ews etter Year 7 Term 3

Key Dates / Events:

18th January 3pm-6pm - **Careers Fair.** Everyone welcome.

Join us on X (Twitter) @KingswoodAcad



Message from the Principal: -

Welcome to this the half term's newsletter. Coming off the back of the best exam results, our current year 11 students have been making the most of the afterschool Master Classes in a wide variety of subjects. These sessions really made a difference to our young people's results in the summer and they are now enjoying their next steps in our highly successful Sixth Form and at other local providers. Many of our Sixth Form students are busily preparing their University applications and attending their respective interviews.

As you know, I am leaving Kingswood at Christmas to take on a new challenge. This was a difficult decision for me to make, particularly due to the warm and caring Kingswood community that I have experienced here. Mr Gamble steps up to lead the Academy after 14 successful years as a Senior Leader at Kingswood. This appointment, combined with other recent additions, provides equal measures of stability and dynamism from which to propel the Academy forward from its existing strong position.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support as we pull together in the same direction to ensure the best possible experience and opportunities for the children here at Kingswood Secondary Academy. I wish you all a peaceful Christmas with your loved ones and a Happy New Year.

Gary Carlile

Message from Head of Year 7: -

Dear Year 7 students,

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to share some holiday cheer and good wishes with each and every one of you. This time of year is not only about the twinkling lights, festive decorations, and delicious treats but also about the joy of spending time with loved ones and reflecting on the year that has passed.

May your holidays be filled with laughter, warmth, and the spirit of giving. Take this time to rest, rejuvenate, and create lasting memories with those you hold dear. Embrace the joy of the season and carry it with you into the coming year.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the upcoming year be filled with even more discovery, success, and happiness.

From Mr de Kock & Mrs Browning

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Enrichment Clubs:

Why is Enrichment so important?

Enrichment:

- Helps children develop their interests and talents.
- Enables children to develop their character, confidence and independence.
- Teaches children how to keep physically and mentally healthy.
- Prepares individuals for future success.

Students can also participate in the following:

Student council: Elected form representatives from all year groups discuss issues affecting students and the Academy. This is a working party which helps our Academy progress.

KEM – Kingswood Ethnic Minorities: Volunteers discuss issues that affect and create a more inclusive community. This raises awareness, and students help to plan our cultural celebration days.

LGBTQ+: Formed of students from all year groups. This is an open and safe group where students discuss issues affecting their community. They also raise awareness by organising events and celebration days.

Personal development:

Term 2 at Kingswood has been non-stop for students and staff. With Year groups performing assemblies on the importance of Charity, Protected Characteristics and Coping with Grief, our Year 9 students having a really valuable educational experience in our Multi-Agency Day, our Christmas lunches and charity work - it really has been an extremely busy term!

On the 7th December we hosted an immersive experience for our students which involved the police, the judiciary, Youth Offending team, Youth Service and Aquarius - the drug and alcohol support group - who came in and worked with our students talking them through the process when a young person has been arrested. It was an excellent experience for our youngsters with quite a few looking at careers in the courts and police.

From Monday 11th December we had our traditional whole year group Christmas lunches for all the students and their form tutors. The fantastic lunch provided by our wonderful canteen staff is always a great hit; with Christmas jumpers and carol singing competitions our students really do embrace what it means to be part of the Kingswood community.

Kingswood would not be the beacon of the community without our Barclaycare Christmas project - again we have had the great fortune of our families winning their Christmas gifts and food.

Finally, we have a new charity venture this year run by Mr Feely and the Year 8 team. All the form groups have been collecting shoe boxes to fill with gifts to take to the sick children at the Skylark Ward in Kettering. This wonderful act of charity goes to show how Kingswood really does embrace what it means to contribute to our community.

