

# Kingstone High School Newsletter

Autumn 2022



Students have been working extremely hard throughout the term, building up key knowledge in all of their different subjects. Year 11 students have just completed their Mock GCSE examination and will be receiving their results on the first day back in January. They will be entering a busy period of their career education programme, which includes applying for their post 16 provision and mock interviews. With restrictions of Covid now behind us, we have been able to open up our experiences programme with trips going out for Geography, PE and DT. This has widened the students understanding of the subjects that they are studying as well as given our students the opportunity to compete against other schools. We have performed very well in this area, reaching two plate finals in rugby.

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.

Mr Butler

Ho Ho Ho



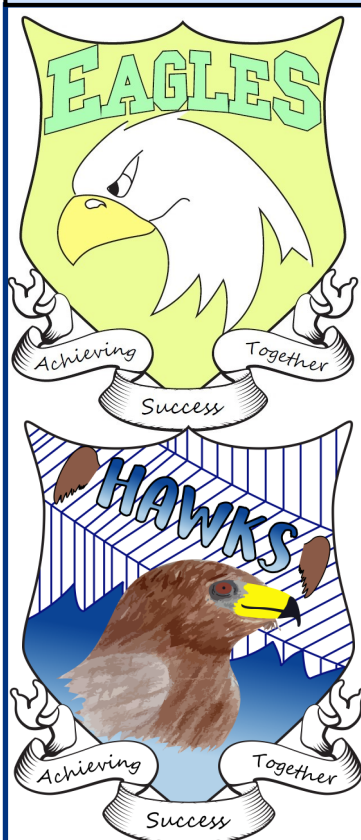
## This term's House Competitions

- Inter house sports
- Humanities quiz
- Hamper donations

Here are the current positions

### Points totals

1. Harriers 310
2. Eagles 237
3. Hawks 217
4. Falcons 157



## Mr Harris, Head of Maths, Retires

As 2022 draws to a close we celebrate the retirement of our Head of Maths, Mr Harris. With over 30 years' of experience at the chalk face Mr. Harris is a fond favourite of students and staff alike, as shown by being voted as 'Favourite Teacher' at the Year 11 Prom last year. With all that he brought to his classes and the school, Mr Harris will be sorely missed.

With the change in staffing from January 2023 there will also inevitably be changes to maths classes for some students, to be announced in the new year. The Head of Maths position will be taken up by Mr Marrett. Mr Marrett is an excellent maths teacher who will bring a great deal of experience and positivity to the role.





## Kingstone Christmas Fair

The KAT & KES Christmas Fair is back!

The fair celebrated the joint efforts of Kingstone High School, Primary School and KES. Staff and parents from all settings helped plan, set-up and serve at the first Christmas Fair held for several years. The hordes of people attending enjoyed swing boats, bucking reindeer, candy floss, hot food & a cafe, a raffle and, of course, Father Christmas' grotto. Students from the high school performed on stage while the local community browsed the market stalls and enjoyed the atmosphere.

Over £1000 was taken on the day, and profits will go towards the next PTA event. The Christmas Fair was a resounding success and a great start to the Christmas celebrations. If you would like to get involved with similar events we would be delighted!

Please contact the high school for more information.



Three pupils Mabel T, Abi H and Lara T rented a table to the Christmas Fair to sell homemade cupcakes and brownies. All proceeds went to The Little Princess Trust.







This term has seen the launch of SPHERE lessons across the school. SPHERE stands for Social, Personal, Health, Ethics, Relationships and the Environment and is taught in form groups, three days a week for 30 minutes before Lesson 1. This allows the school to deliver the statutory Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and health education along with the Citizenship National Curriculum and locally agreed RE syllabus. Early feedback from students and staff have been

very encouraging with students saying the lessons are 'informative' and 'interesting'. They also enjoy the discussions the lessons generate.

As part of the wider SPHERE programme, there has also been the reintroduction of weekly assemblies for each year group. Not only have members of staff stepped forward to deliver assemblies on a range of topics, we have also had several guest speakers come into school including the High Sheriff of Herefordshire, a Vet, representatives from the local colleges and Good News for Everyone (formally the Gideons). In the new year, we will also be welcoming in more guest speakers, including people from the Police, Army, NFU and a Potter. Not only that, form groups have also been asked to organise and deliver an assembly themselves. So far two forms in each year group have done this and the other forms will have opportunity to do so in the new year.

