



PARENTAL NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 13 Monday 11th December 2023

HEADLINE NOTICES

Arrangements for Wednesday 13th December 2023 Re. Year 11 Parents Evening

Please be informed that in order to best facilitate the Year 11 Parents' Evening, on Wednesday 13th December 2023, the school will close early between 1.55pm & 2.05pm for students in Years 7, 8 & 9 only. Students in Years 11, 12, 13 will finish school at their normal times. Students in Year 10 will finish at the end of Period 7 at 3.45pm, i.e. there will be no tutor period on this day. The school transportation times will be adjusted to reflect the amended school finish times for students. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused. Should parents of students in Years 7 - 9 wish their child(ren) to remain at school on this day, this will be accommodated. Please contact a Head of Learning for your child should this be the case.



House Award for Excellence

Many congratulations this week to Noah Smith in Year 8, who has been nominated for the prestigious House Award for Excellence by the Science Department. Noah has made a fantastic start to his Year 8 classes. A critical thinker in the classroom, who is always willing to contribute to the whole class discussion and support his peers. Well done Noah!

Curriculum Coffee Mornings



Our next scheduled parental Coffee morning is due to take place for Year 7 & 8 parents on Friday 15th December between 11am & 1pm. These sessions are a great opportunity to meet staff and learn more about the curriculum for each year group.

Parents who are interested in attending, must register via the link sent separately by email.

We hope to see you there.

Please contact Mrs Chaudhary, Deputy Headteacher via sca@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk with any queries.

THEME & WORD OF THE WEEK

Christmas

'Somehow, not only for Christmas, but all the long year through, the joy that you give to others, is the joy that comes back to you.'

Christmas gift suggestions from Kingsdale School:

- To your enemy, forgiveness
- To an opponent, tolerance
- To a friend, your heart
- To a customer, service
- To all, charity
- To everyone, a good example
- To yourself, respect

Discombobulate

To be in a state of confusion and disorder.

SCHOOL NEWS

House Captain Recruitment 2023-24
This is our final push to increase our student House Leadership team.
Students! Your House Needs You!
Would you relish the challenge of becoming a House Captain?

- Are you an organiser and communicator?
- Are you a good team player?
- Do you have lots of creative ideas?
- Then you could be ready to be a House Captain!

CONTACT the House Team:

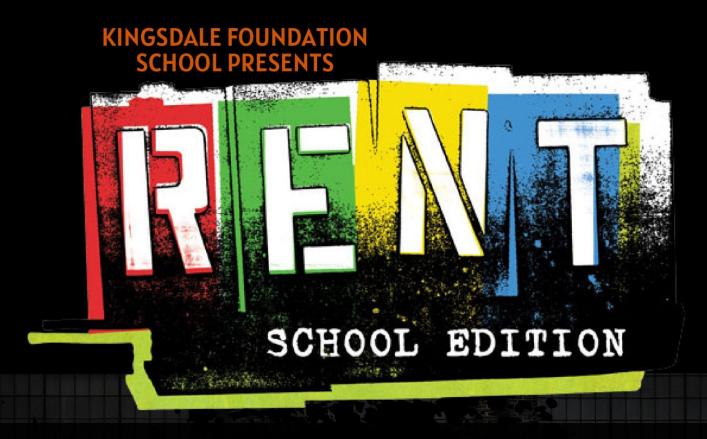
Mr Fatodu via email at:
housesystem@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Throughout December, the Sixth Form will be collecting food and other items for those in need this winter period.

Look out for those collecting donations at the entrances and exits on your way into school.

See page 3 for more details.



Kingsdale Foundation School's Music and Drama Departments proudly bring you Jonathan Larson's 'RENT' The Musical. "RENT" is story of a group of working-class Bohemians and artists in New York City's East Village in the late 1980's, struggling to survive in the midst of the AIDS crisis. The show explores themes of sexual identity, poverty, racism, homelessness and the resilience that keeps these communities afloat against a background of police violence, political discrimination, and the harsh realities of life on the streets.

