

King's Park Secondary School



www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

August 2013

Session 2013-14

Dear All

I am delighted to welcome you to our first Newsletter of Session 2013-14 and to welcome your children back to school – I am sure many of you are delighted to have them back here too after the 6 week summer break.

We have had a busy start to the term, as you can imagine. Firstly, I want to take this opportunity to apologise for any confusion that has arisen over the school uniform this session. In our April Newsletter we noted our desire to introduce blazers for all year groups as an expectation. This was warmly received by parents and fully endorsed by our Parent Council. A letter was subsequently issued to parents at the end of June, which stated that blazers were now an expected part of school uniform for all pupils and noted where these could be purchased from. Unfortunately I have learned that a number of parents have not received this letter, thus there have been some concerns raised that parents did not know about this prior to the beginning of term. I am unclear as to how this miscommunication has come about, but can only offer my apologies for it.

As a Senior Leadership Team and as a school, we are working hard to drive up the standards of King's Park Secondary School in terms of attainment, timekeeping, behaviour and this drive for improvement includes uniform. It is important for us that all young people are able to identify with the school and also be identified as being part of King's Park Secondary School, and do not stand out from their peers in terms of not having the most expensive clothes, with designer names. King's Park Secondary School are one of the few schools across Scotland who had not previously insisted upon blazers being worn as part of the school uniform, therefore we are working hard to try to bring us into line with that.

All young people were spoken to about our heightened expectation of uniform prior to the holidays and also during Registration/House Assemblies this week and we would ask that you support us with this in encouraging your children to wear their blazer. Due to the confusion that has arisen, we understand that some parents will not be in a position to supply a blazer by the end of this month, but we would ask you to do so as quickly as possible. If there are issues with this, please contact to your child's Pastoral Care Teacher to discuss.

This session, we welcome a number of new staff: Mr Kevin Kelly (Depute Headteacher with responsibility for Skye House), Mrs Nikki Lyons (Principal Teacher of Maths and Numeracy), five probationer teachers and new staff in Technical, Biology, Maths, English, Computing and Religious and Moral Education. We welcome their ideas and enthusiasm, however, we cannot also forget the depth of experience and support our longer serving members of staff provide us with and are looking forward to the year ahead.

We look forward to working with you over this session and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes
Kirsty Ayed
Kirsty Ayed
Head Teacher

Our Parent Council is a very vibrant group of parents who are keen to support the life and developments of the school. If you would like to join the Parent Council, please come along to our Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 3rd September 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Assembly Hall, King's Park Secondary School. There will be a Taster Session of the Canteen food for Parents of S1 children and a presentation of the Sexual Health and Relationships material used in Person and Social Education. We would be delighted to see you there.

The first Parent Council Meeting will then take place on Tuesday 10th September at 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm. Parent Council Meetings are held approximately once per month.

SQA Exam Results

We have had mixed success with our SQA exam results for session 2012/13. Our S4 pupils improved on last session's results at Foundation and General Level, but our percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more credit awards dipped. We are disappointed by this, but will work hard to ensure these young people are challenged in their S5 classes this session to encourage them to achieve their full potential. Our S5 results for pupils achieving one or three Highers were lower than the previous year, but the number of pupils achieving 5 Highers remained stable. Our S6 results were great and saw a marked improvement on the previous year.

Departments are currently analysing their results and are detailing areas for further improvement. A key focus this session is on raising standards of attainment and we will work hard to ensure your children are on track to perform to their ability and welcome the support you offer us in working in partnership on this.

Dance Troup Success



Our Dance Troup - **Edge** were successful at their competition at the Emirates on Friday 7th June 2013 and have now progressed to the National Schools' Street Dance Championships at the Clyde Auditorium on Friday 23rd August. Congratulations to them and best wishes for the National competition.

Library Borrower Card Art Competition

This was a Glasgow Libraries competition to design a new Library 'Borrower Card'. **Gemma Fleming 3A1** won this against stiff competition. The judges "liked the original artwork and in particular how Gemma had considered all the important elements of Glasgow, including the Commonwealth Games". Gemma prize was an e-reader - well done Gemma!

Music

Many congratulations to Rachel Culpan 2A who has been successful in gaining a National Music Award which will contribute to her musical development. Rachel secured £500 towards Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Fees, a considerable achievement, as only 130 awards were made across the UK. Many thanks to the Music Department for supporting Rachel with this fantastic achievement!

Applications for the 2014 Awards open in October.



