

# King's Park Secondary School Information for Families and Friends



[www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk](http://www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk)

December 2009

**Check out our website (News pages or Gallery pages)  
for stories and lots of photos about the following:**



**Solar Panels installed!**



**Pupils perform in  
George Square**



As we approach the Christmas holiday, may we wish everyone Season's Greetings and a happy and healthy 2010.

*M Barr*

Mrs Margaret Barr  
Head Teacher  
on behalf of the staff



**Children in Need Day**



**Open Evening**

## Last Day of Term

The last day of term will be Tuesday 22 December – a non-uniform day for ONE DAY ONLY, with donations to charity.

We will hold assemblies for pupils led by our school chaplain Rev Neil Galbraith. As usual, if you do not wish your child to participate in this assembly, please contact the school and we will make alternative arrangements.

**Parents of S1 pupils please see  
BACK PAGE of this newsletter –  
different from Primary School**



**Cross Out Child Poverty  
Question Time Event  
in King's Park Secondary**



**King's Park pupils invited  
to prestigious Human  
Rights and Climate Change  
conference**

8.55 am – School starts  
12 noon – Pupils wishing to have lunch in the Fuel Zone may do so at 12 o'clock. Other pupils remain in class.  
1.15 pm – Extended lunch break for all pupils until 2.30 pm.  
2.30 pm – School closes.



**Visit to the Hindu Mandir**



**Parent Fundraising Group  
seeking prizes for raffle at  
Christmas Concert – please  
leave at school office**

Most pupils leave school at 1.15pm, but they are welcome to remain in school during the lunch break until 2.30 pm, when school closes.

**School reopens on Tuesday 5 January 2010.  
We expect all pupils to arrive very smartly  
dressed in full school uniform, ready to start  
the new term.**

## Important Examinations for S4, S5 and S6

S4 Prelim examinations begin on Wednesday 6 January. S5/6 Prelim examinations begin on Monday 25 January. These examinations are vitally important. The school provides significant additional support for pupils in the form of 'Open Doors' sessions and Supported Study.

All pupils in S4-6 have been given this information, and you can find another copy on the school website. Click on the Supported Study link on the front page – [www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk](http://www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk).

A screenshot of a website showing the S4 examination timetable. It features a grid with columns for dates and subjects, and rows for different classes. The text is small but clearly shows a structured schedule.

A screenshot of a website showing the S5 examination timetable. Similar to the S4 page, it has a grid layout with dates and subjects, providing a clear overview of the exam schedule for the fifth year.

A screenshot of a website showing the S6 examination timetable. This page also displays a grid of dates and subjects, detailing the exam schedule for the sixth year.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Carol Nicoll and Candice Towler on their success in the Glasgow Schools Under 16 Badminton team, who won the Inter Area tournament in November. First time Glasgow has won. Well done girls!



### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all the pupils in S1, S2 and S3 who have achieved Merits, Bronze Certificates and Silver Certificates. Reward trips are taking place in December.



### CALENDAR (on website)

- Wed 2 Dec .. 3.30-5.30 pm .. S1 Parents' Evening
- Wed 9 Dec .. 7.30 pm .. Christmas Concert
- Fri 11 Dec .. S2 Interim Reports issued
- Mon 14 and Tue 15 Dec – King's Park pupils perform in the Glasgow Schools Christmas Concert in the City Halls
- Wed 16 Dec .. afternoon .. S1 Christmas Ceilidh
- Thu 17 Dec .. Swimming Gala
- Thu 17 Dec .. afternoon .. S2 Christmas Ceilidh
- Thu 17 Dec .. evening .. S3/4 Christmas Ceilidh (if there is sufficient demand)
- Mon 21 Dec .. 7.00 .. S5/6 Christmas Ceilidh
- Tue 22 Dec .. School closes for Christmas holiday.
- Tue 5 Jan .. School reopens to pupils and staff.

**We expect all pupils to arrive very smartly dressed in full school uniform, ready to start the new term.**

Wed 6 Jan .. S4 Prelim examinations begin

## WANTED

### Parents Wanted!

**If you can help with the events below, please email Mr Capaldi [scapaldi@kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:scapaldi@kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk) or phone 0141-582 0150**

- Thu 17 Dec - Swimming Gala at Castlemilk Pool
- Mon 29 Mar - S1 Football Competition at Goals, Shawlands and S1 Netball Competition in school
- Tue 30 Mar - S3 Football Competition at Goals, Shawlands and S3 Netball Competition in school
- Thu 1 Apr - S2 Football Competition at Goals, Shawlands and S2 Netball Competition in school

If you are interested in offering your time or ideas to support our extra-curricular sports activities, please contact Mr Capaldi.

**PARENTS WILL REQUIRE AN 'ENHANCED DISCLOSRE' CHECK FROM DISCLOSURE SCOTLAND.**

**HOWEVER, THE SCHOOL CAN MAKE ARRANGEMENT FOR THIS, AND PARENTS WILL NOT BE ASKED TO PAY THE FEE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO APPLY FOR AN ENHANCED DISCLOSURE SO THAT YOU CAN WORK VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST, PLEASE CONTACT MRS BARR.**

# future fitness

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Sport and fitness for today's youth September

## No organised sport for one in four kids

By Louise Cordell

ONE in four children are not taking part in any organised sport according to new research.