TUESDAY 12TH DEC 6PM
THURSDAY 14TH DEC 6PM
FRIDAY 15TH DEC 6PM
SATURDAY 16TH DEC 2PM

TICKETS ADULTS £5
CONCESSIONS £2
ON SALE IN THE DRAMA OFFICE

@ KINGSDALE'S DRAMA STUDIO

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

Throughout December, the Sixth Form will be collecting food and other items for those in need this winter period.

Look out for those collecting donations at the entrances and exits on your way into school.

The items most needed this year are:

- Rice pudding Biscuits
- Cooking oil Rice (500g bags)
- Long life milk Pasta sauce
- Tuna Sanitary items Tea







There will be a prize for the tutor group in each year group and the staff department that donate the largest quantity of items.

Please be generous this festive period- all donations will be going to Lewisham Food Bank.



MUSIC NEWS

The KFS Barry Graham Big Band On Sunday the 19th November, Kingsdale's Barry Graham Big Band performed in the regional heat for the National Concert Band Festival.

Competing as a school band on a programme with adult bands, university bands and county bands, the students performed exceptionally well and received both incredibly positive and incredibly useful feedback from the judges.

Honourable mentions were given to Zeb Buckeridge on trumpet and Ben Hancock on bass. We are delighted to announce that the band were awarded a Gold Award for their performance in what was their first entry to this national competition.











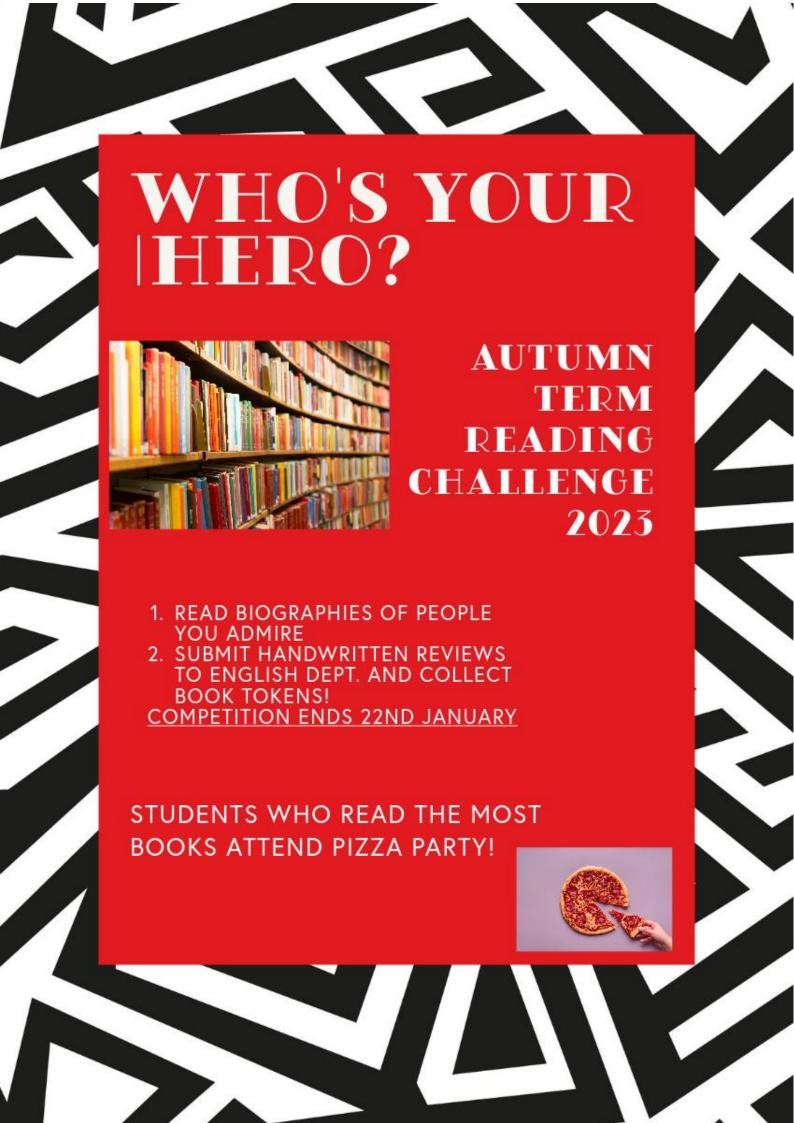
A safe space for teenagers worried about sexual behaviour

Our new website for young people with concerns about their own or someone else's sexual thoughts and behaviour.



