

24th May 2024



CIRENCESTER
KINGSHILL
SCHOOL

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Dear Parent/Carer,

It is hard to believe that we really are at the end of Term 5 – the year is flying by. So much has been achieved this last term and on reflection, I am delighted that we share all of our good news stories on a weekly basis rather than trying to showcase it all at the end of the term. This week, we have also celebrated the immense skill and talent from within our staff team as on Tuesday morning, the Trustees and I were able to appoint two Deputy Headteachers. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Christopher will be our strategic lead of Culture and Ethos which encompasses safeguarding, behaviour and attendance and Mr Lee will be our strategic lead for Excellent Teaching and Learning.

Assemblies this week

The students enjoyed another assembly from myself this week and our focus was on ‘Tolerance’ linked to our STEP of **Respect**. I was able to share with them some of their responses from the student survey around feeling safe in school and their viewpoints on how well we deal with bullying at the school. I am delighted that when compared to the other secondary schools taking part in the survey, our students reported higher levels of feeling safe within school.

Disappointingly, our results were lower when compared to the frequency of bullying or how well it is resolved. In advance of the assembly, I spent time talking to students to identify why they feel this way. As a result of the many conversations, we now know that our students who are victims don’t always receive feedback about what has been done and as a consequence, should it happen again, they don’t wish to report as they feel that nothing happens when they do.

All students have now been reassured by our processes and have heard from myself that bullying will never be tolerated in our school, however, we must be informed to be able to act. If you feel that your child is affected by bullying, I urge you to get in touch with their tutor in the first instance. We are here to help and support.

New Personnel Manager

Hello, my name is Andrea Fielder. I have recently joined the HR function at Cirencester Kingshill School joining the team as Personnel Manager having worked within the primary and secondary education sector. During my career, I have worked within the HR function within an award winning Grammar School, have over 14 years experience of working within the Recruitment/HR sector, supported by my Business Studies degree specialising in HR. People have always been at the heart of my career, and I look forward to getting to know the staff at Cirencester Kingshill School and striving to ensure our staff deliver the best possible education for your children. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, walking our cockerpoo and trying to keep fit by running (or as I call it, slogging, slow-jogging!). During school holidays over the last two years, I have also worked for a specialist school ski holiday company leading secondary school groups to the Alps, this combines my passion for people and skiing. It is a privilege to be working at Cirencester Kingshill School and I am very excited about the future ahead.

Mrs Andrea Fielder – Personnel Manager

DataFace

Dataface has been an incredible experience for the 4 of us. It has helped us expand our data setting skills and make us more aware of issues with inequality in multiple countries. Looking at the data, we had noticed the tremendous difference between male and female literacy rates. This inspired us to show the data in a way more people would understand, and to hook them on a global issue they had never even thought twice about.

Figuring out how to represent the data was not an easy task. However, with the encouragement of our peers and teachers, we pushed through and eventually produced an impressive way of showing the data we were given. All 4 of us are exceedingly proud at what came out of our hard work, and we had a thrilling time creating it.



Harriet - Student

Brilliant Bookshop Experience

We are incredibly excited that Kingshill has been chosen to be part of a fantastic initiative from local charity Read for Good and National Book Tokens, called the Brilliant Bookshop Experience. Working in conjunction with The Yellow-Lighted Bookshop in Tetbury, a pop-up bookshop will appear in our school library on 3-4 June, the first two days after the half-term break.

Every student in Years 7-9 will then receive a £10 book voucher to spend in the shop on a book of their choice. Expert booksellers will be on hand from YLB to help students with their browsing and to create the authentic experience of a bookshop. This is a truly generous project to be a part of and we're so proud to be able to continue developing our students' love of reading for pleasure through what promises to be a really special couple of days.

Mr Phil Smith – Head of English

An Inspector Calls Cast

On Monday morning the second GCSE group performed their adaptation of An Inspector Calls. They had prepared, rehearsed and worked hard but still the nerves were fluttering! The performance went extremely well and all the students felt proud of their resilience, ambition and teamwork. They are an amazing cast of young people and I cannot wait to see what next year brings.



Ms Stones – Head of Expressive Arts

Landscape Project – Update

Stage 1 of the eco-project is now complete! All three raised planters are finished, painted, and filled with plants. The team is justifiably **proud** of their hard work, and we believe the planters and plants bring much-needed colour to this corner of the school.

Stage 2 will begin after the half-term break. We have tyres ready to be filled with soil for growing vegetables, and allotment-style beds will be dug and planted. We welcome more help, so please join us every Thursday, meeting in S7.



Mr Edwards – Science | HOY 11

Rebecca Shines at Cricklands Show

Rebecca in Y8 had a show last weekend at Cricklands, held at the David Broome Event Centre. She competed in two show jumping classes, 80cm and 90cm, and started strong with a clear round on Friday. Although she didn't place in the 90cm class on Saturday, it was a significant achievement for her and Romeo. On Sunday, Rebecca rounded off the weekend by securing 6th place in the competition pony showing class. She also participated in the working hunter class, demonstrating her versatility and skill. Well done, Rebecca.



