



NEWSLETTER

11th September 2020

www.kshs.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first KSHS newsletter of the academic year and the first since March. An especially warm welcome to the parents of new students particularly those in Year 7 and Year 12. I hope your daughters and sons have settled in as well as possible in these unusual times.

If there was any doubt that young people are more resilient and adaptable than many give them credit for, the past 10 days has shown us that our students are quick to adapt and make the most of being back in the classroom and with their friends. It's been a pleasure to see faces, new and familiar, and to celebrate the start of this academic year.

Over coming editions I hope to share with you some of the adaptations we have made, not only to the site, but also to our ways of learning, in order to keep students, staff and the few visitors we have on site as safe as possible. Pictured below are some of our Covid secure site measures. This edition also introduces you to new staff and celebrates some of our students' successes during and despite lockdown.

Mrs J Smith
Head of School

Useful Dates

- | | |
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| 19 Sep | Duke of Edinburgh Year 10: Bronze Practical Training Consolidation Walk |
| 25-27 Sep | Duke of Edinburgh Year 11: Bronze Assessed Expedition |



SCHOOL SITE

A polite reminder to parents that they must only come onto the school site by prior arrangement and with an appointment to see a member of staff. Any parent needing to drop anything off at school must remain outside reception and contact reception via phone please.



NEW STAFF



Mrs L Moncur - Associate Assistant Headteacher and Subject Leader of Business Studies

I am delighted to be joining the KSHS Senior Leadership Team this September as Associate Assistant Headteacher. I have come from KGGS, the girls' grammar school in Grantham, where I was Head of Year 7. Having a passion for Economics and Business, I am looking forward to leading Business at KSHS at GCSE and A Level, having previously led a department at Lincoln Minster School.

Prior to teaching I spent nearly 20 years in industry working as a management consultant and feel that the experience gained helps to bring my subject to life. As a mum of three, life at home can be hectic, but in between the chaos I like to read and try to fit in a run 2 or 3 times a week.



Miss N Willers - English Teacher

Hello everyone! I'm a new English Teacher and Year 7 Form Tutor at KSHS. Having been awarded a 1st Class LLB Law degree at the University of Sheffield and working with Nottinghamshire police for several years, I decided to change pathway and become a teacher. In the same year, I qualified as a Level 3 Sports Coach, specialising in teenage yoga and mindfulness, with the intention of offering to run a yoga class for students in the future. I'm incredibly interested in the pastoral side of school life, and I look forward to playing a part in looking after the well-being of the students at KSHS.



Mrs Z Harris - Senior Science Technician

I am delighted to be joining the Science department at KSHS as their Senior Science Technician. Prior to this I worked in Cellular Pathology at Lincoln County Hospital. I enjoy all aspects of the sciences but my particular focus at university was Biomedical Science, in which I hold an accredited IBMS degree. Having previously taught science at this school, on completion of my PGCE three years ago, I jumped at the opportunity to return and I am looking forward to seeing lots of familiar faces; students and teachers alike!



Mrs C McMeel - English Teacher

Hello and thank you to everyone for welcoming me so warmly to KSHS. I have been teaching English for over 15 years (after a brief post-university dabble in Public Relations) and still love it. Before moving to Lincolnshire four years ago, I worked in a high achieving comprehensive school in Ealing, West London, for over a decade. Whilst there I achieved certified Advanced Skills Teacher status and was Head of Year 12 for the three years prior to my first maternity leave. I still have to pinch myself when I compare my current commute through beautiful countryside with two hours a day on the North Circular Road! I am greatly looking forward to sharing my love of language and passion for Literature with the students at KSHS.

SCHOOL LIBRARY

A reminder that students of any year can access the school Library after school until 5.00pm (4.30pm on Fridays). As well as books and computers a welcoming study area is available to students. Our Learning Resource Manager is on hand to provide support, encouragement and homework advice. We ask you to book a place in advance so we can ensure that our student bubbles are adhered to in this space. Please book a place via enquiries@kshs.uk.

Mrs J Smith
Head of School



The school Library has opened its doors wide once more and is safely welcoming students in year group bubbles during their allocated break times. Books that are returned to the Library are being placed in quarantine before re-distribution and there are hand cleaning stations just outside and within the Library that ensure browsing and borrowing can be done safely.

Large numbers of our students continued to read for pleasure during lockdown and were able to take advantage of the eBook App that all KSHS students have free access to - Year 7 will be introduced to this fantastic resource in the coming weeks during their Library lessons. Access to collections, whether in digital or physical formats has never been more vital. Students may explore the school Library catalogue remotely if they wish to. This may be helpful for those who are limited for time during breaks or were previously accustomed to daily access to the Library. From the school website and following the student link to online learning/ECLIPSE library - the full catalogue of fiction and non-fiction resources can be viewed. Students can see the latest arrivals, most popular titles and learn about featured authors. Individual log in details can be provided (students just need to ask a member of the Library team) and this will allow them to submit book reviews, or check their current loans.

Reading for pleasure during 2020 has become an ever more popular pastime for many. By promoting our wellbeing and providing an escape from the dramas of the global pandemic, books continue to feed our imaginations and nurture a life long love of reading.

I look forward to welcoming all our students back into the Library during the coming weeks.

Mrs C Gibson
Learning Resource Centre Manager

GIRL GUIDES DURING LOCKDOWN

Hannah in Year 9 has been busy working on her Guides badges during lockdown. She attends the group after school on a Thursday. A big thank you to Mrs Dye, the Guide Leader, who has kept the girls engaged and motivated. Hannah has had great fun completing activities.