Why Shore?

- It is one of the only resources of its kind in the world, designed specifically for young people with concerns about sexual behaviour
- It has reliable information to get anonymous help if they or a friend has acted harmfully online



LIBRARY NEWS

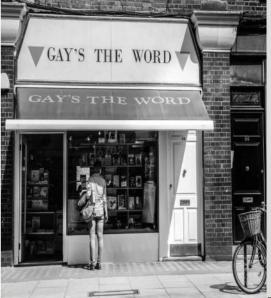
Upper School Library (USL) & Lower School Library (LSL) After School Schedules

MONDAY	LGBTQ+ Club With Mrs Bowles and Ms Dobson	USL TIME: 4.15-5pm		
Year 7-9 Homework Club With Mr Gunathilaka & Ms Dobson		USL TIME: 4.15-5pm		
WEDNESDAY	Creative Writing Club With Ms Dobson Book Club With Mr Read	USL TIME: 4.15-5pm USL TIME: 4.15-5pm		
THURSDAY	Year 10 and 11 Homework Club With Mr Gunathilaka & Ms Dobson	USL TIME: 4.15-5pm		
FRIDAY	Board Games Club With Mr Gunathilaka and Ms Dobson	USL TIME: 4.15-5pm		

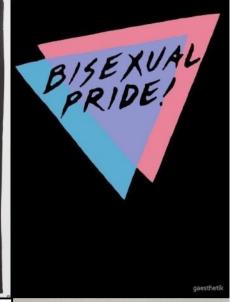
(Book Club and Year 7-9 Homework Club will later be moved to the USL)

BOARD GAMES CLUB

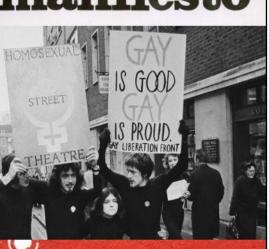












LGBTQ+ CLUB

MONDAYS

4.15pm - 5pm USL

with Mrs B (she/they) & Ms Dobson (she/they)

The LGBTQ+ Society
is expanding!
Join our safe & welcoming
space to meet friends,
chat about queer
books/films/art and
become part of the
Kingsdale queer
community!











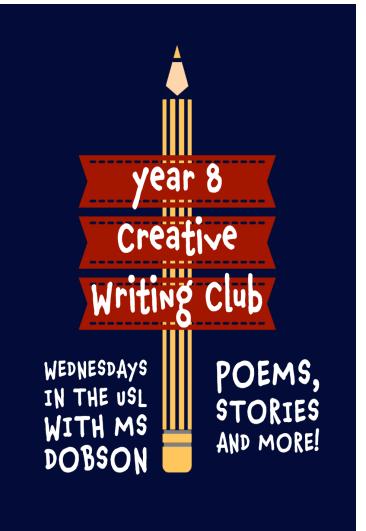


CREATIVE WRITING CLUB!

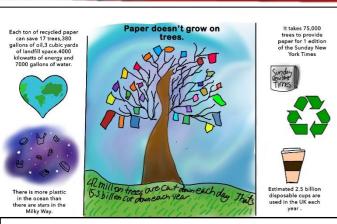
WEDNESDAYS
4.15pm-5pm
USL
With Ms Dobson

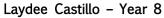
Calling all writers!
Come to Creative
Writing Club to write
and share poetry and
short stories. You will
be given fun writing
prompts and will
discover lots of new
poems and stories!





