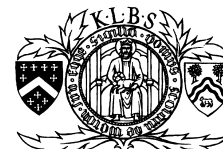


Headteacher:
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FOUNDED 1384

KATHARINE LADY BERKELEY'S SCHOOL

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A DCSF Designated
Language College and
Training School

WWW address:
<http://www.klbschool.org.uk>

Newsletter – 19 March 2010

Mobile telephones in school

In recent months, we have become increasingly concerned about pupils using mobile phones during the school day. Text messaging can be a form of cyber bullying and there have been some instances of this happening in school, resulting in a great deal of distress for the pupils who receive or are the subject of these messages. Mobile telephones can also be a disruptive influence in the classroom, the sending and receipt of texts and calls affects pupils' learning. We know that many schools are banning mobile phones from school sites for these reasons.

We are aware that some of our parents want children to be able to bring them to school for security purposes outside of the school day. Taking this into account, through assemblies and tutor time, we have informed all pupils about new rules which took effect from Monday 15th March.

These are as follows:

1. Pupils are allowed to bring mobile phones to school
2. From the moment they arrive on the school site until 2.55pm they must be switched off and kept in bags.
3. If they are seen or heard, they will always be confiscated by a teacher and handed in at Reception.
4. The first time a pupil has a phone confiscated, they will be allowed to collect it at the end of the same day. A lunchtime detention will be issued and parents will receive a letter.
5. If a pupil has a phone confiscated again, an afterschool detention with a member of senior staff will be issued. This will take place on a Friday from 2.45 – 3.45pm and pupils will be allowed to collect their phone at the end of this detention.
6. If a parent/carer wishes to collect a phone instead they can contact a senior member of staff to arrange this.

These rules are to protect children from bullying that causes distress and to enable our pupils to learn in an environment that is not interrupted by teachers having to stop the lesson to deal with this problem.

If a pupil needs to contact home during the day, they can do so from Reception at break or lunchtime. Similarly, if parents/carers need to get an urgent message to a child, they can phone Reception.

After 2.55pm if a pupil needs to arrange a lift or speak to someone from home using a mobile, they may do so outside the school buildings.

All pupils have started afresh with these new rules from Monday 15th March. If they currently have a mobile phone confiscated by the school, they can collect it from Miss Khan at break.

The rules about iPods and MP3 players have not changed. These are not allowed in school at all.

We are confident that these rules will make the school a safer and more productive learning environment for all our pupils. We will very much appreciate parents' support with this matter.

Holidays during term time

Requests for holidays must be completed on a Gloucestershire Holiday Request Form as early as possible. These are available from Reception. **Please be aware that we will only authorise holidays in exceptional circumstances.** Each holiday request will be treated individually but the following points should be noted:

- Holidays will not be authorised during examination periods
- We cannot take the following into consideration:
 - the availability of cheap accommodation
 - the availability of desired accommodation
 - holiday dates that overlap with the beginning or end of term

The holiday form should be returned to Miss Khan, Deputy Headteacher. If a holiday is taken without authorisation, the absence will be marked as an "unauthorised holiday". Unauthorised absences are dealt with according to county guidelines: If a pupil has ten unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 full school days) a warning letter will be issued by the Education Welfare Service. If there are subsequent unauthorised absences in the following 15 days, a fixed penalty will be issued

Supporting Year 11 pupils to prepare for GCSE examinations

Parents of Year 11 pupils should have received an invitation to an evening session offering information about how to support pupils to prepare for their GCSE examinations. This will be a practical session with lots of parental interaction, focusing on preparing an achievable revision timetable; how to use past papers to revise and active revision techniques.

We are running two sessions: Wednesday 24th March or Thursday 25th March. The sessions, which take place in the Drama Hall from 7-9 pm, are just for parents.

If you would like to attend and have not notified the school, please contact Miss Khan (on the school number or via email at hkhan@klbschool.org.uk) stating your preferred session and indicating the number of people attending. Light refreshments will be provided.

