

King's Park Secondary School



www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

October 2013

Session 2013-14

Dear All

Welcome to our second newsletter of this session.

Parents and pupils who have supported the school for a number of years will be delighted to see the pictures below of the space that has been created with the removal of the unsightly janitors' houses. Thank you to all the parents and pupils who campaigned to have these houses removed. The demolition took place at the beginning of the summer holidays and we are now thinking about how we could best use this space.



We have had some new additions to our staffing team since the start of the session – Ms L Bertolini has joined us as Principal Teacher of Pupil Support, Miss J Tipping has secured a permanent teaching position in History and our Principal Teacher of Science position is being filled by Mr D Braid, who will join us in November. We are really pleased to welcome these staff to the school and look forward to working with them.

All staff in the school continue to work hard developing Curriculum for Excellence courses and to prepare our young people to achieve their best. Staff have also offered a number of extra-curricular clubs this session – for example jewellery making, badminton, yoga etc. All children were given a yellow leaflet detailing the clubs that are on offer and we would ask you to support your children and encourage them to attend these.

Thank you for your continued support – particularly with our young people wearing full school uniform this term. We have received a number of positive comments from the local community with regards to this and we agree that our pupils look fantastic.

Best wishes
Kirsty Ayed
Kirsty Ayed
Head Teacher

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Children in Need – Friday 15th November

As usual, our Senior Pupils and Miss Dougan are working hard to make this a memorable day and to ensure we raise lots of money for this great cause. Keep your eyes posted for further information on the plasma screens and from registration class notices.

Chaplaincy Team Assemblies

Tuesday 26th November – Friday 29th November

We have established a Chaplaincy Team this session with Chaplains from our local churches. We are very excited by this development and would like to thank the Chaplains for their support – not only for pupils, but also for staff. The Chaplaincy Team supported staff at our September inservice day by providing them with tea/coffee and cakes. As you can imagine, this was well received by all staff! The Chaplaincy team will also provide a Christmas Service for pupils and staff on Friday 13th December.

S4 Prelims – Monday 2nd December until Friday 6th December

Pupils in S4 will shortly be receiving their prelim timetable. It is important that they begin their studying as soon as possible, if they have not already started, to ensure that they gain the success they deserve in these examinations.

Christmas Concert – Tuesday 10th December at 7 pm

It is almost that time of year again and rehearsals are well under way for our school Christmas Concert. The staff and pupils of the Music Department would like to invite you to attend our concert this year. Come and see the wonderful talent we have at our school and soak up some festive spirit! Tickets will be available from the Music Department.

Pupil Leadership

School Captains and Vice- Captains

Here are our School Captains and Vice-Captains who were selected for their prestigious leadership positions following competitive interview. The standard of young people in contention this year was exceptionally high and we are delighted to have such an outstanding group of pupils.



Toni Devine (Vice-Captain), Heather McDonald (Vice-Captain), Andrew McLeish (Captain) and Billy McCafferty (Captain)

Our School Captains and Vice Captains will represent the school at a variety of events and will also lead their group of peers. They have set up a Prefect Duty Rota to help supervise around the school at intervals and lunchtimes and we value their support and input very much. We are also looking to develop leadership the role of our Junior Prefects.

Youth Parliament

This session our Social Subjects Faculty have set up a Youth Parliament to ensure that our young people have a voice within the school. The exciting initiative is being led by Miss Giles from Modern Studies. All pupils had the opportunity to put themselves forward to be part of the Youth Parliament and also had the opportunity to vote for their chosen party. The following lists detail the members for each year group:

S1 Members: Caitlin Fullwood, Sophie Marshall, Susan Jamieson, Jasmine Bryson

S2 Members: Chloe Mayer, Billy Morrison, Callum Whyte, Jai Madden

S3 Members: Calista Patrick, Nathan Kidd, Abi Roberston, Euan O'Neill

S4 Members: John McGeary, Lauren Hughes, Sarah Clark, Anna Stewart

S5 Members: Leann Dale, Hayley McArdle, Michaela McIntosh, Victoria Jamieson

S6 Members: Alliah Shafique, Zenaib Mahmood, Daniel Haggerty, Olivia Newall

Members of the Youth Parliament will meet with Miss Giles on a fortnightly basis and will discuss areas for improvement within the school. We look forward to working with these young people over the session.



Sports Captains

The role of the Sports Captain has been extended from S5/6 pupils to allow pupils in S3 and S4 to become Junior Sports Captains. The department interviewed over 75 pupils for only 16 places! They were very impressed by the calibre of the pupils applying and to hear about some of the pupils' experiences. Below is a list of our Junior and Senior Sports Captains for this session. If your son or daughter was not successful in becoming a Sports Captain this session then there are still plenty of opportunities for them to develop their sports leadership – for example coaching certificates in Sports Leadership, Tennis level 1 and Football level 1. Please look out for these opportunities on the department notice board or speak to the PE department.