Courageous Sleaford Children Awarded by Rotary Club Despite the Lockdown

Our very own Alice Booth was one of the recipients of the Rotary Club Children of Courage Awards.

Alice, now in Year 13, found herself in Year 11 having to cope with the loss of her father due to illness. This was a hugely distressing time for Alice, during her critical GCSE year (Year 11). But she showed strength and took barely any time out of school and continued to work hard towards her exams. She achieved one of the best sets of GCSE results in the school, while at the same time supporting her friends and their own challenges. Her fortitude and determination during this time and throughout her Sixth form studies has been admirable.

Mrs D Collett
Assistant Headteacher Pastoral



Alice with her
mum and fellow
student



NKDC COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARDS

I am very proud to have been nominated and chosen as a finalist in the Contribution to Arts and Culture category in the North Kesteven District Council Community Champion Awards for my work as the Director of Music at St Denys' Church in Sleaford. The Awards Ceremony is going to be held online this year on Wednesday 7 October.

Mr L Rooke
Subject Leader German & Head of Year 9



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD NEWS

During lockdown I contacted all Duke of Edinburgh Award registered students to offer support and encouragement to help them complete their awards. As a result of this 15 Bronze students, 3 Silver students and 1 Gold student were able to complete their awards in full.

The Central England Duke of Edinburgh Award office have sent through a Certificate detailing the volunteering hours completed by students at KSHS between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020 - a total of 1,157 volunteering hours was completed. If these hours had been paid for at minimum wage the value would have been £5,032. I am sure you will agree that this is hugely valuable to the local town - well done to all of the students.

Six staff and 26 students from the Trust embarked on the first expedition of the season which was the Gold Expedition to the North Yorkshire Moors from 18 to 21 August. A big thank you to Sleafordian coaches who were extremely helpful. I bought Robert Carre Trust snoods for all of the students to wear as face masks and a special Covid risk assessment was completed along with a parent questionnaire. A group of 7 students were assessed and completed their expedition section during the week.



The Duke of Edinburgh Award team have supported students throughout lockdown and have designed a special Covid Certificate of Achievement for those who have completed their Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections but have not managed to get out to complete their expeditions this year. These are now being issued to the 28 Bronze students, 1 Silver student and 6 Gold students eligible. This will remain in place for all those completing the three sections before the end of December 2020.

I am extremely proud of the students who have diligently continued working towards their awards despite the disappointment of not getting out as planned to complete their expeditions. We have new dates booked through the autumn and I look forward to getting all students out and enabling them to complete their full awards.

Reminder

Applications for this year are still open - Bronze Year 9, Silver Year 10 or Year 11 direct entry, Gold Year 12 and Year 13 continuation of journey or direct entry.

Mrs M Walker
Duke of Edinburgh
Award Co-ordinator



Spotlight on Sport

Well done to all students who continued to carry out their regular physical activity during lockdown. We have heard about lengthy family walks around local areas, garden circuit training, jogging with family members and taking part in daily Joe Wicks workouts.

Congratulations to those students who took part in the Lincolnshire Schools County 'Dancing on Ice-olation' competition. Mollie Sinclair (10W) and Grace Evans (8BM) came 2nd place and 1st place respectively. Thanks to all who took part and represented the school. Well done!

Some students have been able to continue with their sporting achievements with their activities they take part in outside of school:

Georgia Lancaster (11F) – National Cycling

Good luck to Georgia who is taking part in the Schools Youth National time trial this weekend in Portsmouth.

Lily Jones (9F) – British Canoeing

During the lockdown period Lily applied to be a Female Club Champion for British Canoeing and has been accepted onto the programme. British Canoeing will support Lily to become a paddling coach and promote the sport to encourage more female paddlers. This is under #shepaddles funding.

WE ARE BACK!!
(OR A FORWARD)



SLEAFORD GIRLS U12-U18
WEDNESDAYS 7PM-8PM

David Williams Pavillion, Ruskington Road, Sleaford



SLEAFORD RFC

PIC•COLLAGE



KESTEVEN & SLEAFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Jermyn Street, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7RS

Tel: 01529 414044

11-18 Selective Girls' Academy with a Co-educational Sixth Form NOR 727

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT – TWO POSTS

Required as soon as possible

Salary: Grade 7-11 (£21,166 pro rata, actual salary for 32.5 hours per week £15,424)

Post 1: Permanent – Term time only – 32.5 hours per week

Post 2: Temporary (until December 2020) – Term time only – 32.5 hours per week

We are seeking enthusiastic and experienced Learning Support Assistants who will be able to join our friendly, selective school to support students with learning or medical needs.

We are looking to appoint staff with:

- Experience of working with young people
- Excellent communication and team working skills
- A proactive approach to supporting students with specific needs

Closing date: **Friday 18 September 2020 (noon)**

Please return application forms available on our website: www.kshs.uk ('Vacancies' section), along with a letter of up to two sides of A4 outlining your suitability for the role, to Mrs H Gill, PA to the Headteacher (email: helen.gill@kshs.uk).

We reserve the right to interview candidates prior to the closing date.

As part of the Robert Carre Trust we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff to share this commitment and to undergo enhanced DBS checks.

The Robert Carre Trust is an Equal Opportunities Employer.