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Enrichment Clubs:

				THURSDAY	
MONDAY	TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		FRIDAY
Break 2 1:40-2:10	Break 2 1:40-2:10		-	Break 2 1:40-2:10 Business Club SD	Break 2 1:40-2:10
Maths Game Club DB	Film Club Part 1 PC		Drama Club CR & CD		Film Club P2 HH
Maths resource centre	E5	EP1	EP1		E5
Anime & Manga Club	Dance Club KG	Board Games Club	FH	Poetry By Heart	Horrible Histories SE
нн	EP1	(Hope Church)		DC & NM	H4
L2		PA1	PA1		
Science Club LC	IT Club SA	STEM JM & HJ	STEM JM & HJ		
Sc3	IV6	Sc5		MT	
Years 7&8		Years 9&10	Years 9&10		
	Bedrock/Educake	Fashion Club RB	Fashion Club RBR		
	GCSE Pod MW	M2			
	E9				
	Music Club – Garag	e Keyboard Club B	DK		
	band TR	MU2			
	MU1				
	FOOTBALL ASTRO JL/MG Years 7-13				
LIB	LIB	LIB		LIB	LIB
Chess, Anime,	Chess, Anime,	Chess, Anime,		Chess, Anime,	Chess, Anime,
Computer & board	Computer & board	d Computer & boa	rd	Computer &	Computer & board
games	games	games		board games	games
		After school 3:10- 4p	m		
LIB	LIB	LIB		LIB	LIB
Homework club	Homework club	Homework clul	D	Homework club	Homework club
		SPORTS CLUBS TERM	1		
	A (10	- 1	
	AFTER SCHOOL (3:10pm– 4				THURSDAY
	MONDAY	TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Astro / Field	Y7 & 8 Boys' and Girls' Football Club				
	RN/HW				
	Netball Club – All				
Netball Courts / Gym	Years				
	ACO/RO				
Main Hall			Tab	le Tennis Club – All Years	
		Y9, 10 & 11	V7 0	PH/SRD	Y7 & 8 Girls'
Sports Hall		Basketball Club	Y/8	& 8 Dodgeball Club <i>LF</i>	Basketball Club
		РН			SM
			Y7 -	& 8 Girls' Football	Y10 Boys' Football
Fixtures / Revision		Y9 Netball Fixtures		Fixtures ACO/RO/SM	Fixtures SRD
(Coo to o the co)		Y10 Netball Fixtures	GC	SE PE Masterclass	CNAT Sport Science
(See teacher)		ACO/ROM/SM		(T2)	Masterclass
				SM	(T2) <i>PH</i> (T1) <i>ACO/RO</i>



Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Curriculum Clubs:

Curriculum clubs:

Independent learning is an integral part of the learning process at Kingswood Secondary Academy. It builds resilience by allowing you to take ownership of your learning linked to the learning in lessons as well as forming good study habits. These rooms are available for Years 7, 8, and 9 until 4:10pm for independent study:



Monday	LRC (library)	
Tuesday	LRC (library)	
Wednesday	LRC (library) English in E2 with specialist staff	
Thursday	LRC (library) Humanities in H2 and MFL in L2	
	IV1 and IV4 with a vocational teacher	

Sports clubs:

Sports clubs are also timetabled for after school. They are advertised in all form rooms, on Facebook, on our website and in the PE area. Please speak to your PE teacher for more information.



Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Curriculum:

The curriculum and independent learning at Kingswood Secondary Academy

Independent learning (home learning) is an integral part of the learning process at Kingswood Secondary Academy. It builds resilience by allowing our students to take ownership of their learning linked to the learning in lessons as well as forming good study habits. The Academy uses ClassCharts to record all independent learning tasks. All students and parents / carers have an individual log in for ClassCharts. If you need access, please contact your child's form tutor.

There are many different tasks that teachers may set students to complete independently such as completing research, undertaking a project, revising for a topic, completing an assessment, reviewing and / or improving a task and completing some online activities.

Please read the curriculum timetable which highlights the learning expectations for each subject this term. We hope you find this information useful and take time to discuss the subject topics and learning opportunities with your child.