Parents' Focus Group

All parents are more than welcome to come along to our Parents' Focus Group meetings, at which we consult with parents about particular issues. This is a valuable opportunity for the school to get feedback from parents about their views. We meet six times a year and in the past 18 months, we have discussed:

- Transition arrangements for each Key Stage
- Pastoral Care
- Special Educational Needs (developing Individual Education Plans)
- Homework
- Sanctions
- Reports
- Rewards

Copies of previous presentations and discussion notes can be accessed via the VLE in the Parental Forum area. Parents wishing to view this information will need a username and password which can be obtained by emailing Miss Khan at hkhan@klbschool.org.uk

Our next meeting takes place on Monday 29th March. The focus for this meeting is Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) and emotional wellbeing. Dates of subsequent meetings are: Tuesday 25th May and Thursday 8th July. All our meetings take place in the school's Drama Hall from 7-9pm. Light refreshments are always provided. Please contact Miss Khan if you are interested in coming along.

Sex and Relationship Education

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) is an important part of our curriculum and covers a number of topics including the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) and Sex & Relationships Education (SRE) as part of the 'Every Child Matters' agenda. SRE supports the work done by parents and families, by preparing children for issues such as the biological changes of puberty, growing up and human reproduction.

We were delighted to be invited to support the Gloucestershire Healthy Schools' Team develop a training resource that will be used to support the professional development of Gloucestershire primary school teachers in this curriculum area. This involved

filming a series of short video clips which model good practice in the classroom.

20 Year 7 pupils became movie stars for the two days of filming and were excellent ambassadors for the school. The director and producer of the resource commented that "the students, with their patience, thoughtfulness and excellent behaviour" enabled the filming to be a success and that they were "a credit to the staff, themselves and the school".

We were very proud of these pupils and thank them for their invaluable support and tremendous hard work.

KLB Friends Update



Fundraising - Our fundraising continues and we are in the process of seeing the new mini-bus purchased for the school branded with our logo so that is really exciting. Thanks for all your support with the fundraising.



The next target is to provide electronic information boards for the school and the costs of this are currently being investigated.

Congratulations - go to 1st - Helen Atkinson, 2nd - Lynne Aston, 3rd - Anne Mosley who were the latest winners on the monthly 80:20 draw. This is a fun way of supporting KLB Friends and open to all. Please log onto our link on the KLB website for details of how to join and support our fundraising efforts <http://www.klbfriends.org.uk/>

Triathlon – the momentum for this is really building and we have lots of entries so if you are in training but have not entered yet please get your entry in as there is a limit on numbers. The length of the run has been reduced to 7km but full details are on the website: www.wottontriathlon.co.uk. The event is aimed primarily at adults although the run element is open to all ages (more details on the website). In addition, to make this a more inclusive event there will be a **'mini fun and fancy dress run'** around the school playing field. All ages are welcome and there is a £2 entry fee for this. Please e-mail the PTA address if you are interested (so that we can gauge numbers) as numbers are limited. You can enter on the day.

Clothes / books and toys sale

Also on the 16th May we will be running a clothes/books and toys sale. This is a great opportunity to have a clear out of your cupboard, donate any unwanted (but in good condition and washed) items and then come along and replenish your wardrobes, reading piles and toys. Please support this. Any donations can be handed into reception at the school and we will collect on a daily basis for sorting.

Helpers and marshals please!

We are delighted to be able to support our thriving school but the school really does need our help and the committee of 9 can only do so much! Please therefore can you spare the morning to come along and help: marshal the triathlon, help on the refreshments stall, manage the car park or help at the clothes sale. We know you are all busy people but with 1,500+ children at the school it would be great to see some more of you getting involved. We would really appreciate it and cannot make it happen without you!

If you are able to help please e-mail the committee klbfriends@klbschool.org.uk or contact us on 01453 843069 and leave your name and contact number.

