



THE
KING'S
SCHOOL
GRANTHAM

17 July 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Summer term ends on Wednesday 23rd July at **2.45pm**. Parents who would like their son to be supervised until 3.45pm should inform the School Office by 3.45pm on Monday 21 July 2014. Boys who catch buses at 3.45pm must remain on the school site to be supervised by staff.

Safeguarding

From September 2014, parents of boys in Years 7-11 wishing to take their son out of school during the day should report to the school reception where their son will be handed over by reception staff. This change in procedure is to make sure that boys are safely delivered to their parents.

Parent Survey 2013–14

Two issues emerged from the annual parent survey:

1. Homework. From September the school will closely monitor the provision of homework to check that homework is being set; that tasks are sufficiently challenging and that deadlines are being met. I ask for your support to check your son's homework diary each week.
2. Lunchtime arrangements. The school will continue to keep lunchtime arrangements under review. We are grateful to the PTFA for buying additional table tennis and table football facilities. From September we will publish an up to date list of extra-curricular activities taking place each lunch time. In addition, we aim to improve lunchtime food by improving the 'meal deal' option and providing a 'grab and go' facility.

The parental survey for 2014-15 will ask for your views on both of these subjects.

PTFA

- **Exclusive Gold Card Club**

The Gold Card club was started in 1994 as a way of raising funds for the PTFA. All funds raised are passed onto the school for the benefit of the boys. There are ten monthly prizes of £60 and two (June and December) of £450. An annual payment of £10, preferably by standing order, entitles participants to be included in the monthly draw for prize money. Application forms can be obtained via the school website under 'PTFA'. I do hope you will be able to support the PTFA in this important fundraising activity.

- **Uniform**

If your son has grown out of any items of school uniform and they are in a fit state to serve someone else, the PTFA are always pleased to receive donations – especially items of PE kit. Just bag the items up and ask your son to hand them into the School Office.

- **Harvest Ball**

The annual Harvest Ball will be held on Friday 3 October at Belton Park Golf Club. Tickets are £38.00 each and this includes a 3 course dinner and dancing to music by The King's School Soul Band. Further details may be accessed via the school website (under PTFA).

- **Mensa**

50 boys took the opportunity to sit the Mensa test, organised by the PTFA. 26 boys achieved a score that entitles them to join the Mensa Society should they wish. The average IQ score is 100 and all of the boys scored well above this, so they all deserve congratulations. Of particular note are the 7 boys who achieved an incredible score of 162 – those boys are: Mohammed Ali, Oskar Batty, Noah Carson, Luke Harrison, Ben Johnson, Harrison Lockyer and Benjamin Robinson.

Literacy

During the summer holidays I should be grateful if you would continue to encourage you son to read widely, this is particularly important for those boys who plan to apply for degree courses. In school, all boys will be expected to carry a reading book (in addition to any fiction studied in class) in order to aid the acquisition of new vocabulary.

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From September we will implement a new strategy to improve literacy skills focusing on boys in years 7 – 9. Each boy will be issued with a copy of the CGP Study Guide, 'Key Stage 3 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar'. This is not to be viewed as a textbook for English lessons – it is a handbook to support good practice across all subjects. On the first page of the book there is a code to access an on-line edition and, if parents wish, workbooks can be purchased from CGP to assist progress. For many students it is essential that these basic skills are revisited frequently. To that end, each of the six terms of next academic year will have a separate focus. Term 1 will focus on section 4 – grammar basics.

The House System

From September the Head of each House will be: Mr Dyer (Curteis – was previously Head of Burleigh), Mr Collinson (Burleigh), Mr Beardsall (Foxye), Mr Roberts (More), Mr Collins (Newton) and Miss Henry (School). Our aim is to raise the profile of the house system; develop the sense of house identity, and increase the number of house competitions available to boys.

Careers Education Information Advice and Guidance

A programme of events will be launched in September aimed at boys and parents in Years 9 to 12. Each event will take place from 4:00-5:30pm. More details will be made available in the Autumn term. In addition, an 'Oxbridge and competitive universities' preparation event for parents and students will take place on Monday 13 October 2014 and a Year 10 Careers Fair is planned for March 2015.

