



King's Park Secondary News

Key Dates:

School Christmas Dinner	13/12
Christmas Concert 7pm	13/12
Christmas Jumper Day	15/12
S1 & S2 Christmas Ceilidh (Afternoon Event)	15/12
S3 & S4 Christmas Ceilidh (Afternoon Event)	18/12
S5 & S6 Christmas Ceilidh (Evening Event)	18/12
School Closes 2:30pm	20/12
School Re-opens	04/01

Message from our Head Teacher, Mrs Ayed

Dear All,

Welcome to our pupil-led newsletter, showcasing just a small selection of events and activities our young people have been involved recently. As always, pupils and staff have been very busy and have experienced success in a huge number of areas, which I am sure you will enjoy reading about.

This session we continue to instil our school motto Believe, Achieve throughout the school and we are certainly starting to see the rewards of it. Where young people and staff have a strong belief that they can improve something and work hard on this, they are most certainly achieving it.

Our new Secured Door Entry system is working well and young people are clear on our expectations

of being at class on time to allow learning and teaching to continue without interference. Classes start at 8.50 am every morning, so young people should be ready to get to class at 8.45 am, in preparation for the activities ahead. We look forward to your continued support in ensuring your child is ready to have a positive start to their day.

As always, there are lots of pre-Christmas activities in our School Calendar so we do hope that you and/or your children will come along and join us where you can. Family engagement with the school is important to us, so please let us know if there are specific activities or events that you would like to see at the school or other methods that we can communicate to you with.

Thank you for your sup-

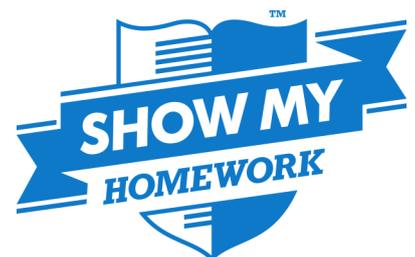
port and best wishes for the festive season.

Kirsty Ayed
Head Teacher.



Show My Homework - A New Approach

Some of you will know that we are launching Show My Homework in January for all pupils at KPSS. This is an online application which enables all parents and pupils to view homework set by the pupils class teachers. Parents and carers will receive a unique pin number to access your child's homework calendar to help encourage and support them to complete homework tasks. We have run a pilot this term with some classes in Science, English and Computing with S4, S5 and S6 and it is going well. Please look out for your welcome letter and pin number from your child and we look forward to working together with all parents and carers as we implement this application.





Christmas Concert - Wednesday 13th December

Whether you hate Christmas songs because they start playing too early, or you love them so much you wish you could listen to them in July, the School Christmas Concert is the perfect way to get into the spirit of the season. Every year the school puts on a fun Christmas Concert which involves students from first year to sixth year. The orchestra, ceilidh band, cast of the school show and more will be performing. There will even be a song the audience can sing along to! There will be Christmas songs and songs from pop-culture.



As part of this year's Christmas concert, The Performing Arts Department are teaming up with the music department and putting on a piece from this year's school show, Little Shop of Horrors, along with a festive sing along to 'All I Want for Christmas Is You'. The school orchestra are also back, and better than ever, with new members to perform 'Fairy-tale of New York', the Harry Potter theme song, and a special Scottish piece: 'Highland Cathedral' featuring Cara Russell playing bagpipes. The programme will also feature pieces performed by the senior class, the ceilidh band, and a dance number performed by the school's dance team.



Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 15th December is Christmas Jumper Day. To raise money for Save the Children, it would be brilliant if we could get as many people involved as possible in wearing their most Christmassy jumper and donating to this great cause!



Culinary Excellence—National 4 are Cooking up a Storm

Ten of Mr Carleton's Hospitality pupils recently participated in Glasgow City Council's Culinary Excellence Skills for Work Programme. Maryam Ilyas, Kirsty Collins, Laiqah Chaudhary, Abbi De Chermont, Tiegan Griffin, Billie Dougherty, Kyle Abraham, Ibraheem Iqbal, Elliot Becket and Brooklyn French worked with The Busby Hotel over a two month period to develop their front of house and cooking skills.

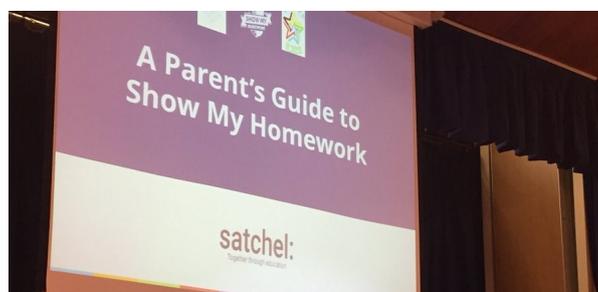


The event culminated on Wednesday 8th of November 2017, with our pupils preparing, cooking and hosting a formal three course lunch for forty invited guests. The guest list included the pupils' parents, councillors, Council education employees, and senior managers and teachers from King's Park Secondary school and its associated primary schools. Elliot Becket and Ibraheem Iqbal were recognised by the Hotel for their talents and were awarded the title of Star Workers.



Parent Study Skills Event

On the 29th November, a Parental Study Skills Information Evening was held at King's Park Secondary School. The event provided a range of practical techniques for parents which could be used to support pupils undertaking National Qualifications. Providing information about available online resources which offer information and support for revision at home; the aim is to provide our young people the best possible support both at school and at home. More information can be found on the school website.



