



# Cirencester Kingshill School

A brief look inside... GCSE Results pg 2 / Whitemoor Lakes pg 8 / Cricketing Champions pg 10



## The Reviews Are In!

From Tuesday 12th July 2016 – Saturday 16th July 2016, 200 dedicated pupils and staff put on a spectacular production of 'Into the Woods'.

The musical is based upon the stories of a number of classic fairy tales, all with their own dramatic twist. The production was cleverly set within a library where, with the power of imagination, the stories came to life.

After months of hard work and enthusiasm the sold out shows were a resounding success!

**For further information and photographs please see pages 4 and 5.**





# THE HEAD writes...

## Dear Parents

**A warm welcome to new Year 7 pupils and welcome back to Years 8 to 11.**

I wish your son/daughter a happy and successful year ahead. I look forward to working with you as parents again this year to ensure that we offer your sons and daughters a first class education here at Kingshill School.

The new academic year has started well and our pupils, as usual, have returned with a positive attitude. Pupils are working hard in lessons and rising to the very high standards that staff expect from them. Your support in ensuring that your son/daughter adheres to the high standards of behaviour and uniform is much appreciated.

*Miss Christine S. Oates, Headteacher*



## GCSE Results 2016

This year Kingshill School's GCSE results were excellent and included some outstanding personal achievements.

- **68% of Year 11 pupils achieved 5 or more A\* - C grades, including English and Mathematics, at GCSE**
- **76% of Year 11 pupils achieved 5 or more A\* - C grades at GCSE**
- **24% of all Year 11 GCSE grades were at A\* or A**
- **76% of all Year 11 GCSE grades were at A\* - C**

Congratulations to all our Year 11 pupils. They worked very hard throughout Year 11 and the pupils were a credit to themselves, their parents and the school. The staff worked persistently hard to raise pupil expectations, encouraging and supporting the pupils throughout their GCSE courses. The staff would like to wish Year 11 pupils from last year every success for their future.

## GCSE Language Success!

**During the last academic year a number of pupils worked very hard to take a GCSE Language early. This work was in addition to their normal school studies.**

I am very proud to report that all pupils obtained A or A\*. A huge congratulations to Alicja Strzala 9D (Polish), Aleksandra Janiszewska 10G (Polish), Joshua Venn 10A (French), Jonathan Mitchell 10G (French), Noah White 10D (Italian), Rosa Maria Valverde Montanez 10C (Spanish) and Cameron Phillips 11E (Spanish).

This academic year we are again expecting early GCSE entries in Languages such as Arabic, German and Spanish.

Well done to all of the above pupils.

*Mr S. Pike, Head of Modern Foreign Languages*

## New Staff

**Welcome to our new members of staff this term. We wish you the best for a happy time at Kingshill School.**

Name: **Kate Simpson**  
 Role: **English Teacher**  
 Last book read: **The Railway Children (to my daughter)**  
 Best film: **Romeo and Juliet**



Three words to describe you: **Friendly, happy and busy**

Name: **Jacqueline de Carles**  
 Role: **English Teacher**  
 Last book read: **'Bone Clocks' by David Mitchell**  
 Best film: **Amelie**  
 Three words to describe you: **Petite, lively and bookworm**  
 Claim to fame: **I have a few 'Soap Actor' friends from my time living up North, so I can probably be found in a number of photos people have taken of them.**



Name: **Carly Brown**  
 Role: **Science Teacher**  
 Last book read: **'Bounce' by Matthew Syed**  
 Best film: **The Princess Bride**



Three words to describe you: **Quirky, upbeat and geeky**  
Claim to fame: **I once beat Chuck Norris in an arm wrestle.**



## Kingshill Awards Evening

**This year's Awards Evening was held on Tuesday 19th July 2016. We celebrated the achievements and efforts of 173 pupils as the school year drew to a close.**

The evening included presentations from Elizabeth Davies 8D and Jonathan Gibson 8E, on their Whitemoor Lakes Residential. Amelia Calvert 9A, presented her winning public speaking speech and Ruth Walters 11D, entertained the audience with a musical interlude.

A highlight of the evening was the

presentation of our special Pastoral Awards. Two pupils in each year group were nominated by the Tutors and Heads of Year for the significant contribution they make to the wider school. They are pupils who are seen to be wonderful ambassadors for Kingshill School, its ethos and values that we all try to foster. These awards were received by Elizabeth Davies 8D, Cameron Wixey 8C, Olivia Cook 9D, Peter Tipping 9C, Patsy Jones 10A, Harry Janssen 10E, Hannah Pearce 11E and Jake Keary 11C. The evening concluded with drinks and nibbles

kindly provided by Friends of Kingshill School. Pupils, parents and staff were able to gather outside in the lovely evening sunshine.

