

## Theme of the week 'Giving'



for looking back at this long stretch between early September and Christmas: planning permission being granted for our permanent site; our first series of Year 11 mock exams running successfully in the Baptist Church; Gavin Man's full scholarship to Brighton College for his A level studies; successful trips abroad to Munich and Arras; continued success in our sporting fixtures; oversubscription for next year's Year 7 cohort places; our Beach Hut Advent calendar and Advent Prayer Space; and the high quality day to day teaching and learning which is the lifeblood of any school. King's is a busy, positive, vibrant place to be. It is our continued privilege to support your children through their secondary education. We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year and we look forward to welcoming our students back in 2018 for more of the same!

Mrs Price



Dear Parents and Carers,

This will be the final newsletter of the term. There is so much to be thankful

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### Forthcoming Events

<b>18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carol Service, 6pm, Bishop Hannington Church</li> </ul>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Last Day of Term – half day</li> </ul>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>INSET Day</li> </ul>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students return</li> </ul>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 11 Parents' Evening</li> </ul>

## Last Day of Term

A reminder that we work right up until the end of term at King's. Curriculum time is too precious to waste! On the last day of term all students are expected in at 8:30am in normal uniform. Students will have usual lessons before break. There will be full brunch service available during break time in the Dome Diner. After break, students will have tutor time and a celebration assembly. Prizes will be awarded for attendance, adherence to the school values and achievement points. We are also running a 'Dress the tutor' competition which is always a highlight of the year! Students will be dismissed at 12:40pm for the Christmas break.

## Geography Trip

Last Friday, on Enrichment Day, half of our Year 8 cohort went to Cuckmere Haven on a geography fieldwork trip. Students braved the cold temperature to complete a successful day of orienteering, sketching, OS Mapping, and measuring of river flow and profile. The day provided a good taster for students of study at GCSE level; fieldwork is an essential component of the GCSE course. Our thanks to Miss Petts for running the trip and to our Year 8 students who were a credit to the school through the day.



## INSET & Start of Term

Please note that Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January is an INSET day. School staff will be completing training and the school

will be closed to all students. All students should return for an 8:30am start as usual on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

## Christmas Lunch & Non-Uniform Day

This week ended on a high with our non-uniform day in aid of the charity – The Rising Stars of Africa. Alfie Crane in Year 11 does a lot of work for this charity and will be reporting back to us in the New Year on how funds raised from this day are spent. We also enjoyed our Christmas lunch; once again our wonderful catering staff provided us with a fantastic festive lunch and it was great to celebrate the end of term together as a community.



## French Trip

The Year 7s recently went on a fun day trip to France. We travelled early by coach and Eurotunnel and arrived in sunny but cold France around 11am. First we visited a fantastic boulangerie near Calais. The students were able to make their own croissants, and had a masterclass on how to bake French bread in a wood-fired oven. We then visited the beautiful and historic Arras Christmas Market where the students bought local festive delicacies, went ice-skating and braved the giant Christmas Tree and Big Wheel funfair rides. The students were all excellently behaved, and tried hard to speak as much French as possible. We

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were very proud of how they represented King's abroad. Merci Year 7!



### Carol Service

Our Christmas Carol Service will be held at Bishop Hannington Church on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm. All are warmly invited to attend. The service is family-friendly and our Chamber Choir will be performing two pieces as well as leading congregation carols. We hope to see you there.



### Careers Day

Year 9 students had a day off timetable and focused on their future careers on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of December. They enjoyed talks from speakers from a wide variety of professions from zoologists, to doctors, to writers. Students were also given the chance to try an aptitude test to see what career they would be good at, there were a few surprising results to consider.

All of this was to kick off the Year 9 options process with the aim that Year 9 students will choose their Key Stage 4 options by March next year. Therefore we also gave students the chance to try subjects that they have not been taught yet in Key Stage 3 (Such as Business Studies or Physical Education theory).

If you or your child have any questions about the options process please contact Mr Bridges via e-mail using the [admin@kingsschoolhove.org.uk](mailto:admin@kingsschoolhove.org.uk) e-mail address.

### Bodiam Castle

Year 8 travelled to Bodium Castle for their first enrichment visit of the year. A cold but sunny day made for a good background for our trip to summarise our Medieval Life studies of the last year. Students took part in a tour with a local guide along with engaging in their own independent exploration



of the castle and grounds. They were shown how the castle system worked, what life was like and how they coped with invasion and plague. The highlight of the



day was the armory room where students learnt about knight warfare and were able to get to grips with the help and hindrances of a knight's

armour. We look forward to our return visit with the other side of the year in March.

### GCSE Pod

GCSEPod is now available at King's School. We have subscribed to the award-winning service to give your child access to thousands of hours of professionally produced, audio-visual content which will benefit them throughout the coming year.

