

School Newsletter



KWS Newsletter - Issue 61 - 13.1.23

Heads up

Happy New Year!

We began this term with a series of assemblies to all year groups to explain changes in our behaviour system to our students. We have noticed a slight increase in some students arriving unprepared for school in terms of the correct equipment and the correct uniform. This results in a poor start to lessons for students as they are picked up on this and begin the day negatively. We have launched an equipment shop where pens, pencils etc can be bought (at cost) or loaned so students have no reason to be unprepared for the day ahead and are ready to learn without any negatives if they have lost or forgotten equipment. This then means there is no reason for any student to be late to any of their lessons.

We also focused on KWS being more active to ensure we respect the nine protected characteristics referenced in the Equality Act 2010. Shortly, every family will be receiving a letter explaining our campaign and asking that every student signs a pledge card saying that when they see or hear anything that is negative about a protected characteristic, they report it to a staff member. We can then act swiftly to support the victim and further educate the culprit. We have also noticed that a growing culture of bystander passivity is creeping in under the guise of 'not snitching'. Put simply this means that the bystander agrees and condones the negative comments or behaviour. When

you receive the letter, please take the time to discuss the contents with your child and you will agree that our values at KWS align completely with the belief that WHEN YOU SEE IT, YOU REPORT IT.

I joined other secondary school Headteachers earlier this week watching the Harpenden Gang Show at the Eric Morcambe Centre. It is always an enjoyable evening but this year seemed in my mind to top the others. The engagement, joy and energy the young people from all our schools demonstrated throughout the show should be commended. If you have a ticket, you will thoroughly enjoy yourself. Well done to all the KWS students who participated.

Next week we will be sending out the Period 7 options for your child to select. We have a very good track record of being able to assign the majority of first or second choices for students. Again, please take the time to discuss the vast range of options with your child so that they can make an informed decision.

Finally, There will be a SEND coffee morning from 9-10.30am on Wednesday 25th January. This will take place in the Hall at KWS. You will receive an invitation early next week via email. Please confirm your attendance. We will be talking about Read & Write, access arrangements and the new behaviour policy in relation to SEN students. There will also be time for a coffee and a chance to meet and talk with other parents with children with SEND at KWS. We look forward to seeing you there.

Tony Smith Headteacher

House Points

This weeks house point winners are Nightingale. Congratulations!



Attendance

As a school, we place great importance on attendance and expect that all our students will achieve an attendance level of at least 96% each academic year. It is through good attendance that students maximise their full potential, enhancing their life chances for the future. Missing school means missing out on learning and this can have an impact on a child's development and attainment.

There is a strong statistical link between attendance and attainment. Studies show that students who have patterns of poor school attendance could fail to achieve their full potential and this can have a detrimental impact on their GCSE results.

Parents have a legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly and punctually. We review attendance regularly and have an attendance procedure we follow based on each student's attendance percentage. The process begins once a student reaches less than 96% attendance.

We strongly urge parents/carers to avoid booking holidays during term time. We appreciate there may be exceptional circumstances behind a request for leave. If this is the case, you should give a detailed explanation as to why it is necessary for you to take your child out of school by completing this form and sending it to **absence@kwschool.co.uk** where it will be forwarded to Mr Smith for his consideration.

We also like to recognise students who have excellent attendance as well as those that have strived to increase their attendance by sending letters of congratulations to students and parents. Each week in assembly, an award is given to the form group who has the best attendance.

Students who attain 100% attendance every half term have their name entered into a prize draw which takes place at the end of the year. First prize in the summer of 2022 was a pair of Apple Airpods, with the runners up receiving Love to Shop vouchers for £100 and £50 respectively.

If you feel you would like support with your child's attendance or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Since opening in September 2019, we have supported a number of students whose circumstances, special educational needs or mental health have impacted their attendance. We like to work with children and families on an individualised basis and have had success in supporting a number of students to improve their attendance in challenging circumstances.

By working together we can help students reach their full potential and make the most of the opportunities school has to offer.

Absence Reporting 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

- Please provide your child's name and tutor group
- Please give as much detail as possible for the reason of absence avoiding using terms such as 'unwell' or 'under the weather'

• If you fail to contact the school to inform us of your child's absence, this may be referred to our safeguarding team 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. *Click here* for more information

Grace Aikman Assistant Headteacher

Request for cardboard boxes

If anyone has any large cardboard boxes, please could they bring them into school for our sponsored sleep out.

Mrs Freeman

KWS Vacancies

These are our current vacancies available on mynewterm:

Learning Support assistant - Click **here** for more information. Teacher of Computing - Click **here** for more information.

