



Kesteven & Sleaford High School

NEWSLETTER

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08 Mar 2019

12 Mar	Year 8, 10 & 13 Photographs
13 Mar	Year 9 STEM Day
14 Mar	Year 10 Parents' Evening
15 Mar	Year 7 Big Bang Fair
16 Mar	Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze Kit Issue & Check
18-20 Mar	Year 11 Exams Workshops & Mock Exams Part 2
22 Mar	Year 12 Oxbridge Conference
22 Mar	PTA Bingo Night

Dear Parents/Guardians,

One of the highlights of the school year is always KSHS's participation in the national Rock Challenge competition. After last year's success and participation in the Northern Open Final, students in Years 7 to 13 were excited to see what this year's competition brought. Staff were extremely proud of the students, both those dancing on stage and those backstage and in the costume, make up and set departments. The performance depicted the dark side of the movie industry. I was delighted to see so many staff, and students across all age groups, working as such a creative community.

My thanks go to the team of staff ably led by Mrs Thomas, Head of Drama, and all parents who did numerous taxi journeys to rehearsals and who supported students on the evening. Even though we didn't make it through to the next round of the competition this year I know that students were happy with their performance if a little weary in Friday's lessons!

Mrs J Smith
Head of School

Rock Challenge Reflections - 2019

Through lots of fundraising events, nearly £700 was raised to help fund Rock Challenge and to allow the performance, based on the dark side of fame, to take place this year. The build up to Rock Challenge went very quickly as every week the whole Rock Challenge Team worked hard to meet the performance deadline. Groups such as the hair and make-up team prepared by testing out new hairstyles and products to ensure the wigs fitted correctly and stayed on during the performance. They also experimented with unique make-up designs until they decided on a final look that portrayed the theme of the dance very well; with one group of dancers wearing darker make-up and the other group much lighter make-up.

The stage design team spent lots of time making big

pop art posters and clapper boards with the issues painted on them highlighting what can happen if someone becomes trapped on the dark side of fame including: anxiety, depression and anorexia. They also made Director and Assistant Director chairs for the actors to use during the performance. No detail was ignored; they even made 6 shoes, one being perfect and the others being broken and worn out, to reflect the damage caused by the dark side of fame.



As the deadline grew closer, the costume team made final customisations to the dresses – adjusting each dress to each performer. The customisations included hand-sewing individual sequins to the rim of the main character's dress and trimming each tutu, to make them look ragged and torn apart.

The dancers worked extremely hard to keep in time to the upbeat music and make every move identical to the

rest of their co-dancers. In the dance there were two different types of dancers: the dark-side and the light-side. The dark-side dancers performed very differently to the light-side dancers; using their dance to highlight the fact that people who are famous can often be treated badly, despite their fame. The KSHS dance routine showed this by having the dark-side controlling what the light-side dancers did and how they moved.



The day of the performance was exciting and it was certainly an experience we will never forget. The quality and professionalism of the dance was a reflection of the effort and dedication of the entire Rock Challenge Team and we were proud to represent Kesteven and Sleaford High School in front of such an amazing audience.

Written by; Lily (7F), Josie (9F) and Hazel (11JC)

Home School Communications Policy

We are continually looking for ways to ensure we communicate with parents as efficiently and helpfully as possible. Thank you to all those of you who have regularly taken the time to complete surveys, both online and at Parents' Evenings, which ask for your views on this, amongst other topics. The results over time tell us that this is a feature of the school which you rate highly. Likewise visitors to the school comment on the friendly reception they receive and the strong sense of community amongst staff and students. We would, however, like to draw your attention to the new Home School Communications Policy that will be emailed to all parents/carers shortly.

In recent years communications between home and school have shifted quite dramatically from pen and paper to email, with email becoming the preferred and predominant mode of communication. As a school we remain committed to regular and open communication with parents; however the number of emails or requests for calls and the expectation of a fairly immediate reply from some parents has increased to such a degree that we, along

with many other schools, are experiencing the need to produce a new Home School Communications policy.

