



School Newsletter



KWS Newsletter Issue 44 - 4.3.22

Heads up

Lots to mention from a busy two weeks since we came back after half term. Due to the demand for places for new Year 7s in September, we have increased our intake for this year by an additional form (30 students). The other Harpenden secondary schools are also making some additional places available. I understand and appreciate that this still leaves students who selected KWS as their preference without a place. There is always some movement between national offer day and the various rounds of continued interest. My advice is as always, make sure you are on our continued interest list. While we are busy recruiting staff to join us in September, we have our first SLT staff leaver. Mrs Francis has decided to hang up her SENCo hat in the summer. I'm sure parents/carers and students who have worked with Mrs Francis will join me in thanking her for the sterling job she has done over the last three years.

The outcome of our consultation with parents/carers and students regarding a change in the length of the school day resulted in a two-thirds to one-third split in favour of moving the end time of the school day to 3.30pm (Monday-Thursday) from September. Friday finish will remain at 2.30pm.

This week we welcomed Anthony Glenn who entertained Year 7 students with his own take on Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. I don't think I've ever seen that many students enjoy Shakespeare quite as much. It tied in nicely with National Book Week and events held this week in our library, from Wordle to the Great Book Quiz. All very enjoyable.

Year 7 boys and girls put in a sterling performance at the inter-schools Saracens rugby night on Wednesday this week. The boys played and won all three matches. Several of the squad have been invited to join Saracens Academy. Congratulations to them and thank you to the staff for arranging and giving up their time to give students the opportunity.

Students have been wandering around the school reading the careers history of staff (as we get ready for Careers Week) stuck on office and classroom doors. A splendid and widespread mix of experiences have led staff to the doors of KWS - we have a person who previously worked at Buckingham Palace, another who has had radio plays broadcast and a former national parks ranger to name but a few. Many wide and varied paths lead to KWS. If you are interested in a career in secondary school education be it as a teacher or as a support staff member, please email z.coomber@kwschool.co.uk or j.fox@kwschool.co.uk. There are several training routes available.

But all this I expect is shaded in the eyes of the majority of our students by the launch of the new Wrap Bar in the dining room. After a lunchtime of free samples, the wraps opened to long queues on Wednesday and were met with the universal approval of all who tasted them. Healthy and delicious, they come highly recommended.

Finally, thank you to parents/carers for your co-operation in dropping off and collecting students a walking distance away from the school gates. It has made a real difference to congestion and safety in and around the school site.

Tony Smith
Head Teacher

Year 8 Options Choices

We hope that students and parents/carers have been utilising the detailed resources available via the KS4 options webpages and have found their consultation appointments have supported the process in aiding students to make their option choices for KS4. The window for entering option choices is Monday 14th March to Thursday 24th March. Details of how to login and use the 'Tools' software will be emailed on the morning of Monday 14th March. We hope the students feel that they have been well informed. If, however, they still have questions, we encourage them to speak to subject teachers, who are only too willing to help.

Mr Martin

COVID Absences and Changes to self-isolation

On Thursday 24th February, the Government removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However the school will not be changing our approach. Students who test positive

will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance up until day 10 or until they have received two negative test results starting from day 5 and 6.

For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to school immediately on day 6.

The day that they first have symptoms or the day that the positive test (LFT or PCR) was taken counts as day 0. The following day is counted as day 1.

If the result of either of these day 5 and 6 tests are positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFT's on consecutive days (24 hours apart) or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

If your child is unable to return on day 6 please inform the school using our 24 hour absence telephone line **01582 314800** or emailing **absence@kwschool.co.uk**

If any family members test positive for COVID, students can continue to attend school as long as they have no symptoms and test negative on a daily basis.

In order to take part in remote school, students should log into Google Classroom and follow their normal timetable, if there is no work available or they have any queries, they can email their subject teacher directly and they will reply at the earliest convenience.

Mr Inns

Parent Reminder

Please make sure you are talking to your children about road safety and reminding them to cross the roads safely. Make sure they are checking both ways before they cross, even if they are on a bike.

House Points

This week's house point winners are **Keller** Congratulations!



[View All News](#)

Careers Month



We are very excited to announce that we are holding our very first 'Careers Month' this March. During the month, students in all year groups will be experiencing lessons, assemblies or form time activities that have a focus on careers and aspirations. A number of subjects have recruited volunteers from industry to talk to students about their careers, and staff ...

