

Exclusive: Interview
 with Jimmy C

The Kingsdale Telegraph

The student voice
 Issue 1

SEPT/OCT 2022



Bringing home the cup!

EDITORS LETTER

Welcome to the first issue of the Kingsdale Telegraph - the student voice! We hope you will enjoy reading this as much as we have enjoyed writing it! Please get involved and send us your news, views and reviews via the Student News Box in the main office. In this issue, we celebrate all things Kingsdale...our superb music festival and talented musicians and our sports department too - who are busy churning out future sports stars! Read our exclusive interview with world famous street artist - James Cochran aka Jimmy C and a day in the life of our very own, Mr Harding! Happy reading...
 Laila & Isaac & The KT team

PLAY ON! THE KINGSDALE MUSIC FESTIVAL...

This summer the pod came alive with the sound of music - at the highly-anticipated Kingsdale Music Festival. The popular event finally returned after the lockdown blues. It was such a hit, we had parents eagerly waiting inside the pod - and even more parents and teachers waiting outside! Rumour has it, some were seen swapping their 2023 'VIP' Glastonbury tickets! Who can blame them? Inside, the talented young musicians delivered a spectacular performance. Supporting acts included even younger musicians, from local primary schools. Their rendition of Jessie J's "Price Tag" was so good, they almost put us to shame! Then it was our turn to inspire & guide them... with some Hallelujah! We are truly fortunate to be led by Mrs Graham - The best teacher in the world! We eagerly await the Winter concert and more world-class music!



THEY WIN AGAIN...

It's an incredible achievement to win again and again! That's exactly what the Kingsdale Senior Steel Pans group have done at School-O-Rama /Class-O- Rama competition. Led by Kishan Shorter, they achieved their 7th successive win in the competition at Canon's House Open Space. Anyone who is lucky enough to have witnessed these legends play will understand exactly why they are so unbeatable!

KINGSDALE'S FIRST EVER POET LAUREATE AWARDS

By Sandy Perkins

Earlier this year I was given the 'Year 7 Poet Laureate Award'. I never expected to actually win, and I felt everything was worth it. My poem was about and titled River, and I was inspired to write it from ideas and connotations of the flow of life and consciousness. I think competitions like this are important in schools to encourage the different and diverse talents of the pupils, and help them find people with similar interests or feel better about themselves. My advice to students interested in entering is to take time to interpret the brief. Write from where your personal ideas and expectations come from, not anybody else's.



We say "Hola, ¿cómo estás?" to Mr Harding, our Deputy Headteacher



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The Big School Interview: Mr Harding

You may have heard him over the tannoy greeting us in various languages, or running past us at lunchtime!

Mr Harding is certainly a busy man. We were delighted when he stopped for a chat and gave us an insight into his jam-packed day. He even told us about his favourite things...

Quick Fire Questions....By Laila and Isaac Motalib-Haque

KT: School dinners or packed lunch?

Mr H: School dinners!

KT: singing or playing an instrument?

Mr H: That's a difficult one... I play guitar in bands and also sing. But I'd say singing.

KT: City walk or country hike?

Mr H: Country hike

KT: Gryffindor or Slytherin?

Mr H: Gryffindor every day!

KT: Books or Kindle?

Mr H: Books

KT: Jelly babies or haribo mix?

Mr H: Jelly Babies

KT) Roald Dahl or David Walliams?

Mr H: Roald Dahl

KT) Fish & Chips or Pizza?

Mr H: Fish and Chips

KT) Netflix or Cinema?

Mr H: Cinema

KT) Football or Rugby?

Mr H: Rugby

Did you know...

Mr Harding has been teaching for 28 years. He has been at Kingsdale Foundation School for 7 years. Mr Harding's favourite thing about our school is its culture of inclusivity and respect. He also likes us - the students! He likes Kingsdale students as we are easy to get on with and friendly and polite! Mr Harding's love for learning languages started at a very young age and his favourite language is Spanish.



School Diary: A day in the life of Mr Harding...

6am: A quick bowl of muesli and a strong cuppa before bolting the house on my bike and letting Joyce, our dog, out for a wee!

By gam: Have a brief informal meeting with Mr Sear to go through key operational issues and to discuss key priorities for the day. Do a quick check through my emails - only get to skim the 100+ emails for the most important ones. Head to back gate to monitor and greet students and to oversee late arrivals.