The following day continued in the same celebratory theme with our special year group award assemblies. A further 400 certificates were presented to our hard working and high achieving pupils. The two events take place each year, allowing a formal recognition of the success of many of our pupils.

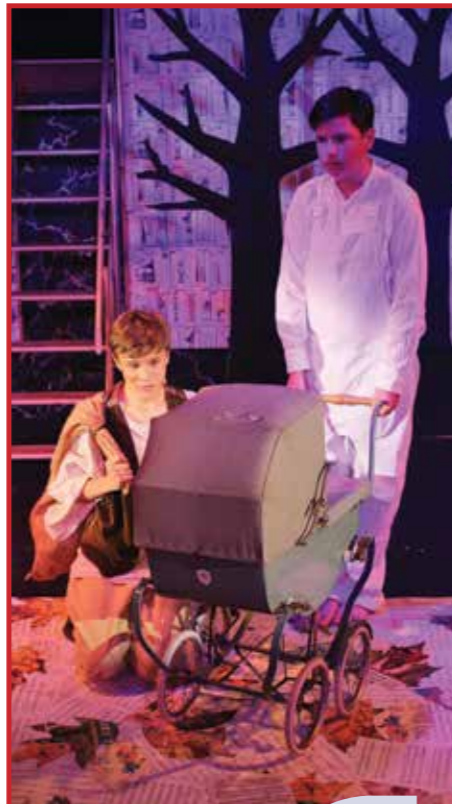
*Mrs D. Christopher, Senior Assistant Head*



## News from Expressive Arts...

# The reviews are in!

Take a good chunk from the darkest fairy stories, add the efforts of a talented cast and sprinkle with incredible music, staging and lighting effects.



### “Into The Woods” was one of the best performances I’ve ever seen!

Walking into the gym, I was transported to another world. The lighting was amazing and fitted the scenes perfectly. The costumes were incredible and the set was spectacular! You could tell that everyone had put in a lot of effort into the whole production as it was of such high quality.

I was blown away by the amount of talent on stage particularly from the singers. My favourite song “Cinderella at the Grave” was sung by Cinderella’s mother (Bethany Horton) to Cinderella (Charlotte Thornton). Not only was it sung beautifully but it was acted perfectly. A scene that stood out to me was when the Wolf (Oliver Granger-Williams) was in Grandmas bed and the little pigs came out his stomach. It was so funny and was performed brilliantly! I am really looking forward to next year’s whole school production of Billy Elliot. I can’t see how it could get any better! *Shannon Cook, 9E*

### Dates for your diary...

**3rd November 2016**

GCSE Drama trip to Billy Elliot at Bristol Hippodrome.

**30th November 2016**

Year 8 trip to watch Chelsea’s Choice Drama/ PSHEE performance

**6th/7th December 2016**

Winter Drama Showcase

**15th December 2016**

Christmas Concert at Watermoor Church

**The summer term ended brightly with the school production of ‘Into the Woods’. Over 200 pupils performed, played instruments or helped behind the scenes in this unique fantasy musical.**

The plot is full of familiar characters and elements of the darkest fairy stories, but combined in an original, funny and energetic way. Whilst based on elements of well-known children’s stories, there was nothing simple about this show which required pupils to dance, sing and act in tightly choreographed scenes.

Transformation was a key theme throughout and the school gym was unrecognisable after instillation of the professional lighting rig and weeks of construction of an intricate and beautifully hand-built stage.

Musically, the production was also complex and highly challenging because it often needed to be discordant in order to create a sense of disorientation and threat. Within this however were wonderful moments of humour delivered with perfect timing. The pace of the performance was breath-taking and testament to the huge amount of time that the pupils gave after school and at weekends rehearsing with the Head of Expressive Arts, Ms Stones.

*Mr T. Lee, Assistant Head, Head of English*

“Being a part of Kingshill’s production of ‘Into the Woods’ has been one of the best experiences of my life.

When Ms Stones told us we were going to do ‘Into the Woods’ as this year’s production I was really excited, especially when I found out that I got the part of ‘Storyteller’. I knew that it would be hard work as the storyline is very complex and the songs are difficult to learn but I was up for the challenge!

Once rehearsals started, we had so much fun learning the songs, words and movements. We had a lot of laughs and I made lots of new friends.

When my parents came to watch my dad commented, ‘I thought that you couldn’t get better than the film, how I was wrong!’