Term 3: Year 7 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
English	'The Tempest' by William Shakespeare	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z37mn39 https://www.rsc.org.uk/shakespeare-learning- zone/the-tempest
Maths	Solving problems with addition and subtraction Percentage Fraction of amount	https://hegartymaths.com/ https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects -by-year/year-7
Science	Group A: 7x1, 7x3, 7y2: Forces and Motion - speed, Gravity and contact forces Group B: 7x2, 7y1, 7y3: Organisms – Cells and movement Group C: 7x4, 7y4: Matter – Particle model and separating mixtures	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4brd2p Forces and Motion Cells and movement Separating mixtures



Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Curriculum continued:

Term 3: Year 7 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
Geography	Africa Continent Study	Africa: Physical Geography National Geographic Society Africa: Human Geography National Geographic Society
History	Medieval Realms (1066- 1500)	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zshtyrd
Religious Studies	World Religions	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zh3rkqt
French	Module 2: En classe (Dynamo 1) Describing school	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjcbrj6/ articles /z4q8g7h
Spanish	Module 3: Mi instituto y Mi futuro Describing school	https://quizlet.com/35666/spanish-school-subjects -flash-cards/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z7twpg8/ revision/1
Art	Topic: Pattern and Colour Artist link: Yayoi Kusama Skills: Drawing, painting	https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=C3iKpM0H6Ek&t=2s https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=eujD5wXrPTY
Dance / Drama: An introduction to basic performance skills.	Topic Graffiti - Canon, performance, duets, motif and development. Or The process drama method is used to develop a range of themes during the year. Topic one is Darkwood Manor.	https://www.banksy.co.uk/

Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Curriculum continued:

Term 3: Year 7 subjects	Curriculum, independent learning topics and assessment focus	Useful website links / additional information
IT	Communication, Searching and Networks	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zg6g87h/ revision/
Music	MU3 Instruments of Orchestra / Keyboard	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmsvr82
PE	Boys: OAA leadership Fitness Girls: Netball Badminton	<u>UK Sport UK Sport</u>
Technology rotation: Food, Textiles and Engineering	Groups rotate every 7-9 weeks to cover all the areas below	<u>Recipes for kids recipes - BBC Food</u>
	 Food: Health and safety in the kitchen. Cooking techniques and cooking a variety of simple dishes. The theory of food is then also taught in an extra lesson for half the year. First Aid: Pupils follow a bespoke programme developed for teaching them basic first aid. Textiles: An Art Textiles based project with sewing machine and other key skills. Finance Skills: Pupils are taught about real life finance skills using an online programme. Engineering – Completion of a mini project Library lesson: Pupils follow a reading programme. 	https://www.tinkercad.com/ - Engineering



Year 7

Celebrations

Year 9 residential visit to the Somme: Thursday 16th November – Saturday 18th November 2023

Some Year 9 students and teachers recently visited the Somme Battlefields in France. After an early morning rainy ferry crossing, they spent some time at a chocolate factory and sampled some chocolate delights – the beans tasted bitter without sugar, but this didn't stop our students from trying them. Here they practised their French speaking skills and even sang some French songs.



They stayed in **Chateau du Broutel** which dates back to 1714 and is situated in more than 40 acres of beautiful grounds. The Chateau was occupied by the Nazis during WWII and is rich in history. Here our students dined and tried frog legs (cuisses de grenouille) and snails (escargots). The students said the frog legs tasted like chicken. The teachers avoided this delicacy apart from Mr Mayne who was brave enough to try and quite enjoyed his dinner.



During the visit our students explored the **Albert Museum.** With displays of weapons and personal items found on the battle fields, there was plenty to explore. At **Lochnagar Crater** (the largest crater on the Western Front) students learned that when the explosions went off it was supposedly so loud that they were heard in London!

