



No.5: Week 19 - 23 October 2020

Black History Month

It is 19 October 1968. US athlete Tommie Smith has just set a new world record to claim the Olympic Men's 200m title, with his compatriot John Carlos coming third. As the two men stand on the medal rostrum, they are about to enact one of the most symbolic moments of protest in black history. Fists raised in black gloves, heads bowed, they stand motionless as their flag is raised to the sounds of the Star Spangled Banner.



Their actions sent shockwaves through America, costing the two men their Olympic places and prompting death threats at home. Not until the 21st century would the bravery of their stance against the racial injustice and inequality be properly recognized.

The echoes of this emblematic image are clear in the actions of quarterback Colin Kaepernick in 2016, taking a knee during the same national anthem before NFL matches. The imitation by sportspeople around the world to demonstrate that 'Black Lives Matter' gives us hope that in the 52 years since the Mexico Olympics, greater progress can be made together.

As part of Black History Month, our students will reflect on the significance of this moment, in the celebration of heroes and heroines that have fought to make sure that black lives matter.

Mr Skerry (Head of History, Politics and Sociology)

Geography Field Trip

On 13 and 14 October the Year 13 Geography students went to North Gare and Redcar to collect data for a vital piece of coursework which constitutes 20% of the A Level. They independently planned the trip, got the right equipment and chose the sites to study. In North Gare the students battled the elements in truly atrocious conditions to collect data on the sand dune ecosystem as they determined the impact humans were having on coastal erosion.

In sunny Redcar, students studied the impacts of coastal erosion and tried to determine how effective the coastal management strategies were.

It will certainly be a trip which students will remember (I am sure I overheard students say 'this beats any trip to Iceland or Naples') and we are very proud of them for their efforts under such difficult conditions.

Mr Love (Head of Geography)

Key Dates

October

26th-30th Half term

31st Y6 Admissions Deadline

November

w/c 2nd House Football (Girls)

5th UKMT Senior Challenge

10th Virtual Sixth Form Open Evening

10th-13th House Assemblies

16th-27th Year 11 /Year 13 Rehearsal



Geographers at work



Highlights of the Week

(from Heads of Year)

Year 7– The willingness of so many Y7s to help each other out– from helping those with injuries around the Academy, through to helping with classwork and with finding where they need to go.

Year 8– The outstanding standard and participation levels in the Year 8 house football competition.

Year 9– Reading the wonderful poetry submitted by Year 9 students in the poetry competition.

Year 10– PE on a Monday afternoon. The group are on hockey and they organise every aspect of the lesson– warm-up, skills, drills and matches. They understand safety and fairness, showing real teamwork.

Year 11– at the first student council meeting, nine students were very proactive in looking at ways the school can support the year group in their upcoming exams.

Sixth Form- The Senior Prefect team’s great job this week in filming our impressive offer for the Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening.

Focus: MFL

Supporting your children with foreign languages.

Many parents tell us that they worry about how to support their children with languages, confessing that they were “rubbish at French” or didn’t do German. Well, don’t worry! 75% of the languages teachers here at TKA have parents who didn’t do languages – this is no obstacle. And the internet hadn’t been invented when we were teenagers!

Here are some tips for supporting your child:

1. Download the Duolingo app: it’s free, fun and in five-minute bursts! Compete with your child from Beginner’s Level. It helps with vocabulary and sentence building.

2. Do mini-quizzes using the knowledge organiser (<https://www.thekingsacademy.org.uk/students/remote-learning/>): “Right, I’m going to quiz you on numbers 1-10 in French while the pasta’s boiling!”

3. Use YouTube to find annoying songs to get your children out of bed each morning. They can be educational (e.g. Search: French/German food song) or cultural (anything by Edith Piaf or Reinhard Mey)

4. Quizlet is perfect for practising vocabulary. There are many quizzes pre-made to match the textbooks we use: French (Y7 Studio 1; Y8 Studio 2); German (Y8 Stimmt). Just google ‘Quizlet Studio 1’ to get started. For Year 9-11, use this link: <https://quizlet.com/en-gb/content/gcse>.

Viel Erfolg!

Mrs Hardy (Head of MFL)

Careers at King’s

At The King’s Academy, staff work together to provide a comprehensive and robust careers education to all students. The King’s Academy support students’ career development in a number of ways:

- Information and discussion in tutor time and assemblies to help students make decisions about their future;
- Activities and events such as the careers fair, work experience and enterprise events;
- Access to a careers adviser for all KS4 and KS5 students;
- Information and updates around the Academy and on the website.

The careers programme is planned and delivered by Ms Gibson, Careers Lead, while one-to-one careers interviews are provided by Mrs Grubb, Careers Adviser. At home, there are several ways to support your child with their careers education. Visit the school’s website for links, information and resources on labour market information, career pathways, post-16 and post-18 options, including apprenticeships, university, employment and college:

<https://www.thekingsacademy.org.uk/students/careers/>

Furthermore, parents have access to Unifrog, which provides help and support including pathways information, CV building, searching for apprenticeships/universities and writing a personal statement. You can access Unifrog with the form code:

ParentKingsAcademy on the link below-

<https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in>

We look forward to working with you and your child in developing their careers education, skills and employability.

Mrs Grubb (Careers Advisor)

Additional Notices:

1. **Samaritan Purse Christmas Shoebox Appeal**
<https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox/>

Deadline for completed shoeboxes is Monday 16 November

2. **Road Safety**- As a cyclist you share the road with motorists and can cause serious harm to yourself and others through carelessness or recklessness. Stay safe, wear a protective helmet and use cycle lanes where possible.