

# The King's Chronicles



No.21 Week 25 15 - 19 March 2021

## The King's Academy Sixth Form: a bright future for all

As we emerge from the latest lockdown, our thoughts inevitably turn to what lies ahead. For our current Sixth Formers that includes making plans for university or apprenticeships and we have been delighted that so many of them have secured superb offers and have a bright future ahead.

For our Year 11 students, it's time to make their decisions about post-16 education. We are thrilled that we have had a record number applications to study at our Sixth Form this year, both from students within our own Year 11 and from students at other schools. With our superb range of courses, bespoke pathway for each student and package of support and guidance that is second to none, this is not surprising! We look forward to welcoming so many students into our Sixth Form where they will become valued members of a warm and friendly community with expert and dedicated staff, small class sizes and a professional and purposeful environment where everyone can thrive.

As Senior Prefect Kendle said, "Choosing King's Sixth Form was one of the best decisions I have ever made; I am now so confident in my future due to the help and support received from all my subject teachers".

There is still time to apply to Sixth Form via our website. Applications will close on Friday 26 March.

*Ms Yuill - Assistant Principal (Head of Sixth Form)*

## Home Testing

The project of testing all students on-site is about to conclude: only Year 8 left on Monday. And now we move fully to the next stage: rapid testing at home.

Years 7, 10, 11 and the sixth form have all received two test kits this week, with instructions attached—with the last two year groups to follow next week. All parents have received a letter relating to this.

As part of the government's commitment to ensuring testing over the Easter holidays continues they have also sent us another batch of kits, two per student, which will be given out to all on Friday morning next week.

*Mr Bulley - Vice Principal*

## Attendance Expectations

There were mixed emotions about the compulsory return to education on Monday 8 March. For every excited conversation about seeing people and getting back into a routine (all socially distanced and from behind masks of course!) there were an equal number of anxious conversations taking place.

'What if I'm behind in my work?' 'What if I get ill?' 'What if I have to isolate again?' 'What if I make a fool of myself in the testing centre and cry?' 'What if my friends don't want to speak to me anymore?' 'What if people laugh at my DIY haircut?' Anyway, that's enough about what the staff were talking about! In summary 99.4% of students that we were expecting have returned to school. This is well above the average figure for secondaries nationally and perhaps a reflection of just how much students appreciate what we have on offer here.

If you do find your family having to isolate either while you wait for a test or because you have been in close contact with a positive case, please don't hesitate to let us know; and be reassured that your child will not be penalized for following public health advice. Alternatively, if your child is struggling to attend regularly please let us know ASAP and we'll do our best to help support you and them.

*Miss Smith - Assistant Principal*

### Testing kits for students

(see <https://www.the kings academy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Covid-19-Self-Test-Instruction-for-Use-IFU-Guide.pdf> for instructions)



## Department Focus: Textiles

Studying a practical subject is not always easy at the best of times, but add a pandemic and it becomes a real challenge!

Textile students at The King's have more than risen to this challenge, producing work that has been thoughtful and well executed. Year 9s have explored block and string printing, creating repeat patterns using 'found objects' at home. Our creative Year 10 and 11 students have learnt about disposal of fullness methods and developed ideas for a hand-painted bodice inspired by different cultures. The Sixth Form have been working on their personal investigation portfolios and exploring the work of different artists/designers inspired by decorative surface techniques.

*Mrs Brownless - Assistant Vice Principal*



Examples of work produced

### Highlights of the week

**Year 7** - I have been really impressed with their thirst for learning. They have come back motivated, engaged and eager to impress. They have done an amazing job of settling back into their school routine.

**Year 8** - I have been delighted with their conduct, behaviour and attitude towards their learning. They have shown a very mature approach in coming back into school. Well done.

**Year 9** - The way they have gotten back into face to face learning. It has been wonderful to see them participating enthusiastically in lessons.

**Year 10** - Mr Tattersall is so impressed with his RE class, he says: '10.2 have demonstrated a mature and rigorous approach to their learning. As a new member of staff in the school, I have been impressed by their positive attitude to learning.'

**Year 11** - Continued good attendance and engagement with their studies.

**Sixth Form** - We are very excited that we are soon to launch our Head Boy and Head Girl applications process. It is impressive that so many of our Year 12 students have expressed an interest.

### Additional Notices

**'Fuel for Learning' breakfast packs:** In school collections by students next week.

Tuesday 23 March- Y7, Y8 and Sixth Form.

Thursday 25 March- Y9, Y10 and Y11.

3.40pm at Sports Reception.

## Maths Challenge

In February, several of The King's Academy's mathematicians from Years 9 to 11 competed in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. The students performed admirably and represented the school with pride while dealing with the extremely challenging mathematics questions they were presented with.

Niloufar Afshari (Year 11) scored the highest with Raheem Hussain and Hannah Lewis (both also Year 11- *all pictured below*) tied, coming in at a close second place. All three students received Gold certificates and will be going on to represent the school at the next round of the competition. We wish them success.



Additional mention must go to Kymberley Stead and Joshua Brough who achieved the highest scores in Years 9 and 10 respectively.

Our gratitude and congratulations to all students who took part.

*Mr Uzuh - Teacher of Maths*



## Get involved!

**Friends of The King's** are a team of parents who have been brought together to help create a community spirit within the Academy. We meet

at regularly throughout the year to organise events within the King's Academy and the surrounding local community. All meetings are posted on The King's Academy website under the section 'Community Group – PTA'.

If you would like to get involved or forward any ideas, please e-mail: [liz.milburn@gmail.com](mailto:liz.milburn@gmail.com) or [cbrownless@thekingsacademy.org.uk](mailto:cbrownless@thekingsacademy.org.uk)

*Mrs Brownless- Assistant Vice Principal*