

The King's Chronicles



No.14: Week 18-22 January 2021

Student Engagement

This week we have enhanced our remote learning, through the introduction of live lessons, across all year groups. We have been impressed with student engagement in their live lessons and have fed this information back to parents/carers over the course of the week.

Monday morning saw the launch of the Whole School Assembly being delivered remotely in all tutor groups. Feedback from students has been well received and we were pleased to see the vast majority of students in attendance. It is worth parents and carers being aware that these assemblies will take place at 9am every Monday morning and provide the ideal opportunity for students to engage with their peers, listen to key notices/theme for the week, seek support and guidance from their tutor and start their week with a positive mindset of being ready to learn!

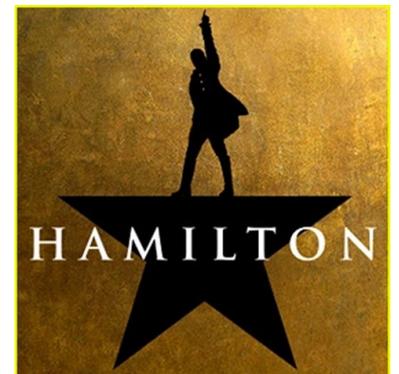
We fully appreciate how difficult remote learning can be but would encourage all our students and families to continue to engage fully with the work being set online, in order to be in the best position possible when we are able to accept students back on the academy site.

Mrs Dodsworth- Assistant Principal

The Show Must Go On!

Unfortunately, here in the North East we haven't had access to live theatre for over 10 months. So how can we fill that void? If you have exhausted all the box sets on Netflix, why not try some streamed theatre? I'll admit it is not quite the same buzz as sitting in an auditorium watching a live production, but it's a close second.

[WhatsOnStage](#) is a fantastic website, updated daily, which lists all the available shows which you can stream to the comfort of your own home. Many of these are free to watch via YouTube, others you may need to pay a small fee for, which goes to help the theatres during this time of economic uncertainty.



If you have access to Disney+, you could watch the phenomenal performance of Hamilton, which in my opinion is a complete overhaul of what we know as musical theatre. Here is what two of our year 13 students had to say about Hamilton.

"It was phenomenal! They take traditional theatre and flip it on its head in a way that is unconventional and fun. I loved Hamilton and I think the new take on musical theatre added a level of intricacy that only heightened the experience." *Alicia Glasgow*

"This musical is way more than catchy rhythms and rapping. It is a heartfelt story about honour, love and legacy that is not only entertaining but educational too! I loved every second of it and couldn't possibly think of enough words to describe how incredibly talented the entire cast and production team are." *Kendle Hill*

Don't take our word for it, check it out for yourself. Let's hope that it's not too long before we can sit amongst the audience and indulge in the magic of theatre once more.

Mr Jones- Head of Drama

Literacy

It is vital that students continue to read during this time. To aid this, a short story will be posted daily in the 'Careers' teams page for every year group. In addition, in the 'Careers' teams pages for each year group there are two links that will provide access to texts.

Firstly, The Oak Academy Virtual School is releasing a text every week. Secondly, the English department have selected a novel for each year group that they should be reading. There is also an app we recommend – 'Epic' for Year 7 and 8. Next week, more news on Accelerated Reader.

Mrs Hutchinson– Literacy Lead

Virtual Workshop for Parents and Carers

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) are providing free training for parents and carers who wish to develop an understanding of their children's mental health. Topics covered include dealing with anxiety and emotional wellbeing and how to build long term resilience.

The training is available to parents and carers in Teesside with a child under the age of 18 years. You do not need any previous knowledge or understanding of mental health, just access to Microsoft Teams for the sessions.

For more information about how to register for the sessions please visit: www.tewv.nhs.uk/services/teescamhstraining/

Mrs Sinclair– Early Help Coordinator

Introducing:

I'm Mrs Grey and I started at The Kings Academy in September as a Geography teacher. I absolutely love it here. Kings is such a welcoming school. I was instantly made to feel like part of the community by both the staff and the students.



I have a lovely Y7 tutor group which I look forward to seeing on a Monday. Throughout my time teaching, I have never come across a place like this – it is such a unique school. The people, both staff and students, are so kind and compassionate. I feel very lucky to work in such a wonderful environment every day, surrounded by such wonderful people.

Remote Learning

Thanks to parents for their efforts getting students to participate in lessons and submit work. As we have broadened the reach of "live" lessons, it has been lovely to see so many attending and benefitting.

When students attend live lessons, we ask that they:

- are in a suitable space in the house;
- turn off other distracting devices, for example the TV or music;
- follow our usual behaviour expectations;
- are ready to participate and work hard!

To help students organise their days, they should be following their usual timetable. Teachers will set work for the day's lessons and will release it at 9am. The deadline for this work is 5pm.

We have chosen these times so that families who need flexibility can make decisions about work scheduling. If a lesson is to be "live," teachers will schedule this by 5pm the day before so that students are prepared. Students will see these appointments in their "Teams," or in the Calendar which can be found on the bar to the left side of Teams.

Mrs Taylor– Assistant Principal

Additional Notices

Free School Meals:

Since 18 January we have been accessing the national voucher scheme (Edenred) for most eligible students. Voucher codes for the week ending 22 January have been ordered today and will be sent directly to your primary contact e-mail address shortly. Please email fsm@thekingsacademy.org.uk with queries.

Free mobile data offer:

Should your child be struggling with online study due to difficulties accessing the internet, they may be eligible to receive additional mobile data for learning from a Government scheme. Please see [here](#) for further details and to apply.

Healthy Breakfast:

We are delighted to confirm that access to free breakfast packs has been extended to the end of the summer term.

During lockdown collection of packs from Sports Reception entrance are available on Wednesday 27 January and 10 February, 11am to 1pm. Please contact breakfast@thekingsacademy.org.uk to register your child.