They also visited Ulster Tower (Northern Ireland's National War Memorial and one of the first memorials to be erected on the Western Front), **Thiepval Memorial** which remembers the 72,337 missing British soldiers who died in the Battle of the Somme and have no known grave and **Beaumont-Hamel** Newfoundland Memorial which remembers the Canadian soldiers who died here on the first day of the Somme. Here students had time to reflect and remember those who lost their lives in battle.

Students had time for some shopping before the return journey home. Thank you to Miss Magee for organising such a worthwhile trip.







Year 7

Celebrations

Remembrance Parade

Our Cadets took part in the Remembrance Sunday parade on November 12. They started at the Corby Air Cadet Centre and marched towards the War Memorial in Corby High Street. After the parade, there was a service of Remembrance and wreaths were laid at the War Memorial to honour those who died in the First World War as well as the battles and conflicts thereafter.











Year 7

Celebrations

Youth Organisation Spirit of Corby winner!!

We are delighted to announce our Northamptonshire Emergency Services Cadets as the overall winners in the Youth Organisation Spirit of Corby category.

The Spirit of Corby 2023 Awards took place on November 17th at the Holiday Inn and welcomed individuals and groups who make significant contributions to the local community. The Northamptonshire Emergency Services Cadets delivers a curriculum that allows our students to develop skills across the emergency services, as well as social and life skills. Our cadets are regularly introduced to the workings of the emergency services and take part in mock exercises that are overseen by professionals.



Ana Pereira (our Cadet leader) said: "It's actually quite amazing and I think this award is going to be so good so that the students and the cadets and everyone can actually be proud of what we have done because sometimes we don't realise that. They don't see the power of actually being part of all the emergency services."

"The police, the ambulance, and fire, they have been so helpful in everything and actually showing the skills to all of the cadets and even if they don't join the emergency services, at least they get the knowledge of actually doing it and I am really proud of all of them and everyone."





Year 7

Communication



Sixth Form success

Rishika Bjaj (Year 12) has been accepted on to the Sutton Trust Pathways to Consulting programme. Rishika had to produce a personal statement explaining her plans for the future and her suitability for the programme. Well done Rishika.

The Pathways to Consulting programme is completely virtual and runs over two academic years and finishes before their exams in year 13. Alongside an online work experience placement with a leading employer (Bain, McKinsey, BCG, and Oliver Wyman), there is a programme of after-school online skill workshops and information sessions, mentoring opportunities, and networking events with universities and leading professionals, all packed full of opportunities to develop skills needed to access a career in consulting. Rishika is very much looking forward to starting this programme.

University visit

Our Year 12 students visited De Montfort University on Monday 27th November for a taster session. They attended a presentation on higher education, participated in a wonderful English language taster lecture by Dr Keith Scott, had an accommodation tour and ate lunch in the fantastic canteen.

This was an inspiring day and visits to higher education establishments help our students decide if university is the correct pathway for them.



Medical alumni visit

Two ex-students returned to mentor the next generation of healthcare professionals in December. Mateus and Aimee are both training in medicine at the universities of Leeds and Nottingham (via Lincoln) respectively. They hosted workshops for both Year 11 and Sixth form, providing valuable insights into the profession and the application process. Our academy has developed a strong pathway into medicine for our students and we are both proud and thankful that our alumni continue to play a significant part in it.

Year 7

Communication



STEM Club

Some of our year 9 and year 10 students attend STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) club and are currently working on building their very own flight simulator. They have started to solder pieces together and hope to have the project completed in the New Year.

We are also planning to nominate our students for a CREST award in science to recognise their hard work and dedication to the subject.

For more information, please visit https://www.crestawards.org/

Mr Moring and Mr Jones will share more details next term.







BookTrust's Bookbuzz programme

Every year Kingswood takes part in BookTrust's Bookbuzz programme, which aims to get children reading. Our students in year 7 get to choose their own book to keep out of the sixteen Bookbuzz titles. Each book is introduced by its author through the Bookbuzz film. This year's favourite book chosen by year 7 was Dread Wood by Jennifer Killick, with Striking Out by Ian Wright & Musa Okwonga coming in a close second.

