



NEWSLETTER

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6th February 2015

Useful Dates

9 Feb	Yr 12 Cambridge University Trip (Physics and Biology)
11 Feb	Yr 9 Parents' Evening
13 Feb	LAST DAY OF TERM
13 Feb	Yr 7/8 Disco
14-22 Feb	Ski Trip - USA
23 Feb	FIRST DAY OF TERM
24 Feb	Yr 13 Parents' Evening



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Dear Parents/Guardians

Last week saw the annual publication of school performance league tables by the Department for Education.

I am pleased to report that, once again, pupils at KSHSSA have performed very well and we are placed near the top of the tables in Lincolnshire for both GCSE and A Level performance.

As a selective school we should expect our pupils to do very well but it is always nice to see that pupils here do as well, if not better, than pupils in other, similar, selective schools.

Examination results are important but are only part of what we do here at the 'High School' and once again our Newsletter contains information on the many extra-curricular activities that we provide for our pupils.

I hope you enjoy reading it.

Best wishes,

Craig Booker
Headteacher



In the week before the Christmas break, the Computing and Mathematics Departments set a competition for all students in the school. The competition involved solving a series of five challenges based around the concepts of ciphers (encrypting information) and steganography (information hiding). The incentive for entering was the promise of an iPod Touch for the first student to crack all five challenges.

The competition was web based and after solving the first challenge to obtain a username and password for the website, students could work through the challenges using the website to check their answers before moving on to the next one.

Although the first two challenges were relatively easy in order to give competitors a gentle introduction to the ideas involved, the final three challenges were quite demanding and only the most determined found a solution to any of these.

The competition was a great success with over sixty students, together with a number of members of staff, getting past the first challenge and entering the race for the prize. A smaller number made it as far as the fourth challenge (it was much harder by then!) and ultimately the first student completed all five challenges by the end of the second week of the new term. Well done to Phoebe Oswald in Year 12 for being that student and the winner of the iPod Touch!

Although the prize has now been won, the competition web pages remain available to anyone who would like to complete the challenges for fun, or as a warm-up to next year's Cyberchallenge competition. The competition can be found at:

<https://cs.kshssa.co.uk/cyberchallenge/index.php>

Well done to all who took part and solved any of the challenges!



KSHSSA featured in the latest issue of Furniture and Cabinetmaking Magazine

The current issue of the eminent woodworking magazine Furniture and Cabinetmaking (February 2015 – number 228) includes an article written by Technology teacher Mrs Susan Johnson. The work of pupils throughout the school is featured including the Year 7 Box Project and the work of the current GCSE Graphic Products group. The piece focuses on how wood work can be integrated into the modern school curriculum and also highlights some of the benefits of studying a practical subject, such as building confidence and problem solving skills.



Careers Update

Year 7 students have now been introduced to the Careers Library and how best to find information on Careers that may interest them, it's never too early to start thinking about the future!

Year 9 students have just completed their Kudos training with Dawn Wood from ECG4life, this will help them make informed and appropriate choices for their GCSEs. Students should be aware that if they need additional help with their GCSE choices they should see me in the Careers office.

Following my letter that went out to all parents last week regarding the forthcoming 'World of Work' event, I would like to say a huge 'thank you' to

everyone who has taken the time to write in or telephone me, and I hope to work with many of you in the future. It is not too late to contact me if you feel you have a career that the students would find interesting. Solicitors/Lawyers please take note, you are in short supply!

Year 11 students recently attended talks given by an Apprentice Champion and a representative from Lincoln College as alternatives to Higher Education in a school environment. The school has a duty to ensure that all Students are aware of the Options available to them at 16 as it is statutory that students be in Education, or Work with Training, until their 18th birthday.

Mrs Pauline Hunter
Careers Coordinator
pauline.hunter@kshssa.co.uk





A Day of Shakespeare

On Friday 24th January, Box Clever Theatre Company visited KSHSSA to present their unique adaptation of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" and their original, "Introduction to Shakespeare" for the Year 9s and Year 8s respectively. Both productions were performed by professional actors Evie, Corey and Cameron – an ex pupil of our very own Ms Verity from her time as Head of English and Drama in Peterborough. Both plays lasted for an hour and were followed by half an hour of activities and workshops where the students got a chance to go onto the stage, ask questions, and deliver Shakespearean dialogue.

Central to the morning's production was the innovative stage; a large heart that was raised at the back and lit up to represent the moods of the characters. This was one of many new and interesting ways that the Shakespeare play was brought to life for the students. Cameron's character, as well as beat boxing through some parts, acted as a narrator and interpreter for the audience. There was also singing in the high points of the play, when the emotions of Romeo or Juliet were at their strongest. This all made the play extremely enjoyable and fun to watch, and all of the students asked said that it made their experience of "Romeo and Juliet" much better and the story less complicated.



In the afternoon, the entire year group were treated to snippets from no less than ten of Shakespeare's best known works. The actors quickly changed their costumes whilst acting out a broad range of scenes ranging from sword fights to witty banter to tender romance. To end the performance and the day, the students were instructed how to dance the traditional "Roger de Coverley" and the day ended with the entire year group on their feet!

The actors have said that they really enjoy performing for the girls at KSHSSA and all stopped to chat with the students afterwards. Corey's favourite line was "she doth teach the torches to burn bright!" as it held meaning for him and this just proved how dedicated the cast of this performance is to what they do.