I hope very much that you'll agree that our first priority is to deliver high quality teaching and learning for your daughter/son. Most teachers have up to five lessons teaching per day plus tutor time, lunch duties and activities, and after school practices and clubs. Teachers cannot, therefore, monitor and manage their inbox or return calls during lessons or at other times in the day, when they should be planning and preparing for lessons, assessing student work or carrying out school duties. As Headteacher I expect my teachers' priority to be fully prepared, focused and engaged with students and supporting their learning.

Your child's tutor will also have a demanding teaching timetable and Heads of Year in our school, just like others, benefit from only a few hours extra non-teaching time a week to work on behalf of students with particular pastoral needs. Whilst administration staff, support staff

and senior leaders may be able to access emails more routinely, their primary function is also to support teachers and students.

Can I encourage you, therefore, to have a read of the new policy. I offer my reassurances that it isn't designed to limit your involvement in your child's schooling. As parents we may feel that it is perfectly reasonable to ask for updates about our child's progress or behaviour and the occasional request might be manageable; however, if the parent of every child a teacher teaches asks for bespoke feedback just once in a year that would, on average, generate over 300 required responses.

The school already works hard to provide parents with timely and informative information concerning their child's progress throughout the year. Currently these are: four progress and effort reports, one full report and one parent teacher meeting each year. In addition to this staff may also telephone, write or email a parent to inform them of a serious incident or serious ongoing concerns about a child's behaviour or attitude to learning.

We also provide an online system that enables parents to view their child's timetable, the school calendar or receive communications from school regarding events and oppor-

tunities by simply logging in. Parents are encouraged to use this facility. There are, therefore, many ways in which information is easily and readily available and we are not removing the chance for you to communicate with the member of staff who is most likely to be able to address any important issues you have.

We do, however, need to encourage some parents to consider the speed or regularity with which they contact school on matters that their child may well be able to deal with themselves. I hope the policy offers some clear and reasonable guidance regarding what you can expect from staff who will never be delaying replying to you but are simply in a classroom, out on a sports pitch, planning a residential trip, running a revision club, assessing work, undertaking training or working on a myriad of other tasks in support of the students in our care.

I hope that you will assist us in our quest to enable staff to focus on their jobs and therefore give your son or daughter the very best support that they can. Thank you.

Mrs J Smith
Head of School

Year 11 Revision

Well done to all the students who have been attending the school revision sessions. These are proving very popular with many students becoming regular attendees each week. Last month we tried to encourage students to try out these sessions and see how useful they found them by offering a prize to a randomly selected student; the prize for attendance has been won by a student in 11JC.

All Year 11 tutor groups were visited by Mrs Watts prior to the school holiday; she discussed with them the importance of forming a revision plan and provided examples of what a revision timetable should look like. We recommend that students plan their time fairly amongst their subjects and also plan in treats and revision breaks. Physical exercise can be important too for reducing stress levels and keeping the mind and body healthy. Any student who shows their revision timetable to their form tutor will be in the prize draw for next month's treat.

Mrs G White
Assistant Headteacher Pupil Progress

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD



Important Dates:

Saturday 16 March 2019:	Bronze Kit Issue & Check at The House, KSHS
Saturday 23 March 2019:	Silver Kit Issue & Check at The House, KSHS
Monday 25 March 2019:	Silver Assessed deadline for route and forms
Monday 25 March 2019:	Gold 1 deadline for route and forms
Sat 30 & Sun 31 March 2019:	Bronze Practice 1
Sat 27 to Mon 29 April 2019:	Silver Practice Expedition
Thu 2 to Fri 3 May 2019:	Bronze Practice 2 (date change due to Year 10 Assessment Week)

Mrs M Walker
Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

YEAR 8 PSHE DAY

The Year 8 PSHE day run by the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership took place on Monday 4th March and students attended 5 workshops run by different agencies from across the County. They learnt about how to keep themselves safe in different aspects of everyday life, from alcohol awareness to healthy relationships, fire awareness to internet safety; each session was delivered by a professional in that field. As part of Lincolnshire County Council's promise to provide these sessions for every school

student in Year 8 and then in Year 9, the facilitators have worked with thousands of students across the County over the last few years. Their feedback about the day at KSHS is always positive, but they were particularly impressed by the engagement and willingness of this year's Year 8 students and so my thanks and a merit go to each student who was able to attend. We will welcome the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership back early in Year 9 for the second day.