It was worth all the stress and hard work to make this production amazing and I would do it all over again. As a matter of fact, I can’t wait for Billy Elliot next year!

*Naomi Eaton, 9G*



## Pastoral Updates...

**Over the last academic year, Year Councils and School Councils have raised issues relating to school uniform. We have therefore committed to a uniform review over the next six months. Please feel reassured we will fully consult with parents, pupils, staff and Governors. We will be mindful of costs and there will be a clear ‘phasing in’ period for any changes.**

**Please can we ask parents to remind pupils that once the school bus delivers them to the school site they must remain at school. This is for the pupils’ own safety and parents’ peace of mind. Pupils are not permitted to leave to go to the skate park or any local shop. We cannot be held responsible for pupils who choose to leave the school site.**

*Mrs D. Christopher, Senior Assistant Head, Head of Key Stage 3*



## A very Royal International Air Tattoo

**On Friday 8th July 2016 a lucky group of Year 10 pupils had the opportunity to visit the Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford.**

Pupils visited static air displays, walked around the RAF village and spoke to serving personnel about their roles and the equipment that they use within their day to day job. There was a fantastic flying display from the F-35, Red Arrows



and Chinook helicopters to name but a few. We were even in the presence of Royalty when we spotted Prince William, the Duchess of Cambridge and Prince

George when they met the Red Arrows! As always, the pupils had a memorable and exciting day.

*Mrs S. Loach, Lead Learning Advisor*

## Friends of Kingshill School (PTA)

**The Friends of Kingshill School would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents and carers. 'The Friends' are an active Parent/Teacher Association and all parents and carers of Kingshill pupils are automatic members. We raise funds through various events and help to finance the purchase of additional items and equipment for the school's faculties.**

We would like to welcome our newly recruited Coordinators, Sadie Rowlands and Julia Gibson and Secretary, Isabel Reeskamp. We are currently looking to recruit a new Treasurer on the committee. If you are interested, please contact us to find out more about the role.

All of our meeting dates and planned fundraising events can be found on the "Parents" tab of the school website. Our next meeting will take place at the school on Tuesday 15th November 2016 between 7 - 8p.m.

### Upcoming Events

With the help of willing volunteers, we will be offering the opportunity to purchase refreshments at a number of school events throughout November and December:

- 03/11/16: GCSE Awards Evening, starts at 7:00p.m.
- 11/11/16: Children in Need Talent Show, 7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.
- 24/11/16: Sports Awards Evening, starts at 7:00p.m.
- 15/12/16: Christmas Concert, starts at 7:00p.m.

### The Giving Machine shopping website

Advanced apologies for mentioning the "Christmas" word so soon but, if you or your family do your Christmas shopping online, then why not raise funds for Kingshill School at the same time. The Giving Machine is a non-profit company set up to raise money for UK schools. Simply register with [www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk](http://www.TheGivingMachine.co.uk) and nominate Cirencester Kingshill School. Every time you shop online Kingshill School will get a free donation from the retailer. All retailers are listed on the website and include Argos, Ticketmaster, Toys R Us, Boots, House of Fraser, Lastminute.com, Sainsbury's, Superdrug, The Body Shop, Toni & Guy, The Fragrance Shop, Wowcher and Weight Watchers to name but a few.

### Second Hand Uniform Update

Thank you to all those who have donated second hand uniform, we have been busy delivering the uniform to 'Second Chance', located in Cricklade Street, Cirencester. As a reminder, you are able to access the second hand uniform during the week from Monday - Friday, 10a.m. - 4p.m.

Please continue to either drop off any donations at the school reception or directly to Sue Dowling at 'Second Chance'.

### Why not get involved?

No matter how much time you can offer, we appreciate and welcome all help! Even if you are unable to attend the meetings, we value any helping hands at school events.

If you have any ideas for fundraising or can assist with any upcoming events, feel free to contact us via our e-mail at: [fsk@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:fsk@cirencesterkingshill.gloucs.sch.uk).

# Iceland



**On Saturday 23rd July 2016, thirty Year 10 Geography pupils set out on the trip of a lifetime to see the spectacular sights of Iceland.**

After taking the ferry to the Heimany Islands, we walked up the Eldfell volcano. Up at the summit, we could feel the warmth from the geothermally heated rocks. We even saw another group of walkers cooking eggs under the ground! We were fortunate to undertake the popular tourist trip around Iceland's 'Golden Circle'. We visited the famous Pingvellir National Park, watched the eruption of the Strokkur Geysir and experienced the spectacular power of the Gullfoss Waterfall.