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!

If you have any requests regarding the KWAF second-hand uniform, please email **uniform.kwaf@kwschool.co.uk** and not the main KWAF email.

Upcoming Events

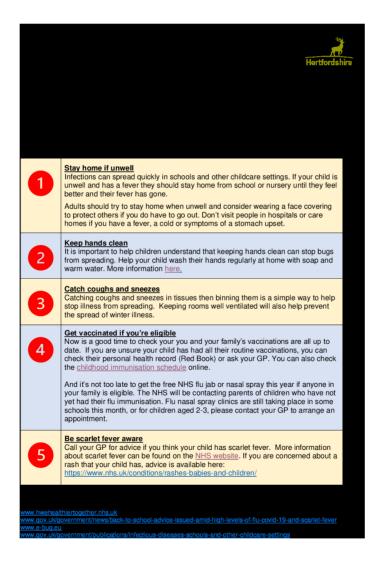
Monday 16th January - Visit to Houses of Parliament - Selected Year 9 and 10 Students Thursday 19th January - Year 8 Mandarin Trip Thursday 19th January - Performing Arts Masterclass Thursday 26th January - Year 7 Reports Issued Thursday 2nd February - Year 7 Parents Evening (1/2) Wednesday 8th February - Year 7 Parents Evening (2/2) Thursday 9th February - Spring Concert Monday 13th February - Friday 17th February - HALF TERM

Notices

KWS Travel Reminders KWS Sixth Form Information Student Expectations

Non KWS Events/Publicity

HCC - Winter Health Leaflet



Mental Health First aid training

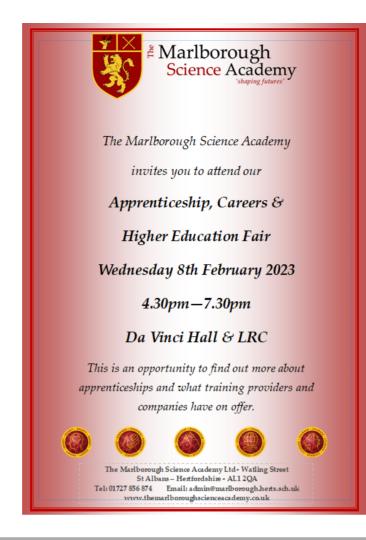
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For further information please contact: hweicbhv.schoolsmh@nhs.net

Cascade Camps - Multi Activity Camps



The Marlborough Science Academy Apprenticeship Fair



Saracens V Harlequins Rugby Match

Showdown 3 Saracens v Harlequins / 25th March 2023 / 15.00 KO / Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

KWS rugby fans, we're pleased to announce that we have the opportunity to purchase group tickets to see SARACENS return to the epic Tottenham Hotspur Stadium this season for THE SHOWDOWN 3! KWS have the opportunity to purchase discounted tickets to sit together in the South Stand (The Family Party Stand) priced at Adults @ £31.50 / U16s @ £15.75 / U24 or 65+ @ £22.50 If you joined us for this awesome event last season, we expect that this time we're going BIGGER and BETTER than ever before It promises to be a great day out on and off the pitch and a great way to celebrate a successful season of rugby at KWS. Ticket purchasing instructions: 1. Please use this specific link to take you to Saracens ticket website. SEE ON SCREEN DEMONSTRATION - https://www.loom.com/share/e194cffbe7054df48af763033 5 At the top of LHS of the screen SELECT THE QTY OF TICKETS YOU REQUIRE A At the top of LTNs of the scheduler SetLect THE GTT OF TRUE TO FIRE AT SOURCEGUES
6. Ether setel chatterine Warrington the Filter Sy Price Band drog down box of Schold works for groups an actel Katherine Warrington
7. This will stake you to the block where your seats are allocated and will pre-select your seats on a "best available" basis*.
8. Then choose the Price Class for each lock thick this is the ordepy of person it is for (lock efficiency of schold trut) 24/U16 etc.) by scrolling down the list of seats on the left of the page
9. Once you have selected at the seats for your party, click "Add to Basket"
10. Click on the basilate icon at the top of the screen and proceed through the checkout steps
11. Your clicks will be available in your account from approximately 10 days before the game. *To change the "best available seats" to new specific seats -k circle) in order to release them. Id allow you to pick new seats in the same area. 1. Click or 2. Choose c on the pre-selected best available seats (highlighted with a thick black ci ose "yes" from the warning pop-up box. This will release your seats and all NB Please ensure that the pop-up box on any newly selected seats displays your club's name under the title "Price Band" at the top- otherwise you will be seated in the wrong club allocation





Unsubscribe

MailPoet