

King's Park Secondary School



www.kingspark-sec.glasgow.sch.uk

January 2014

Session 2013-14

Dear All

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2014. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very healthy and happy 2014.

It has been yet another productive start to the session - our S4/5/6 pupils have completed their prelims and are about to undertake their course choice planning for next session. Our S2 pupils are also discussing their Personalisation and Choice preferences for next session during their Personal and Social Education lessons.

In terms of our staffing, Mrs Liz Aitken, Principal Teacher of Pastoral Care (Mull House) is retiring after a number of years at King's Park Secondary School. Mrs Aitken has been a great support to a number of children throughout her career and she will be missed by her colleagues and pupils alike. We wish Mrs Aitken a very long, healthy and happy retirement.

We have held a number of Focus Groups and two Information Evenings regarding our proposed Curriculum changes in light of Curriculum for Excellence. We are in the process of analysing your responses and will inform you of our finalised structure following all of our consultations. I would like to personally thank those of you who came along to either the Focus Groups or Information Evenings (or both!). We really value your opinion as we strive to ensure that we deliver the best quality education to our young people. Scottish Government information for parents on Curriculum for Excellence Developments can be found at: www.education.scot.nhs.uk/Parentzone/cfe/index.asp

Our Scottish weather never fails to disappoint us, but we would continue to ask that you support us with your children wearing full school uniform. Our school uniform is a white shirt, school tie, black jumper/cardigan/hoodie, black blazer, school trousers or skirt. This is beautifully demonstrated in the picture below by our Captains and Vice Captains.

Best wishes, Kirsty Ayeed (Head Teacher)



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

S4/5 Course Planning Evening – Thursday 13th February 2014 at 7 pm

This Information Evening is for Parents of S4 and S5 pupils to talk through the Course Planning Process for this session. This evening would also be open to parents of S3 pupils if our Curriculum structure changes following consultations.

w/b 4th March 2014

Chaplaincy Team Assemblies

We are delighted that our Chaplaincy Team Assemblies have been so well received by both pupils and staff this session. Our Chaplaincy Team consists of:

Rev Neil Galbraith – Cathcart Old Church
Rev Mike Gargrave – Clincarthill Church
Rev Sandra Boyd – King's Park Church
Rev Rob Silver - Croftfoot Church
Rev Ann Deacon – Croftfoot United Free Church

Higher Musical Recital Evening – Wednesday 26th March 2014 – 7.30 pm

The Music Department would like to invite you to this evening. It is an informal event involving soloists performing pieces from a wide range of genres to a very high standard. We are extremely proud of our pupils' talents. This evening is free of charge. Please let the Music Department know if you would like to come along.

Extra Curricular Clubs

The school has noticed a decline in attendances at some clubs and we are looking for a big push from everyone to encourage pupils to participate. Clubs will only run if we have minimum numbers to do so and we don't want to cancel clubs due to lack of uptake. Please see the timetable of clubs on offer at the end of this newsletter.

School Christmas Card Competition

Pupils were given the opportunity to design a school Christmas card and our winner – Stephanie Eregbu (S1) is pictured below with Mrs Thomson (Depute Headteacher) and Mrs Ayed. Stephanie receiving a £20 cinema voucher as the winner – well done Stephanie and thank you. This is the start of a new tradition at King's Park Secondary and next year we hope to be organised in enough time to allow us to sell these to parents, pupils and staff.



Junior and Senior Christmas Dances

Our Senior Pupils and PE staff organised a very successful afternoon dance for S1 and S2 pupils. All pupils involved really enjoyed the occasion. A massive thank you must go to the PE staff who called the dances for this event – I think they enjoyed it as much as the pupils did!

The same evening, our Senior Pupils organised a ceilidh dance with the help of Ms Dougan. Again, this event was a huge success and pupils really threw themselves into all the dances. A number of staff came along that evening to support the children – thank you to those who attended and a special thank you to Mr Brett who demonstrated the dances.