Rugby - An Evening of Brilliance, 17 October 2014

The Rugby Tour 2015 fundraising group has asked me to inform parents about an exciting social event in October. The group has secured a booking with guest speaker, Andy Cope, from 'the Art of Brilliance'. Dr Cope is an expert on motivation and positive psychology. He will give an inspiring and entertaining evening on how to be brilliant in everything you do! The evening should appeal to all ages and backgrounds. The cost is £5 for adults and free for children and sixth form students. To find out more about the evening and how to book places please see the information attached with this letter. If you follow this weblink you can sample what to expect: www.artofbrilliance.co.uk. I hope you will be able to support his superb event.

Achievements throughout the Summer term

CCF

The boys represented the school exceptionally well during the flag raising ceremony to commemorate Armed Forces Day on 23 June. At the time of writing, forty nine boys are on camp at Crowborough.

Trips/Visits

Recent overseas visits include:

- The German Department took forty boys to northern Germany for a five day visit.
- Sixth Formers left with Camp Tanzania on Saturday 12 July – 9 August with Mr Morrow (Maths Department) completing extensive voluntary work as well as climbing Mount Meru and a two day safari.
- The History Department have just returned from a tour of the Battlefields of Northern France and Belgium with 39 Year 9 boys.
- The French Department leave for Rouen today (17 July) with several Year 12 boys.

On 23 July we say goodbye to Mrs Carrie Chen who will return to China. Mrs Chen has worked in the school throughout the academic year helping boys to learn to speak Mandarin and also to develop their understanding of Chinese culture.

Music

This term, two superb music concerts took place. On 24 June boys from the Music Department performed in the Londonthorpe Church concert, and on 2 July boys performed in the Summer Concert held in the Head Master's Garden. The range and quality of music performed was wonderful.

Geography

A range of geography fieldwork has taken place during the last few weeks, including Year 7 boys to Stibbington, Year 9 to Rutland Water and Year 10 to Lincoln.

Sport

Cricket

We were delighted that the MCC cricket match took place on 4 July, after being cancelled for the previous two years and welcome back Old Boy Alex Sears, fresh from his recent success with the Light Blues in the Varsity Match – a first for King's. The result was a draw.

Two of our cricket teams have been crowned County Cup Champions. The Year 7 team capped off an outstanding season by winning the County Cup, beating Bourne Academy, Spalding Grammar and Bourne Grammar to reach the final. They came up against Queen Elizabeth's Gainsborough in the final match, hosted by King's. Captain Ben Lumb elected to bat first on a sunny day and, faced with some strong bowling, King's reached a competitive total of 92 from their 20 overs, thanks largely to Max Wilson (48) and Jaidev Prakash (18*).

The U18 (First XI) team have also been crowned County Cup Champions, beating Branston in the Final. Well done to all involved.

Athletics

Oliver Williams (Year 11) finished 3rd in the All England Schools Championships Long Jump - a marvellous achievement. Oliver had qualified for the Championships for a third consecutive year, with a jump of 6.85m, which is the third best jump nationally this year for his age group.

The following boys represented the District at the County Championships in Boston in June:

Year 7	Sheldon Fivaz, Emyr Jenkins, George Cottle, Taylor Jordan
Year 8	Tom Evans, Jacob Carrington
Year 9	Max Hubbard, Harry Bartlett, Oliver Jakes, Ethan Richards Cole, Harry Topham, Joshua Peters
Year 10	Chris Hardy, Kai Winfield, Ben Hopla, Will Lumsden
Year 11	Connor Slack, Callum Slack, Joshua Hubbard, Oliver Williams, Joshua Watts

The following boys went on to represent Lincolnshire in the Anglian Championships in Norwich: Taylor Jordan (2nd, 800m); Tom Evans (1st, 200m and 300m); Harry Bartlett (2nd, Discus); Oliver Jakes (1st, 800m); Chris Hardy (1st, triple jump); Will Lumsden (2nd, Javelin); Joshua Watts (1st, Javelin); Callum Slack (1st 100m and 200m); Oliver Williams (1st, Long Jump); Joshua Lord (Steeplechase).