Reaching a million with Educake

Ambition continues to be high in the Science Faculty with students having answered over **1 million** questions this year on their online homework system, Educake. Here are the statistics!

- Students answered over **1,035,000 science questions**
- Over **39,000** of those were questions students set themselves
- Teachers in the department have set **1184** quizzes
- These included **405 Study Guides**

These are incredible achievements and the Science team are delighted, especially as **only 2% of schools** who use Educake succeed in reaching this goal. It is an incredibly useful resource to boost attainment. Thank you to parents for encouraging students to aim as high as they can with their homework.



Mrs Pearson - Head of Science

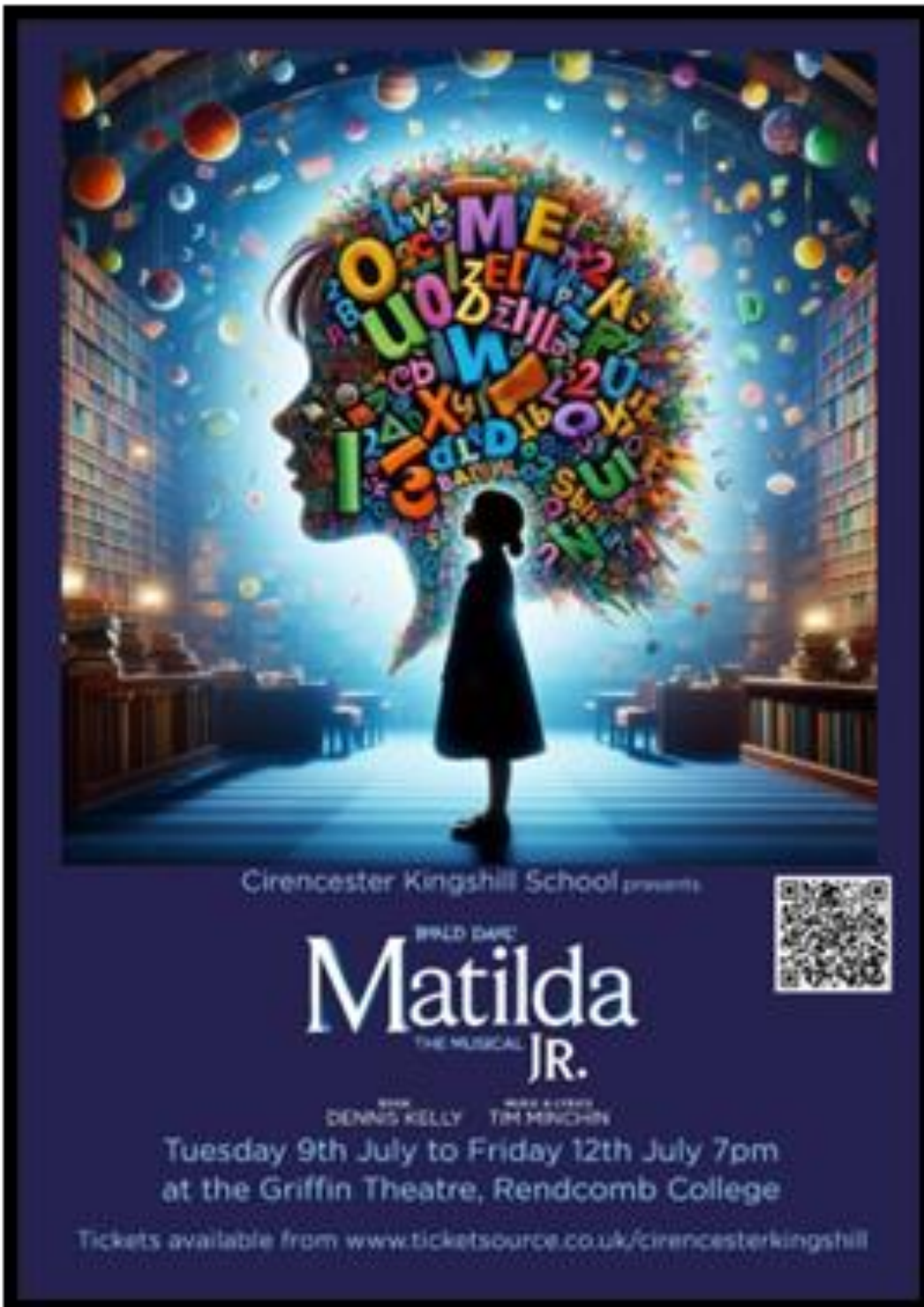
District Athletics

Below is a list of all the students who competed last night at the athletics match hosted by Kingshill School. The event saw participation from 10 different schools, making it a highly competitive and engaging meet. Each of our athletes demonstrated remarkable effort and dedication, showcasing their skills and sportsmanship throughout the event. Their hard work and determination were evident in every race and field event, and we are incredibly **proud** of their performances.