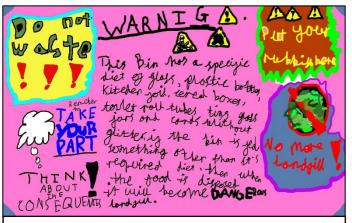
To see more of the brilliant Art, Textiles, Photography, Graphics and Textiles work by our students, as well as Art alumni, please follow us on Instagram @kingsdaleart - @kingsdaledandt - @kingsdalefoodscience (age restrictions apply)







Isla Ford - Year 8



Andrew Hackland - Year 8



Lily Hathaway - Year 8



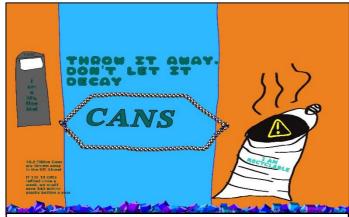
Antonio Kopec - Year 8



Eloida Krasnigi - Year 8

can save

enough



Cassius Cooper - Year 8



Bin-Fluencer Competition **Entries**

Well done to our Year 8 Digital Explorers who have submitted these fabulous entries to a competition run by Alupro, the Aluminium Packaging and Recycling Organisation.

We were delighted to be invited to take part in this competition to encourage people to recognise their behaviour when it comes to sustainability.

Well done everyone!



ARTiculation



ARTiculation Prize 2024 Kingsdale Foundation School Tuesday 13th December, 4:30pm - 6:00pm

We invite you to attend the ARTiculation School heat at Kingsdale Foundation School in the POD

Minnie Buchanan Robert Heinecken, Recto Verso, 1989

Seamus Cahill Henri Matisse, The Snail, 1953

Ayanna Rickets Nick Brandt, A Stranger in Moscow, 1996

Joseph Wickstead Mickhail Mikora, The Unknown Painting

> Introduction by Jemima Gregson Head of Art

Adjudicated by **Richard Canicott** Head of English

Drinks and Canapes served from 4:30pm

We look forward to seeing you

To see more of the brilliant Art, Textiles, Photography, Graphics and Textiles work by our students, as well as Art alumni, please follow us on Instagram **@kingsdaleart** - **@kingsdaledandt** - **@kingsdalefoodscience** (age restrictions apply)

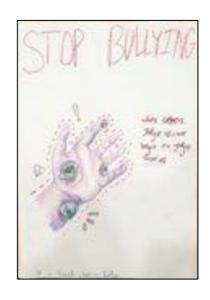
Anti-Bullying Posters

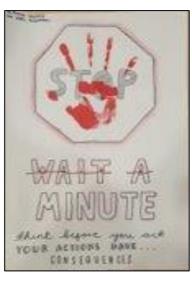
During November, the Art department celebrated Anti-Bullying week at Kingsdale.

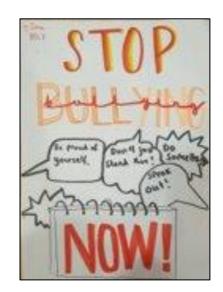
Our students in Years 7 & 8 took part in a competition to create a poster promoting a peer-mentoring scheme to tackle Anti-Bullying. We received an extensive number of entries which have all been amazing.

After a very hard decision we have chosen a poster created by Isla Summerfield and Penny Whalley - Congratulations to both students!









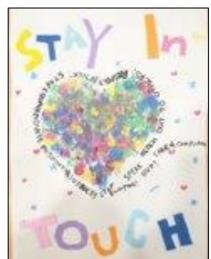






















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Miranda Reula Gregorio

El Mar Gris

School: Kingsdale Foundation School Dimension: 41 x 51cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Age: 17

Country: London

Believe it or not this is the coast of Málaga in Spain, the same one being commercialised as a crystal-clear beach or one not to miss when you go visit. When I arrived, instead of coming to blue waters, a waterscape of greys took over. It was still as beautiful, just unexpected. By painting this sight, I'm hoping to make you realise that the purest beauty is found in those things you don't expect. The water was freezing.

VOTE NOW

BID NOW

11/20



Greta Cawley

Losing Touch

School: Kingsdale Foundation School Dimension: 102 x 76cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Painting of a person curled up on a sofa, staring dully into the distance. The background is painted in soft colours to create a disconnect from the realistic figure, which was done to isolate the model and put the viewer into the subject's perspective of emptiness and dissociation from reality. The subject is breaking apart at edges, showing they are slowly fading away and losing their sense of self. This painting also reflects the bore which life around has become for the subject, and how the world around has lost its spark or colour.

