

8th March 2024



Kingshill Lane
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 1HS

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Another high energy week has just flown by. This week we have seen our Y8 boys win at the Gloucestershire U13s indoor cricket tournament against Pate's Grammar school, this now puts us into the County Finals Day. We had over 72% attendance to our Y9 parents' evening - thank you to all staff and parents supporting the important event as we lead into our options choices. World Book Day saw all staff bringing their favourite books to school to share with their classes. A few got very excited by the event and chose to dress up as their favourite characters – do see below. And tonight, it is our Y7 disco where the students have the opportunity to dress up – I hope you all have a wonderful time!

Inset Day

On Wednesday, teachers and teaching assistants received training in the use of Do Now Activities (DNAs) which are a key ingredient of our Active Minds. DNAs require students to recall prior learning and this retrieval practice helps them to remember more. Staff looked at the rationale for DNAs, shared good practice and reviewed their use in subject areas.

Expert tuition was also provided on the role of artificial intelligence in education. We know many of our students use AI and teachers need to understand the ways it can be used constructively, but also how it may be misused. Whilst learning about the uses of AI in assessment design and problem solving, staff were also able to use it to create DNAs.

Annual Stakeholder Survey

I am introducing an annual anonymous stakeholder survey, and we are using an external company to provide this. By using an external company, it allows us to benchmark ourselves against other schools; to celebrate our strengths and identify areas for further development. The survey will take approximately 5 minutes to complete, and your feedback will prove invaluable as we begin our planning for what year 2 of our adventure together will look like. I look forward to sharing the feedback in the summer term. The deadline for this is Friday 22nd March at 6pm.

[**Cirencester Kingshill Survey for Parents and Carers, March 2024 \(google.com\)**](#)

Lead Practitioner: SEND & Inclusion

I am honoured to undertake the role of Lead Practitioner for SEND & Inclusion. I will be taking on this role officially from September, but the groundwork starts in terms 5 and 6. I will have an opportunity to work closely with teaching staff and Inclusion staff to help support and develop strategies so that our students with SEND feel valued, can access the curriculum and unlock their full potential.

Dan Radbourne

Lead Practitioner: SEND & Inclusion

Parent's Forum

A friendly reminder about the upcoming Parent's Forum scheduled for **March 19th at 9:10am**. This collaborative gathering will focus on Developing Communication and Curriculum. Stay tuned for a separate letter with the full agenda, coming your way soon. Your participation is invaluable, and we encourage all parents to join, share your insights, and contribute to shaping greater futures for our students. Looking forward to your active presence.

Active Minds and STEPs – The Bs

To become an expert learner, you need to be able to find ways to attack tricky problems independently. Discovering ways to help yourself when you are facing a challenge is a critical skill for us all. Rather than immediately rely on their teacher, we encourage our students to first refer to the **Board**, then their **Brain**, then their **Book** and then their **Buddy**. This sequence of **Bs** trains us to find answers for ourselves rather than simply deferring to someone else.

Mr Trevor Lee
Assistant Headteacher: Teaching & Learning

The Kindness Club

We are thrilled to share the latest endeavors of our incredible **Kindness** Club over the past few weeks. These dedicated students have been on a mission to spread generosity and support within our school community. Recently, they took the initiative to reach out to both Hobbycraft and Tesco via beautifully crafted emails, expressing their desire for support in the upcoming school raffles. The response was heartwarming, with donations pouring in – Easter Eggs and an Art set were generously contributed for the upcoming Brain Tumour Charity Raffles. The **Kindness** Club played a pivotal role in organizing the craft sale, a significant event that wouldn't have been possible without their hard work. Their collective efforts resulted in an impressive fundraising amount of **£110**, all of which will contribute to the school production of "Matilda." The students of the **Kindness** Club are beaming with **pride**, reflecting on the positive impact they've made and the joy it brought them. Thank you to all the staff who supported them and helped share the **kindness**.



Charmain & Nicci

Mock Exams

Year 11s have now completed their final set of Mock Exams, a mixture of in-class exams and more formal exams in the Sports Hall, designed to replicate the exam procedures, rules and regulations that have to be followed during the main GCSE period. I was extremely impressed with the overall standard of behaviour and maturity shown by the students. It's often a stressful time for students and they demonstrated great **resilience** throughout and have acquired behaviours that will stand them in great stead for the summer exams.

Penny Clarke
Exams Officer

Mock Interview and Photos, Y11

Next Friday, 15th March, we are very much looking forward to welcoming our Y11 students in for their mock interviews and photographs. We have over 30 local employers coming in to school to conduct these interviews and to review the CVs that the students have prepared in advance of this day. This day always feels like a rite of passage in the lives of our students and a key moment in them beginning to present as the young men and women they are so quickly becoming. As a school we have always worked really proactively to support our students in progressing into successful futures beyond Kingshill and this is the sort of event that helps achieve this. We look forward to seeing our Y11 students looking smart and **proud** as they come into school next Friday!