Mr L Rooke
PSHE Co-ordinator

PSHE

The Alcohol Education Trust supplies schools and parents with up-to-date information about issues surrounding the use of alcohol by young people and how to help them make the right choices with regards to alcohol consumption.

Their latest newsletter for parents can be found at <http://www.alcoholeducationtrust.org/parent-area/parent-newsletter/> where you can register for their regular updates.

Mr L Rooke
PSHE Co-ordinator

Spotlight on Sport

The year 7 Netball teams took part in their first league match against Priory Ruskin Academy. Both teams played extremely well and for some it was their first time representing the school as part of a sports team.



Results				
Age Group	Opposition	Date	Score	Result
Under 13	County Final	Away Wednesday 27 th February @ Lincoln		6 th place
Netball				
Year 7 A & B	Priory Ruskin Academy	Tuesday 26 th February @ home	3-9 5-7	Lost Lost



Student success

Holly Marshall 8L – County Swimming

At KSHS we have quite a lot of people who are members of swimming clubs. Over the last month it's been the County Swimming Championships and many of us have competed. I swim for Lincoln Vulcans Swimming Club and qualified to swim for many events at the Lincolnshire Counties. After lots of hard (and fun!) training over the year,

I am so pleased to be number 1 in the County for my age group for many events, for example: 400 individual medley, 200 individual medley, 100 breaststroke and 400 freestyle. I have now qualified to compete at the Regional Championships at Corby in April. Well done to everyone from KSHS who swam at the County Championships and good luck to those going to the Regionals!

Holly Marshall – 8L

Upcoming fixtures		
Age Group	Opposition	Date
Handball		
U15	County Final	Tuesday 19 th March @ Lincoln
Volleyball		
U15	KSSA	Tuesday 12 th March @ Carre's
Swimming		
Years 7 to 11	Stamford	Thursday 21 st March @ Stamford
Futsal		
Year 7	County Final	Tuesday 12 th March @ Grantham Meres
Netball		
Year 7 A & B	Sir William Robertson Academy	Tuesday 12 th March @ Sir William Robertson Academy
Year 7 A & B	Walton Girls'	Thursday 14 th March @ Walton Girls'
Year 7 A & B	Kesteven & Grantham Girls'	Tuesday 19 th March @ home
Year 7 A & B	KSSA tournament	Thursday 28 th March @ Walton Girls'
Year 8	St George's Academy	Thursday 7 th March @ St George's Academy
Year 8	Priory Ruskin Academy	Monday 11 th March @ Priory Ruskin Academy
Year 9	Priory Ruskin Academy	Monday 11 th March @ Priory Ruskin Academy

Neve 10W – Rowing

Neve competed in the Trent Head of the River race in a quad scull with three other girls and won the event by over a minute, they were racing in the Junior 16 category and actually beat all of the Junior 18 year girls as well. A fantastic achievement.

Neve will be racing in the Junior sculling head at Dorney Lake, Eton on the 18th March 2019.

Good luck Neve!



Lilly Doran 8A Football

Congratulations to Lilly Doran who plays for Boston United U12 Girls' Football Team, she has been invited to attend the Europa Cup Competition for four days at FC Barcelona in June.

Staff Sporting Success Mrs Hunt Boston United Ladies FC

On Sunday 3rd March, Boston United Ladies FC won 3-0 against Grimsby Borough at the Jakeman's Stadium, securing the East Midlands Women's Regional FL Division 1 title. Mrs Hunt and the rest of the team will be promoted next season. Well done Mrs Hunt!