A poll by research agency Mori has revealed that despite government targets to get young people exercising, 23 per cent of five to 19 year olds are not doing any organised activities.

The results showed that the problem is also getting worse as children get older, with figures showing one in five of ten to 16 year olds opting out rising to three in five 16 to 18 year olds.

The activities the young people were questioned on included sport, dance or any other physical pastimes which were organised and led by an instructor, teacher or sports leader, including any events or competitions.

They were asked how many times they had attended school or college during the previous week and how much time they had spent participating in organised activities in that time – both during the school day and outside school.

Schools Minister Iain Wright has claimed that these results do not mean that the PE and School Sport Strategy is not working and blamed other factors for the findings.

He said: "Ipsos Mori questioned chil-

dren aged five and upwards about the specific previous week, where there could have been one off changes to the timetable due to bad weather or due to the pupils being absent or on school holidays.

"Our focus is now on the more challenging ambition of getting young people to take up five hours' PE and sport a week. So we are putting more professional coaches in schools, upgrading school sport facilities and providing more attractive sporting opportunities in the community to encourage pupils to take up sport beyond the school timetable."

The study found that boys were significantly more likely than girls to have participated in three or more forms of activity, with 26 per cent of them getting involved, compared to 16 per cent of girls. Girls were also more likely to be completely inactive than boys, with 52 per cent taking part in no organised activities at all.

Iain added: "This survey's findings give us a good idea of what remains to be done to get more children and young people taking up the five hour offer. We are putting £31m extra investment specifically into stimulating competitive sport at all levels of school and youth sport."



Fitness expert Joanna Hall has called for an overhaul of exercise in schools. She told Future Fitness school sport has a vital role to play in the fight against childhood obesity and claims parents also need to take a more active role. She said: "We need to help children learn to love to move and one of my concerns is that so many kids are now being driven to school when they could walk." Joanna, a celebrity personal trainer who used to be resident fitness expert on ITV's This Morning, added: "I think what Jamie Oliver has done in terms of turning around school dinners has been an amazing thing and I would like to see similar excitement around movement and exercise."

In Scottish schools, our aim is to ensure that all young people participate in at least two hours of physical activity each week.

Please see the next page for an appeal from Mr Capaldi, acting Principal Teacher of Physical Education.

## **AN APPEAL FROM MR S CAPALDI:**

King's Park Secondary has had a long tradition of extra curricular activity and sport. We have also had many excellent achievements both in team and individual activities. The council recognised several years ago that computers, games consoles, iPods, mobile phones, and satellite television would lead to a reduction in social skills and activity levels. The action taken was to employ sports coordinators in the primary and secondary schools. Over the last seven years, time and funding for coordinating sport has been reduced. This year secondary schools were given no time for teachers to coordinate sport.

Also over the last few years King's Park staff have been working hard to improve pupil achievement and pupils learning experiences. Some staff members who would normally have given up their time to take a club are now involved with projects and other responsibilities which have become a higher priority. This reduction in available staff and time led Mr Capaldi to introducing S6 pupils as facilitators and coordinators of extra curricular activity. This year the Sports Captains are promoting activities every day at registration, and senior pupils have many opportunities to attend coaching courses. Qualified coaches, parents, and staff have also been taking clubs at lunch time and after school.

Having found alternative solutions to these changes, King's Park Secondary expected to continue with its history of participation and success. Unfortunately we cannot encourage pupils to attend. We have tried tannoy announcements, meetings, and posters. I have also had Sports Captains promote clubs and events at registration every day. However at the end of the day pupils go home. Several clubs have been cancelled as a result.

The new year gives us the chance to build on the limited success achieved so far. We do have a football team for boys in S1, S3, S4, & S5/6, and we have a senior boys basketball club, a badminton club, and a netball club still running. Our most popular club is lunchtime fitness, and some pupils enjoy lunchtime dance with senior pupil Kelsey Malone.

King's Park Secondary would like to appeal to anyone who could offer some new ideas, and more importantly time in supporting our efforts to increase participation in extra curricular activity.

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## **Parents of S1 pupils please note – different from Primary School Tuesday 22 December 2009**

The arrangements for the last day of term are:

8.55 am – School starts

12 noon – Pupils wishing to have lunch in the Fuel Zone may do so at 12 o'clock. Other pupils remain in class.

1.15 pm – Extended lunch break for all pupils until 2.30 pm. Pupils may leave school at 1.15 pm.

2.30 pm – School closes.

Some years ago, parents expressed concern that, on the last day of term, pupils might go home for lunch, then have to return to school for only an hour. They felt it would be safer if the morning were to be extended instead. We responded to their requests with the above arrangement.

So, the lunch break will be from 1.15 pm until 2.30 pm, when school will close. As well as giving you this information in the newsletter, we will explain the arrangements to pupils. They are very welcome to remain in school until 2.30 pm, because school does not close until then. Please let your child know whether they may leave school during the lunch break, or if you want them to remain in school until 2.30 pm.

Any pupil who wishes to have a school lunch will be released from class at 12 noon to have lunch, then will return to their class.