

### **BE PROUD**

Again this week we have some fantastic student achievements to celebrate at The King Alfred School (TKAS). Thank you to all the students involved. You make us very **proud**.

Well done to all our Year 11 students who are working so hard with 4 school days to go before the exams start. You really do deserve to achieve great results and we are looking forward to celebrating your successes in August. Remember, every bit really does count, so do everything you can now and we know that you'll get fantastic results in the summer.

### **The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) - an update from Mr Coles and Mrs Hurr**

Mr Coles writes ... Really great news from one of our local primary schools at Pawlett. They had a monitoring visit from OfSTED and, like TKAS, they have received a very positive report this week. It is now a lovely school at Pawlett and Mrs Hardy-Smith and the team at that school are doing a great job. Pawlett is likely to join TPLT alongside TKAS in the school year 2018-19. Reception places are available at Pawlett. Again, well done to all involved.

In the next few weeks we will be able to announce the new Principal here, who will start as soon as possible. Rest assured we are going in the right direction at TKAS. I have been at the school this morning and can say that Mr Milford is doing a great job alongside the rest of the Leadership Team and staff to make the site very pleasant and a very friendly place to come to school and learn. Expectations about conduct are now high - we thank all parents and carers for their support.

### **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh**

Year 9 Bronze DofErs took to the Quantocks last weekend to put to use their new skills. The weekend was their practice expedition and saw them navigating independently with full kit! Pupils also had to erect their own tents and cook their own dinner and breakfast.

Despite it being a very chilly April night pupils (and staff!) survived and are looking forward to the actual qualifying expedition at the beginning of June.

Pupils are reminded to please return any borrowed kit as soon as they can. Silver and Gold participants have now got finalised expedition dates so please see Mr Aldred or Ms Harvey with your paperwork.



### **Grease - School Production Update**

Rehearsals are coming along nicely for our production of Grease. Students are coming in over May half term for dress rehearsals. The show is on the 9th, 10th and 11th of July with tickets on sale from 4th June. Please come and support our talented cast who have worked so hard to put on a great show!

### **GCSE PE Moderation**

Thursday 26th April saw 49 students involved in the GCSE PE moderation, luckily the sun was shining on TKAS.

All the students performed incredibly well and did the school proud. The moderator was delighted with the effort and passion shown by all students. Focus now turns to the exams on 16/18th May.

Thanks to all the staff and students involved from Mr Bowker.



### **Transition Update**

We look forward to welcoming Year 6 Parents and Carers next Thursday (10th May) to our Parents' Information Evening. The aim of the evening is to give an overview of life at TKAS and the transition process between now and September. The first talk begins at 6.00pm and a second talk starts at 6.30pm in the Main Hall.

### **Uniform Update**

Goldstar (Bridgwater) and Trutex, our uniform suppliers, have contacted us to confirm that they will shortly be stocking the new uniform. From September 2018 all Year 7 students, and students who choose to do so in other Year Groups, will wear the new uniform of TKAS blazer and tie, plain white collared shirt and black trousers/skirt. This uniform represents a net saving to parents annually, as the blazer will be much more hardwearing than the jumpers, and plain white shirts are much more reasonable/readily available than the logoed versions. We will confirm as soon as possible when our suppliers are ready to sell the new uniform, but we hope this will be in the next 2-3 weeks.

Current students can continue to wear their current uniform for the rest of their education at The King Alfred School. If students need replacement uniform and are in current Years 7 to 10, they can purchase the 'old style' whilst stocks remain, or move to the 'new style' at any time.

### **Attendance Update**

On 8th May we will be launching the '**Fantastic 50**'. All students have to do is attend every day for 50 days regardless of previous attendance to qualify for our offsite reward in July. In consultation with parents and carers we recognise that medical appointments can be beyond your control so although not giving an official 100% attendance figure on the legal register, for the **Fantastic 50** those missed sessions will count. We will also offer the opportunity for students who have missed 1 day's schooling in a half term to catch up and 'credit' the missed day so they can also be part of the



**Fantastic 50** and its rewards. This works twofold in that students do not have any gaps of knowledge in the subjects they have missed and also develops autonomy in students for their learning. As a school we expect a minimum of 95% to maximise learning opportunities in school. Even 95% means that two weeks of schooling have been missed over the year.

### **Year 11 GCSEPod Revision Resource**

Before the Easter holiday we provided students in Year 11 with login details for GCSEPod. GCSEPod has over 5,000 teacher-written, audio-visual pods which have been produced specifically for learning, homework and revision. The Pods contain all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams that your child needs for GCSE success. They won't need to use GCSEPod for long to see the impact; in fact, consistent use of just 10-minute chunks is proven to support your child's progress.



GCSEPod can be viewed on mobiles, tablets and PCs and the Pods can be downloaded for offline viewing. The Pods are mapped to the curriculum and students can access pre-set exam playlists which collate all the Pods relevant to a specific exam into a neatly organised list.

We recommend that you discuss GCSEPod with your son or daughter to ensure that they have successfully activated their accounts and encourage them to make use of this service throughout their GCSEs. Once logged in, students can search for Pods by keyword, a specific exam or subject area. For more ways you can help support your child using GCSEPod, visit our website where you'll find lots more information and resources. [www.gcsepod.com/parents](http://www.gcsepod.com/parents)