

The King's Chronicles



No.2: Week 4– 2 October 2020

Keep On Reading...

The focus on improving the literacy skills of all students at The King's Academy remains as strong as ever. This year we are continuing to make vocabulary development a priority. Mr Gilbert and Mr Baughan are organising a Year 7 Spelling Bee which has created some real excitement on the Year 7 corridor. Formal vocabulary instruction will be taking place across the Academy every Monday after half term. Feel free to question students about the subject and 'tier two' weekly words!

We are very fortunate to have twenty minutes of the Academy day dedicated to independent reading. It's vital that students are bringing in a book from home they would like to read over a sustained period. Year 7 parents have been emailed a list of book suggestions that could be bought to enhance their studies this term. Students in Year 8 and Year 9 have access to the library through their reading lessons. Key Stage 4 students are reading their Literature GCSE texts currently.

Students are also able to access Accelerated Reader, our reading programme, from the school website. If you click on 'Students' and then 'Library' you will see the heading 'Accelerated Reader'. Ideally students will quiz soon after they have completed a book to consolidate their reading.

Mrs Hutchinson (Literacy Lead)



Staff packing the bags with free breakfasts

Key Dates

October

w/c 5th	Year 9/10 Breakfast launch House Cross Country
5th	Virtual Open Evening
w/c 12th	Year 11/6th form Breakfast launch
w/c 19th	House Football & Hockey
26th-30th	Half term
31st	Y6 Admissions Deadline

A Good Start Made

Every student in Years 7 and 8 received a free box of cereal and a bag of bagels earlier this week as we launched our breakfast provision, funded by the National School Breakfast Programme. This programme will enable any student to receive free take-home breakfast items every two weeks for the remainder of this term and next term so that no-one is too hungry to learn. Students are able to sign up through their tutors or parents/carers can opt-in for them by emailing: breakfast@thekingsacademy.org.uk (please include your child's name and tutor group).

Mr McAllister (Business Manager)

Highlights of the Week

(from Heads of Year)

Year 7– The resilience of this year group, adapting to every change and new experience they encounter; and the calm maturity with which most of them do this.

Year 8– The high standard of uniform and appearance.

Year 9– The maturity demonstrated by year 9 as they selected their representative for Student Voice.

Year 10– a shout-out to my 10.9 English class! Their enthusiasm and resilience to learning is excellent!

Year 11– The CACHE childcare students sat their first GCSE exam today, conducting themselves with professionalism

Sixth form– Charlie Murkin for his contribution to the senior prefect team, going above and beyond as always!

Focus: English

Never a team to shrink from a challenge, the English Department have been looking on the bright side as classes settle into new ways of working. Distancing rules have meant that teachers have been unable to get amongst students as they usually would, but “cold-call” questioning (teachers selecting students to answer questions) has ensured that no class members are going without the challenging lessons that they would usually have. This, combined with an enhanced marking regime, has meant that teachers are better prepared than ever to tailor learning to individual needs and to scaffold tasks in the most effective ways possible for those who need help... whilst making sure that those who require less help reach their full potential. Members of the department have been impressed with the resilience and maturity of students, as they have proven themselves able to initiate lesson routines whilst waiting for teachers to arrive from other areas of the school. The willingness of students to learn has confirmed what we have all been thinking over the past six months: that young people are at their happiest and best in the classroom, equipping themselves with the skillsets that will see them thrive in the future.

Mr Edwards-Bell (English Dept)

Houses are back!

We are looking forward with great anticipation to these returning in the near future. Last year’s results, some would say, were a moot point given the way that things panned out; however, we do know that Medes had a very poor start!

As a result, these competitions will be making a return in October with the house cross-country followed by the house football and hockey tournaments. These are always hard fought and this year will undoubtedly be no different.

We wish all competitors the best of luck!

Mr Johnson (Assistant Principal)



The finished results of the staff’s hard work

Additional Notices:

- Please see the letter sent today regarding the compulsory wearing of facemasks from Monday 5 October.
- We said goodbye to Mrs Shipp this week, our Study Support Tutor who has served the school faithfully for a decade. She will be missed as she moves to be closer to family.
- Please note that there is a range of lost property held in Student Reception. Students will need to check this by Friday 23 October. Any items not claimed after that date will be disposed of.