Matilda

Cirencester Kingshill School is proud to present Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. at The Griffin Theatre, Rendcomb, from July 9th to 12th, 2024, featuring two casts performing on alternating nights. This adaptation of the beloved book and award-winning musical tells the story of Matilda, an extraordinary girl who uses her imagination and intelligence to challenge her oppressive circumstances. Emily Stones, Head of Expressive Arts, and co-director Dannie Acock emphasize the empowering message of the musical and the hard work of the 90-student cast. Tickets are available by [clicking here](#) or through www.ticketsource.co.uk.



Olympic Torch Runner

Today, we celebrate a remarkable milestone—the 12th anniversary of Mrs. Christina See's inspiring run with the Olympic torch for the London 2012 Olympics! She was honoured with this prestigious role due to her decades of voluntary work in athletics and cross country, in which she continues to compete actively. Her unwavering support for our students' sporting endeavours continues to illuminate Kingshill School. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her continued service and exemplary leadership. Thank you, Mrs. See, for being a beacon of inspiration and a true champion for our community!



Information evening- Parenting in the AI Era- 4th July 18:00-19:00

Due to the forthcoming general election, this event will be rescheduled. Please keep an eye out in the next newsletter with the new date.

Mr Patching
Digital Strategic Lead

Parent Forum

A reminder about our upcoming Parent Forum on **Friday 14th June, from 9:10 to 10:30am**. [Click here](#) to register. We look forward to seeing you there!

Cirencester Kingshill School
Parent Forum
Friday 14 June 2024
9:10am - 10:30am

- Welcome | Quick Recap of last meeting
- Parent Survey Results
- Developing Homework
- UP Strategy
- Q&A | Your Key Takeaways
- Next Steps
- Our Next Meeting
 - _____, 2024 at 9:10am

Holiday FSM Voucher Scheme Reminder

Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) would like to make you aware of changes to the holiday Free School Meal (FSM) voucher scheme that they are currently offering to families in Gloucestershire.

The scheme is for children in reception to year 11 who receive Pupil Premium (benefits-related) free school meals and attend a school in Gloucestershire. GCC is unable to consider college and sixth form students, nor children who receive infant free school meals (available to all children from reception to year 2) - they are not eligible for this scheme. The vouchers are funded through temporary grant funding they have received and is separate to that of term time free school meals.

Gloucestershire County Council is committed to supporting families with 1 week of vouchers (£15) for the Easter holiday, and 1 week (£15) for the May half-term. As communicated before the Easter 2024 holiday, vouchers for the May half-term were distributed at the same time as those for the Easter holiday period. Families who signed up received a total of £30 per eligible child on or around 18 March 2024 for support with both holiday periods. Therefore, there are no vouchers being distributed in the week prior to the May 2024 half-term.

As the threshold for requesting that vouchers not received are resent, passed 4 weeks after the roll out date, GCC is unable to request that any vouchers for May 2024 holidays are re-issued. If you did not receive your vouchers, GCC ask that you please check your spam/junk mailboxes for an email from selectcode@select-your-reward.co.uk, and ensure your mailbox settings allow junk mail.

For any parents wishing to update details of an existing application, please email childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk before the Summer 2024 holidays, so GCC can update your account, as details are not automatically updated.

To find out more about the scheme, please visit [FAQs | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

Closing Remarks

Our Y11s have endured a long term and the end game is now in sight. I wish them the *resilience* needed to maintain the momentum until the last exam – they have been spectacular in their approach and are deserved of the best results. For the rest of the school community, I hope the next week is a time to rest and relax as we return for a term filled with opportunities both within and beyond the classroom.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Jo Lindley
Headteacher

Upcoming events

27th May – 31st May	Term Break
Monday 3 rd June	Y9 DataFace Finals 8:30-15:00 - Cheltenham KS3 Book Shop Experience
Tuesday 4 th June	Y10 Cheltenham Science Festival 9:00-15:00 KS3 Book Shop Experience
Wednesday 5 th June	Y10 Bristol Photography Trip 9:10-15:00
Thursday 6th June	Iceland Trip Parent Information Evening 18:00-19:00 – school dining hall
Friday 7 th June	Y7 Cheltenham Science Festival 9:00-15:00
Tuesday 11 th June	Y9 Finance Day Y10 University of Oxford Visit 8:40-17:00
Wednesday 12 th June	Y11 Leavers Day
Friday 14th June	Parent Forum 9:10-10:30am
Tuesday 18 th June	Y5 Parent Information Evening 4pm
Thursday 20 th June	Y5 Experience Day 9:30-14:40