The aim of Bookbuzz is to encourage our students to read more frequently, which will improve their wellbeing, spark interesting conversations and inspire creativity.

To find more about BookTrust visit https://www.booktrust.org.uk/



Year 7

Communication



Kingswood 'Christmas Tucker Trials!'

Years 10 and 11 recently participated in our very own 'Christmas Tucker Trials'. They sampled a variety of intriguing foods including tomato and octopus soup, kebab delight, cauliflower and radish, minted meat feast, chocolate envy and fish surprise. Well done to all students who volunteered and took on the challenge of eating to win points for their tutor group. It was a real battle and some even enjoyed the chocolate-covered Brussels sprouts!



Year 7

Communication



The Kingswood Secondary Academy is part of the Greenwood Academies Trust (GAT). Please use the link below to see our full list of current vacancies for both Kingswood Secondary Academy and other Academies within GAT: <u>https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=20</u>



Please access the Academy website to find information about aspiration and careers and how to best support your child, including job of the week:

https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/page/?title=Job+of+the+Week&pid=615



ClassCharts

Please access ClassCharts <u>https://www.classcharts.com/account/login</u> for all homework, RISE points and behaviour information. You will need a code in order to log on. Please contact your child's tutor who will provide this for you.

How to access ParentPay



ParentPay is a convenient facility that enables parents and carers to pay, in a cashless way, for various items. You can access ParentPay by visiting <u>https://www.kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org/</u> and then by clicking on the shopping trolley icon. Here are just a few of the things that can be paid for via the ParentPay Shop:

Equipment Packs Art supplies Revision guides & books Uniform Exam Re-takes.

In the payment screen it is essential that we are able to identify your child and his/her Form group. Once we have received payment notification, we will process your order and your son/daughter will be advised they can collect their items from Reception. Items will not be posted home.



Year 7

Communication

Parking and access to Kingswood Secondary Academy:

Wherever possible we encourage our students to walk or cycle to the Academy for the obvious health and environmental benefits this brings.

If you do bring your child by car, please can you note the following:

Dropping off your child in the morning:

It would be most helpful if you could drop off your child off a few hundred metres from school and they walk the short distance in.

If you do wish to use our roundabout then we do allow this in the mornings. This works because parents drop off their children over a 30-45 minute period, so congestion does not tend to be a significant issue.

Collecting your child at the end of the day:

Due to the inevitable departure of students in a relatively short period of time at the end of a school day, it does not work for us to allow parents onto site to collect their child. This is because of the very significant congestion caused which, leads to vehicles backing up out of our entrance, which in turn then blocks Gainsborough Road in both directions.

In summary, please do not drive onto our school site to collect your child at the end of the day.

Exception: If your child has a disability, then please speak with their Head of Year or Miss Skorwider in our Special Educational Needs Department, who will make appropriate arrangements.

Sadly, we quite often get complaints from local residents e.g. on Tower Hill Road and Oak Wood Drive. With this in mind, we'd be very grateful if you note the following:

Please park considerately and consider parking further away and allowing your child to walk for a couple of minutes to get to you, so you can park in a less congested location.

Please avoid blocking residents' drives and do not use residents' drives to turn around in or stop in. Please avoid parking on yellow lines.

Thank you for your understanding.

Contact details

If you have recently moved to a new address and/or have updated your contact details, for example you have a new telephone number or email address, please can you contact your child's form tutor, Deputy Head of Year or Head of Year with the new details so we can update our records. Thank you.



Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Communication



Kingswood Secondary Academy – Uniform Requirements for PE from Mrs Meekcom

I am asking for your support in preparing your child for the colder weather as it approaches. In PE all pupils have one indoor lesson and one outdoor lesson as we only have two indoor facilities, and we try to make access fair for all. All pupils can wear as many layers as they wish as long as they are completely plain black or white and under their Kingswood PE clothes. They can be long sleeved T-shirts/jumpers/base layers but not hoodies as the hood can be used in sport to drag players back and cause significant harm.

