

9th February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

As expected, this term has whizzed past, but what another brilliant term it has been. It is so hard to believe that we are already halfway through this academic year. As always, I have many highlights but wanted to celebrate the Y10 students and their ambition for learning as I spent time in their humanities lessons this week – parents and carers would have been incredibly proud to see the quality of their work and the resilience they were showing in their attitudes to learning. Equally, another breaktime of ‘cakes with the head’ (must keep running!) with the Y8 platinum students – what an exceptional bunch of students. However, the pinnacle of the week was when 3 Y8 students interrupted a meeting with me and senior colleagues to share their finished tote bags that they had designed and made in textiles. They rightfully beamed with pride and so did we. We’re all looking forward to the halfterm break but cannot wait to see what term 4 will bring!

Our Y11 students

As we leave for the holidays our thoughts are with the Y11 students who are armed with their revision schedules, past papers and mark schemes and are set for a week of revision in advance of the last round of mocks – we also want to encourage some downtime too – this is incredibly important. The run up to exams should be a marathon and not a sprint, so go and pace yourself and be kind to yourself through your **ambition** to succeed.

Active Minds – STAR

We all struggle to focus at times and STAR is an Active Mind designed to support student attention. **STAR** stands for **S**it up, **T**rack the speaker or reader, **A**cknowledge other students and **R**ephrase what others have said. These techniques, linked to our **Kindness** STEP, help students maintain their concentration in lessons which is vital for high quality learning to take place.

Mr Trevor Lee

Assistant Headteacher: Teaching & Learning

Term 5/6 Hybrid Uniforms

I know many of you are familiar with the Kingshill summer uniform where our students are allowed to wear the school polo shirt in Terms 5 and 6. This year, we want to make the summer uniform non-compulsory. For terms 5 and 6, students can choose to wear their normal school uniform without the tie or blazer or the polo shirt. However, as warmer layers we will only accept the school jumper and a blazer. No home coat should be worn **without** a blazer.

Option 1: summer polo shirt **Warmer layers:** jumper, blazer, coat

Option 2: school uniform (no tie) **Warmer layers:** jumper, blazer, coat

Y8 Textiles Achievements

Within our Design and Technology rotations, some of our year 8 students have delved into the world of sewing and design by making their very own tote bags in their textile's lessons. This hands-on activity allows the students to showcase their creativity and learn practical skills whilst also learning about sustainability and our impact on the environment. The students have explored different techniques to

embellish their bags and have been leaning how to hand sew and further develop their knowledge of using sewing machines. This practical experience not only enhanced their sewing skills but has also fostered a sense of accomplishment and **pride** when seeing their ideas evolve into a 3D, useable product. Well done, we are really proud of you!



Miss McConnachie
Teacher of Design Technology

Charity Love Hearts

A **heartfelt** thank you to everyone who joined us for the Valentine's Day Service this week. Your participation contributed to an overflow of **kindness** throughout the school. We are delighted to share that together, we successfully raised **£202.57** for The Brain Tumour Charity.



Parent Forum

We are excited to extend a warm invitation to join us for our upcoming Parent Forum on **Tuesday, 19th March at 9:10am**. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to come together as a community, share insights, and engage in meaningful discussions about your child's educational journey. Your active participation is invaluable, and we will be sending the agenda out as we get closer to the date. The Parent Forum serves as a platform for open communication, fostering a collaborative environment between parents and educators. Let's work together to ensure the success and well-being of our students. We look forward to your presence and contribution at this important event.

Kingshill Kitchen

We would like to extend a sincere appreciation to our dedicated catering team for their outstanding efforts in creating a delightful culinary experience at our school. The cooking skill, meticulous visual set-

up, and the mouth-watering dishes they consistently serve contribute significantly to the positive atmosphere within our school. Their commitment to excellence is truly commendable, and we are grateful for the delicious and visually appealing meals that enrich our school community every day. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to making our dining experience memorable and enjoyable.

