



Parental Bulletin

12th – 16th November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back after a well-earned break for all of our students. Now that the clocks have gone back, the weather is cooler and the nights are drawing in, we revert to some of our winter arrangements for students. Can I encourage you to ensure that they have suitable clothing for cold weather for their journeys to and from school.

This week has started our Mock Exam season for Year 11 and I would like to thank all of our students in other year groups for their continued support and exceptional behaviour that ensures those Year 11 students can conduct their examinations in peace.

Whilst on the topic of exceptional behaviour, I would like to express my intense gratitude to the students and staff who held a wonderfully respectful remembrance service and 2 minutes' silence for our fallen heroes. Remembrance Day is such an important day for those of us who have family and friends in the armed forces or who have lost loved ones fighting for our freedoms and I was deeply moved by the solemn respect and consideration shown by every single one of our students: they were an absolute credit to their families and the school. Thank you all.

Congratulations too to all of our Sports stars today: competitions in Netball, Table Tennis, Badminton, Rugby and more were taking place at Ellowes school today with multiple schools competing and our students did fantastically well, placing in the top 3 in the borough in almost all events and progressing on towards regional finals in some. Results are still coming in so we will offer a more complete update next week. Well done to all who took part.

Next week is another busy week (they always are!) with continuing Mock exams and a trip for almost all of Year 10 students to the World Skills UK Live show. This is a fantastic opportunity for our Year 10 students to start thinking seriously about their next steps in an education and career path and should not be missed if at all possible. If your Year 10 son or daughter is not yet signed up, do call in as there are still places.

I will leave you with a final piece of positive news: two of our students, Liam and Joel in Year 9, helped a member of our local community who collapsed in the street earlier this week. We have awarded both with our 'Local Hero' Award for their fantastic support of their community – a fantastic example of what it means to be a Kingswinford Student.

Please enjoy your weekend.

Yours faithfully

Tom Macdonald
Headteacher



Calendar for the week

Monday 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mock exams 12th - 16th November
Tuesday 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Krypton House Assembly
Wednesday 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helium House Assembly• Ski Trip Parents Meeting 6pm - 7pm (Main hall)
Thursday 15 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Argon House Assembly• World Skills UK Live Y10 9-3pm• WAT Conference Performance rehearsals 1.30-3.10pm
Friday 16 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Neon House Assembly• Student Senate Summit
Assembly Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anti Bullying Week

Week commencing 19th November (subject to update)

Monday 19 th	
Tuesday 20 th	
Wednesday 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PTA Meeting 5.00 pm-6.00 pm in the Refectory
Thursday 22 nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 12 Presentation Evening 22nd November 5.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Friday 23 rd	
Advance Notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WAT Conference Friday 7th December – school closed to students



- **GREASE** – reminder that rehearsals for the main cast will be taking place Tuesday - Friday lunchtimes.
- **Christmas Cards** - Over the next few weeks parents and carers will have the opportunity to purchase a pack of Christmas cards that their child has designed during their Art lessons (Years 7, 8 and 9). We have been very impressed with the designs and have enjoyed watching the students explore personal ideas connected to the festive season. Students will be issued with order forms that explain how to order the cards. All online orders must be completed before Tuesday 13th November 2018.
- **ABSENCE** - If your child is going to be absent from school, can you please contact the school before 9:30 am, where possible. There is a designated absence line for attendance, please call 01384 296596 and press option one, record message and press # to finish, then follow the prompts to save the message.
- **BIKES** – we are concerned that some of our students are travelling on bikes in ways which we consider are unsafe. Most are not wearing helmets, many cycle on the pavements, many do not have lights as the nights close in and some have bikes which are not roadworthy. We will be looking at how we can encourage safer approaches in the coming weeks and hope that you will work with us on ensuring our young people stay safe.
- **YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS** – if you have a son or daughter in Year 11 please support them in their preparations for their Mock exams. These are a great opportunity for students to practice and prepare for the real thing and we hope all Y11 students will take the chance to revise thoroughly over the half term. A good time, too, to explore the new SAM learning platform online – passwords have been given out this week.
- **POPPIES** – Please request students return ‘used’ poppies to the bucket in reception for use in a display