

What's Happening at KAS...

15th December 2017



Be Proud

Again this week we have some fantastic student achievements to celebrate. Thank you to all the students involved. You make us very **proud**.

More of a general well done this week, focusing on all our students who work hard, get in to school everyday on time, are helpful, take part in our community, and do the right thing every day. You are what makes The King Alfred School such a great place and we are very **proud** of you. Thank you and well done.

The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) Update from Mr Coles

Thank you for all your support of The Priory Learning Trust staff, such as Mrs Webb and Mr Milford. Trust me, it is not easy coming into a 'new' school; knowing very few people and having to work quickly. I hope the staff and you as parents, carers and students have felt well supported, both in the classroom and outside. Next term Mrs Powell (also a member of TPLT team) will join the team at TKAS for two days per week. We will continue to focus on getting our Year 11s ready for the exams in 2018. We will also continue to develop the standard classroom practices, such as silent starters, objective-led lessons, praise boards and plenaries. I hope you are now seeing that the simple strategy is beginning to work. Thank you for your great support.

Christmas Jumper Day

The last day of term (21st December) is our Christmas Jumper Day, raising money for Save the Children. Students and staff can wear their own festive jumper, for a donation of 50p. The remainder of their clothing should be normal school uniform. Money will be collected by Tutors in registration on the 21st December. There are always some fantastic jumpers on show and we can't wait to see this year's selection!!

Site Entry And Visitors To Site

Our new visitor reception opened officially on Monday 11th December 2017. All adults visiting the school now do so via the new reception located next to the coach bay car park. Students who arrive after the start of the school day or who need to leave during the school day will also be using the new reception. If you need to visit the school for any reason please use the new reception as the old reception will be for students only. This will be clearly signposted from the car parks. 1610 users will use the separate entrance gate from the car park in front of the main block where the allocated parking for members is provided.

Somerset Association of Secondary Headteachers (SASH) Teaching & Learning Workshop

On Wednesday evening teachers from across Somerset gathered at King Alfred's for a workshop session discussing the teaching and learning developments at our school. Sessions were led by Mr Neville Coles, Mr Seb Witts and Miss Jackie Cahill. Topics discussed included the practicalities of leadership across the Priory Learning Trust, whole school student voice and the in-lesson support that we are offering staff across the Trust. The event was a great success. Colleagues from Ansford Academy remarked that it was most helpful in developing their own Teaching & Learning practice.

King Alfred Sixth Form Rag Day Success

Last week Sam Collard and members of the Sixth Form Student committee proudly presented a cheque for £293 to Mandy Ellis of Somewhere House. The charity provides counselling services & addiction rehabilitation, and depends on donations and fundraising to operate and give support to those in need. Sixth Form students organised the events which took place during break and lunchtime to raise an incredible total of £709 in one day (3rd November 2017). Soak the Teacher, Staff vs. Sixth Form charity football match and a Kahoot Quiz proved popular with students and

Belong. Believe. Be Proud.

staff and the events were well supported by the whole school. The day was an outstanding spectacle which created a wonderful community spirit within the school.

Mandy and Michelle, Senior Support workers from Somewhere House and ex student Katrina Doyle, representing Give Children The Word, joined the Sixth Form for the day and were hugely impressed with the manner of activities taking place.

"We were deeply touched by your generosity and inspired by the energy and creativity shown by yourselves and the Sixth Form students. Every penny raised goes back into the charity and it means we get to meet more people in the local community who are needing support with any mental health or emotional issues they are experiencing. We are so grateful that you chose us as a charity of choice for your Rag Day".

The annual event was a great success and we look forward to telling you more stories of our success in the months to come. The remainder of the funds raised during Rag Week are being donated to the 6th Form's other chosen charities. More details to follow after Christmas.

'Live Streaming'

On the news this week there have been reports related to the risk of children and young people 'Live streaming'. Live streaming is a live visual broadcast over the internet. All you need to be able to live stream is an internet enabled device, like a smartphone or tablet, and a platform (such as a website or app) to broadcast on. At the click of a button, you can be streaming to hundreds, or thousands, of viewers.

Please see the links below regarding the risks children and young people may face when live streaming and the practical steps that you can take to make your child's online experience safer.

The NSPCC 'Net Aware' report referred to in the news: www.nspcc.org.uk

Think U Know parents guidance: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

KAS Christmas Dinner

This will be served on Wednesday 20th December 2017. The menu will feature Roast Turkey, Pigs in Blankets, Stuffing, Roasted Vegetable Tart, Roast Potatoes, Peas, Carrots and Gravy. This will be followed by Sparkle Iced Doughnuts and Chocolate, with unlimited squash to drink. Students have to purchase a ticket from the canteen before school, at break or lunchtime. This is great value at only £2.50*. Please encourage the students to join in the festive atmosphere. (*Those entitled to Free School Meals do not have to pay but will require a ticket.)

King Alfred School Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA)

The PTFA was formed following the initial Ofsted report and were keen to help raise funds for projects in the future. Many parents and teachers wanted to help raise money and be more involved in the school community. On Thursday we held our first fundraising event, a quiz night, which saw pupils, parents, members of the community and staff come together. Bob Thomas, local historian started the proceedings and the final round was a music round which saw teams dancing to achieve bonus points including a circuit of the Conga!

The event raised over £230 from entrance fees, raffle and refreshments and it was lovely to see people enjoying themselves whilst raising money to help our school. More events will be coming soon, so watch this space.

Communication

Thank you for your support and for working with us. We hope you found the Parent Information Evenings useful and that Class Charts is keeping you up to date with your child's homework and conduct. If you would like to meet with a member of staff please contact the Office to book an appointment. If you prefer to contact us by phone or email we will respond to your query within 48 hours.

End of Term Arrangements

The school will close for the Christmas holidays on Thursday, 21st December at 12.40pm. School transport has been arranged for the early closure.

Belong. Believe. Be Proud.