

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024



Kingshill Lane  
Cirencester  
Gloucestershire  
GL7 1HS

01285 651511

Dear Parent/Carer,

I cannot believe we are already writing the final letter of the Spring term; this academic year is whizzing by. I want to pay tribute to the staff team who, week in and week out, provide amazing opportunities both within and beyond the classroom for our young people as you will read below, this week has been no exception. We have been interviewing throughout the week and I will update in the summer term about our new members joining the team but I wanted to share a moment with the candidates. As we were watching the students during the transition of lessons, I randomly stopped students and asked them to provide 3 words for our candidates to describe Kingshill, they used words like 'happy, safe, changed, awesome, fun.' I remain incredibly proud of our school community and am eager to see what awaits us in the summer term.

### **STEPS**

From the start of next term, we will be launching an increased focus on encouraging students to appreciate the different ways in which they can take **responsibility**. This includes within school and beyond, as we will be looking to enhance leadership opportunities and encouraging students to have a voice in improving our school site but also contributing ideas to take to the town council for improving their local neighbourhood. Students will be encouraged to realise that both **responsibility** and leadership can be demonstrated in different ways but that they can all play a role in influencing decisions, which is very much a key component in our British values of democracy, law, respect and tolerance and individual liberty.

Jeremy Morland  
Senior Assistant Headteacher | Head of Key Stage 4

### **Most Improved Athlete of the Year**

This week Isabella in year 10 was awarded "Most improved Athlete of the Year" from Cirencester Athletics Club. She is quietly (in true Isabella style) absolutely delighted and more so by the shock that it was within the Adults club! She has her name engraved on a beautiful silver plate for eternity and has a plaque to keep too. A massive congratulations to her. This is true **ambition** and **resilience** if ever I saw it. She runs in any weather every weekend and competes across the country when she gets the chance.

Mrs Pearson  
Head of Science (and **proud** tutor!)

### **Charity Bake Sale**

On Wednesday, Year 8 held an Easter themed bake sale to raise money for The Brain Tumour Charity. Students took **pride** in baking delicious cakes, cookies, and brownies. Thank you to everyone who donated, we raised an amazing £90.