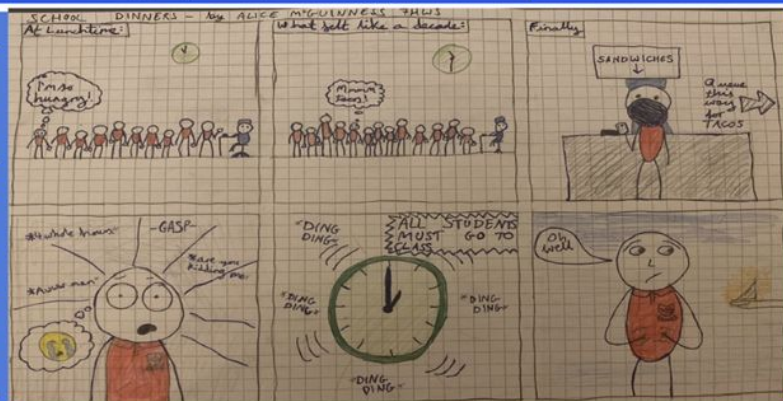
By 11am: Teach a Year 7 Spanish lesson. It's good to interact with the students and remember that I wasn't just appointed to respond to emails! Meet and greet prospective parents and show them around the school. We drop in on music for the steel pan groups starting to rehearse "Last Christmas" by Wham in preparation for the Christmas Concert. Meet with our Safer Schools Officer - PC Crampton. Some of our students were victims of crime this week and PC Crampton is in to interview the students and piece together a description of the assailant.

By 2pm: Lunch duty - I monitor the students and make sure that all staff are where they should be. I manage to grab some beans and chips on the hoof. Go through some facilities invoices and make sure that they represent best value for money. A student knocks on my window (not the first today!) wanting to know if he's allowed to go to play in a football match during the afternoon if he has a detention after school.

By 4pm: Meet with Mr Jones and Ms Boyd to go through important pastoral matters for the week. On the agenda this week - students' safety en route to school, management of our off-site centres, punctuality, implementing the pastoral curriculum, PSHE workbooks and the Year 8 Reward Trip to Paris. Discuss plans for redeveloping the gardens at the front of the school with parents. The Year 10 students are revolting! They want answers to questions about uniform - in particular the school's approach to blazers. I stay for half an hour to discuss individual concerns at the end of the meeting

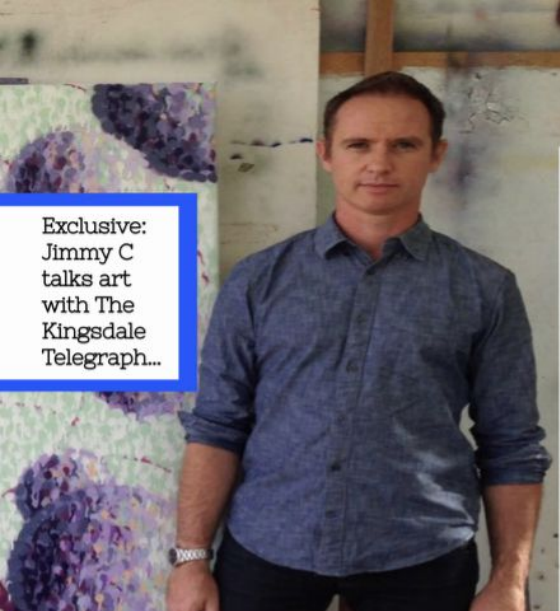
By 6pm: Last minute planning for Open Day tomorrow and a catch up on some of the more important emails. Leave school and fire up the computer to deal with all of those unread emails that I didn't get a chance to answer during the day..

Send us your reviews & articles (word count: 100 words). Write your name and tutor group on your work and post it in the News Box (main office)



Comic Strip: Alice McGuinness

Exclusive:
Jimmy C
talks art
with The
Kingsdale
Telegraph...



My Summer in Brazil...

By Raffaella Picca

Brazil has 70% of the world's animal and plant species, a whopping 45,493 miles from London and arguably home to some of the greatest sights in the world! I was lucky enough to visit this country during the summer holiday.

After an 11-hour journey, I arrived in Sao Paulo... Whilst some of the centre of Sao Paulo has a lot of poverty, it has amazing areas too. I visited Sao Paulo zoo, home to a range of animals. Then it was time to drive to Camburi, a small town with one of my favourite Brazilian beaches. Next... Rio de Janeiro and the famous Copacabana beach! We strolled across the beaches and ate delicious Rio food. We continued north, visiting Bahia and Trancoso where we went whale-watching (and saw whales a metre away) swimming in the middle of the sea. Our time in Brazil was nearly up! Back to Rio for a two-day trip to Santos. We said farewell to Brazil with a visit to a Kilo (Brazilian self-service restaurant), and one last barbecue before heading back to London.



Talking street art with Jimmy C...

By Laila and Isaac Motalib-Haque

KT: You were raised in Australia. How did this impact your art style?

JC: I grew up in Australia and I went to art school in Australia too. I was introduced to Graffiti Culture there through early films such as Beat Street. Seeing the Graffiti on the train lines first drew me into that culture.

KT: How did you evolve as an artist?

