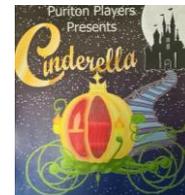


### **BE PROUD**

Again this week we have some fantastic student achievements to celebrate at The King Alfred School (TKAS). Thank you to all the students involved. You make us very **proud**.

Beth Paterson will be starring as Cinderella from 13th to 17th February in the Puriton Players production at Puriton Village Hall. There are evening performances each day (7.15pm) and a Saturday matinee (2pm). Contact Mrs Randle on 01278 683542 to book tickets (Adults £7.50, Concessions £6.50, Children £5.50). Good luck for the performances Beth!



Thank you to all the students, parents/carers and staff who attended our Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday this week. Attendance was fantastic, over 90%, demonstrating the real commitment this year group have to be the best they can be, especially 11G and Mr England for achieving a perfect 100%! Well done, and thank you to all. A particular thank you to Miss Charles for her tireless leadership which shines through in the ethos and work ethic of these lovely young people.

Thank you to all the students attending our Gardening Club on Wednesdays (3.10pm - 4.30pm), especially Dan Summers and Kale Longley who have been real leaders on the project. We would love more of our community to get involved. Please contact Mrs Hewlitt for more details.

### **TKAS Sixth Form**

This is an exciting time for the Sixth Form and its students. Following our first successful open evening for this year's entry in October, and due to popular demand after the release of the excellent value added A level results in November, we are holding our 2nd Sixth Form Open Evening on **30 January, starting at 6.00pm in the main hall**. We hope to see all our outstanding Year 11 students and their parents and carers. Additionally, there are some prestigious events to be announced shortly that will enrich the learning experience for our students so they leave us with both top grades and the skills required to fulfil their potential at university and in the world of work:

- **TEDx Event:** TED are a non-profit organisation that runs conferences on subjects from science to business to global issues. Our Sixth Form are organising and filming an event on Human Origins that will feature talks from experts in the field of human evolution (more details to follow).
- **Question Time:** following the format of the BBC show, the Sixth Form Question Time will be chaired by Sixth Form students and involve local and national political figures who will respond to rigorous questioning from the Sixth Form audience.

### **Learning Habits**

Thank you to all parents and carers who have ensured that their children have returned after the Christmas break fully equipped to learn. It is vital that our students are supported by all of us to develop the learning habits to ensure that they can take an active part in their lessons and make the progress of which they are capable. These learning habits also set them up for later life to arrive at work fully equipped, be that with safety boots, hairdressing scissors or a stethoscope.

All students are expected to arrive at school on time equipped with a **practical school bag** (e.g. rucksack or satchel style) large enough to accommodate A4 exercise books/folders. They should also have the books and equipment appropriate for that day's lessons (e.g. PE kit), and a **pencil case containing the minimum equipment outlined below**.

Pencils x 2	Pens x 2 black ink	Ruler	Pencil case
Protractor	Rubber	Sharpener	
Scientific Calculator (required in Years 9 to 11)			

Thank you for your support in ensuring that your child is ready to learn. Pencil cases and all listed items can be purchased from the Library during break and lunch at very reasonable prices.

### **Supporting Mental Health & Wellbeing**

The Schools Health and Resilience Education Team (SHARE) are working with The King Alfred School for this academic year and would like your input. They want to develop and provide the necessary tools and resources to enable teaching professionals, young people and parents to recognise, manage and sustain good mental health and emotional well-being.



SHARE are carrying out an audit in the school in order to fully understand the support that the school currently offer and to create a sustainable plan for the future resilience and wellbeing of The King Alfred school community.

They would like to invite 10 parents/carers to take part in their audit session in a 1 hour session on Wednesday 7th February 2018 at 10.00 am. SHARE require parent involvement as this is an essential part of ensuring that all voices are heard in order to shape how students, parents/carers and staff are supported. Please email Mrs Herrington on [sch.514@kingalfred.somerset.sch.uk](mailto:sch.514@kingalfred.somerset.sch.uk) if you are interested in taking part. If we have more volunteers than spaces for this meeting we will keep names in reserve and invite the remaining parents/carers to future meetings.

### **Young Carers**

There will be a Young Carers drop in on Wednesday 24th January at 1.35pm in B4. Please feel free to come along and bring your lunch! Following this, the next drop in sessions have been arranged for 21st February and 21st March.

### **New NHS Health Advice App: Handi**

Taunton and Somerset NHS Trust have a new app for parents and carers to access health advice for children and young people. You can find the app within the Apple App Store by searching for 'Handi paediatric' or within Google as 'Taunton and Somerset Handi paediatric app'. Handi has been developed by the paediatric team at Musgrove Park Hospital to provide expert support to parents/carers and medical professionals looking after children with the most common childhood illnesses.



### **Site Entry And Visitors To Site**

A reminder that 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 this reception. If you need to visit the school for any reason please use this new reception as the old reception is for students only. Thank you for your support in this matter.

### **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.

### **Energy Drinks**

Thank you for your support since the introduction of our school ban on energy drinks in light of evidence linking them to short and long term health issues. As we return from the Christmas break please remind your children that if students are seen consuming energy drinks on the school site the drink will be confiscated and disposed of (or, if unopened, they will be retained for parental collection).