The items worn must be under normal Kingswood shirts or Kingswood ¼ zip tops. The ¼ zip top was added to the optional PE kit in response to pupil feedback last year and can be worn in every lesson except Rugby (due to the zip) where the rugby shirt is the alternative. Pupils can only wear the Kingswood leggings and tracksuit bottoms from Price and Buckland as we do not allow branded items in any of our school uniform. If pupils wear their own leggings/tracksuit bottoms they must wear a Kingswood branded item over the top e.g., shorts, as some items can be seen through or branded.

The boys have Rugby this term and the girls will move onto Rugby next term. As the lessons progress the level of contact will increase, as is appropriate for the progress of the group. For that reason, we are making you aware that there can be some small knocks and bruises because of the contact element. We recommend that all pupils wear a gum shield, and we do have a small supply you can buy via ParentPay or alternatively you can purchase one from an alternative sports store. They are not essential, but recommended if you are worried or concerned.

May I take this opportunity to ask you to check that all the kit for your child is clearly labelled. We do see a large amount of kit unreturned due to having no names in, including socks and trainers. All the unnamed PE kit that is left is placed in a lost property box under the office window next to the changing rooms. All named kit is taken to the main Reception who will try to return it to the child. Can we also ask: if you have any items that pupils have outgrown can you please leave them at Reception so we can add them to our swap shop.

We offer a few sports through clubs, and we do change most clubs every half term due to limited daylight and weather conditions. All PE clubs finish at 4.00-4.10pm and can be found on the school website and in this newsletter. All clubs are free, and pupils do not need to sign up for them, they just need to come to the sports hall in advance to get changed.

Thank you for your support.



Curriculum, Clubs and Celebrations

Year 7 Communication



Kingswood Secondary Academy – Uniform Requirements

At Kingswood Secondary Academy we believe that wearing our distinctive uniform gives our students a sense of belonging, fosters pride in the Academy and stops students coming to school in inappropriate clothing or footwear. Students are our ambassadors in the community and therefore we expect all students to wear full uniform when travelling to and from the Academy, at all Academy functions, on extra-curricular visits and when taking part in sports events. Please refer to our website for updated uniform policy and expectations.

Our Academy uniform consists of:

- An Academy tie with a traditional white shirt which has a fastened top button and is long enough to be tucked into trousers or a skirt; the bottom of the tie should meet the waistband
- Black trousers or skirt made of standard material studs or zips on pockets must not be visible. Jeans, cords, hipster and tight-fitting (e.g. Revs-style) trousers are not appropriate and all trousers should cover the ankle. Combat-style trousers, e.g. with additional side pockets, are not allowed. Skirts should be no shorter than knee length and should not be fitted or made of tight stretchy material. Skater-style skirts are not suitable. As a rule of thumb, trousers and skirts should be modest.
- Academy blazer for all students in years 7 to 11
- Black or grey socks with black trousers; neutral or black tights with skirts
- Black leather or leather-style traditional school shoes that can be polished, with a heel no more than 2cm in height. (No boots or trainers, or trainer-style shoes such as Vans or Converse are allowed. Girls' ballet-type footwear is not acceptable)

Physical education kit for all years:

- Black tracksuit bottoms with academy logo
- Black short-sleeved sports polo shirt with purple panels and the academy logo
- Black long-sleeved sports shirt with purple panels and the academy logo
- Black shorts with academy logo
- Suitable trainers or other sports footwear
- Sports leggings with academy logo or plain black sports leggings (not cotton) Students will also be required to bring other appropriate kit to their PE lessons where necessary. For example, shin-guards for contact sports, studded boots for rugby, mouth guard for some PE activities. Students will be given specific advice from their PE teachers.







KINGSWOOD SECONDARY ACADEMY