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges are lively, intriguing multiple choice question papers, which are designed to stimulate interest in maths. Our winners were as follows: Bronze – Megan Fenwick, Lauren Hope, Scott Stalker and Andrea Pritchard.

Silver – Billy McCafferty (Best in School), Euan Gavigan (Best in S5) and Helena Glass. The UK Intermediate Maths Challenge is due to take place on 6th February 2014 – good luck to all participants.

HOMEWORK POLICY

We are looking to revise our homework policy across all year groups as part of our drive for improvement. We would like to know your opinions on homework and are asking you to complete a questionnaire on this. Pupils will be issued with a questionnaire through their registration class, or alternatively, you can print off a copy from our school website. Questionnaires should be returned to the school by **Wednesday 5th February**. Pupils and staff are also being asked their views on homework.



TIMEKEEPING

The Senior Leadership Team are taking an active role in encouraging good timekeeping and can be found at the school gates each morning. Our School **begins promptly at 8.55 am**, however there are a number of pupils who arrive after this time – either on foot or being dropped off. Please try to ensure your children leave in plenty of time to arrive at school for **starting at 8.55 am**.

PARENT PARTNERSHIP

Our Parent Council have been re-branded and will now be known as the Parent Partnership! They are keen to be in contact with parents and have issued both a newsletter and a flier recently. You will receive further newsletters from them in due course and will recognise their communications to you by their bright green paper!! Our next Parent Council Meeting is on Tuesday 4th February 2014 from 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm.



Food Technology

Our Home Economics department has been re-branded too and is now known as the Food Technology Department.

The S3 Skills for Work Hospitality class planned, prepared and hosted a 4-course Christmas Lunch in December. Their course comprises of Front of House training and Kitchen Skills training. This course is jointly presented by King's Park Secondary School and Glasgow Clyde College. Parents, friends and some staff were invited along to this event at Langside Campus.

"I was quite nervous to begin with, but the whole day was very exciting and went in really quickly. Working on this event has really boosted my confidence".

Owen Dobinson 3A2

"It was a great day. We all felt under pressure, but the meal was a fantastic success. I enjoyed the whole experience".

Gillian Reilly 3L

Velodrome Sessions

King's Park Pupils recently had the opportunity to try out our new Commonwealth Games Track Cycling Venue, at the "Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome". Track cycling sessions, which were offered in conjunction with Glasgow Life, meant pupils took part in four, two hour, coached sessions which taught them how to safely and competently ride track bikes. This may not seem like a challenge, but when you realise they have a fixed wheel with no brakes and no gears, you realise it's not for the fainthearted. The pupils excelled themselves and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They now have the knowledge, skills and opportunity to take this further, should they wish, by taking part in the Track Cycling Accreditation at the Velodrome. Well done to those pupils who took part and to Miss Taylor who organised it all.



Diary Dates 2013/14

February 2014

W/B 3rd – House Assemblies
Tuesday 4th – Parent Partnership 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
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 Partnership Meeting
Wednesday 5th – 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
Higher Music Recital Evening 7.30 pm
Monday 30th – Social Subjects Rota Change (S1 and S2)

April 2014

Tuesday 1st – Parent Partnership 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 – S4 National 5 and S5/6 on SQA Exam Leave
W/B Monday 28th – House Assemblies (Tuesday-Friday)

May 2014

Monday 5th – Holiday
Tuesday 6th – Parent Partnership 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

Timetable of Extra Curricular Clubs

Monday

Lunchtime – S1/S2 Netball, Table Tennis, Football and Fitness Suite
After school – Fitness Suite

Tuesday

Lunchtime – Table Tennis, Football and Fitness Suite
After school – Badminton and Fitness Suite

Wednesday

Lunchtime – Athletics/Running, Table Tennis, S1-S4 Rugby and Fitness Suite
After school – Fitness Suite and Rugby at Cartha Rugby Club

Thursday

Lunchtime – Table Tennis, Football and Fitness Suite
After school – Fitness Suite

Friday

Lunchtime – Table Tennis, Football and Fitness Suite
After school – Staff v Pupils Volleyball and Fitness Suite

Please come along and take part.