



Kingsford Times

Student Name: _____

Tutor Group: _____

Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students,

I hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing half term.

As I am sure you are aware, Remembrance Day 2009 took place on Wednesday. The occasion took on particular significance as there are now no known surviving veterans of the First World War still alive in Britain. The deaths of William Stone, Henry Allingham and Harry Patch earlier this year meant that Remembrance Day focused particularly on honouring the passing of the First World War generation. World War 1 was one of the defining events of the 20th century. Its impact was felt across the world and across generations. It was the first war on a scale from which few, if any, families in the UK emerged untouched in some way. On behalf of Kingsford Community School, I would like to thank all those staff, parents and students who donated to the Royal British Legion via the purchase of a poppy and took part in other activities in school.

It is vital that we continue to remember those who are no longer with us today. For Kingsford, this also means remembering those former students who, like many of those who fought in World War 1, were denied a chance to live long, happy lives.

Let us never forget the lives that have been lost across all parts of the world to provide us with the freedoms we are able to enjoy.

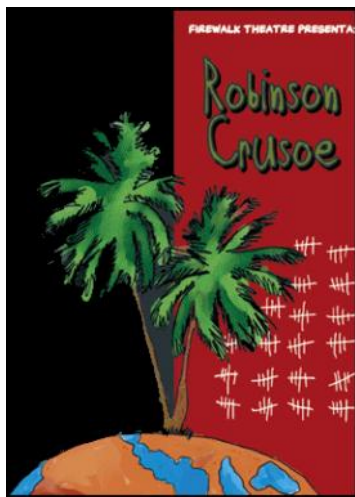
Best wishes and kind regards,

Joan Deslandes
Head Teacher

Kingsford Hosts Chinese Press Conference



Wednesday 11th November saw journalists from several of China's top news organisations descend upon the school to discover more about the efforts being made by Kingsford and other UK schools to teach the Chinese language and culture. The event was organised in partnership with the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust's Confucius Institute, to which Kingsford is affiliated. The SSAT's Chief Executive, Elizabeth Reid, opened the day with a speech that praised Kingsford as a model Confucius Classroom. Mr Qiao Fenghe (pictured above with Ms Reid and Ms Deslandes), the Chinese Embassy's newly appointed first secretary for Education, was also present. It was his first visit to Kingsford and he, along with all those in attendance, was greatly impressed by the school, its staff and students. Indeed, the visitors were given the opportunity to observe a Mandarin lesson and were treated to a fantastic Tibetan Folk Dance and a Taiji Fan Dance Performance by Osman Abdul-Moomin (9K7), Adbulmajid Dinki (10K9), Merza Ghaderi (8K5), Christianne Daniel (8K8) and Dawn Clarke (9K5). Kingsford's Head Teacher, Joan Deslandes, spoke passionately about the school's Chinese Learning Programme: "Kingsford has already played a hugely important role in developing Chinese learning throughout the country and will continue to perform a key role in the story of Sino-British relations", she said.



Firewalk Theatre Comes To Kingsford!

October saw the return of Firewalk Theatre, the popular Spanish theatre company, to East London, as they performed their latest play, "Robinson Crusoe", at Kingsford Community School. All students who currently study Spanish at the school, as well as a handful of students from neighbouring schools, were treated to an hour and fifteen minutes of total immersion in a foreign language as they watched the production—performed entirely in Spanish!

Feedback from students was very positive, with an overwhelming majority of students saying that they would like to watch future presentations by the company. Nearly all students found the production enjoyable and fun to watch, particularly the special effects. "I enjoyed the great lighting that brought the play to life and the interaction of the actors with the audience", commented Inam Rashid (9K5) who "would love to see more plays like this!". Many of the students noted that they thought the play had helped improve their Spanish. "I liked the fact that the actors put a lot of thought into their performance. It was enjoyable to watch and I learnt a few new Spanish words", remarked Elisa Achampong (9K9). "They were brilliant!!", concluded Thomas Thompson (9K6). Kingsford will be looking to host more performances like this in the near future.

Ms Andrew, Subject Leader for Spanish



GCSE Geography Residential to Swanage



In October, 25 GCSE Geography Year 10 and 11 students visited Swanage on the South coast for a residential. The time was used to extend their learning on coasts as a topic in GCSE Geography. The trip was taken over three days and managed by the Allnatt Field Centre. On arrival the students took part in a 'blind drop' mapping activity where their map and compass skills were tested. They explored parts of the coastline line in the wind and the rain, but still made it back to tell their tales. What an adventure! On day 2 they visited Lulworth Cove, a World Heritage Site, famous for its perfect, natural cove. Here the students studied geomorphology and carried out a beach profile as their main fieldwork task. They then went onto

Old Harry Stack. The students were not too sure at first what to expect from 'Old Harry', but were all amazed at 'his' stature. Finally, on day 3, the students took part in adventure activities of archery, abseiling and rock climbing. They were pushed to their limits and definitely reached new heights! A thoroughly educational and enjoyable experience for all! Thank you to Ms James and Ms Galal who attended and made this trip possible.



Ms Nelson, Director of Learning for Key Stage 4

Speed-Dating Workshop at Chigwell School

Language students from Kingsford and Chigwell School struck up an entente-cordiale when they took part in a speed-dating style question and answer session. The modern languages department at Chigwell School joined with that of Kingsford Community School for the day, after Kingsford's Head of Languages, Mr Aidam, who was once himself a Chigwell pupil, got in touch with his old school. French and Spanish students at the two schools were given just five minutes to set each other a string of foreign language questions. Their responses were marked on content, pronunciation and accent, and prizes were awarded to the highest scorers. Chigwell's development manager Loredana Morrison said: We were delighted with the event which was a perfect example of an independent and a state school working closely together on a very practical and mutually beneficial activity." More joint ventures between the two schools are planned.



Forthcoming Events



Monday 16th—Wednesday 18th November:
Year 8 Science Visits to Kew

Thursday 19th November
Year 11 Classics Visit to British Museum
Whole School Council Meeting

Monday 23rd November
SAC Day 1
We look forward to seeing the Parent(s)/Carer(s) of every pupil on this day

Thursday 26th November
Curriculum Information Evening: Year 9 Diploma Choice
Year 11 Leavers Certificate Evening

Friday 27th November
In School Eid Celebrations

Swine Flu Update



The Chief Medical Officer has advised that swine flu continues to be a largely mild illness, and the Health Service has responded in a proportionate and timely fashion to the threat. There is no sign yet of any major change in the pattern or severity of the illness. On that basis, the CMO has confirmed that the advice to schools of 26 August remains the best advice: individual school closures are now of limited benefit in stopping the spread of the disease. However, it is essential that adults or children with flu-like symptoms should stay away from school until they are free of those symptoms.

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