English Department

The English Department is offering a GCSE revision guide for English at a significantly reduced price. The book, *'Revise WJEC GCSE English'* by Roger Lane (OUP for the WJEC,) can be purchased for £3.00 (RRP £5.75). It will be available to buy from the English Office during break times from Tuesday 9 March until the end of this term, 1 April 2010.

The department is also offering booster lessons to pupils aiming for a C at English GCSE and separate sessions for pupils working towards an A*. On the Monday before each booster lesson a sheet will be put up outside the English Office which pupils **must** sign if they are going to attend the lesson. Dates for the lessons are:

Thurs 25th March: C/D borderline in R5 and R7
A/A* borderline in R9 and R10

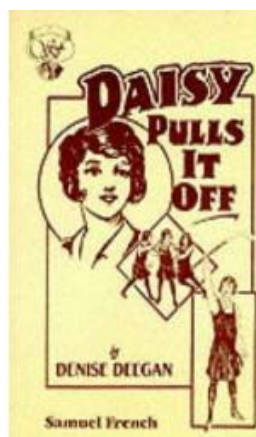
Thurs 22nd April: C/D borderline in R5 and R7
A/A* borderline in R9 and R10

Thurs 29th April: C/D borderline in R5 and R7
A/A* borderline in R9 and R10

Thurs 6th May: C/D borderline in R5 and R7

Drama Department

A reminder that 'Daisy Pulls It Off' will be performed on April 21st-22nd and 23rd.



Tickets will be available for purchase from March 19th from the Drama Office. Tickets: £5.00 adult £3.00 concessions. Please note that it has been necessary to increase the prices since the Drama and Music calendar was issued due to the high cost of the licence required to perform this play.

CONGRATULATIONS to all involved in 'Shakers'. Having been entered in the Avon association One Act Festival in Bristol KLB won the 'Youth Section' and will now go on to the semi-finals in Bridgewater (details of how to purchase tickets and venue direction will be posted on the VLE nearer the time).



The Everyman Theatre brought their performance of 'Misfits' to KLB on February 22nd, a play focusing on body image. This was shown to all the Year 8's as part of the PSHE programme, and stimulated some thoughtful debate and reflection.

A reminder of the Police talk on April 21st for Year 11's and their parents regarding Safety on the Internet which will be held in the Drama Studio (or possibly the Drama Hall depending on numbers) from 6.30pm until approx. 7.15pm. If you would like to come to that, please inform Mrs. Clare-Hudson by phone message 01453 842227 ext: 247 or e mail mclare-hudson@klbschool.org.uk

Please remember to check the VLE Drama page for important dates/homework/forthcoming events and

photos of what the Drama department has been working on and involved in recently.

'The Woman In Black' trip for Year 10-13 students on 25th March has 1 place left. Please see Mrs. Clare-Hudson/Miss Dring if you would like to book this. The coach will be leaving school at 12.30pm (from the sports hall car park) and returning at approx. 6.30pm (pupils will need to bring packed lunch to eat on the bus).

On the evening of March 4th, we hosted a performance by the acclaimed Cornish theatre company Cube of 'The Locksmith's Wife' by Mark Crees. The heart-warming story and excellent acting kept the large audience of teenagers and adults highly entertained. Watch this space for more professional theatre events!



Tesco Vouchers

We are collecting this year in the hope of purchasing an HD camcorder to record pupils' performance work, both to aid them in making progress and improvement and to keep for wider viewing. If you have any, please send in all vouchers to the box in reception or bring straight to the Drama Office.

Music Department Spring Concert

The Music Department's Spring Concert takes place this year on Tuesday 30th March in the Drama Hall, starting at 7.30pm.

There will be the usual group offerings – the Senior Orchestra have been working on the finale to *Beethoven's 5th Symphony*, and there are concerto movements for clarinet (Mozart) and violin (Bach), as well as a familiar solo for trombone – *The Acrobat*. The Juniors will play *Match of the Day*, *Z Cars* (for those who remember such things) and music from *West Side Story*. The Samba Band continues to flourish and will be represented, and there is a medley of songs from the popular film/show *Hairspray*.

