

25th May 2018**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**.

Congratulations to Holly Hudghton 11I for being selected to represent the South West in the National Swimming Championships in Bulgaria. We are very **proud** of her for how she has been managing her training around her GCSE exams and wish her the best of luck in the competition.

The Priory Learning Trust (TPLT) - a message from Mr Jenkins (new Principal)

Thank you for your fantastic support this term. The new Principal at TKAS Mr Jenkins will be visiting the school in Term 6 to get to know staff, students and the wider community. There will be a 'Meet The Principal' evening in July. There will also be time for Mr Jenkins to come to TKAS before the end of the summer term to allow a proper handover from Mrs Hurr. Mrs Hurr has done a remarkable job in the last few months and we are very pleased to say that the school will be fully staffed for September - largely due to her efforts. One very good piece of information is that the English team are reporting some very strong expected outcomes for the September 2018 GCSE results. English predictions were very sound last year and this year's predictions are even higher than the good 2018 outcomes. English and literacy is so important. Clearly, we wait and see, but I have been very impressed with the quality of teaching seen in English and in many other areas of TKAS over the last few months. The teaching staff and support staff are continuing, in my view, to do a really strong job and are fully supporting the clear 'Standard Operating Procedures' now at the school.

Please do follow TKAS on our school Facebook page which promotes only good news in the community. On the page you may have seen the pictures of the 'ice-cream van' visit post SATs to Pawlett Primary. There were some lovely smiles! Pawlett is also soon to join TPLT and has **4** reception places available for September. It really is a village school 'going places' and is well worth a visit. So, if you know of family or friends looking for a reception place at a great local school do get in touch directly with myself or with Pawlett or use Facebook!

**Arrangements for Year 7 until September**

Mr Harris will soon be visiting our feeder primary schools and turning his focus towards the new intake for 2018-19. During the rest of the summer term, Mr Herbert will take over as Head of Year 7, with Mr Bowker assisting him. In September, we are looking forward to welcoming Miss Caroline Bullock as Head of Year 8. She is very much looking forward to meeting the students during their assembly on 10th July. In the meantime, please contact your child's tutor if required and can be passed to Mr Herbert as necessary.

Sixth Form Law Society Visit to Bristol Crown Court

The Sixth Form Law Society visited Bristol Crown Court on Tuesday of this week as they continue their preparations to compete in the Citizenship Foundation's Bar Mock Trial competition in the autumn. The students were greeted by their mentor, HHJ Mark Horton, who led a discussion about the role of the jury system and the judge in English Law and allowed students to familiarise themselves with an empty courtroom: students were encouraged to take their place on the witness stand and face the imaginary jury before answering questions. The group then entered the public galleries of the courts and observed current trials including the harrowing case of the acid attack in Bristol, which was at the sentencing stage, and a homicide case. Thank you to Mrs Lawrence



for helping organise the visit and to Jane Watkins for accompanying the students, who are becoming very knowledgeable about the English legal system and are in a confident position as they prepare their university applications.

Arrangements for Year 10 next year (Year 11 2018/19)

Following the birth of his second child Mr Shepherd has decided to return to his role as Assistant Head of Year in September. Miss Charles, our current Head of Year 11 will retain that post from September. This will mean that Miss Charles will provide the expert support for Year 11 developed from her experience this year, and Mr Shepherd will work with her to guide the year group towards their exams.

Use of the School site outside of school hours

Please can we ask all parents to ensure that students are not on site outside of school hours unless they are attending a school club or club based on our site. The Astro turf and tennis courts are not open for student use in the evenings and weekends.

Challenge Day Update

Letters have gone out to students trip choices below. Please ensure choices are returned straight after half term so that we can assign students to their chosen trip.

Venue	Cost	Notes
Thorpe Park Theme Park	£39.00	Trip leaves at 7.00am and returns at 7.30pm
Chessington World of Adventure	£32.00	Trip leaves at 7.00am and returns at 7.00pm
Cardiff Ice - Skating and Stadium Tour	£28.00	All trips take place within the times of the usual school day
Go Ballistic Paintball	£27.50	
Taunton Cinema/Bowling	£18.00	
AirHop Bristol	£16.50	
Brean Leisure Park	£12.50	Students need to make own way to/from Brean

Tuning into Teens

King Alfred School, in association with SHARE, hosted the first of our six week sessions in relation to Tuning into Teens – Emotionally Intelligent Parenting. It was lovely to see parents not only from King Alfred School but also from the local junior schools attending in anticipation of the stresses that both young people and parents can face when students move from Junior to Secondary education. We anticipate running this course again in the next academic year so if you are interested or would just like to find out more please contact Mrs Lawrence via email at slawrence@kingalfred.somerset.sch.uk



Uniform Update

Goldstar (Bridgwater) and Trutex, our uniform suppliers, have contacted us to confirm that they are now stocking the new uniform. Ties are in stock, Girls Blazers are in stock in all sizes and Boys Blazers are also in stock in all sizes (another delivery is expected this week to increase stock levels).

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. 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.