Equality and Diversity Day

King's Park pupils took part in a special event on the 8th December to celebrate the diversity of our community and to promote equality for all. There were stalls from a wide range of charities, youth rights, and local cultural groups. The event educated pupils on how they can become involved in shaping the future of their local and wider communities into a culturally rich and equitable society. [#rightsrespectingschool](#)



Christmas Ceilidhs

Our Christmas Ceilidhs are coming up - there will be individual parties for each year group: S1 and S2 on Friday 15th Dec, and S3 and S4 on Monday 18th. The Senior school have their ceilidh on the evening of Monday 18th December. We will be fundraising through ticket sales, tuck shop and raffles. Pupils can also bring along tinned food as a donation in exchange for a raffle ticket.





Science Centre Visit

On the afternoon of the 8th November 2017 fifty S3 pupils attended a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) event held at Glasgow's Science Centre. During the workshops, one group of pupils took part in a communications activity focused on the fundamentals behind how all computer data is transferred. This knowledge was then transferred to a group activity where they had to create a method of communicating with another group, using only two coloured pieces of card. This simulated the '1' and the '0' from the binary code behind all modern microchip technology. Another group took part in a workshop based around Newton's third law of motion. In teams they were given some very basic materials and had to create an air powered vehicle that culminated in a race to determine the most effective design.

Following the workshops, pupils attended a STEM industry showcase where they had a great opportunity to talk to representatives from industry regarding potential career pathways. Over twenty companies were present at the event, displaying some of their equipment and models that represented some of the scientific and engineering functions of their businesses. All the pupils integrated very well and got involved in discussions with the company representatives on aspects of certain jobs and future qualifications required. Essentially this will all contribute to helping the pupils make informed subject choices at National Level. Overall feedback from the pupils was very positive and the majority felt they gained a deeper insight into their future possibilities. This will contribute to an increase in motivation during their senior years at school.



Pupils debating how they will communicate with another group in silence using only two coloured pieces of card. A colour code was created for each letter of the alphabet based on binary ones and zeros.



Lead pupils from each team now ready to race their Isaac Newton air powered vehicles.





Sports Leadership

The Sports Leaders have been busy this year: they assisted in a South of Glasgow Cross Country Finals event. They have also been completing their rugby coaching sessions with the Rugby Development Officer, and Caitlin Bell is looking at the possibility of running a girls' rugby team (a first for the school).



Pupil Success Stories

Sam Gault and Dillon Fraser both completed their Scottish Football E Licence this year. Sam also assisted in refereeing a tournament run by Glasgow Football Development along with Joshua Leggate-Kenyon.

Both Joshua and Sam now intend to run an S1 and S2 football team starting in January.

The girls' football team has been going from strength to strength—they are consistently performing exceptionally well at the Girls' Football League.



Plans for the New Year...

There is a lot planned, sports wise: we intend to send some pupils to represent the school at the Giant Heptathlon Event. To prepare the pupils, we will be running an athletics club where we will be identifying S1-S3 pupils who could potentially participate in the event.



King's Park Parent Partnership

We held a quiz night recently where we enjoyed the company of parents, staff and friends who came along. We raised over £200 from this, which was added to a previous fundraising amount - so we are delighted to donate the sum of £500 in total to the Performing Arts Department to be used to help with the cost of their summer production, Little Shop of Horrors.

Members of the Parent Partnership were delighted to attend the awards ceremony for the Duke of Edinburgh bronze, silver and gold award winners at the Royal Concert Hall. Having helped to fund the DofE award scheme when it was initially introduced to KPSS, it was good to see that pupils were still keen to take part - long may this continue. Congrats from the Parent Partnership to all the KPSS award winners!



Law Firm Visit

On Friday the 1st of December third year pupils visited CMS law firm in the city, one of King's Park valued business partners. The pupils took part in a career insight day with Notre Dame pupils, where they learned about how to become a lawyer and the skills needed to work in a fast-paced international environment. They visited each department in the company and talked to employees. At the end of the visit the pupils had to pick a moral issue to debate and present, the pupils did a wonderful job. Well done!

Please follow: https://twitter.com/dyw_kingspark





Debating and Public Speaking Success

This year has seen significant successes in Debating and Public Speaking.

- In June, our S1-S4 Debate Mate team reached the final of national competition at the Scottish Parliament - a great achievement.
- Our S3 team of Jamie Bamford and Erin Curtis are through to the second round of the CoPFS shield. This event combines public speaking with debating skills.
- Our senior students, Rebecca Grainger and Sophie Marshall, are through to the next round of the Donald Dewar debating tournament.
- Rebecca Grainger was second in the Glasgow Speakers club final which was held in Glasgow City Chambers.
- Rebecca Grainger; Nicola Smith and Agnes Watupa all made it through to the final of the Rotary Public Speaking competition.



Well done to all.



A Special Thanks...

The newsletter wouldn't have been possible without the help of the following pupils: Lucy Sloan, Sophie Marshall, Emily McCluskey and Ewan Field. Thank you for all of your input and writing the articles.





Reporting Absence

When your child is absent from school, please phone the Absence Reporting Line on: 0141 287 0039.

When they return to school, they should give a note to Mrs O'Rorke, our Education Liaison Officer, or the school office.

If a pupil requires permission to be out of school, the Absence Reporting Line should also be contacted. They will liaise with the school.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Senior Leadership Team:

Depute Headteacher	Ruth Kelly	Arran House
Depute Headteacher	Tom Feasby	Lewis House
Depute Headteacher	Pauline Carr	Mull House
Depute Headteacher	Kevin Kelly	Skye House

Pupil Support Team:

PT Pastoral Care	Yvonne Frater	Arran House
PT Pastoral Care	Joan Lyon	Lewis House
PT Pastoral Care	Anna Gibson	Mull House
PT Pastoral Care	Ian Samson	Skye House
PT Pupil Support	Lorraine Bertolini	All Houses—Targeted Support

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