Admission is by programme, priced £3.00 for adults and £1.50 for pupils, and available at the door.

Scientific Calculators

The Mathematics Department are now selling Scientific Calculators for only £3.50. They are suitable for use up to and including GCSE and it is one we

would recommend. You can buy one from the Maths Office or ask your teacher.

New Street Dance Club

A **NEW** Street Dance Club will be starting on Tuesday 20th April 2010, 3pm to 4pm, in the school gym for ten weeks. The instructor is Sarah-Jane Noad, who currently holds very popular classes at Wotton Arts Centre. ALL years and genders are welcome to attend.

The Club will be initially advertised in assemblies, when pupils can register an interest.

Karate Club

We are continuing to offer a Karate Club on a Thursday evening 3pm to 4pm in the gym. Beginners are welcome. This is run by an approved black belt instructor.

New Basketball Club

A New Satellite basketball club for Year 6,7,8 and 9 pupils, boys and girls, will start on Monday 26th April 4.15 to 5.15pm and will run for ten weeks in the school gym.

New Tennis Coaching

Outdoor tennis coaching by Jason Boon will be offered to Years 7, 8 and 9 on a Thursday evening 3 to 4pm after Easter.

New Girls Fitness Classes

Fitness classes open to all years will run for ten sessions starting on Friday 23rd April in the school gym, 3 to 4pm.

Further details regarding the above clubs can be obtained from Sharron Bates, KLB School Sport Co-ordinator on her mobile:- 07840 666 971 or via e-mail on SBates@klbschool.org.uk.

Canteen

Due to the increase in the food prices it has become necessary to put up the price of certain food items in the canteen from the start of the summer term. The main school meal will remain the same at the moment.

Fairtrade Love Week

The last week before a holiday is always a hard one and with this in mind it was time to run KLBs annual Fairtrade Love Week to raise awareness of Fairtrade Fortnight (22 February - 7 March) and share a bit of love. Here is what Megan Rawstron-Rudd, a Year 10 pupil, had to say about the week -

"Fairtrade Love Week was a great success from the word go. Selling chocolate for charity was by no means a hard task, just one that took a lot of will power. Miss Mills was joined by 5 very willing volunteers and together over a period of 4 days sold

nearly 1000 bars of Fairtrade chocolate. The bars were then sorted and delivered on the Friday to thankful chocolate loving staff and pupils. Everyone enjoyed fair trade love week as chocolate was sold, love was shared and we all did an amazing thing to help people less fortunate than ourselves."

I really enjoyed the week, but I did get some strange looks when I emptied a cash and carry of its Fairtrade chocolate and started on the local Co-operatives! The Fairtrade Foundation's theme for this year was The Big Swap. If you did a Fairtrade swap at home then 'well done!', if you didn't, start having a think about what you could swap in the future.

Congratulations!

Success again for Lydia Goodfield, Year 12 Food Technology Student - Winner of the Rotary District Young Chef final at Marling School, Stroud.

Lydia has done extremely well after winning two rounds and then the district final which covered North Somerset, Bath, Bristol, North Wiltshire, Monmouthshire, Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, South Gloucestershire and Worcestershire.



Lydia now goes on to the regional final in Birmingham. Good Luck Lydia!

Mrs J Cooper
Head of Food and Textiles Technology

Magistrate Mock Trial

Earlier this term 13 Year 9 pupils competed in the Magistrate Mock Trial competition organised by the Citizenship Foundation. This is what Kayleigh Madden had to say about the day -

"After weeks of nervous preparation, 13 of us plus Miss Mills arrived at Chippenham Magistrates court at 9am on Saturday 6 March ready to take on the challenge of competing in the Citizenship Foundation's Magistrates Mock Trial Competition.

Our first job was to act as the prosecution team for the specially written case. The case was about a teenager who was accused of carrying a knife. We had to prove that the defendant knew that he had a knife which was actually very difficult. In the second

round we were able to defend the accused and try to prove that he didn't have a knife. It was great being able to take on the roles of court staff, witnesses, lawyers, legal advisors and magistrates. It allowed us all to have a bit of drama as well as learning our official roles. We were also shown round the court by a Magistrate and allowed to view the holding cells - not a very nice place!