If you have any questions or queries about any aspect of SPHERE, please do not hesitate to contact me via email. Mr Booy – SPHERE Coordinator

### Year 10 Geography Fieldtrip

At the end of October, the two Year 10 Geography groups went to Bristol for the day to undertake some fieldwork for their GCSE course. The morning was spent looking at the redevelopment of the Harbourside area of Bristol and included a boat trip around the harbour. In the afternoon, the students visited



Filwood and Stoke Bishop to compare the Quality of Life between the two residential areas.

This involved students working in small groups and visiting different locations within the two study areas to carry out environmental surveys. Students also compared the types of shops found in the two areas. The data collected on the day, along with some work done in



school on house prices in both Filwood and Stoke Bishop allowed students to draw some conclusions on how and why the Quality of Life varied between the two areas.



### Year 11 Geography Fieldtrip

The two Year 11 GCSE Geography groups spent a day in the Black Mountains measuring the Grwyne Fawr river as part of their GCSE fieldwork requirements. Despite the days being quite cold, the students worked well in small groups to measure the width, depth



and the river's velocity at different points along the river. This then allowed

the students to find out how the discharge of the river changed along its course. Apart from a several students getting their Wellies filled with water and a couple actually slipping over in the river, the two days were very enjoyable and successful.

### Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is going from strength to strength at Kingstone. Six of last year's Year 11 were presented with their Bronze Awards when they came back to collect their GCSE certificates. Having spent the summer term doing the expedition training and the first part of the autumn term planning routes, we also had 6 groups of students ready to undertake their expeditions during the autumn half term break – our largest cohort to date! Unfortunately, the high winds and torrential rain meant the expedition had to be postponed at the last minute for safety reasons. These will now take place at Easter next year. We also have a new group of Year 9 students signed up for the award, who will be starting their expedition training in the new year, with a view to them completing their expeditions at the end of the academic year. Mr Booy – DofE Manager



## Sports Leaders

Year 11 Sports leaders



This half term our leaders have developed their skills across several opportunities. Most notably, our Year 11 leaders welcomed 3 local primary schools for some Indoor Athletics, as a warm up event, to the main competition in January when 8 schools will be competing for the title of County Champions!

Our new Year 9 Sports Leaders programme has been as equally successful, with students learning new skills and growing in confidence, planning everything from

fixtures and rules to designing certificates and awards. They had the chance to lead an "Endzone" tournament to students from Kingstone Primary and it was a huge success, well done to everyone involved, I know the students down the primary are looking forward to next term's tournament.

Year 9 Sports leaders



## Extra-Curricular sport

Our extensive programme continues to be a roaring success, with big numbers attending all of our clubs at lunchtimes and after school! We have had lots of joy at several fixtures, though most notably on the rugby field, as our Year 10 team won the County Plate final vs St Mary's 15-10 in a tight affair! The Year 11s have also qualified for the Plate final and will give off against Fairfield, with the game being victim of the weather twice already, we hope for



third time lucky in the new year! Also awaiting a final of their own is KS4 Basketball team, finishing top of their group, winning all 4 of their matches. They will play the winners of the other group (currently unknown) at The Academy on finals day in January, best of luck boys!

A special mention as well to the Lewin brothers Tom & Oli, who have both progressed through to the next stage of the Herefordshire & Worcestershire Cross Country championships, following a good showing at the District event. A shout out to Year 7 Fred W as well for his top 10 finish in the Year 7 event, who will have to

wait until next year for a progression due to age categories.



## Safeguarding

With the likelihood of students receiving new electronic devices or gaming consoles for Christmas, we would like to draw your attention to some advice around keeping safe on line. Please see our Term 1 Safeguarding Newsletter which we have put in the letters and Information section of our website. Our website also has an e-safety section PARENTS/E-Safety

## SEND

The latest issue of the Herefordshire SEND Newsletter is out now in the Talk Community Directory which also has lots of information and advice for parents <https://www.talkcommunitydirectory.org/>

## Dates for the Spring term

INSET school closed  
Term starts  
Half term  
Term ends

Tuesday 3 January 2023  
Wednesday 4 January 2023  
Monday 20 February – Friday 24 February 2023  
Friday 31 March 2023