Junior Sports Captains

Scott Murray, Lucy Wood, Mark Law, Laura Samson, Jack Goldsmith, Jennifer Main, Jonathon Grieg and Abi Robertson

Senior Sports Captains

Ross Adamson, Stephanie Lambeth, Calum McClaren, Louise Malone, Declan Shields, Amy Burrows, Reece Callaghan and Nicole McMaster

Curriculum for Excellence developments

Following the questionnaires that pupils, parents and staff completed at the end of last session, we have drawn up proposed curriculum changes in line with the recommendations from the Scottish Government. Teachers are currently commenting on these, but we are keen to discuss them with some Parent Focus Groups. If you would be interested in being part of a Parent Focus Group, please email Mrs Ayed at the address noted below:

headteacher@kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

Once the Focus Groups have met, the school will hold an Information Evening to inform all parents of the plans. It is important that parents attend these events so that the school gets to hear the parental voice before plans are finalised.

Scottish Government information for parents on Curriculum for Excellence Developments can be found at the following website:

www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Parentzone/cfe/index.asp

Former Captain – Claire Hunter

Claire has become the latest recipient of the Tom Harris MP Citizenship Award.

Claire Hunter was nominated by teachers after she helped raise hundreds of pounds to help build the "Glasgow Cares Community Centre" orphanage in Manila by running a car boot sale.

Miss Dougan, Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care paid tribute to Claire for her efforts: "She really took charge of the fund-raising for the orphanage. She's incredibly hard-working and responsible."

Tom Harris was "very impressed to learn of Claire's efforts on behalf of children living in the Philippines. She's an articulate and conscientious young woman and a worthy recipient of this award."

The Citizenship Award is sponsored by Tom at various secondary schools in his Glasgow South constituency and is awarded annually to a senior pupil whom teachers consider has contributed most to the principle of active citizenship.

S4 – S6 Tracking Pupil Performance

We have introduced a rigorous system within the school to track the performance of all of our S4-S6 to ensure they achieve the success that they are capable of in the forthcoming SQA examinations in May 2014. Where pupils are not achieving their potential, parents will be informed and pupils and parents may be invited into the school to discuss support plans and targets that would be suitable for individual children.

To support this system, we are also introducing a Mentoring scheme to help support young people with study skills, organising their time and target setting. S4 pupils who have been identified as suitable for this Mentoring support have already received a parental letter and are in the process of identifying their mentors. The Mentoring support will commence this month for S4 and will run until the S4 prelims in December. Pupils in S5/6, whom the school think would benefit from such support, will be identified and will commence their programme in December, in preparation for their prelim examinations in January 2014.

Noisy Nights

Nine Music pupils were given an amazing opportunity to work with professional musicians this term. The young people, currently studying Higher and Advanced Higher Music, worked with Red Note Ensemble's John Harris to compose music based on Creatures and Fairy-tales. The project was carried out during their music lessons and culminated with an informal concert where they showcased their compositions to their fellow pupils and families. Two of the composers were interviewed on the Culture Studio on BBC Radio Scotland and their pieces were performed live on air!

John Harris felt that the pupils *'really deserve congratulations for all of the hard work, dedication and inspiration they've put in - it's been brilliant working with their enthusiasm for it, too.'*

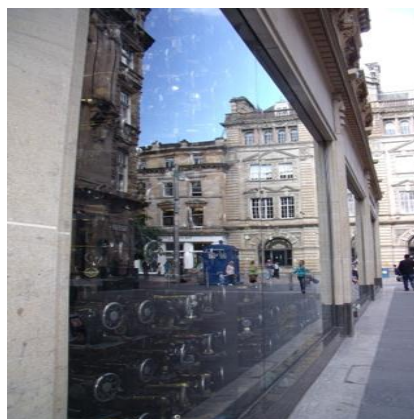
'I was just so impressed by their pieces. A fantastic project and I'm delighted that your school was part of it.'
Wendy Niblock, Project Facilitator

Glasgow City Heritage Trust Photography Exhibition and Competition

Fifteen S3 pupils took part in a photography competition looking at historical shop fronts in Glasgow towards the end of last session. This competition, organised jointly between King's Park Secondary School (Mr D. Miller PT Art and Design) and Glasgow City Heritage Trust (Helen Kendrick), involved pupils taking photographs in Glasgow City Centre (aided with the support of Mrs Hutcheson our support assistant).

On return to the school the pupils worked in the ICT suite to download and develop the photography and after printing out their work, Mrs Ayed, along with Helen Kendrick, announced the prize winners for King's Park Secondary with the winner (Rafia Baqai) and runners up (Robyn Haig and Molly Beck) receiving an Amazon Gift Voucher. Our 3 prize winners were then selected to compete against other Glasgow Schools in a city wide photography competition with the work on display at Glasgow City Heritage Trust, 54 Bell Street.