For many, the highlight of the trip was taking the plunge into the geothermally heated Blue Lagoon and sampling the natural mud face masks.

It was an incredible and memorable trip for our Year 10 pupils and we are looking forward to doing it all again next year!

*Mrs K. Couchman, Geography Teacher*

## Free Schools Meals Important Update

**Please be advised that Gloucestershire County Council has changed the way they administer Free Schools Meals, and it is now administered through an online portal.** Gloucestershire County Council has asked that we direct all Parent/Carers making Free School Meal applications to the online portal. This includes children already receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals to ensure that schools receive all the funding to which they are entitled under the Pupil Premium. Please use the link below to access the portal. <https://emsonline.gloucestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal/Account/Login>

On accessing the portal you will need to register if you are a new user. The link to the portal is also available from the school's website.



# Whitemoor Lakes 2016



## Year 10 Parent/ Tutor Evening and Introduction to Key Stage 4

**The beginning of Year 10 can feel a big step up from Key Stage 3 with the challenges of GCSE study already well underway.**

During this evening, on Monday 10th October 2016, pupils and parents were provided with an overview of important changes to the GCSE curriculum including the move away from letter grades (A\*-G) in assessment to the new 1-9 numerical system. There was also some important guidance on ensuring effective study habits both at home and in school and a reinforcement of the value of excellent attendance. Based on the results of the Year 11 pupils in 2016, our top achievers all had attendance of over 98.5%! The evening also provided a valuable opportunity for tutors and parents to discuss any early successes or areas of concern.

## Post-16 Information Evening

**On Tuesday 20th September 2016, we welcomed Year 11 pupils and their parents for our Post-16 Information Evening. This event provided key details regarding the vast range of courses available for study to our pupils when they leave Cirencester Kingshill School. From A-Levels to Apprenticeships and Diplomas to BTECs, there is a huge range of choice of further and higher education for young people today and within our local area, an equally huge variety of colleges and schools to choose from!**

Pupils were encouraged to recognise the value of hard work and good attendance during their final year at Kingshill School so that they achieve the very best results possible. Equally as important though is the emphasis on them developing independence and initiative to ensure that they are prepared for life beyond school. Increasingly, colleges, universities and employers are placing great significance on the value of work experience, voluntary and community-based work in developing a sense of individual and social responsibility.

All of the slides and resources made available during both evenings are available on the school's website on the 'Parents' tab under 'Presentations from Meetings'.

*Mr J. Morland, Senior Assistant Head, Head of Key Stage 4*

## Miss Steel's Zambian Adventure

**During the summer holidays I had the opportunity to coach and teach in Kalingalinga, a compound on the outskirts of Lusaka, the capital of Zambia.**

I spent most of my mornings teaching Physical Education to orphans and other children within the community. In the afternoons I coached the Kalingalinga U12, U15 and U17 netball teams. The girls have no trainers to wear so I was continually impressed by the standard of the netball considering they were in flip-flops or bare feet! I felt very privileged to be able to donate a set of Kingshill School netball skirts and bibs to the community. I have been informed that the girls have played every tournament since in the Kingshill skirts and are extremely proud to wear them and feel a part of our school.

I would like to say a big thank you to 7E for producing postcards for my trip to 'The Learn to Inspire and Trust School' in Bauleni. When teaching English here, the pupils loved hearing all about Kingshill School and were thrilled to respond to your questions. Your posters and other creations are now proudly displayed in their classrooms.

This adventure was an incredibly humbling experience that not only changed my life but my perspective and approach to education. I feel as though I have left a little bit of Kingshill School in the heart of Zambia!

*Miss R. Steel, Physical Education Teacher*





# Sport News

## Cricketing Champions

**A huge congratulations to our Year 10 Cricket Team for becoming 2016 District Cricket Champions.**

The final was held at Cirencester Cricket Club on Monday 4th July 2016. Kingshill School batted first and raked up an impressive 134 runs in their allocated 20 overs.

Well done to our top 3 scorers, James Newman 11B (Kingshill's Captain) with 33 runs, Daniel McLaughlin 11A with 23 and Archie Norrie 11B, with 21.

As a team, Kingshill School bowled well and put pressure on the opposition, Marling School, bowling them out for 54 runs. A special mention must go to Conor Hutchinson 11B, for taking 4 wickets. We are very proud of this achievement and the teamwork that was shown. Well done!