Miss Herbert & Miss Jones

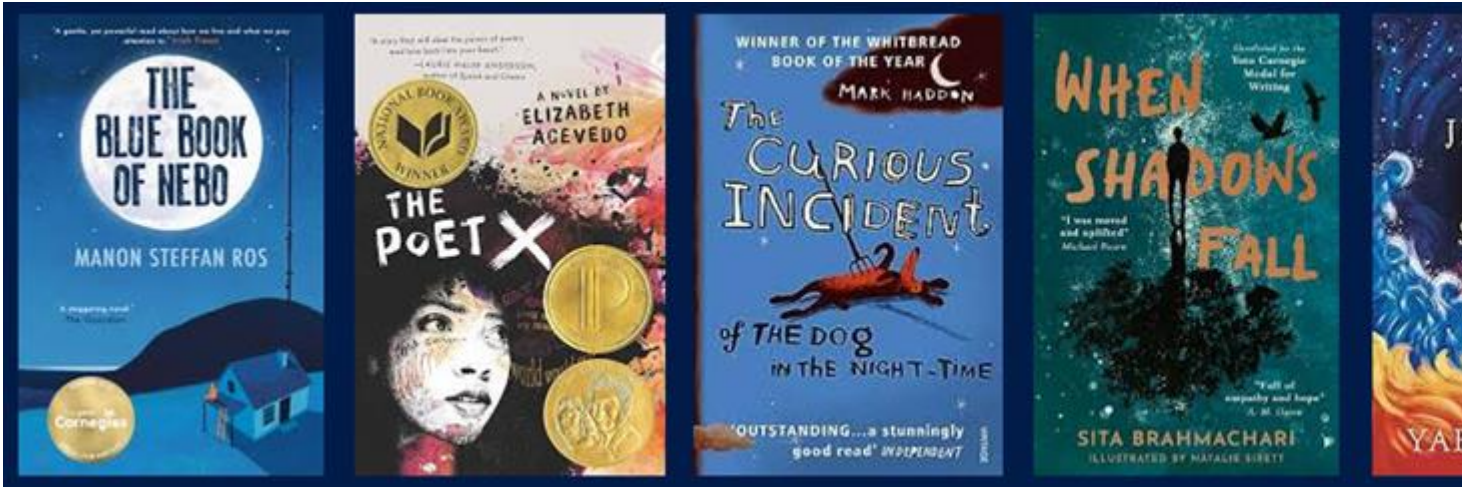
## Y9/10 Reading Books

Following the success of the New Chapters reading programme with the year 7/8, we are delighted to be extending the programme to Y9/10 after Easter. Students will be read to by their tutors twice a week from a fantastic range of exciting, diverse and contemporary fiction.

### Y9 Books:



### Y10 Books:



Mr Philip Smith  
Head of English

### Breaking the Chain, Y10 Theatre Performance

After such positive feedback when this was performed to younger students earlier in the year it was only right to welcome back the Alchemy Theatre Group to showcase their hard-hitting play based on the dangers of carrying knives to our Y10 cohort on Wednesday afternoon of this week. This is a hugely relevant, topical and thought-provoking performance that had the whole of our Y10 cohort captivated and is best summarised in their own words as follows:

Abi: *'This was an outstanding performance and an excellent example of theatre in education. The message about knife crime was highlighted so well and performed in a way that had huge impact. The actors were incredible and stayed in character throughout. I would recommend that every student in the country watches this production to raise awareness of the dangers of carrying knives.'*

Rowen: *'...an amazing example of theatre in education, learning about law and using a real story had such a huge impact. The angle in which this performance was approached was really powerful. Absolutely brilliant. All schools should watch this as it conveys such an important message.'*

I would like to extend my gratitude to Mrs Christopher for her role in bringing this performance back to Kingshill for such an appreciative audience as Year 10 proved to be.

Jeremy Morland  
Senior Assistant Headteacher | Head of Key Stage 4

### **FameLab Champion**

Following the school finals in February, we took our winner Max to the Cheltenham Science Festival FameLab Academy Gloucestershire final yesterday. Max was competing against schools from across the County. The talks included, "What if the Moon was stolen?" to "Poisons", "The Brain" and Max's talk on "Malnutrition".

Max's winning talk contained the content, clarity and charisma that the judges were looking for, along with a great story that kept everyone listening.

It takes a lot to stand up on stage and talk for 3 minutes and Max certainly showed some **AMBITION**, **RESILIENCE** and **PRIDE!**

Congratulations to Max on winning!



Mrs Winsor and the Science Team

### **Cakes with the Headteacher**

This week I had the pleasure of sharing breaktime with the Kindness Club for the extraordinary efforts in raising money through their sale of cards and gifts for Mother's Day. I also learned that they are now busy making cards for the residents at Hunters' lodge and a wonderful collaboration has been created there.



### **NCS Employability Scheme**

In the past week, we welcomed Isabelle and Sarah from the National Citizenship Service (NCS) to complete an Employability course with 16 of our Year 11 students. This was delivered over three full days and was focused on developing students' readiness for life beyond school, exploring areas such as job applications, careers research and how to best convey the wide range of skills that they have. Students completed a range of tasks that helped them to explore their personal characteristics and even managed to discover some skills and talents that they hadn't even realised they possessed! One student described the course as being *'...a real eye opener. It was so useful to learn more about what is needed to progress onto successful careers and to learn about how to go about finding opportunities in such a competitive job market.'*

The relevance of this course, so soon after their mock interviews, and coinciding with their most recent mock results, proved perfect timing and for the second week in succession, it is only right to thank Mrs Hicks, Careers Advisor, for how proactively she works to support our students.

Jeremy Morland  
Senior Assistant Headteacher | Head of Key Stage 4

### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

After an assembly introduction, led by their Head of Year, Mr Edwards, on Wednesday of this week, our Year 11 students opened up the results of their most recent mock exams. For most, this provided tangible evidence of their progress since their previous exams and there was a real sense of realisation

of the trajectory they are on ahead of the next, and most important, envelope opening later in the summer when they will see their final results.