Mr Morland

Senior Assistant Headteacher/Head of Key Stage 4

Sports Update

Monday saw our fabulous Sports Leaders support over 250 runners in years 3/4/5/6 from local Primary Schools as Kingshill hosted a Cross Country event in very muddy and rainy conditions. They marshalled, ran alongside and encouraged runners over the finish line. Thank you to them all for remaining so positive and supporting Mrs Pauling run such a successful event. Special thanks also goes to our Kingshill site team for ensuring parents arrived and departed the site safely. Our students have also been representing the school in sporting fixtures this week:

- Year 9 cricketers travelled to Pates Grammar School to compete in the U13 Cheltenham and Cotswold Schools Indoor Cricket Competition. They beat both Pittville School and Pates Grammar School in a best of 3 (7 overs per team format). They won their first game 70-59, lost the second 35-55 and won the deciding game 42-37. The team bowled and fielded amazingly, showing amazing spirit and teamwork. They will now attend the U13 Gloucestershire Indoor Cricket Finals day on 18th April.
- Our Year 8 Football team travelled to Sir William Romneys for a district match. In spite of the opposing team comprising some strong players and a fantastic Goalkeeper who made 3 very good saves, we secured a 3-0 victory. Well done boys!



Sara Jones

Assistant to PE Faculty and School Games Office

Closing Remarks

It was so lovely to stop and reflect on our favourite books this week. At Kingshill we all believe in the power of reading: as a route to further academic success, an opportunity to visit far off places and learn

more about the lives of others, as well as being a great wellbeing tool. Therefore, I wonder what might be your book of choice this weekend? Enjoy.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Jo Lindley
Headteacher



Upcoming events

Tuesday 12 th March	Y8 Parent's Evening: 4:30 – 7:30pm (online)
	Y7/8/9 Gymnastics coaching session
Thursday 14 th March	Y7 Assembly - Ambition
Friday 15 th March	Y7/8/9/10 Red Nose Day (non-uniform day)
	Y11 Mock interview day and photographs
	Y8 Football Trip
Monday 18 th March	School Council this week
	Y9 Author Workshop
	Y11 NCS Employability Program
Tuesday 19 th March	Y9 Woodchester Mansion
	Parent Forum 9:10 – 10:30
	Y11 NCS Employability Programme
Wednesday 20 th March	Y9 Options Evening
	NCS Employability Programme
Thursday 21 st March	Y10 Barcelona Trip
	Y9 Japanese School visiting Kingshill
	Y7 Monmouth Theatre trip
	Y9 Famelab Final
Friday 22 nd March	Y11 non-uniform day
25th March – 5th April	EASTER BREAK

Community Activities / Events

Join us at our

Spring Fayre

Saturday 23 March
10am-5pm
Lackhampton Court House grounds

800 pop-up bar and tasty treats.
Live music and entertainment
Lackhampton Court Tea Rooms
Lots of family friendly activities

Entrance fee on day: £2.50
FREE for children under 12

PerryBishop

For more information
web: www.pbs.org.uk/springfayre
email: lackhampton.fundraising@perrybishop.org
Facebook: [2000yearsLackhamptonCourtHouse](https://www.facebook.com/2000yearsLackhamptonCourtHouse)
Twitter: [perrybishopcharity](https://twitter.com/perrybishopcharity)

CREED **in2play**

Joe Rapier Because no one should face death or grief alone

Scouts Open Event

24TH MARCH | 2PM TILL 4PM | GL7 2NG

WE ARE LOOKING FOR GIRLS, BOYS AND VOLUNTEERS ACROSS ALL SECTIONS!

CUBS (8-10½)
TUESDAYS
7:00PM - 8:30PM

SCOUTS (10½-14)
WEDNESDAYS
7:00PM - 8:30PM

BEAVERS (6-8)
TUESDAYS
5:45PM - 6:45PM

GET IN CONTACT BY EMAILING/TEXTING:
CORALIE.THOMPSON@SCOUTS.ORG.UK
07904 632790

2nd Cirencester (Stratton)

ELKSTONE STUDIOS EASTER FAIR

MONDAY 1ST APRIL, 2024

FAIR GROUND GAMES, LAWN GAMES, LUNCH TIME SHOW, FOOD VENDORS, PETTING ZOO & AN EASTER EGG HUNT SPONSORED BY KNEAD BAKERY

BOOK YOUR TICKETS HERE

10 AM - 4 PM
ADULTS: £10
13 - 17 Yrs: £5
UNDER 12'S: FREE

Elkstone Studios, Cheltenham, GL53 8PD
WWW.ELKSTONE-STUDIOS.COM

PARISH OF CIRENCESTER
St John Baptist | Holy Trinity | St Lawrence

MOTHERS' DAY RUNAWAYS

A service for those who normally avoid Mothering Sunday, offering a safe space to meet with God and be reminded that you're not alone.

Sunday 10 March, 4pm
Parish Church of St John Baptist, Market Place, Cirencester

Everyone welcome