Timekeeping

Our school day begins at 8.55 am and pupils **MUST** be in class by this time. Unfortunately within the first week of this session beginning, a number of young people are coming into school late or are being dropped off by parents/carers at 8.55 am or later. We would ask that you ensure you child is in school for at least 8.50 am each day to ensure they are at their class for the correct time. Pupils who arrive late not only miss important pieces of information themselves, but they also disrupt the learning environment for other pupils.



Diary Dates 2013/14

August 2013

Monday 12th – Inservice Day
Tuesday 13th – Inservice Day
Wednesday 14th – Pupils return to school
W/B 19th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Wednesday 28th – S5/6 Assembly
Friday 30th – S1-S6 School Photographs

September 2013

W/B 2nd – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Monday 2nd – S1 Health and Wellbeing Day
Edinburgh University Open Day
Tuesday 3rd – Parent Council AGM
S1 Parents' Canteen Taster Evening
Strathclyde and Glasgow Caledonian Uni Open Days
Wednesday 4th – Glasgow University Open Day
Tuesday 10th – Parent Council Meeting
W/B 16th – S2 STEM group at Loch Eil, Fort William
Wednesday 18th – S5/6 Assembly
Thursday 19th – Higher Education Convention (9-11 am)
Monday 23rd – 1st HPV
Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)
Tuesday 24th – UCAS Information Evening
Thursday 26th – Inservice Day
Friday 27th – HOLIDAY
Monday 30th – HOLIDAY

October 2013

W/B 1st – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Friday 4th – S4 Summary Report Issued
West of Scotland University Open Day (Hamilton Campus)
Tuesday 8th – Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 9th – West of Scotland University Open Day
(Paisley Campus)
Monday 14th – School closed for October break
Monday 21st – Pupils and staff return to school
Friday 25th – S5/6 Summary Report Issued
Tuesday 29th – S4 Parents' Night

November 2013

Friday 1st – EID Party (TBC)
W/B 4th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Tuesday 4th – Parent Council Meeting
Friday 8th – S1 Summary Report Issued
W/B 11th – Work Experience and Enterprise Week
Monday 11th – Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)
Thursday 14th – P6 and P7 Open Evening (7 pm)
Friday 15th – Children in Need (Non-uniform Day)
Wednesday 20th – S4 Assembly
Thursday 21st – 2nd HPV
W/B 25th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Wednesday 27th – S5/6 Parents' Night

December 2013

W/B 2nd – S4 Prelims (no exam leave)
Tuesday 3rd – Parent Council Meeting
Friday 6th – S2 Summary Report Issued
Monday 9th – Christmas Concert Rehearsals
Tuesday 10th – Christmas Concert 7.00 pm
Wednesday 11th – S3 Parents' Night
Thursday 12th – Swimming Gala
Thursday 19th – Senior Ceilidh
Friday 20th – School Closes 2.30 pm

January 2014

Monday 6th – Pupils and Staff return to school
W/B 6th – Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)
House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Wednesday 8th – S5/6 Assembly
Tuesday 7th – Parent Council Meeting
W/B 13th – S5/6 Prelims begin (Study Leave)
Thursday 16th – S1 Parents' Night
Monday 20th – DTP/MenC jags
Thursday 23rd – S2/3 Curriculum for Excellence Choices Evening 7 pm
Friday 24th – S4 Full Report Issued
W/B 27th – S3 Course Choice Interviews begin

February 2014

W/B 3rd – House Assemblies
Tuesday 4th – Parent Council Meeting
Friday 7th – S3 Full Reports Issued
W/E – 7th – S3 Course Choice Interviews end
Monday 10th – Holiday
Tuesday 11th – Holiday
Wednesday 12th – Inservice Day
Thursday 13th – S4/5 Course Choice Information Evening 7 pm
S4 Course Choice Interviews begin
Monday 17th – Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)
Tuesday 18th – S1 Gideons Assembly (TBC)
Friday 21st – S5/6 Full Report Issued
S4 Course Choice Interviews end
W/B Monday 24th – S5 Course Choice Interviews begin

March 2014

W/B 3rd – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Tuesday 4th – Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 5th – S5 Course Choice Interviews End
Friday 14th – S2 Full Report Issued
Monday 24th – S2 Football/Netball
3rd HPV
Tuesday 25th – S3 Football/Netball
Wednesday 26th – S1 Football/Netball
Monday 30th – Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)

April 2014

Tuesday 1st – Parent Council Meeting
Wednesday 2nd – S1-S3 Merit Ceremony (pm)
Thursday 3rd – S2 Parents' Night
Monday 7th – Monday 21st – Spring Break
Tuesday 22nd – Pupils and staff return to school
S4 Assembly
Wednesday 23rd – S5/6 Assembly
Thursday 24th – Senior Award Ceremony 7.30 pm
Friday 25th – S5/6 Graduation Ceremony
Monday 28th – S5/6 on SQA Exam Leave
W/B Monday 28th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)

