



BEST WISHES TO THOSE ON TRIPS

The annual programme of residential trips is well underway. We are beginning an exchange programme with a school near Valencia with a group making the first visit in the week before half-term; another group is visiting a language centre in France at the same time. Best wishes to the Outdoor Education group who are spending half-term week walking and climbing in the Lake District. The Dartmoor Expedition programme gets underway in November with a day walk on Dartmoor on Saturday, 28th November. This is open to students who just want to walk and camp on Dartmoor as well as for those who want to undertake the Ten Tors Expedition training. There are around 80 students already interested: it's not too late to see Mr Cameron if you want to join them.

PTFA NEWS

The fundraising that the PTFA, parents and teachers do throughout the year makes a real difference to a wide range of students at college. In the last year the PTFA has given £7000 to the Music department for instruments, paid for 16 new laptops for the science block, purchased tents and other equipment for the outdoor education department, and paid for supplies for clubs such as jewellery and Posh Nosh. And at our AGM this month we agreed to fulfil wishlist requests from several other departments including £1000 to set up a new climbing club, £1500 for equipment for the design technology department, and photography equipment for the Resources and A level Photography departments.

Our next fundraiser is **St Nick's Fair on Saturday 28th November 12.30-3.30pm**. We'll be sending out a letter with requests for goodies and help soon, but in the meantime if anyone has any new ideas please contact Louise or Richard at louise@spilsbury.eclipse.co.uk or call us on 01548 531286. This year we will be having second-hand jewellery, scarves, toys, books, DVDs and bric-a-brac stalls again so if you are having a pre-Christmas clear-out please hold on to anything we might be able to sell.

The next PTFA meeting is Tuesday 17th November 7.15pm in the staff room at college when we'll be discussing St Nick's. All welcome!

(PS The college fund is a major source of income for the PTFA so please fill in and return your college fund forms, if you haven't already done so!)

Inside pages:

What's the College Policy on drugs.

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ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Parentpay has now been launched in order to make it easier for you to pay for trips, etc. Details have been sent to all parents, but do contact Miss Thomas in the Finance Office (ext. 102) if yours has not arrived.

You should also have received a letter at the end of last week to launch cashless catering after half-term. Again if yours has not arrived please contact Miss Thomas in the Finance Office.

Please remember that you can receive all College communication by email as well as hard copy. This is a great way to make sure that everything reaches you rather than ending up squashed at the bottom of a bag. If you are not already registered for Parentmail, please collect a form from Reception or email

admin@kingsbridgecollege.devon.sch.uk.

A fantastic performance by the choir at St Edmund's last week - well done!
hgr hgr

WHAT'S THE COLLEGE POLICY ON DRUGS?

All parents have received the full College policy on drugs with the Behaviour Management Policy at the start of the year. There are two main strands to the policy:

1. To ensure that all students receive the knowledge and skills that they need in order to make the right decisions with respect to drugs
2. To ensure that our College community remains free from drug possession or use.

Both alcohol and drugs such as cannabis are subject to the same punishment:

1. If a student uses or is found in possession of such a drug during the College day (which includes journeys to and from College and any trips or residentials), then for a first offence the student usually receives a fixed three day exclusion.
2. For a repeat offence, or a more serious offence such as supplying the drug, the usual punishment is permanent exclusion.

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of staff at the College if you ever have any questions or concerns relating to drugs.

CONGRATULATIONS, HENRY AND LEE!

We are delighted to learn that both Henry Tozer (Year 12) and Lee McCombe (Year 8) have both been awarded a place at the South West Music School.

This prestigious scheme gives opportunities to young musicians across the South West of England to receive high level musical training and to develop their potential to become tomorrow's professional musicians. The package of specialist tuition and support is led and guided by artists from the professional music world whilst students remain members of their own school. Only 21 musicians are taken across the whole of the South West: this is a fantastic opportunity for Henry and Lee and we wish them all the very best.

SUCCESSTRACKER

The first round of Successtracker will be issued shortly.

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!

We have an after-school club which is based in the library and remains open from 3.20 until 5pm every day. Mrs Lane, assistant librarian, runs the session together with a sixth form student, who are both on hand to help with any homework/coursework. We would like to encourage students to use this facility as it seems a perfect way to manage homework as well as freeing up the evening for activities of choice. There are also biscuits and squash on offer to help with that extra concentration required!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

There is no College for students on Friday, 23rd October. College resumes on Monday, 2nd November.