VOTE NOW

14/20



Adriana Iznaga Kanerva

Reflection

Country: London

School: Kingsdale Foundation School Dimension: 28 x 35cm

Medium: Oil on paper

Age: 16

This piece, is inspired by the obsession with appearances found in today's society. I decided to use realism to convey how this is something that might be found in our everyday lives. The light glowing over the face represents how people tend to make initial judgements based on looks rather than character, leaving our other qualities in the shadows.

VOTE NOW

THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION

We are proud to announce that three of our students have had work selected for the prestigious Sovereign Art Foundation Student Prize London.

The public vote is now open so please support our students by visiting www.sovereignartfoundation.com/sp-london and voting.

Congratulations Miranda, Greta and Adriana!

The winner will be announced on 13th December

You can visit the exhibition at Phillips, London:



The London Students Prize Finalists Exhibition

Venue: Phillips, London

Opening Times: Monday - Saturday |

10am-6pm

Dates: 12 - 15 December

Admission: Free

UNIFROG for Careers Education

UNIFROG for Careers Education
Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Kingsdale offers the online careers tool called **Unifrog** to all our students in the Lower School (Years 7 & 8), Middle School (Years 9 & 8), Upper School (Year 11) and Senior School (Years 12 & 13. Unifrog brings into one place, every undergraduate university course, apprenticeship and college course in the UK. Additional opportunities include School Leaver Programmes and details on every college at Oxford and Cambridge. This makes it easy for students to compare and choose the best university courses, apprenticeships or further education courses for them. They can also explore exciting opportunities further afield by looking at English taught undergraduate programmes available in Europe and the USA. In addition, the platform helps students successfully apply for these opportunities by assisting them in the writing of their personal statements, applications and CVs, as well as guiding them through the process.

How to Get Started on Unifrog?

Students access the platform by accessing www.unifrog.org using their school email address and password; they can do so from any computer, tablet or smartphone.

We would encourage parents to use the platform with your child, so they can support them through the process of deciding their next steps. In the case that students do not receive login emails or do not remember their password, they can visit www.unifrog.org/sign-in and click on 'Reset password/Resend Welcome Email'. This will trigger a reset password email on their school email account. This will allow them to create a password to log in.

We have also set up a parent login so that you can use Unifrog as if you were a student yourself, allowing you to support your child throughout the process.

The sign-up code you need is: FOSQPARENTS and you can sign up here: www.unifrog.org/code

unifrog

The Unifrog platform is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups.

Each student has their own personal account that provides a wide range of information related to their interests and aspirations. Key features of the platform include:

- Exploring Pathways personality quizzes, career and subject profiles and webinars
- Recording self-reflection about extracurricular activities and key employability skills
- Opportunities search tools showing live vacancies/courses/placements for apprenticeships, universities (in the UK and abroad), FE, virtual work experience and more
- Applications tools to help students build applications for a range of pathways (e.g., CVs, Personal Statements, Common App Essays)

We encourage all our students to read about the different careers that they find interesting on Unifrog. Careers tasks are set during the year using Unifrog.

We truly believe that this all inspiring Unifrog online career tool will offer your child an excellent insight into exploring every possible area in the world of work. This will assist us in keeping the commitment we have to providing students with outstanding careers guidance; equally tailored support when choosing their next steps after school.

For more information, please contact our careers team at careers@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk







1. Students who are in Years 9 - 13 and are not yet enrolled on the scheme are still welcome to join the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award NEXT Academic YEAR but need to be quick as the original deadline has expired.