JC: Although I came from a Graffiti background, when I went to art school, I became interested in classical painting - particularly oil painting. It was only years later, I came back to the aerosol can and started mixing the classical painting with the Graffiti background. I finally ended up with the Aerosol Pointillism. This is making images out of dots with the spray-can. I was influenced by the work I was doing with aboriginal communities and collaborations with indigenous artists - exchanging ideas, teaching them how to use the spray-can so they could do their dot paintings. This triggered me to play with dots. Once I started doing the drips, I felt it was unique to who I was - so I continued with that style.

KT: You have painted walls all over the world. Do you have any favourites?

JC: It's difficult to say which would be my favourite. I've been really honoured to paint some very important portraits in important places. Such as the portrait of Anne Frank at the Anne Frank Museum in Berlin. I did a huge portrait of the respected artist Camille Claudel, in Roubaix, France. Also a portrait of Jean Moulin, who was seen as a hero from the French Resistance era, in Chartres, France.

KT: What's your favourite piece of classical art?

JC: Probably The Raft of the Medusa, in the Louvre, Paris by Géricault. I've stood in front of that painting for so long as a student. I was blown away by it and have returned to see it many times, over the years!

Find out more about Jimmy C at: www.akajimmyc.com

Opinion Piece: Politics and Boris

By Isaac Motalib-Haque

As we settled into the new school year, we had to also adjust to a new monarch and a new prime minister. Boris Johnson appears to have moved near our school... Just as rumours were rife that he was about to snatch the baton back from Liz Truss - Rishi Sunak was crowned the new Prime Minister! Partygate and other scandals kept the nation entertained and resulted in Boris getting the boot! Whatever your political views, one fact most will agree on; it's not easy being a leader. I met Boris Johnson on Brexit Eve at 10 Downing Street, to interview him for First News. He at least appeared to be a good leader and he seemed to be concerned about issues affecting young people. Despite his failures, it's important to remember his legacy - he delivered Brexit. Unpopular indeed, but it's exactly what the British people voted for!

Maths scholar meets maths genius

I met Agnijo Banerjee at New Scientist Live. He has the same IQ as Einstein and Stephen Hawking! The title of his talk sounded really fascinating (he was going to speak about the largest number in the world). His presentation was really interesting and it was great to hear him talk about his research. I really enjoyed it because it taught me a lot of things that I don't know about really large numbers, numbers that you can't begin to write out and how this is used.



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We are the champions!

Our sports department is a hub for future sporting superstars! Whatever your choice of sport, you will be supported to reach (and exceed) your goals. As well as football, rugby and netball you can also have a go at archery, swimming and horse-riding too...



These recent winners show the diversity of Kingsdale's sporting champions and their chosen sport. Photos: From L - R, Ed Beeston at the English Schools' Swimming Gala; Ruben Chiles at the National Tumbling Finals; Celia Yeatman, The London Youth Games; Adele Varutti at the London Youth Games BMX Racing and (main photo) Mr Foster with his Year 7 Football B Team champions - who brought home the cup from the finals of the 'Play Station English Schools Football Association'.

Spotlight On Sport: Mr Robert's Cycling Club

KT: What do you do at Kingsdale?

Mr R: I am a PE teacher, a year 7 form tutor as well as head of year 7 rugby. I am responsible for Cycling club, Girls and Boys fitness. I have intentions to start whole school interhouse competitions after half term

KT: What's cycling at the velodrome like?

Mr R: Cycling club at Herne hill velodrome is an experience I would have cherished as a student growing up. It provides a great opportunity to participate in a sport that is not promoted to the same degree as your core sports such as football. As a result of Kingsdale providing this club, I have seen a huge response and this kind of response is a testament to the students willing to give a new activity a go as well as the brilliant opportunities on offer at our school

KT: How long have you been a teacher and what do you love about your job?

Mr R: This will be my second academic year as a teacher at Kingsdale. I have been a personal trainer and coach since leaving university giving me years of indispensable knowledge that I can share with the students I teach. I get to wake up every day knowing that there is potential to make an impact on someone's life whether it be teaching a new skill or guiding one of my tutees in becoming a responsible young adult

Let's Dance...

By Luke Charalambous



I am Luke in year 8 and I wanted to tell you about Kingsdale's street dance club.

The teacher Niki (Ms McGregor) makes it really fun. They have different times for the different year groups but everyone is welcome to join in the different sessions.

We do hip-hop, street, house, dub step, beats...lots of different styles. The music is often mixed to suit the different dance styles used in the piece. Sometimes we get to do workshops with professional dancers and try something different.

The atmosphere at the shows and dance competitions is incredible. The music is loud but the kids are even louder with everyone cheering and clapping...so much positive energy and good vibes. We get to see other schools dance routines which might be totally different in style to ours with more acrobatic tricks, Afro beats or a creepy zombie theme. You are all completely buzzing on the coach back from the dance competitions. Even though our group didn't win last time, Kingsdale still brought back a trophy for the older year group.

