5th July 2024
Dear Parents / Carers


Today was our last TD Day of the year and our focus was on what makes great Teaching and Learning at Kingsdown School. This was a brilliant opportunity to embed our Teaching and Learning Framework based around the three promises we make to students: we know our students well, we teach them well and we have high expectations. Curriculum teams worked together to develop how this is demonstrated in different subject areas to ensure that teachers meet the needs of individuals so that every student can thrive at Kingsdown School.

## Attendance

| Attendance year to date $\mathbf{9 0} \mathbf{9 1 . 3} \%$ <br> $\mathbf{9 0 \%}$ |  | Persistent Absence year to date = 19.6 \% [less than |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 7 | $92.3 \%$ | $19.6 \%$ |  |
| Year 8 | $92.1 \%$ | $24.4 \%$ |  |
| Year 9 | $89.9 \%$ | $32.1 \%$ |  |
| Year 10 | $90.4 \%$ | $24.6 \%$ |  |

As we approach the end of the academic year we will be looking at all attendance for all students who have an attendance of below $95 \%$. You will receive a letter if your child's attendance is below $95 \%$ as we have a legal requirement to notify you of this.

## House system

As you are aware, we have recently launched our new House system. Altas( yellow), Mosbach (green), Nubian (blue) and Barbary (red) are all prides of lions. Students' ties represent their house colour. You will have noticed that there is an additional colour introduced (blue). Houses will be allocated to Tutor groups, so there are many students that will need a different coloured tie for September. There are a number of options for you to ensure your child has the right coloured tie:

- Student to arrange to swap with a friend
- Student to swap their tie on our set 'swap day' with school held preloved stock
- Purchase a new tie directly from the supplier
- Purchase a new tie from the school office
- Purchase a new tie from the school office, receiving $£ 1.00$ off if they donate their current tie


## Sports Day - a reminder about next Friday - 12th July

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that Friday 12th July will be Sports Day for all students. As we are unable to plan for all weather eventualities, please could you ensure that your child has sunscreen applied before they come to school and has a hat in case of hot weather. Your child should also have their water bottle with them. Students should wear sports kit which matches the colour of the house they belong to. Below is a reminder of the KDS' house colours:

- Mosbach - green
- Barbary -red
- Atlas - yellow
- Nubian - blue


## Progress Leaders for next year

We are delighted to announce that Nikki Gilbert has been appointed as Year 7 Progress Leader, Laura Robertson will continue with Year 8 as will Liz Matthews with Year 9, Helen Case, Year 10 and Michelle Crawford with Year 11.

## End of term arrangements

The end of term is fast approaching. Due to student voice we will be running a non school uniform day on Tuesday 23rd July - this is to raise money for UNICEF. Please send your child in with a suggested donation of $£ 1$. Wednesday 24 th July is our rewards trips- videos will follow detailing all of the information that you need to know about the trip. Our last day is Thursday 25th July, we will have normal lessons periods 1 and 2 , Tutor time period 3 and students will be dismissed home at 12 pm . A reminder that students must be in their full school uniform on the final day.

## Brilliant Club - Graduation at Bath University

On Wednesday 3rd July thirteen Year 8 students went to the University of Bath for their Graduation Ceremony from the Brilliant Club. The Brilliant Club is an organisation that seeks to promote access to university and raise aspiration. All students have attended tutorials with a PHD Tutor studying the topic of Philosophy of Science: Why are we here? They all had to write a final assignment of 1500 words which was graded. All have been outstanding and we are so proud of them.


## Future Events

| 5th - 7th July | : DofE Silver Expedition Practice |
| :--- | :--- |
| 8th July | : Y10 Cirencester College visit |
| 9th July | : River Cole trip - Geog GCSE |
| 10th July | : Jonathan Jungle visit to ASC Centre |
| 17th July | : River Cole trip - Geog GCSE |
| 17th July | : Year 7 Parents' Evening - 4pm - 7pm |
| 12th July | : Sports Day - at Kingsdown School |
| 15th - 19th July | : Y9 Normandy Trip |
| 19th July | : Y11 Prom - 7pm |
| 23rd July | : Non uniform day- UNICEF |
| 24th July | : Reward Trips |
| 25th July | : Last day of term, students finish at 12.00pm |

With our continued thanks. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need any further information.

Mrs Leigh-Bennett
Headteacher