It was really interesting to see the case from both points of view. We didn't get a place to go through to the Grand Final in May, but we did have a great experience."

Netball News

The end of the netball season is almost upon us and I just wanted to thank you all of the netball squads for all their hard work and commitment this year. We have had a fantastic year and some great results that you should be really proud of.

Year 7 **Player of the Match**

Farmors	Won	14 - 1	Beccy Chalmers
Kingshill	Won	22 - 5	
Archway	Won	19 - 4	Izzy Azcona
Castle	Won	13 - 3	Charlotte Rowberry
Rednock	Won	11 - 2	Rosanna Blacker

Year 8

Rednock	Won	17 - 6	Anna Patteson
Deer Park	Won	26 - 5	
Kingshill	Won	31 - 6	
Castle	Won	15 - 4	

Year 9

Archway	Won	20 - 2	Beth Priday
SWR	Won	22 - 0	Laura Price
Westonbirt	Won	5 - 3	Lizi Honeyborne

Year 10

Stroud High	Won	20 - 4	Polly Roberts
Maidenhill	Won	36 - 1	Joanie Bath & Lottie Aldridge
Rednock	Won	23 - 16	Lily Chappell

Year 11

Deer Park	Won	25 - 4	Harriet Barter
TK	Lost	9 - 8	Rosie Kells
Archway	Won	16 - 12	Emily Hobbis

A reminder our last fixture is on Wednesday 24th March V's Chipping Sodbury School. This is for Years 7-10.

I also wanted to say a BIG BIG thank you to all of my coaches/umpires who have helped me so much this year. They include Lily Simmonds, Claire Wenman, Laura Pinnell, Lauren Eyres, Rosie Kells, Harriet Barter, Joanie Bath, Hannah Gibson & Maisie Simmonds.

KLB Friends

KLB Friends very generously donated some money to the senior netball team. This allowed us to buy some new and well deserved kit. We look forward to wearing it and will take some pictures to put in the next newsletter. Many thanks to everyone at KLB friends.

PGL Netball Tour

We are returning to Barton Hall in Torquay with Year 8, 9 & 10 teams at the end of March 2010. The girls will have the opportunity to participate in the netball tournaments, as well as outdoor adventurous activities, such as abseiling, quad biking and zip wire. I know the girls are excited about it and I'm sure it will be a fun weekend for them all and a great end to a successful season.

Miss Upton ☺

Dates for your diary

2010

23 Mar	Year 13 Parents' Evening
24 Mar	Year 11 GCSE Parent Support Evening
24 Mar	Year 11 GCSE Parent Support Evening
31 Mar	Year 10 Parents' Evening
1 April	Last day of term 4
19 April	First day of term 5
21 to 23 April	Senior Drama Production 'Daisy Pulls It off'
3 May	May Day bank holiday
17 May	Year 11 study leave starts
28 May	Last day of term 5
7 June	First day of term 6
9 June	Year 6 information evening
10 June	Year 6 information evening
16 June	Year 6 information evening
21 to 25 June	A Level Art exhibition
29 June	Music and Drama evening
1 July	Sports Day
5 to 9 July	Year 10 Work Experience
7 to 9 July	Years 7, 8, 9 activities days
21 July	Last day of term 6

Academic Year 2010/2011

1 Sept	First day of term 1 – Staff Training Day
2 Sept	First day of term 1 for pupils
1 Oct	Staff Training Day – school closed to pupils
22 Oct	Last day of term 1
1 Nov	First day of term 2
17 Dec	Last day of term 2
4 Jan 2011	First day of term 3
18 Feb	Last day of term 3
28 Feb	First day of term 4
8 April	Last day of term 4
26 April	First day of term 5
2 May	Bank Holiday
27 May	Last day of term 5
6 Jun	First day of term 6
22 July	Last day of term 6