[Read more](#)

Sports Update

Both our Year 7 boys' squad and a group of Year 7/8 girls headed to the Saracens Stone X Stadium for a rugby tournament. The girls enjoyed training with some of Saracens ladies team members at the beginning, then it was straight into mixed team matches where Ellie H and Isabella H enjoyed their first taste of contact rugby. The ...

[Read more](#)

Netball Update

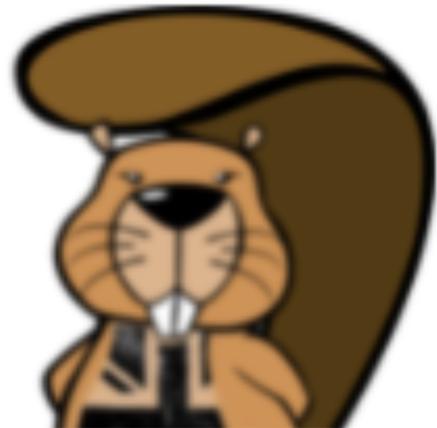


This week our Year 7 and Year 9 netball teams played against Marlborough School. Both teams scored highly and played well in defence to keep the scores close. Year 9 were victorious with Year 7 narrowly missing out on the win. Well done to all who played in the cold and rain! Miss Moxham

[Read more](#)

Bebras Computing Challenge Competition Results 2021

Bebras Computing Challenge Competition Results 2021 Back in November lots of our students took part in Bebras, an online logical thinking challenge that is sponsored by Google and Oxford University. Year 7 competed in the Junior Competition and all of Year 8, along with those Year 9 students who chose Computer Science as a GCSE Option, took part in the ...



[Read more](#)

Calligraphy



Students mastering the art of calligraphy in Period 7 this week.

[Read more](#)

KWS Wrap Bar

This week has seen the launch of the KWS Wrap Bar in association with Theo's. Tuesday saw students handed samples which went down a treat! The Wrap Bar then formally launched on Wednesday and feedback from staff and students who have tried one has been fantastic. The wrap bar is currently limited to one year group per day whilst we ...

[Read more](#)



HCL Consultation Asks Parents and Carers for Views



As part of Herts Catering Ltd's (HCL's) consultation with students and staff about catering at KWS, they are asking for parents and carers viewpoints about food provision in school. If you can spare a few minutes and would like to have the chance to win £50 of Amazon vouchers, please fill in the survey by clicking the link below, by ...

[Read more](#)

A Midsummer Night's Dream Shakespeare Performance by Anthony Glenn

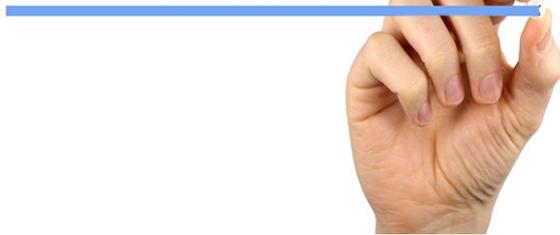
Our Year 7's were delighted to have a visit from Anthony Glenn yesterday. He came in to deliver his version of A Midsummer Night's Dream to help prepare them for their next unit of study. Both students and staff had a great time watching him and getting involved! There was an appearance from a boy band fit to rival One ...

[Read more](#)



Results of consultation on changing the length of the school day

CONSULTATION

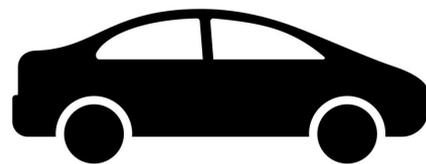


The consensus of opinion from our recent consultation with parents and students was two-thirds in favour of changing the length of the school day. We will therefore be going ahead with the changes from September 2022. This means that we will re-arrange the school day to finish at 3.30pm from Monday through to Thursday and will continue to finish at ...

[Read more](#)

Travel Plan - Zonal Map Reminder

As you will be aware from previous communications - KWS operates a travel plan and as part of this we encourage parents strongly to pick up/drop off a 5-10 minute walk away from school to help the environment and also encourage students to be active and healthy. The School Car Park should not be used for pick up/drop off unless ...



[Read more](#)

Trustee News

I can scarcely believe we are past the half way point in the academic year. Time really does go quickly when you're busy and having fun. It certainly seems like life at KWS is both of those things right now with theatre trips, sporting events, book week, drama rehearsals etc.