1a. All 275 **NEW** participants for the award to note:

- Should have been added to the Bronze DofE TEAMS site where all information about how to start/current events etc, is posted both in the 'chat section' and the 'files section'. Please look here for help and advice.
- ALL PARENTS have access to the above information, deadlines and requirements to be invited out on expedition in 2024 on the school intranet site under Duke of Edinburgh Award section.
- The KEY cut off dates of 30th April and 14th July 2024. See details on the above sites.
- To Check, if applicable, BOTH parental emails for your child's DofE Welcome Pack. All Bronze awards were purchased on Thursday/Friday 9th & 10th November 2023 and a link was sent from the award to the email address of the person who received the link to pay for the award.
- 2. Students who have completed their Bronze Award and who are considering joining the Silver Award programme should have received a direct email from Mr Dennington, offering them the chance to pay for the new award. As already noted, the cutoff date to pay is 4th Jan 2024.
- 3. Pupil Premium Pupils in Years 9 to 13
 If students who receive the Pupil Premium have already paid then the school will reimburse them this month or shorty after. If you haven't paid but still wish your child to start the award, please email Mr Dennington so that your child's award can be purchased before December 2023.

Should you have any queries about any aspect of the DofE programme at Kingsdale, please contact Mr Dennington via sdale.southwark.sch.uk

CALENDAR 2023-24

AUTUMN TERM 2023 Second Autumn Half-Term

Monday 6th November - Thursday 21st December

SPRING TERM 2024 First Spring Half-Term

Thursday 4th January - Friday 9th February

INSET DAY

School closed to students except Year 11 Thursday 4th January

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

Second Spring Half-Term

Monday 19th February - Thursday 28th March

SUMMER TERM 2024 First Summer Half-Term

Monday 15th April - Friday 24th May

INSET DAY

School closed to students except Year 11 Monday 15th April

Mayday Bank Holiday Monday 6th May

Half Term Holiday

Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

Second Summer Half Term

Monday 3rd June - Thursday 25th July

INSET DAY

School closed to students except by invitation Thursday 25th July

You can also find lots of other useful sources of information on the school website here. This includes further details about the operation of the school, including Term Dates, Assessment and Uniform

Should you have any suggestions for additions to our website, please contact Mr Karp, via email tkp@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

For further information on term & holiday dates, please contact the Attendance Team via attendance@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Confirmed dates for the 2024-25 academic year will be issued shortly via our website.



Teacher
Recommendation
Mr Lembo of the
English Department
recommends
The Embassy of
Cambodia by
Zadie Smith.

First published in the New Yorker, The Embassy of Cambodia is a rare and brilliant story that takes

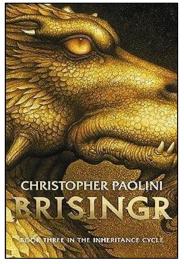
us deep into the life of a young woman, Fatou, domestic servant to the Derawals and escapee from one set of hardships to another.

Beginning and ending outside the Embassy of Cambodia, which happens to be located in Willesden, north-west London, Zadie Smith's absorbing, moving and wryly observed story suggests how the apparently small things in an ordinary life always raise larger, more extraordinary questions.

Mr Lembo loved this depiction of London and an unusual, intriguing protagonist.

Best suited to students in Year 9 and above!

Reading Recommendations



Student
Recommendation
Ethan Gael Lopez
Woods, Year 7
recommends
Brisingr by
Christopher Paolini.

Hardship awaits
Eragon.
He's bound by
promises he may not
be able to keep,
including his oath to
his cousin Roran to

rescue his beloved Katrina.

When unrest claims the rebels and danger strikes, Eragon must make choices that take him across the Empire and beyond. Choices that may lead to unimagined sacrifice.

Conflict, action, adventure and one devastating death await readers as Eragon battles on behalf of the Varden while Galbatorix ruthlessly attempts to crush and twist him to his own purposes.

Ethan enjoyed this interesting read because of its hugely engaging characters and shocking plot twists!

Suitable for all age groups.



Big History Club!

For Key Stage 3 and 4 in HU6 Every other Tuesday from 4.15 - 5.00pm

Do you want to dive into the past?
Is there something we don't cover at school that you would like to learn about?

In Big History Club we use history and fiction books, films, art, music and more to **enquire into diverse**World Histories from ancient times to modern day.

In our next session on **Tuesday 12th December**we will be discussing

How far was the Boxer Rebellion a 'turning point' in Chinese history?

Bring along any knowledge you already have, and ideas for future sessions.





MATHS NEWS cont.

Mathematics Scholarship Programme 2023-2024 Notice Update

Year **7 & 8** Scholarship sessions please see below the revised schedule for the rest of the Autumn term.

