



Kingsford Times

Student Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students,

I would like to thank all parents who attended the Student Academic Counselling day on Monday 23rd November. The occasion was hugely successful with the numbers of parents in attendance up to 89%.

Such events are an important part of the Kingsford Community School calendar, providing a link between parents and the school as we work in partnership for the best possible outcomes for our young people. It is widely recognised that if pupils are to maximise their potential from schooling the full support of their parents is essential as is the partnership between home and school.

Attempts to enhance parental involvement in education occupy governments, administrators, educators and parents' organisations across the world. It is expected that parents should play a role not only in the promotion of their own children's achievements but more broadly in school improvement and the democratisation of school governance. The European Commission, for example, holds that the degree of parental participation is a significant indicator of the quality of schooling.

In an increasingly modernised age, it is more and more important for the school and parents to communicate closely regarding their child's development both in and outside of the classroom.

As use of the Internet has exploded amongst young people, regrettably so has cyber bullying. Last week was anti-bullying week, an event applauded and supported by Kingsford Community School. Kingsford prides itself on the high levels of pastoral support provided to students to ensure their overall wellbeing. I would like to urge all parents to remain vigilant regarding their child's use of the internet, particularly social networking sites, and to report any concerns they may have to their child's tutor. At SAC day, parents received a letter with further information to support them in the management of their child's use of the internet and I hope that all parents follow these guidelines rigidly to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our young people.

Finally, I hope all those who celebrated Eid had a very happy occasion and I wish everyone an enjoyable time as we enter the festive season.

Best wishes and kind regards,

Joan Deslandes
Head Teacher

Poetry Slam Winners Visit Chicago!



After a summer holiday and time to reflect on their success as the Highest Scoring Team at the London Teenage Poetry Slam Final in June, the Kingsford team regrouped throughout the term for further exchanges of writing with each other and their 2009 poet coach, Shane Solanki. Time seemed to fly as the finishing touches were put on individual spoken word pieces and the Kingsford pupil team's poems were revisited and sharpened in preparation for their prize—a spoken word tour of Chicago! After hardly drawing breath, the team found themselves on the plane at Heathrow Airport on Saturday 7th November, along with Kingsford teachers Mr Cook and Ms Khan, ready to fly to Chicago.

Days and nights were spent writing, performing and celebrating similarities and differences between Chicago and London life. Whether it was exploring the streets of the windy city and writing and sharing words about the heavy set manmade structures around them or entering schools in Chicago, meeting new faces and writing group poems, there was an honesty and willingness to share and listen to experiences of the students and adults from Chicago and their British guests.

Highlights of the week included an extremely moving visit to the John Hay Community Academy, writing and performing with Julien Middle School students, performing at the Young Chicago Authors event (the premier outlet in Chicago for young writers), performing and giving advice to trainee teachers at the University of Illinois, visiting the Chicago History Museum and consolidating their experience and knowledge of Chicago whilst walking along the banks of Lake Michigan, shopping downtown, enjoying an amazing farewell party with their hosts and Oak Park students and of course headlining at the Oak Park River Forest High School Spoken Word Winter Showcase—in front of a four hundred plus strong audience!

All team members, Shaquille Weekes (9K2), Aishah Habiba (9K4), Shajadah Kayum (9K7), Max Ikua (9K2), James Ojuolape (9K4), Grace Adesanya (9K4), Jack Lyddiatt (9K8) and Brinda Indusegaran (9K7) stepped up to every challenge presented to them in Chicago and flew the British and Kingsford flag of spoken word poetry high. They should be eternally proud of their achievements. No doubt these students will continue to inspire a whole new generation of poets at Kingsford and beyond to share their own experiences through spoken word poetry.

Mr Cook, Drama Teacher



Enterprise Week



Enterprise Week is a national celebration of Enterprise where thousands of activities are run across the UK. Kingsford successfully held a number of workshops to inspire and encourage young people to have enterprising ideas and make them happen by identifying and unlocking their enterprising talent. Enterprise week empowered students in Years 7 to 11 to work positively together, achieving their goals in collaboration with others through taking up opportunities organized by the school. Enterprise week helped students to develop important business and enterprise skills and to prepare for the world of work. The national organisations Young Enterprise and Young Biz worked with our students as they carried out a number of enterprise challenges. Students worked in groups to pitch their business ideas about launching a new student educational site to a guest entrepreneur Darren Pendred, director of a website company called Mr Site. The atmosphere was buzzing with creative entrepreneurial ideas. Mr Pendred was so impressed with the students work that he gave six students the chance to design and publish their own website with his company. They are: Abu Bakar Khan (11K7), Deborah

Oyelade (11K8), Desire Ntahondi (11K6), Christina Okorochoa (11K7), Haminder Rathor (9K9), Fatemeh Zare Shahneh (9K9), Rabeya Begum (9K10), Rabia Ismail (9K6). The event was highly successful and it was fantastic to see Kingsford Community School students working so effectively with the business world, business people and successful entrepreneurs in such a positive manner.

Ms Sarkar, Business Studies & Enterprise Subject Leader

Kingsford Stars in BBC Olympic Film



BBC World Service China recently descended on the school in order to film a project about the London 2012 Olympic Games. Students and staff were interviewed about what they thought the Olympics would bring to London and the London Borough of Newham. Kingsford's own Olympic boxing hopeful Aqeel Ahmed also put his questions to Tony Jarrett, former Olympian and Kingsford staff member, about how he could fulfil his Olympic dream (pictured). The film was shown in 3 parts last week on Chinese national television. To view the videos, go to: www.kingsfordschool.com/kTV.cfm

Kingsford Hosts German Delegation

On 26th November 2009, a twelve person delegation from Hamburg, Germany visited Kingsford Community School. The school's connections with the education department of Hamburg were initiated after our Head Teacher's first visit there with the British Council, three years ago. The group,



consisting mainly of Head Teachers, were visiting the UK in order to find out more about the British School system. They were greatly impressed by the school, its learning and pastoral care arrangements, its staff and students, who provided them with a valuable insight into British school life. Having been greeted with Kingsford's traditional international student welcome in many different languages, the delegates (pictured above) talked to students about the many opportunities afforded to them at Kingsford. They also witnessed a stunning Chinese Fan Dance student performance and quizzed the school's Leadership Team on many aspects of education in Britain. Overall it was a memorable occasion and one which the delegation were keen would lead to further links between Kingsford and Germany. "For many of the Head Teachers, it was their first ever visit to a UK school and, after their wonderful experience at Kingsford, it will not be the last!", said the delegation's leader, Manfred Thönicke.

National Number Day



On Friday 4th December 2009, Kingsford Community School will celebrate **National Number Day** with the rest of the Nation. Here at Kingsford, students will be involved in a series of Numeracy based activities in all subjects and a day packed with exciting activities and Maths puzzles.

Why not join in the fun by trying to solve this Maths trivia question:

A bus can carry 81 passengers. It arrives empty at the first bus stop where a certain number of people got on. At the second bus stop the number getting on is 3 more than at the first bus stop and 8 got off. There is now room for 44 more passengers. How many passengers got on at the first bus stop?

All correct answers will be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win fantastic prizes. **In order to be entered in the prize draw, please send your answer along with your full name and address to Ms Bruff no later than Friday 4th December 2009.**

Ms Bruff, Coordinator for Numeracy & Functional Skills

Forthcoming Events



Friday 4th December and Thursday 10th December
Year 8 HPV Immunisations

Monday 7th December to Friday 18th December:
Year 11 Study Leave

Monday 21st December to Friday 1st January
Christmas Holidays

Monday 4th January
First day of term

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