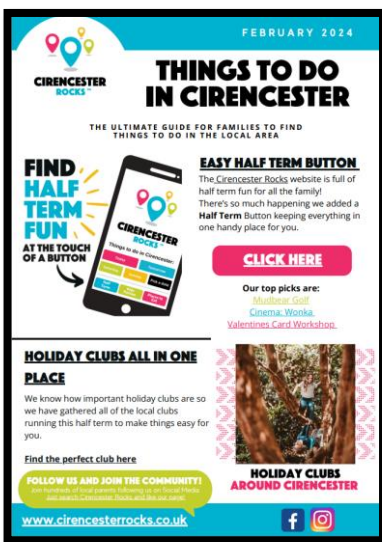


Pancake Day

We regret to inform you that Pancake Day, initially scheduled for today, encountered unforeseen delivery issues that have led to its cancellation. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Rest assured that Pancake Day has been rescheduled to take place on Tuesday, 20th February. We appreciate your understanding and look forward to creating a delightful pancake experience for everyone on the rescheduled date.

Half Term Fun in Cirencester

Looking for something fun to do locally during the half term? [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about the activities Cirencester has to offer.



Cirencester Green Spaces

The Cirencester Town Council is currently undergoing a strategic review of its green spaces and values the input of the younger generation. We want to hear from your child about their ideas and preferences for parks and green spaces in the community! To ensure their voice is heard, encourage your child to participate by [CLICKING HERE](#). This is a fantastic opportunity for them to share their opinions and contribute to the enhancement of our local green areas. Please note that the closing date for participation is the 28th of February.

Joshua Strongitharm
Cirencester Town Council (Land & Property)

Closing Remarks

We all know that raising young people to be the best that they can be, in our ever-changing world, is an incredibly tall order. I want to finish this term by extending a huge thank you for all the support you have provided to your young person and the school in ensuring our partnership is as strong as possible. In working together, we are far more likely to achieve the successful futures we are all seeking to shape. I wish you all a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming the students back on Monday 19th February.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Jo Lindley
Headteacher

Sports Update

Girls Football – Years 7 & 8 Fixture v Farmors School:

On Wednesday we took a team of Year 7s and 8s to play a 9-a-side fixture v Farmors School. It was the first time the Year 7s represented Kingshill in a football fixture, and all players did this with **pride**. **Resilience** and **ambition** was displayed throughout the whole fixture as they played to the final whistle. A superb goal from Issy S (Year 8) to complete a great team performance.

Miss Herbert

Other Sports Updates:

- On Monday we took our Y10 boys and girls Handball teams to compete in the County round of the EHA National School Competition at Wycliffe College. Both teams represented the school competitively against strong opposition. Our boys team beat Pates, were narrowly beaten by Chipping Campden and then lost to Kingstone. Our girls beat both Chipping Campden and Kingstone but lost their final 2 games against Bournside and Stroud High (the National Champions from last year's competition). Both teams grew in confidence throughout the day and are keen to arrange more Handball fixtures to continue developing their game.
- Our football teams were in action this week against Farmors. Year 11 won 1-0 and Year 9 won 2-0. Year 10 drew 1-1. Unfortunately, the extremely wet weather on Thursday prevented our Year 7 and 8 boys football fixtures against Farmors from going ahead due to waterlogged pitches. We will endeavour to rearrange these after Half Term.
- Year 7 and Year 8 girls teams also played against Farmors. Year 8 drew 1-1 and Year 7 lost 2-0.
- Our Sports Leaders have also been very busy this week supporting our School Games Organiser, Mrs Pauling, at several Primary events. On Monday, they welcomed over 70 pupils from 7 local primary schools to a Football Festival at Cirencester Arena. Tuesday saw them supporting Year 3 and 4 gymnasts at Cotswold Gymnastics Club. Wednesday we welcomed over 450 runners from 30 schools to Far Peak Outdoor Centre in Northleach for the Primary Cross Country County Qualifying event. Thankfully, this was the driest and least windy day of the week and our leaders, along with Sports Leaders from Chipping Campden School supported, encouraged and ran round the 1mile course throughout the day with all the runners.

Upcoming events

Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February	TERM BREAK
Tuesday 20 th February	Y7, 8, 9 – Gymnastics leaders/coaching session
Wednesday 21 st February	Y9 Options Career Day
	Y10 / Y11 Wellbeing Sessions
	Y10 Parents Evening in school 4pm-7pm
Thursday 22 nd February	FameLab Academy in school P5 & P6
Tuesday 27 th February	Evening of Dance 5:30 – 6:30pm
Wednesday 28 th February	Y7 OOA Teambuilding Activity
Thursday 29 th February	Y7 Octavia’s Bookshop visit
	Y7 OOA Teambuilding Activity
	Y9 Blood Brothers, Mayflower Theatre