

Our Ref: MTR/AJ/October HOY11

October 2011



Welcome to all Parents and Carers of Year 11.

As your child enters into their final year at school, and indeed the final year of Kingstone School's existence, we are heading for a busy and event filled year. Whilst we strive to keep our pastoral team constant, there have been a number of changes to the team of staff who will help guide your child through their final eight months at Kingstone.

Head of Year 11: Mr M Trainer
Link Tutor: Miss S Ward

Tutor Team:

11K Mr I Coates,	11L Miss F Hilton,	11M Mrs B Milner,	11N Miss J Cassell,	11O Mrs S Abbott
11P Mr M Settle,	11Q Mr J Doran,	11R Mrs J Manley,	11S Mrs K Grant,	11T Mr K Turney

Raising Attainment Tutors

Mrs P Bailey and Mrs R Watkins

Tutor Support Team:

Mrs A Westerby, Mrs A Jones, Mr C Myers

CSA Team Leader: Mrs D Sunter

Pupil Leadership

Huge congratulations to our senior ambassadors for Kingstone who went through a comprehensive process to be awarded these prestigious positions:

Head Boy and Girl – Toby Crowe and Martha Harrison

Deputy Head Boy and Girl – Matthew Hewitt and Pippa Lane

Along with other contenders, they were put forward by their own forms and selected by staff vote; finally they were awarded their positions after an interview process.

STARS

In Y11 our STARS theme continues and prefect status is awarded on assessment of each of the 5 areas of STARS

- ★ Standards of uniform
- ★ Teamwork
- ★ Attendance
- ★ Responsibility
- ★ Success – fulfil your own potential

Congratulations to the 164 pupils who have by now achieved prefect status!

I am sure we shall see many more names added to the list as pupils continue to work hard to complete coursework, meet deadlines and achieve good standards in all areas of STARS in pursuit of their badge.

Social Committee

In the true spirit of Y11, our social committee have wasted no time in mobilising themselves and organising the production and sale of Y11 leavers' hoodies. Due to the superb take up and demand, the hoodies will be sold at £16.50 and will feature the names of our entire year group with the special message "Kingstone School 2012 Final Leavers"

Uniform and Equipment

I would like to extend a big thank you to all parents and carers who have gone to lengths to ensure that their child is properly equipped for school. If you are unsure of what your child needs on each day, consult their planner with them. We ask that you check your child's planner once a week and sign the appropriate page – this is a quick and efficient way of seeing straight away how their week has been. Furthermore, this is often the best method of getting a message to your child's Form Tutor or subject teachers. Our basic uniform expectations are also published in pupil planners. I refer you to the Joint Heads' letter in September in asking you to ensure that your child is suitably dressed for school. Under current guidance to all schools, the school may, having contacted parents, legitimately send pupils home if they are incorrectly dressed for school. Their return would be subject to them conforming fully to the school's dress code. Whilst I am sure that this won't be necessary for our year group, some element of seclusion from mainstream classes may also be used for pupils who persist in pushing the boundaries. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring that Kingstone pupils now only attend school in the clip-on tie – it makes such a difference to our pupils' appearance and enhances the businesslike approach we, as a year group, take to learning.

Valuable Items in School

Unfortunately, last year we had a small number of instances where valuable items were lost or stolen. Please remember that we ask that pupils do not bring mobile phones, MP3 players, I-Pods or large amounts of money to school and that any valuables should not be left unattended. In lessons where pupils are required to change clothing, it is expected that pupils will hand valuables in to the member of staff responsible for the lesson.

Attendance and Punctuality

Every hour in school counts! We cannot emphasise enough how important it is that your child is in lessons for their full 5 hour educational entitlement every day. In line with this, we do ask that you try to arrange any appointments after the school day. Similarly, we do not authorise holidays taken during term time, such absences are usually met with a fixed penalty notice from the Local Authority.

The school should be informed of all absences by a telephone call to the dedicated Absence Line (215759) and a note in the pupil planner. As part of our drive to combat truancy, we alert parents on the first day of a child's absence from school where we have not received information from parents as to why pupils are absent. All pupils should arrive on time to school. This is extremely important, particularly on Thursdays, which is our assembly day as important notices are given out. Attendance is monitored electronically in school allowing quick and easy access to information. Miss Ward keeps a very close eye on attendance and punctuality throughout the school day. If there is something awry, rest assured we will be in touch.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 13 th October	-	Y11 Interim Grades go home, mentoring fortnight runs concurrently
Thursday 3 rd November	-	Y11 Consultation Evening
January 9 th – 20 th	-	Y11 Mock Exams Fortnight
Tuesday 7 th February	-	Mock Exam Results Day
Thursday 9 th , Friday 10 th February	-	Y11 Assessment for Living
Friday 11 th May	-	Y11 Annual Reports go home, mentoring fortnight follows

Please keep a regular eye on your child's planner for dates of modular exams and controlled assessments.

Online Information

Please refer to the Joint Heads' September letter which gave detailed information around a range of school issues and policies. This along with other information, can be found on the school website. May I remind you that much of the information requested from school on a daily basis; term dates, contact details and more such information can be easily accessed through our school website: www.kingstoneschool.com

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks as Head of Year 11 for your continued support of your child and Kingstone School and assure you that our prime goal is to ensure that, come August 2012, your child will have the fullest and most varied range of opportunities open to them.

Yours sincerely

M Trainer

Mr M Trainer
Head of Year 11