*Mr P. Hamblin, Head of Physical Education*



The Physical Education Faculty would like to congratulate Abigail Evans 10B, for being selected to play in the County Development Netball Squad. A special congratulations to Bethany Mackinnon 10E, Katie Pauling 9E and Ella Halpin 9F who have continued to perform at a high level and achieve County standard in Netball. Outstanding effort!

*Mrs A. Hussey, Physical Education Teacher*

## Kingshill at Wimbledon

**On Monday 4th of July 2016, 10 incredibly lucky Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to spend a day at Wimbledon.**

We were in the presence of all of the tennis superstars and enjoyed a phenomenal day of world class tennis at this legendary venue.

On arrival, we headed for the notorious strawberries and cream before soaking up all the action on court. Both the Men's and Women's Singles Champions



were in action. It was quite clear that Serena Williams and Andy Murray were on a mission to be the best.

It was a superb day for all involved and

a great opportunity to see Tennis played at the highest level. It was certainly a day that we will never forget!

*Mr L. Ryder, Physical Education Teacher*

## National School Games

**From the 1st September 2016 - 4th September 2016, Kingshill School was selected by the Youth Sport Trust to take part at the National School Games Competition at Loughborough University. A lucky group of eight pupils, Rhys Simmonds 10D, Alfie Chambers 10B, Christopher Thorn 10A, Aaron White 10D, Kizzy Richardson 10F, Abigail Evans 10B, Elizabeth Wagstaff 10B and Gracie Napier 10F, were selected. We also nominated four pupils to be a part of the Talent Inspiration Programme that ran alongside the Games. The athletes taking part were all U19 and qualified to compete through their National Governing Bodies of sport.**

They are the Olympic, Paralympic & Commonwealth champions of the future. The level of sport is fantastic to watch and it was great for our pupils to have this opportunity to be inspired to be the best they can be.

The Talent Inspiration Programme pupils, Jack Clark 11F, Robert Jackson 11D, Oscar Powell 11B and Bethany Mackinnon 10E, were involved in workshops run by athlete

mentors and were given strategies and support about how they could achieve their sporting dreams. They worked alongside other talented athletes from around the country and had insight into being a part of a multi-sport elite event. It was great to see them inspired by their time at the University.

The Volunteer Programme enabled our pupils to have the opportunity to be involved in different sports and gave them insight to the many jobs which surround elite sporting competitions. In particular we were involved with the Fencing, Volleyball and Table Tennis which enabled us to watch some fantastic sport as well as facilitate the smooth running of the event. The pupils developed key skills over our time at the Games through

working with new people and being put into new situations. They also enjoyed the chance to live in the halls of residence at Loughborough University for a few days and enjoy a masterclass from the England Volleyball captain!

Congratulations to Kizzy Richardson 10F, for winning the 'Self Belief Award' and well done to Abigail Evans 10B, for putting herself forward to speak at the volunteer celebration event in front of over 200 people.

We were very proud of all of the pupils, they were a credit to Kingshill School. I know that all of the pupils are now keen to further develop their volunteering back in school and the local community.

*Mrs H. Pauling, School Games Organiser*





# Athletics Gold

Kingshill School took a strong team of 66 pupils from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 to the Prince of Wales Stadium in Cheltenham on Tuesday 12th July 2016, to compete in the District Schools Athletics Championships.

There were a lot of personal bests and a whole heap of pupils excelling, many coming in second place. A special congratulations to Ewan Burrell 10A, for coming first in the 200m and to Rachel Oram 9C, for winning the High Jump.

A huge well done to everyone who took part.

*Mrs C. See, Athletics Coach*

## Girls Get Involved!

**Girls' Rugby Club will start the first week after October Half Term on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 from 3:10 - 4:15p.m.** All ages and abilities welcome. Please bring boots, gum shields and some warm clothes. We will be entering the county tournaments where you will have the opportunity to represent Kingshill School.

**Come and get muddy and get involved!**

**All ages and abilities are welcome to join the Indoor Girls' Cricket Club which will start after the Christmas holidays on Wednesday 11th January 2017.** Bring along your friends for some fun, music and the opportunity to learn from a professional coach!

*Mrs A. Hussey, Physical Education Teacher*

## Year 7 Relay Team



**On Wednesday 21st September 2016, Kingshill School took 18 pupils to our first Cross Country Competition of the season. I am very proud of all of our pupils for not only running their best, but supporting one another out on the course.**

A huge congratulations to the Year 7A Team for winning, for the first time ever, their relay. Well done Richard Heitt 7F, Benjamin Woodcock 7G, Tom Oram 7B and Benjamin Huxtable 7E.

*Mrs C. See, Athletics Coach*