

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**.

Congratulations to Daniel Maydew 9F who has qualified to run for the Somerset County cross-country team after a great performance in difficult conditions. Well done Daniel!

Chloe-May Greenslade 8R has been selected from the entire South West Girl Guides to go to Belgium to take part in community projects there. As part of this she has raised over £450 by doing various fundraising events. Fantastic effort, well done Chloe!

Year 8 Options & Careers Week

In the run up to choosing their options year 8 students have been researching what sort of profession they might pursue in the future and the route required to successfully get there. All students have completed an options passport as a guide and record of their current ambitions. Departments have been raising aspirations by showcasing what GCSE, and indeed A level standard, work looks like and what sort of career a student might gain employment in after taking their subject.

Year 8 Options Evening will be held on Thursday 22nd February from 6.30-8pm, and we would encourage all parents/carers and students to attend to help make these very important decisions for our students' future.



Message from Mrs Hurr, Headteacher

I would like to inform our students, parents and carers that I have decided to resign as Headteacher at The King Alfred School from 31st August 2018 on health grounds. I have been struggling since summer 2017 with my health and hospital visits and have decided I need to fully recuperate. I will be going to work for the Priory Learning Trust running the Teaching School Alliance, training the next generation of teachers to work in schools across the UK. It will be business as usual until my last day. The Priory Learning Trust will now work with Somerset Local Authority to recruit and appoint a new Principal for our school to start in September 2018. I would like to thank our students and the community for their continued support.

The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) Update from Mr Coles

Once again **thank you** for your support this week at The King Alfred School (TKAS).

It is now very likely that TKAS will become part of The Priory Learning Trust from October 1st 2018. We will still need to await news in May on the bids we have placed for the new roofs at TKAS. We are very optimistic that this will be granted and we will then be able to move forward formally very quickly. Trustees of TPLT will make a final decision in May. The final part of the immediate changes to TKAS site will happen this week. I hope you welcome the new brighter look at the school. Our priority now, however, is exam success for our great Year 11s and Year 13s. We are moving swiftly towards the exam season with all staff and students firmly fixed on success at Year 11 and Year 13. **We wish all students good luck and preparations / revision / focussed study should be well under way.** We will continue to think **STUDENTS FIRST**.

Some news ... we will very soon have an Interim Executive Board (IEB) at TKAS. This will be led by Mr Guy Adams. Guy comes from a legal background and has chaired IEBs within Somerset before. The IEB has been brought together after the KAS Governing Body decided to step down from their duties. We sincerely thank Governors for their service and will warmly welcome the new IEB to the school. Secondly, as you will have read above, Mrs Denise Hurr will be stepping down from the Headteacher role at TKAS at the end of the current school year. The Priory Learning Trust will be

appointing in partnership with the IEB and alongside Somerset Local Authority, a new Principal at TKAS who will start in September 2018. Mrs Hurr will continue to lead the school between now and the end of the school year. From September 2018 Mrs Hurr will start to work within our Trust and as the Director of TPLT Teaching School Alliance. On behalf of everyone I thank Mrs Hurr for her service to the school. To reiterate, she will continue to work on behalf of all students, staff and the community until the end of the year as Headteacher. I will keep everyone fully briefed about the appointment of a new Principal through this weekly news bulletin.

Sixth Form Open Evening

For the first time we held a 2nd Sixth Form Open Evening this week which followed our popular Taster Day earlier in January. Charlie Valentine particularly enjoyed participating in a mock experiment on obedience made famous by Stanley Milgram in the 1960s and organised for the Year 11s by Daniel Anderson in Year 12.



We outlined our travel subsidy of £100 per term for students living more than 2 miles from the school and now we are announcing our exciting **Sixth Form Scholarships** that are intended to support academically able students to achieve their very best beyond the classroom. If students achieve five GCSE grades at 7 or above they will receive £500; if they achieve 3 grades at 7 or above they receive £300. This new initiative will strengthen the reputation of the Sixth Form as a Centre of Academic Excellence as the scholarship could be put towards visits to university open days, books for wider reading, journal subscriptions, IT equipment or at the discretion of students and their parents as they aim to fulfil their potential in Sixth Form. The 2nd Open Evening was also attended by students from Worle and Priory who are looking for high quality A level provision in a school-based setting and we are looking forward to welcoming them in September.

Learning Habits

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 in 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
- 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.

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 the new reception as the old reception will be for students only. Thank you for your support in this matter.

King Alfred's on Facebook

Following the launch of our Twitter page last year, we now have our own Facebook page at King Alfred's. Please use this link to access: bit.ly/KASFacebook. Our Facebook page is centred around celebrating our students' success and promoting events across the school community. For any other questions or issues please contact the school in the usual way either by phone or email.