Year 7 Mathematics Scholarship Programme SCHEDULE AUTUMN TERM 2023

TIME: 15.50 - 16.35

13 [™] DECEMBER 2023	Year 11 Parent's Evening		Online
20 [™] DECEMBER 2023	YEAR 7A & YEAR 7B	Session 3: Estimate the Area of a circle 1 Mrs Deva & Mr Diedrick	AR3 & AR4

Year 8 Maths Scholarship Programme

SCHEDULE AUTUMN TERM 2023

TIME: 16.20 - 17.05

13 [™] DECEMBER 2023	Year 11 Parent's evening		Online
20 [™] DECEMBER 2023	YEAR 8C & YEAR 8D	Session 4 Construct triangles 1 Mr Prior & Ms Burney	MA1 & MA2



This year, Hegarty Maths has been upgraded to Sparx, which will be used to set homework tasks for Mathematics lessons.

To register, students will need to go to the Sparx site <u>here</u>. Once there, type in the school's name 'Kingsdale Foundation School' followed by their personal details. They will then be prompted to set their own password.

The user interface is very similar to Hegarty Maths, but the work set will be more adequate for each individual student's needs.

Should you have any queries, please contact maths@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

SPORTS NEWS



Under-13s Girls London Hockey Tournament The Under-13s Girls' Hockey team had a busy week last week with two tournaments! The first was against Streatham and Clapham High School where they played 5 games against their A, B, C, D teams. They won 2, lost 1 and drew 2. The team worked brilliantly together with some fantastic goals and defending from Kingsdale. With this confident and impressive performance the team were then ready for the London tournament a couple of days later, playing against Colfe's, St Dunstan's and Eltham College. Kingsdale were the only state school in the tournament and went away with 2 draws and a loss. Some fantastic play from all with goals from Iris McWilliams and Lily Hathaway. Player of the Tournament was awarded to Martha Ackroyd-Todd and Iris McWilliams.

Under-14s South East of England Regional Cyclocross Championships



On Sunday 3^{rd} December, Barney Higgins, Year 7 finished 3^{rd} in the Under-14s race at the Southeast of England Regional Cyclocross Champion-ships held at Herne Hill Velodrome.

Well done Barney!



PGL Watersports trip Years 8 & 9

The PE Department are pleased to announce we are again running our annual PGL Watersports trip. This trip will take place in the Ardeche, France, in June 2024. This trip is open for all students who are currently in Years 8 & 9. For more information about what is included in the trip and the price, please see the link here or QR code above.

If you would like to sign up your child up, please complete the Microsoft Form. If you have any questions, please feel free to email Mr Pizzey (apy@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk) or Miss Findlay (ofy@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk).

Cycle Confidence Course

The sports department will be running a Cycle Confidence Course at the school. Any parents or guardians who are interested in their child taking part in this course, will need to sign up in the New Year. More information will be sent out in due course.



Please note that this course is free of charge, however, your child will need a working bike (they will be checked on the day), a helmet and suitable clothing.

The course will run from 9am to 3pm on:

Monday 11th March 2024

Tuesday 12th March 2024

Wednesday 13th March 2024

Thursday 14th March 2024

Friday 15th March 2024

Contact <u>pe@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk</u> for more information.



Molehill Mountain 12+

Autistica & King's College London

**** 4.5 • 186 Ratings

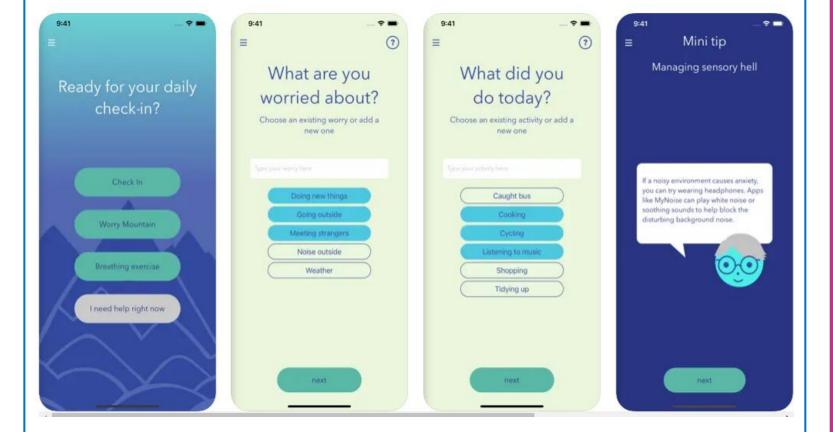
Free

Molehill Mountain: App

Molehill Mountain is an app developed by Autistica and King's College London to help autistic people understand and self-manage anxiety.

