



Kingshill Newsletter



14 March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Our week began on Monday morning for our Y9 students with Options taster sessions, this was later followed up in Tuesday's R&R time with a reflection on what they had gained from the experience. Monday was a significant day for our Y9s as they also had their first whole year exam in the Sports Hall for science. During a quick visit to their assembly on Wednesday, I was able to reflect on how impressive the students in Y9 are as a year group – with the departure of our Y11s on the horizon, you can see them all stepping up brilliantly; ready for life in KS4.

During Year assemblies this week, I have shared the importance of the annual stakeholder survey and how much, as a school, we value hearing their views. As a result of student voice over the year, many changes have taken place, including wearing PE kit home from P5, a new start date for Summer uniform from 1st April each year and the biggest and most impactful change: the appointment of our Unlocking Potential Assistants, Mrs Slade and Mrs Norman, who have allowed us to act swiftly on all pastoral matters; supporting us in closing the loop regarding incidents that take place and the follow-up needed. Do encourage your young person to complete their survey which will have been posted on their Edulink account today. They have one week to respond, and House Points are available for tutor groups with the highest completion rates!

Assemblies

Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) is a key area that all schools are currently addressing. The Government are very clear that schools must adopt a zero approach to such behaviour. In our assemblies this week we have been making sure all students are aware of the sorts of behaviour this includes. We have encouraged them to see such behaviour along a continuum starting with consensual behaviour between teenagers to behaviour that is risky and could hurt others, either emotionally or physically to the other end of the spectrum of violent and coercive behaviour. For some, understanding that wolf whistling, pulling down another person's trousers, getting into someone's personal space to name but three, has been a learning curve. Added to this are those things that are criminal offences such as upskirting and sharing of nude images.

Above all else, we have emphasised the need for the whole school community to work together in making sure that our school have a clear sense of what is meant by a respectful culture of behaviour around relationships and interactions which has also been reinforced through students' lessons in PSHEE and Respect in recent weeks.

Mrs Christopher Deputy Headteacher and Mr Morland (Assistant Headteacher)

Y9 Starting Science GCSEs

Well done to Year 9 students who sat their End of Key Stage 3 Assessment this week. This assessment has covered the key ideas from the Year 7, 8 and 9 program of study and can be used as a tool to identify gaps in knowledge and understanding to be addressed to enable good progress at Key Stage 4. This was the first experience for this year group of a formal whole year assessment undertaken under strict exam conditions. After a few teething problems relating to smart technology and equipment, students showed high levels of **resilience** and **respect** conducting themselves impeccably. As marking gets underway it is clear many students have shown **ambition** by the quality of their answers.

Students in Year 9 have now formally begun their GCSE Courses. Each student has been given a new exercise book that is Green, Red or Blue depending on whether they have started with a Biology, Chemistry or Physics unit. We are keen to support students and parents and have provided every student with an overview of resources to use outside of lessons to support their learning. Please encourage your child to revise regularly and often. Once option choices have been made, we will also provide every student with an overview of the Combined or Separate GCSE detailing the course structure over the next two years.

Mr B David, Head of Science

Kingshill's Got Talent – Get Your Tickets Now!

We are excited to invite you to Kingshill's Got Talent, our exciting school talent show, taking place on Thursday, 8th May 2025, at Bingham Hall, Cirencester GL7 1JT.

Date: Thursday, 8th May 2025

Doors Open: 18:30

Showtime: 19:00 – 21:00 (including an interval)

Come and support our talented students as they showcase their incredible skills! Secure your tickets now by clicking [here](#). We look forward to seeing you there for an unforgettable evening.



Rock with the Head

We take pride in celebrating students who demonstrate outstanding conduct and community spirit. A group of students has shown exceptional dedication by volunteering at Cirencester parkrun as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award. Their commitment and enthusiasm have impressed organisers, with Event Director Derek Aldridge praising their professionalism, politeness, and strong communication skills.



To recognise their contributions, Xavier N, Dougie E, William R, Sam R, Jack R, Joseph T, Charlie H, Ethan B, Zach J, and Oliver as they were invited to Rock with the Head, an event celebrating students who embody our school's values. We are incredibly **proud** of them for representing Kingshill so positively.

Y7 Assemblies

This week started with a visit from Matt and Luke from Cirencester's Baptist Church and Youth group. Having visited many times in previous terms it was lovely to welcome them back to Kingshill. This time the focus was on symbolism, Easter and why some people choose to wear a cross as jewellery. The Year 7 cohort fully entered into the fun of the assembly, winning a variety of fresh fruit and practising their catching skills in the process!



Y10 Handball Competition - Wycliff School

A selection of our GCSE PE students represented the school with great pride and **ambition** whilst playing a number of different schools from around the county on Tuesday 13th March. Results included impressive wins against both Wycliffe (hosts) and Crypt Grammar school, and narrow losses to Pates and KLB (who jointly won the competition and progressed through to the next round) and John Masefield High.



The group showed great progression throughout the day, we will use footage of the event to support individuals who use this as one of their practical options, as part of the GCSE PE course. Well done to all involved!

Parent Survey

It is that time of year when I am going to ask for your views and feedback in our Annual Stakeholder Survey. We use the River Learning Trust as our Stakeholder Survey provider which allows us to benchmark our data against 11 other neighbouring secondary schools and provides invaluable insights into how we can continue to improve. Please do not be alarmed that it refers to the River Learning Trust or that the opening message is from their CEO Paul James; we are not in any way considering becoming part of this or any other Multi Academy Trust but this is a MAT with whom we have close working relationships with; they have helped and supported us on our improvement journey through their Peer Review last June and will be doing so again this academic year. I strongly believe in being outward facing; learning from others to validate our strategies; working collaboratively to find solutions; and sharing best practice – all of which supports us to make strong strategic decisions for our students and staff.

The survey should only take 5 minutes unless you wish to add written views in the last section, but this is not a requirement. A reminder that the survey data is anonymous, you need only to provide your young person's year group. Thanks to your insights last year where you told us that you didn't have access to enough curriculum information, we refreshed and revised our curriculum pages on our website and we increased our number of information evenings at the start of the academic year. Your views really are important to us – thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. The link to the survey will be sent via ParentMail and will close on Friday 21st March.

Closing Remarks

A reminder that next week we have our Spring Inset Day on Wednesday 19th March. The focus is 'Unlocking Potential' and we are delighted to have the school's designated Educational Psychologist joining us to share how we can further Unlock the Potential for our SEND learners. Next week will also see the Geoguesser House Finals – let the competitions begin!

Mrs Jo Lindley
Headteacher

Returning Week: Week A

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 19th March	INSET DAY – no school for students
Thursday 20th March	Y9 Options Evening 4.30 - 7pm (2 sessions by tutor groups)
Friday 21st March	Parent Forum 9-10.30am
Friday 28 th March	Y11 Mock Interviews
	Y11 Photographs
	Lunchtime concert – Music Room 1.20pm
Thursday 3 rd April	Y9 Woodchester Mansions 9am
Monday 7th April	Parents Information Evening – Munich, Dining Hall, 5.30pm
	Y10 Lea Wood 9am
	Parents Information Evening – Iceland Trip, Dining Hall, 5.30pm
Wednesday 9th April	Y11 Targeted Parents' Evening
Monday 14th April - Friday 25th April	Easter Half Term – 2 weeks!

**Please note that for TRIPS, the time listed is the leave time. Please ensure your child is at school at least 15 minutes prior to the leave time.*