Miss Grindey – Trail Running

On Sunday 3rd March I took part in the Ashbourne 10 - a 10 mile trail run down the Tissington Trail in Derbyshire. The weather was not ideal and made the course quite muddy, so I was happy with my time of 1:30:24 which made me 3rd in my age group. I enjoyed the race and the beautiful scenery, and will definitely be back to do it again next year.



A Plea from the Careers Lead

Every year during the spring term, an event is held for all Year 10 Students called the 'World of Work.' It is a morning off timetable to allow students the opportunity of speaking to representatives from different career sectors; to find out exactly what they do, the education and career route they took to get where they are and any hints, tips and advice they can give to the students.

My plea is to anyone who feels they have a career in which students may be interested and are willing and

available to participate. The event will take place during the morning of Wednesday 8th May 2019. This may seem a long way off, however a lot of preparation is necessary before the event takes place.

If you feel you would like to participate, I would be delighted to hear from you.

If I can supply further information or you feel you would like to take part; please contact me at pauline.hunter@k-shs.uk

Thank you for your consideration.

Mrs P Hunter

Careers & Work Experience Lead

GROWTH MINDSET NOMINATIONS



11th February to 1st March 2019

Staff are invited to nominate students who have demonstrated a Growth Mindset in the past few weeks. This might have been in lessons, in clubs, in tutor time or simply around school.

Please note we already award bi-annual subject badges and merits for good academic work, effort and improvement. These Growth Mindset nominations recognise those who show resilience (academic or otherwise); who aren't afraid to get things wrong and learn from it; those who have a go, take themselves out of their comfort zone or show that even if a task is tough they will persevere.

Subject area	Student being nominated	Tutor Group	Staff nominating
Computer Science	Alice Booth	11NP	Mr S Mulligan
Computer Science	Shannon Booth	11NP	Mr S Mulligan
Computer Science	Emily Morris	11MLM	Mr S Mulligan
English	Amber Behrens	10A	Mr J Cassidy
English	Daisy Couture	11KG	Miss G Walters
English	Katie Gelsthorpe	8F	Ms A Natley
English	Hilal Gibson	11KG	Miss G Walters
English	Olivia Gronow	11MC	Mr J Cassidy
English	Holly King	11JC	Ms A Natley
English	Sophie Newman	9L	Miss G Walters
French	Navdeep Atwal	11NP	Miss E Shales
French	Ruby Harmston	9F	Miss A Beckitt
French	Lucy Kinnersley	11JC	Miss A Beckitt
French	Natalie McCormick	9L	Miss A Beckitt
German	Bella Aitken	8A	Mr L Rooke
German	Sophie Bates	10A	Mr L Rooke
German	Alice Booth	11NP	Mr L Rooke
German	Rachel Charlton	10A	Mr L Rooke
German	Daisy Couture	11KG	Mr L Rooke
German	Holly Davidson	9A	Mr L Rooke
German	Lily Gregory	10F	Mr L Rooke
German	Charlie Scott	10L	Mr L Rooke
German	Taryn Sealey	11MC	Mr L Rooke
German	Lucy Ward	7W	Mr L Rooke
German	Lauren Whitehead	10W	Mr L Rooke
Head of Year	Bethan Hingley	8F	Miss R Grindey
History	Erin Disdel	11KG	Miss R Grindey
History	Poppy Nelson	11MLM	Miss R Grindey
History	Daisy Price	11MLM	Miss R Grindey
History/Geography	Meredith Rutland	7L	Miss R Grindey
PE	Scarlett Enright	9F	Mrs M McGann
PE	Charlotte Farrar	9F	Mrs M McGann



KESTEVEN AND SLEAFORD



HIGH SCHOOL PTA

FUN BINGO NIGHT



Friday 22nd March 2019

7.00pm to 9.30pm

KSHS School Hall

Prizes of Easter Eggs



**Bar selling soft drinks, sweet
treats and snacks**

Raffle



**Bingo cards will be sold on the
night at £1.00 per book – 5 games
will be played**



**To reserve a seat or a table for 6 or more
please complete the reservation slip sent
out on Weduc or email
bronwyn.fleming@kshs.uk**