May 2014

Monday 5th – Holiday
Tuesday 6th – Parent Council Meeting
Friday 9th – S3 Summary Report Issued
Wednesday 21st – S1 Full Report Issued
Thursday 22nd – Inservice Day
Friday 23rd – Holiday
Monday 26th – Holiday
W/B 26th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)

June 2014

Monday 2nd – New Timetable Begins (S2-S6)
Tuesday 3rd – P7 Induction Day
P7 Parents Information Evening 7.00 pm
Wednesday 4th – P7 Induction Day
School Show (TBC)
Thursday 5th – School Show (TBC)
Friday 6th – Sports Day (TBC)
Monday 9th – S5 Induction Day
Tuesday 10th – S6 Induction Day
Thursday 12th – S1-S3 Award Ceremony 7pm
Friday 13th – Sports Day (alternative date)
Tuesday 17th – Buddy Training (TBC)
Thursday 19th – Prom (TBC)
Friday 20th – Summer Team (am)
Wednesday 25th – School closes at 1 pm

Pupils return to school for Session 2014/15 on:

Wednesday 13th August 2014

KING'S PARK SECONDARY SCHOOL DRESS CODE

UNIFORM

- School tie (on sale from the school office - £5)
- Plain white school shirt which buttons up to the neck - short or long sleeve
- Black school trousers or plain black school skirt which **MUST** be knee length.
- *Trousers must be black school trousers. Tight trousers, leggings, shorts, jeans, cargo pants, or fashion trousers of any kind are **not** permitted.*
- *Girls must a knee-length box pleat school skirt. We will not permit short skirts, short tube skirts, stretch skirts or fashion skirts of any kind.*
- Black socks
- Plain black school shoes, or plain black boots suitable for school
- Black v-neck school sweater or black school cardigan or black plain zipper
- OUTDOOR WEAR A hooded sweatshirt for outdoor wear will be permitted, ONLY if it is plain black with a full-length zip, so that the tie can be seen at all times. Like all outdoor garments, it must be removed in class. Pupils should not wear brightly coloured sweatshirts/hooded sweatshirts in school.

BLAZER-STYLE JACKETS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

- All pupils MUST wear a black blazer-style jacket with the school badge/pin.
- S5 and S6 pupils MUST wear a black blazer with the school badge/pin (and cord trim if possible).
- A high standard of uniform will be expected from all pupils of King's Park Secondary

HATS AND CAPS

- Pupils may wish to wear these in winter on the way to school, but they must be removed when in the school building.

MAKE-UP/ JEWELLERY/HAIR/ACCESSORIES

- Light make-up only is permitted
- Jewellery should be kept to an absolute minimum.
- For girls who wish to wear a headband, a small plain black or white one will be permitted.
- The uniform should not be accessorised with gold/silver belts, chains, studs, etc.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING

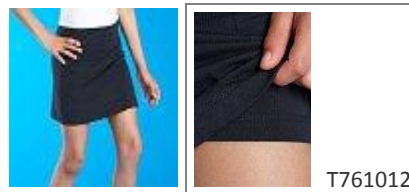
- It is essential that all outdoor clothing is removed, immediately on entering the classroom.

PE KIT

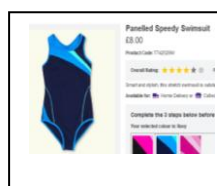
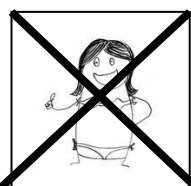
- INDOORS – training shoes, navy t-shirt or polo shirt and shorts (or black shorts and black or white t-shirt or polo shirt)
- OUTDOORS – suitable clothing for cold and possibly wet weather, including track suit bottoms. However tracksuits are only permissible from October until March. Indoor kit must also be brought.
- SWIMMING – suitable swimwear. For example girls should wear a one-piece swimsuit or modest two-piece swimsuit, not a bikini.
- Pupils must bring PE kit for every single lesson. Even if they are injured and unable to take part fully in the lesson, they may be able to participate in a modified activity, and will be able to assist the teacher, eg with timekeeping. It is essential that they are dressed in PE kit.

Navy, White or Black T-Shirt or Polo Shirt

Navy or Black Shorts or a Skort



T761012



SKORT – OPTION for PE ONLY
Cross between cycling shorts and a skirt

Some families may be eligible for a Clothing Grant and/or free school meals. Applications are available from the school office and online from Glasgow City Council.