Anglian Regional Championships, representing Lincolnshire (21 June):

Year 8:	Tom Evans (1 st JB 300m, 3 rd JB 200m, 4x100m relay - qualified for English Schools in relay team)
Year 9:	Harry Bartlett (1 st Discus); and Oliver Jakes (3 rd 800m)
Year 10:	Chris Hardy (3 rd IB triple jump) and Will Lumsden (4 th IB javelin)
Year 11:	Oliver Williams (1 st IB long jump); Joshua Watts (IB Javelin), Callum Slack (IB 100m and 200m – couldn't compete)
Year 12:	Joshua Lord (1 st SB Steeplechase)

Table Tennis

Matthew Leete (Year 9) won gold for England in the International Schools' Championships for Table Tennis in Cardiff. Matthew and his partner fought their way to the final of the U14 boys where they triumphed over the England B team by a 3-1 margin.

Tennis

The Year 7/8 Tennis team (Lewis Postle, Noah Clegg, Henry Wood and Noah Carson, who is playing up a year) have done exceptionally well against some good opposition this season, coming 2nd in Lincolnshire.

Year 9/10 Tennis team consisted of Tom White, Oliver White, Joe Patton and Lewis Picker. They beat Priory 12-0 and Boston 8-4, but lost out to Stamford 8-4.

Waterpolo

The Year 10 (U14) Team came 5th nationally at the ESSA Championship in May. Congratulations to the whole team.

It goes without saying that we are proud of each and every achievement gained by our school community. I have included a flavour of what is known to me at present, but recognise that this may not capture everything.

Sports Day

We look forward to Sports Day on Tuesday 22 July to see which House will be the overall winner for the 2013-14 academic year.

Student Leavers

Our outgoing Year 13 boys enjoyed their Leavers' Supper in the Old School in June and were exemplary in their behaviour. We wish them every success and look forward to hearing of their achievements in the future.

Staff changes

Several staff will depart from King's this summer. After 28 years of outstanding service to the school, Dr John Pembridge (Subject Leader, Chemistry) takes with him our very best wishes as he heads off into retirement. Mr Wilk (Subject Leader, Physics) also retires after 7 years at King's. Other leavers are: Mrs Busfield (Teacher, Biology) who is taking up a Head of Department role in Spalding, Mr Hibbert (Teacher, PE) who is taking up a new position in Derbyshire, Miss Norcross (Teacher, Business Studies) who is taking up a new post in Gloucestershire, and Miss Kirk (Teacher, English) who is taking up a new post in Oakham. All of these colleagues leave with our best wishes for future success and happiness.

Term dates 2014-15

Term	Term starts	Term ends
1	Wednesday 3 September for boys in Year 7, Years 12 (Hall 10.30 am) and 13 (Hall 1.30 pm only for those identified on Results Day. Thursday 4 September for all other boys	Thursday 23 October at 3.45pm
2	Tuesday 4 November	Thursday 18 December at 2.45pm
3	Tuesday 6 January	Friday 13 February at 3.45pm
4	Monday 23 February	Friday 27 March at 3.45pm
5	Tuesday 14 April	Friday 22 May at 3.45pm
6	Monday 1 June	Wednesday 22 July at 2.45pm

Finally, I would like to thank all parents who have supported the school this academic year. I wish you all a relaxing summer holiday and look forward to seeing you during the Autumn term.

Yours sincerely,



F. Hedley
Head Master

Evening of Brilliance

Friday 17th October 2014

at 7.30pm

BOOKING FORM

Name:
Number of tickets required for adults: (Cost per ticket: £5 per adult)
Number of children attending: (Entrance is free for children & sixth formers)
Contact telephone number:
Contact email address:
Tickets to be forwarded through: (eg, name/form of son)

Payment of £_____ enclosed

Please return this form, along with payment, to the School for the attention of
Mr McHugh.

Tickets will be issued at the start of the autumn term.

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you there.