It is important to acknowledge that they are a cohort who demonstrate huge **ambition** and **responsibility** in their learning and as we have emphasised in our assemblies, we are confident that they will leave a huge legacy for other year groups to follow and build upon.

We wish them an Easter break that balances the need for them to look after their own wellbeing whilst simultaneously ensuring that they are working through scheduled retrieval exercises that help to prepare them for the reality of exams that are approaching so quickly!

Jeremy Morland  
Senior Assistant Headteacher | Head of Key Stage 4

### **Comic Relief Fundraiser**

The generous contributions from non-uniform donations amassed a grand total of £569.82 for Comic Relief, aiding in their mission to support various charitable causes worldwide. Thank you to all those who contributed to making a difference.



### **Summer Uniform**

From the start of next term on Monday 8th April, students can choose to wear their summer uniform, the navy polo shirt with the school logo. If they wish to continue wearing their shirt and tie during terms 5 and 6, they may of course do so.

Blazers and school jumpers are optional during terms 5 and 6, although these should be worn as extra layers for warmth if students need them. We would politely ask you to remind your children that hoodies and any other jumpers are not permitted and that whichever uniform they choose to wear, they do so with **pride!**

### **Student Homework**

Students may sometimes feel that homework is an unnecessary burden which eats into their free time. It's vital therefore that we are clear why homework is set, making sure they understand it's to prepare them for lessons and to practise recalling prior learning. Tasks are planned to link to knowledge organisers and are often followed up in class with Do Now Activities (DNAs) to test their learning. Work done at home is important because it frees up lesson time for practising the application of knowledge learnt.

Mr Trevor Lee  
Assistant Head – Teaching & Learning

### **Y7 Footballers – East District Champions!**

The year 7 football team showed tremendous **ambition** as they headed to the East district tournament at Thomas Keble school on Monday 18th March. Having played a number of friendly games they were aware there would be some tough competition. Thankfully, they got off to a great start by beating Thomas Keble in the last minute of the game with a well-placed goal from Joe. They then went on to beat Farmors 3-0 with another good goal from Joe, a top corner volley from Ethan, and even Harry (our goalkeeper) managed to find himself on the scorers list with a spectacular long range effort. Our penultimate game saw us beat our local rivals Deer Park 1-0 and finally we drew with SWR our last game and by this point they were all pretty shattered.

Kingshill won the tournament and now progress onto the District finals which will take place on Wednesday 10th April. They showed great **responsibility** and **pride** throughout the whole tournament and should feel very proud of their achievements.



Mr Ryder,

Head of Year 7

### **Other Sports Update**

Last Saturday in Yorkshire was the Nationals Cross Country and Harry B had an amazing run, coming in 91st place out of the whole country and 1st in Gloucestershire.

Christina See

I am pleased to say that the Year 9 Football team have reached their 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive Football final, beating Maidenhill 2-1 this afternoon. The **respect** and **resilience** they showed throughout the game was a credit to the school!

Seb Thomas

### **Parent Forum**

During this week's Parent Forum, participants engaged in a dynamic and informative session. The agenda encompassed a comprehensive review of parent communications, upcoming changes to the newsletter, website and social media platforms. Additionally, we reviewed the Active Minds tools, followed by a visitation to classrooms to see which ones we observed in action. We then concluded with a thorough discussion on curriculum, reviewing the purpose and methodology behind the intentional teaching and learning practices at Kingshill School.

With the presence of both returning and new parents, there is enthusiasm regarding the prospective endeavors of the forum. Moreover, we had some parents express their interest in being members of Friends of Kingshill to assist with fundraising and 2nd hand uniform sales. Please, if you are also keen to join let us know. The date of the next forum will be sent out in future communications.

### **Annual Parent Survey – Last Day!**

Please take 5 minutes to complete the Cirencester Kingshill Survey for Parents and Carers by [CLICKING HERE](#). Your feedback is valuable and necessary to influence change.