At the beginning of September, Rafia (now in S4) was selected as the overall prize winner and we agreed with the final panel decision that her photograph is something very special.



Congratulations to all of our pupils who took part. Their hard work, enthusiasm and good manners were a credit to themselves, their families and King's Park Secondary School.

PARENT COUNCIL

We are thrilled that our Parent Council membership has grown this session and we have a number of new parents joining us. There is however, always room for some more! If you would like to join us, please come along to our next Parent Council meeting on Tuesday 12th November 2013 at 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm.

Our Parent Council are also working on a Parent Council Newsletter, which will go out to all pupils and parents before Christmas.

Glasgow Secondary Schools Track Cycling Programme

King's Park Secondary are delighted to be taking part in the Glasgow Secondary Schools' Track Cycling Programme being offered at the new Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome. Fifteen pupils from King's Park Secondary will have the opportunity to ride on the track which will be used for the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Pupils will be taken to the Velodrome by Miss Taylor, who is a fully accredited track cyclist, for four sessions on Friday afternoons during November and December. This opportunity is at no cost to pupils and may open up the possibility for pupils to participate in the Youth Development and progress to the Glasgow Schools Championships in Spring 2014. Good luck to all the pupils involved (and to Miss Taylor!).

Are you employed in a Job for the Future? Do you work in Hospitality, Renewables, Life Sciences, Creative Industries, Food and Drink or Engineering? We are hoping to organise Employability events for our pupils and would value your input at these events. Interested?

Please contact Miss Marshall on lmarshall@kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

Yoga – Stretch, De-stress & Relax

In the true spirit of Health & Wellbeing, Miss Taylor is offering Yoga sessions to pupils in S4-S6 initially during October on a Wednesday afternoon from 3.30 – 4.30. Miss Taylor is currently undertaking a Yoga Foundation Training course with Yoga Scotland and is a graduate of The Patanjali Yog Peeth Trust teacher training course. These sessions are being offered to aid exam stresses and for strengthening the body & mind, readying young people for the challenges ahead. We hope that interest in these sessions will mean a possibility of offering it to a wide range of pupils in future. Funding for Yoga mats was, very kindly, donated by the Parent Council and is very much appreciated.

Home Economics Department

Our S3 Personal Development class organised and hosted a Coffee Morning which raised over £100 for Yorkhill Children's Foundation. The pupils contacted local businesses for contributions to the raffle and staff were treated to some delicious home baking. Well done Mrs Pryde and S3PD!



S4 Skills for Work Hospitality (Mrs Pryde)

The class are practising their business skills by running a lunchtime take away service. Staff are able to order freshly made filled baguettes, wraps and sandwiches which are then delivered to them in time for lunch. The pupils carried out market research and costed out their products. Customer feedback forms will be issued each week to monitor standards.



S3 Skills for Work Hospitality (Miss Taylor)

This class are currently enjoying Wednesday afternoons at Langside College working in the Professional Kitchen. The pupils have been provided with full Chef Whites and are working with Chef/Lecturer Morag Wilson to improve their food preparation skills. These pupils will be working towards preparing a restaurant standard Festive meal in December.

World Challenge - Uganda 2015

After a very long day of interviews, Team Uganda has been selected! There are eighteen S3/S4 pupils who will travel to Uganda in June 2015 on life changing World Challenge trip.

The standard of interview was very high and we would like to congratulate the following pupils:

Lucy Wood ; Lauren McCulloch; Marc Ferreira Templeton; Taylor Paterson; Kyle McLuckie; Chloe Sheddon; Anna Stewart; Robyn Haig; Jennifer Main; Abigail Thomson; Gillian Cook; Holly Garrick; Laura Samson; Mariyah Anwar; Joe Woods; Eilidh Wilson; Daniel Gardener and Kate McMillan.

Miss Horning and Mrs Burke would like to thank all pupils who applied for a place and for taking part in the interview process.

Now let the fundraising begin!!



Diary Dates 2013/14

November 2013

Friday 1st – S1 Halloween Party (pm)
W/B 4th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)
Friday 8th – S1 Summary Report Issued
S5/6 Halloween Ball 7.00 – 9.00 pm
W/B 11th – Work Experience and Enterprise Week
Monday 11th – Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)
Tuesday 12th – Parent Council Meeting
Thursday 14th – P6 and P7 Open Evening (7 pm)
Friday 15th – Children in Need (Non-uniform Day)
EID Party 7.00-9.00 pm
Wednesday 20th – S4 Assembly
Thursday 21st – 2nd HPV
W/B 25th – Chaplaincy Team 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
Friday 13th – Christmas Service
Thursday 19th – Senior Ceilidh 7.00 – 9.00 pm
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

A reminder to pupils and parents that the school day starts at 8.55 am. Pupils arriving at school after this time are late and are missing out on important opportunities to learn. Please arrive at school in time for starting at 8.55 am.