The Box Clever Theatre group are on tour until March, all over the country. Their email is [boxclever@something.com], and their twitter is @clevertheatre if you want to get in contact with them.

Overall, the students all really enjoyed both unique performances and said that it really helped them understand the storyline ready for their upcoming studies.

Rosie Jones (9F)
Young Journalist

**NEXT BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION
FOR PTA FUNDRAISING 16TH APRIL**

Please bring bags of unwanted clothes and textile toys to school

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF KSHSSA PTA

The A Level Geographers Investigate Sheffield

In December, the Geography Department took the Year 13 Geographers to Sheffield.

The students received a very insightful talk from a guest speaker at Meadowhall Shopping centre; this was linked to their work on out of town retailing which features in the A2 aspect of the World Cities course.

They then braved the Supertram (and freezing conditions) into the city centre and took a walk around the Gold route to experience some of the redevelopments in and around the city centre, including the railway station, the Peace Gardens and Millennium Square.

The students also walked to see one of their case studies (Park Hill) and discussed the merits and pitfalls of the redevelopment of these 1960's flats, which now have listed building status.

The day was topped off with a little bit of retail therapy back at Meadowhall.

The students found the visit both beneficial and enjoyable and the picture shows them outside the Millennium Square area of the city.

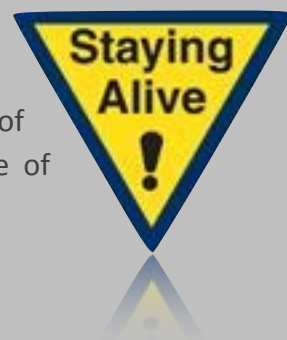
Mrs D Collett
Subject Leader Geography



2FAST2SOON DRIVER SAFETY WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 27th January the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership delivered their hard-hitting '2Fast2Soon' theatre production and workshop to Year 13 students, warning them of the dangers of driving. They performed a moving re-enactment of 'Kristy's true story' which showed the fatal implications of driving over the speed limit, followed by an interactive workshop which discussed the consequences of driving while intoxicated with drugs and alcohol, using a mobile phone or not wearing a seatbelt. One student described the session as 'shocking, stimulating and an eye opener' and several admitted to being very moved by the theatre performance. Although many students already knew the repercussions of dangerous driving everyone believed that this session reinforced the importance of being alert and safe when getting behind the wheel.

Hattie Capel (13W)



WATER BOTTLES – REMINDER

Please remember that students should bring a water bottle to school that can be filled when necessary from the water fountains. Students are increasingly asking for plastic cups which are then used once and thrown away. Please help the school to save money and the environment!



YEAR 9 GEOGRAPHY

The Year 9 Geographers have been studying glacial processes as part of their topic on Cold Environments. They have enjoyed writing poems about glaciers and their features and the Geography Department have been really impressed by the quality of work they have produced.

Mrs S Livingstone
Geography Department

Below are two of the best poems:

Glacier Poem
by Rebekah Phillipson (9W)

It starts with the snowflakes falling to the ground
Their crystals glimmering in the white sunlight
Falling in spirals and patterns to the land
Compressed together and packed tightly as snow
Into a solid mass of ice
No air bubbles in between to separate the layers

I grow in size from snow, ice and rain
Making my way through icy terrain
I am an alpine glacier, so I move quicker
In a warmer environment, melted water helps me glide along
Down steep land,
I make my way down the mountains

I am much bigger in size now
Snow gathers in my accumulation zone
Whilst water melts and evaporates in my ablation zone
As I advance, I pluck rocks from the valley
Leaving deep scratches in the rock,
as unique as the snowflakes which created me
If you examine the striae, you can tell where I've moved
Or by the deposits of rock that I leave behind

But I gradually sink in size over time
I begin to retreat as my ablation rate exceeds accumulation
I don't feel so big and proud as I get smaller and smaller
The sun's pressing heat makes my water melt and evaporate
Into the air, far away.

Glacier Poem
by Natalie Sands (9W)

Always creeping, never sleeping,
Backwards and forwards I go
Retreating or exceeding, always creeping,
Through accumulation, or ablation,
Melting or sublimation,
Always creeping, never sleeping.

Always creeping, never sleeping,
Not knowing where I go,
Doing my work that is never done,
Always carving, always plucking,
Never looking, never seeing,
Always creeping, never sleeping.

Always creeping, never sleeping,
In the ground I etch and sketch,
My art, my striations you will see,
As well as my moraine, as I start retreating,
A legacy I leave, a past worth remembering,
In my art, I am still
Always creeping, never sleeping.

Always creeping, never sleeping,
My time is up, I see the end,
The water flowing, my ice carving,
My legacy, my life worth showing,
The valley, the rocks, moraine and erratic
No longer creeping, finally sleeping.

LINCS FASHION

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HOSTED BY KSHSSA PTA

THURSDAY 29th APRIL 2015

IN THE SCHOOL SPORTS HALL 7.30PM

TICKETS – ENTRANCE & REFRESHMENTS £5

ACCOMPANIED STUDENTS £3

ON SALE 2nd MARCH from KSHSSA Reception

**All items sold and paid for on the night
cash or cheques with valid bankers card.**