GCSEPod has over 5,000 teacher-written, audio-visual pods which have been produced specifically for learning, homework and revision. The Pods contain all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success. They won't need to use GCSEPod for long to see the impact; in fact, consistent use of just 10-minute chunks is proven to support achievement whatever your child's target grade is. GCSEPod can be viewed on mobiles, tablets and PCs and the Pods can be downloaded for

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offline viewing. The Pods are mapped to the curriculum and students can access pre-set exam playlists which collate all the Pods relevant to a specific exam into a neatly organised list.

Once your child has activated their account they can browse the Pod library and create their own playlists – just as they would when they're listening to music. We recommend that you discuss GCSEPod with your son or daughter to ensure that they have successfully activated their accounts and encourage them to make use of this service throughout their GCSEs. A homework has been set for them to login and access pods that are applicable from their mock exam feedback. For more ways you can help support your child using GCSEPod, visit [www.gcsepod.com/parents](http://www.gcsepod.com/parents) where you'll find lots more information and resources. If you have any questions regarding GCSEPod, please contact Anthony Easton who is GCSEPod Lead for the school. For specific technical advice please use the help pages on the website or email [support@gcsepod.com](mailto:support@gcsepod.com).

Year 11 student feedback has been overwhelmingly positive thus far and we are sure that this will be a valuable tool for them as a next step to support them in their learning in the new year.



## Year 11 Parents' Evening

The final parents' evening for Year 11 students will be held on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> of January from 16:30 – 19:30.

This is an extremely important evening as it is vital that you and your child are well briefed about their progress towards the Key Stage 4 qualifications, based on the recent mock examinations that were completed. Attendance at the evening is strongly recommended so that any intervention work needed can be put in place quickly.

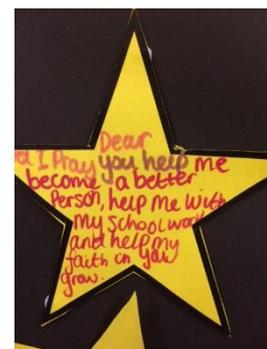
Appointments should be made using our online booking system. If you have any issues using this system, please do not hesitate to contact the school's main office.

## Christmas Carol

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December students in Year 7 were visited by the Globe Players, who performed their festive production of A Christmas Carol. With much clanking of chains and "Ho, ho, hoing" from the ghosts, the 4-strong cast brought the plot of this Christmas classic to life. By the end of the production, we were well and truly set on the path to Christmas cheer, as Scrooge turned from his miserable ways to celebrate the joys of the season. So, in the words of Tiny Tim, "A Merry Christmas to you all; God bless you, every one!"

## Advent Prayer Space

This week, the fantastic team at Off the Fence blessed us by holding an Advent Prayer Space in PLUS 1. Students, staff and parents were invited to visit the room to take part in activities that helped them to reflect and consider during this busy time of year. Thank you to the team at Off the Fence and everyone who took part!



## Chess Success

Following his success at a tournament in Sussex, Year 7 student Cassius Johnson has qualified and will be

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representing King's School, at the London Junior Chess Congress over the Christmas holidays. The tournament will take place over three days and every day there will be 3 rounds of play. Entrants will be attending from across the country and the best players will be selected to play for England. You can read more about the London Junior Chess Congress by the following the link below:-

<http://www.ljcc.co.uk/about.htm>

Good luck Cassius!

## Year 9 Immunisations

The Immunisation Team will be coming in to school on the morning of Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January to administer the Teenage Booster vaccinations to students in Year 9. If you have returned the form consenting to this immunisation, please ensure that your child has breakfast that morning, and wears a short sleeved shirt if possible.

If you would like your child to receive the immunisation, but have not returned the consent form, please ask your child to come to the office as soon as possible to request a form.

## Free School Meals and Universal Credit

Universal Credit is being rolled out across Brighton and Hove, meaning that eligibility for free school meals may change for some families.

Families who have previously been eligible for FSM should remain as such, as the Local Authority have assured schools that free school meal entitlement will not be removed due to the transition to the Universal Credit system.

Families who have not been eligible due to receipt of working tax credit, and who now receive Universal Credit should contact the Brighton and Hove Free School Meals team to check their eligibility. Please note- the FSM team will not be able to confirm eligibility until a payment under universal credit has been made, and they are not able to back date FSM eligibility.

If you have any questions, please contact the Brighton and Hove free school meals team on 01273 293497. More information can be found on the free school meals page of our website.

## Twelve Days of Christmas

Our fantastic catering team have been producing wonderful festive treats for us in the run up to Christmas. This promotion continues right up until the end of term so there are plenty more opportunities for students to get their hands on some homemade Advent goodies!