### **Closing Remarks**

I wish you all a wonderful Easter break, during this period we will see our Y10s return from Barcelona, and we will be thinking motivational thoughts for our Y11s in support of their revision schedules. Rest well and return safely for an exciting summer term.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Jo Lindley  
Headteacher

### **Upcoming events**

Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Y9 Options Form deadline
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Y7 Dance Festival
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	EXTEND Summer Programme starts
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Y7 Rugrats & Halfpints
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	UK Junior Maths Challenge
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Y7 Health & Wellness Day

**Community Activities / Events**

Get £10 off your purchase if you mention you are from Cirencester Kingshill School.

**23/24 MARCH**

**BE THE BELLE OF THE BALL**

**OPEN SALE WEEKEND**  
 23rd & 24th March 2024  
 CIRENCESTER - Bees Knees Pub -  
 GL7 1LF (REAR entrance is closest to the dressing room)

Check the range & get in touch on Instagram:  
**@lastchancedressesuk**

Prom dresses (Sizes 0-20)  
 Shoes (Sizes 37-41)  
 Accessories - tiaras etc.

Join us at our  
**Spring Fayre**

**Saturday 23 March**  
 10am-5pm  
 Latchampton Court Hospice grounds

400+ stalls for and tasty treats  
 Live music and entertainment  
 Latchampton 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.yes.org/springfayre  
 email: tech@hampton.kunhi@hospice.org.uk  
 #2024SpringFayre @hospice.org.uk

CREED  
 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)**



# KINGSHILL SKATE PARK YOUTH EVENT

**THURSDAY 28TH MARCH 4.30-6.30PM FREE**

**GRAFFITI, CIRCUS, MUSIC WORKS BUS, SKATE,  
DRUMMING, CRAFTS, HOOPS, TRAPEZE & MORE**

**FREE FOOD IF YOU REGISTER**

Click Here to Book  
or Scan QR Code

**Decimal**  
ESTABLISHED 2000

**THE MUSIC WORKS**

world jungle | Cotswold District Council | Gloucestershire | Department for Education | Cotswold HRF

## 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  
15 - 17 Yrs: £5  
UNDER 12'S: FREE

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

## HAF in the Cotswolds

Join us this holiday for fun and food

For our Holiday and Food Programmes in Spring, Summer & Winter 2024 we have lots of activities on offer including Circus, Fundays, Forest School Days, Holiday camps and more ...

Activities go on view before going live on CABS and our Website on the following dates:

Spring view 4th March - Go Live 11th March  
Summer view 17th June - Go Live 1st July  
Winter view 18th Nov - Go Live 2nd Dec

To find out more scan the QR Code

Once bookings go live, if you need help with bookings or transport, please contact our community connectors Bloodhound Education on email: [accounts@bloodhoundeducation.com](mailto:accounts@bloodhoundeducation.com)

**BLOODHOUND EDUCATION**

world jungle | Cotswold District Council | Gloucestershire | Department for Education

MARCH 2024



# THINGS TO DO IN CIRENCESTER

THE ULTIMATE GUIDE FOR FAMILIES TO FIND  
THINGS TO DO IN THE LOCAL AREA

**FIND  
EASTER  
HOLIDAY  
FUN**

**AT THE TOUCH  
OF A BUTTON**



## **EASTER HOLIDAY COLLECTION**

The Cirencester Rocks website is full of Easter Holiday trails, hunts, events and lots of fun for all the family!

There's so much happening we have added a **Easter Holiday Collection** keeping everything in one handy place for you.

Our top picks are:

[Elkstone Studio's Easter](#)

[The Highland Joker - Bubble Show](#)

[Mini Gardening Festival](#)

**CLICK HERE**

## **HOLIDAY CLUBS ALL IN ONE PLACE**

We know how important holiday clubs are so we have gathered all of the local clubs running this half term to make things easy for you.

[Find the perfect club here](#)

### **FOLLOW US AND JOIN THE COMMUNITY!**

Join hundreds of local parents following us on Social Media.  
Just search Cirencester Rocks and like our page!



[\*\*www.cirencesterrocks.co.uk\*\*](http://www.cirencesterrocks.co.uk)

