent attention to detail. You will need to be a strong team player, deal with matters of a confidential nature and have exceptional communication skills both with our applicants and with the Trustee Board.

This is a role throughout the year, not just term-time, and will involve attending occasional evening meetings.

Closing date: Wednesday 12 January 2022

For further information about James Marshall Foundation CIO, please visit our website www.jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk. For an application pack, please email office@jamesmarshallfoundation.co.uk or telephone 01582 760735

Charity number : 1181004



[Unsubscribe](#)