At our last Trustee meeting we listened to an excellent presentation on the KWS 'Super Curriculum' and learnt all about the current offering for Period 7 and clubs, Duke of Edinburgh and trips. By looking in depth at these areas, we are able to focus on the breadth of knowledge, culture and learning experiences our students are exposed to outside of everyday lessons. We would like to extend our thanks to staff for their enthusiasm and commend the students for embracing these opportunities wholeheartedly.

The Trustees have also been busy. Each Trustee has a different area of focus within the school such as well-being, diversity, SEN, careers, safeguarding, finance and health & safety. We regularly visit our 'linked' staff member to really get to know the school. We are involved in supporting the SLT with recruitment in preparation for the next academic year; it is always a pleasure to attend the interviews and meet the candidates. We are also currently doing our own recruitment for Trustees to join our board as the School grows. We look forward to meeting those who have applied over the next few weeks.

KWS Vacancies

We have vacancies for the following:

Caretaker
Mathematics Teacher
Computing Teacher
Spanish Teacher

All of our vacancies are advertised on our website. If you are interested in any of these vacancies, please **click here** to find out more information.

Katherine Warrington 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!

Upcoming Events

Monday 7th March - Year 8 Parents Evening (2/2) - 4.30 pm - 7.30 pm
Tuesday 8th March - Year 7 team Maths Challenge - from 4 pm
Wednesday 9th March - Ollie Foundation Talk - Year 9 and Year 7
Thursday 10th March - Ollie Foundation Talk - Year 8
Thursday 10th March - St George's 6th Formers Talk to Year 9
W/C 14th March - Year 8 Options Selection (by students)
Thursday 17th - Year 7 Reports Issued
Friday 18th - KWAF Comedy Night - 7 pm - 11 pm

Saturday 19th - KWF spring Fair - 10 am - 4 pm

Wednesday 23rd - Maths Magic Workshops - Year 7 and Year 8

Notices

Student Survey - Maths

KWS Wrap Bar

HOP Careers Webinar

Free Next Steps Careers Fair (online)

This message is being sent on behalf of Dave Salmon, Humanitarian Assistance Lead Officer at Hertfordshire County Council

We thought that it would be helpful to share with you, advice for parents and students who may wish to support those fleeing war torn Ukraine. Financial donations to organisations that have a presence on the borders is the most effective means of providing support to families in need. Community collections tend to be resource intensive and can involve costly logistics whilst transporting goods through many countries can be frustratingly slow. Therefore, we are not supporting local collection points at this time.

A financial donation to one of the organisations below will have an immediate impact and help fund what is most needed on the ground:

- **The British Red Cross** has launched an appeal to help the Ukrainian Red Cross to provide food, medicine, clothing and shelter, as well as first aid training in bomb shelters.
- **The UNHCR** refugee agency is funding emergency shelters, repairs for homes damaged by shelling, emergency cash assistance, psychological support and warm clothing.
- **UNICEF** is helping to ensure families have clean water and food and that child health and protection services continue.
- **The Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain** is fundraising for medicine, food and other essentials.
- **Save the Children** is providing cash assistance, food and other support to refugees crossing into Romanian and Lithuania, as well as in Ukraine itself.

For those who still wish to make a physical donation we understand that Goods for Good are running a Ukraine Appeal and are seeking donations:

Goods for Good Ukraine Appeal

Click on the link above for more information.

Non KWS Events/Publicity

Harpenden Town Council - Household Support Grant

To apply you can email us at harpenden.town.council@harpenden.gov.uk providing their address and contact details and let us know what they most require help with (energy or food bills). Alternatively they can call one of our Officers on **01582 768278** and provide the information over the phone.

Do you need support with your energy or food bills?

We may be able to help.

Funding is available for families and individuals living in **Harpenden** who are currently experiencing difficulty paying their food or energy bills.

We can offer supermarket vouchers to help with your food bills and financial support to help with energy bills, or for essentials linked to energy and water (including hygiene products, warm clothing, blankets, boiler service/repair, help with buying white goods including fridges, freezers, ovens).



We want to make this an easy process for those who need assistance. You do not need a referral, simply contact us:

-  email harpenden.town.council@harpenden.gov.uk - please include your name, address and phone number, and answer the questions on the back of this leaflet
-  complete the form on the back of this leaflet and drop it into the letter box at the Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, AL52LX
-  call one of our Officers on 01582 768278.







[Unsubscribe](#)