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to ...

Katherine Mordue who gained a 2:1 in Biomedical Sciences at UCL, London, and

Victoria Whitley who gained a Bachelor of Science with Honours, Midwifery First Class Honours from Anglian Ruskin University. Victoria will be starting her career as a midwife at Cambridge University Hospital, Addenbrookes in November and we wish her well.

Not all universities inform us of results - please keep us in touch of any that you hear of.

COLLEGE FUND

Thank you to all of those parents who have already contributed to the College Fund. This is well worthwhile and you can see elsewhere in the letter what the PTFA have purchased with the money. An explanatory letter and form are attached. Do not place this on the mantelpiece! Please fill it in now, together with the Gift Aid form that increases the value of your contribution without costing you a penny. Cheques should be made payable to: 'Kingsbridge Community College PTFA'.

AUTHORISED ABSENCE

We are receiving increasingly strong messages from Central Government reinforcing their view that students must be in school if they are to make the most of their potential. Although we appreciate that those involved in the holiday industry find it difficult to take holidays during Summer, Governors will shortly be considering whether to end the practice of authorising requests for holidays during term-time, as is already the case in the Sixth Form. Please do let me know if you have any views on this which you would like me to make known to Governors.

College Term Dates

Autumn Term 2009

2nd September - 18th

December

Half Term

23rd October - 30th October

Spring Term 2010

4th January - 1st April

Half Term

15th February - 19th February

Summer Term 2010

19th April - 20th July

Half Term

31st May - 4th June

October 2009

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HARD HATS ON!

Leader of Devon County Council John Hart visited the College last Thursday in order to help begin the demolition of the old English buildings. As you can imagine there was no shortage of spectators! The new buildings will be ready for next September and we will keep you in touch with progress as it unfolds.

AWARDS

Congratulations to Helena White 8MK (now 9MK) and Bethan Jones 9DS (now 10DS) who achieved Governors' Awards at the end of last year.

UNIFORM CONSULTATION RESULTS

Many thanks to all of you who responded to our consultation on uniform. We received a total of 756 replies from staff, students and visitors and we are delighted that so many of you took the trouble to let us know your views. The majority of students, staff, parents and governors prefer the cardigan/jumper choice. This choice fulfils our initial remit in the uniform review – to provide a smart, good quality, non-divisive uniform that is easy to enforce, distinctive, comfortable, ethically sourced and provides good value for money.

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Newsletter

	Total Replies	Option 1 Sweatshirt	Option 2 Blazer	Option 3 Jumper	Option 4 Cardigan & Jumper	1st choice	2nd choice
Year 7	118	24	32	13	49	Cardigan & Jumper	Blazer
Year 8	88	16	26	7	39	Cardigan & Jumper	Blazer
Year 9	96	18	23	5	49	Cardigan & Jumper	Blazer
Year 10	76	10	25	6	35	Cardigan & Jumper	Blazer
Year 11	51	2	30	1	18	Blazer	Cardigan & Jumper
Students Anon.	154	16	73	12	53	Blazer	Cardigan & Jumper
Staff & Governors	87	7	25	24	31	Cardigan & Jumper	Blazer
Parents	86	23	24	10	30	Cardigan & Jumper & Blazer!	
Total Student replies	583						
Total replies	756						

New Uniform	£
Jumper /Cardigan	from 12
Striped shirt	9.25
PE Polo shirt	From 6.50
PE shorts	From 4.50
Rugby shirt	From 16.50
Total	£48.75

and trousers or skirt

Old Uniform	£
Sweatshirt	from 16
Tie	4.50
White shirt	5.00
PE polo shirt	from 8.00
PE shorts	From 6.00
Rugby shirt	From 19.00
Total	£58.50

and trousers or skirt

We are therefore proposing to:

- To change the college uniform to
 - Black trousers/skirt and black shoes
 - Red/white striped shirt/blouse
 - Black jumper or cardigan
- To introduce this as compulsory for Year 7 in September 2010 and worn by all students from September 2011. This gives a 20 month preparation period for all current students
- To introduce an on-line ordering facility supported by a uniform outlet in the town.