You can use Molehill Mountain to explore the causes and symptoms of anxiety.

- Track your worries and the situations that trigger anxiety.
- Get evidence-based daily tips to understand more about anxiety.
- Feel more confident to self-manage anxiety.



SEND FACULTY NEWS

Focus on: ADHD

People with ADHD have difficulty regulating their attention because of poor neurotransmitter activity (the way chemicals are released and transferred within the brain) and differences in the structure of the brain. ADD is similar, but without the hyperactivity.

ADHD usually presents in three different ways, hyperactivity (which means the need to move around more), impulsivity and inattention. Children with ADHD may be labelled as disruptive, for behaviour which they cannot control.

These are the main features of ADHD but there are many more that have a significant impact on a child's organisational skills and emotional wellbeing. ADHD can also present differently in females.

ADHD commonly occurs with other neurodevelopmental conditions such as ASD, specific learning disorders, tics/Tourette syndrome.

Writers/Bloggers with ADHD

• Rene Brooks

Black Girl Lost Keys | Putting the Ayy in ADHD

Joshua Grenville-Wood

 (co-author of The Umbrella Gang comics and a professional golfer)

 ADHD Foundation Comic

Dyskinesia
 Love, Lunacy, and Life on the Spectrum: Life with ADD, Asperger's, autism, and a dog.



Hints and tips

Home

- Don't mistake distraction for defiance. If you ask your child to put on their shoes, but instead you find them playing with a pet, it is likely that they were distracted from completing the task, rather than deliberately not doing as they were told.
- Use timers/apps and visual timetables.
- When undertaking a task help your child to visualise what the end result will look like. Children with ADHD often struggle to plan how to do something, because they don't know what they are aiming for. Working backwards from the end result can help them to start the task, as they can then see the path they need to take.
- For some children it can be helpful to treat their ADHD with medication

"Now that I have medication, my brain seems clearer and I can concentrate better."







SEND FACULTY NEWS cont.

SEE DYSLEXIA DIFFERENTLY

Why 'it's a brilliant time to be dyslexic'?

Research carried out by Made By Dyslexia found that by 2025, half of all jobs will be done by machines.

The other half will require what some call 'dyslexic thinking skills.'

It's a brilliant time to be dyslexic. Dyslexic children tend to be storytellers, entertainers, they're good with people. These are the skills that will take you far in life even though school can sometimes be difficult. Dyslexic thinking is management skills, analytical thinking, problem solving, innovation, creativity, all the soft skills that are hard to measure at school but are super important in the world of work. Dyslexic people are really good at being able to take a helicopter view of a problem rather than just seeing something in a linear way. The intelligence agency GCHQ actively recruits dyslexics for the way that they can see things that others can't.

It's one of the things that most dyslexic entrepreneurs say makes them successful plus creativity and being able to think out of the box. Look at the things your child naturally loves to do and help them recognise them as their strengths. Dyslexics don't often realise that the things they are good at they are actually really, really good at because they may be swamped with feeling like a failure.

Technology is geared to help dyslexics, with accessibility tools available across Microsoft and social media platforms, audio books and videos. Students: It's about how you learn best, and really understanding how you absorb and relay information, then making sure you share that with your teachers.





Top 5 Benefits of being Dyslexic

- 1. Strong memory for stories: Some individuals with dyslexia recall facts as if reading a good storybook rather than just as a list of random data. Having narrative reasoning on your side may help improve your memory and help integrate contextual information better. Perhaps acting or writing is in your future!
- 2. Excellent puzzle solving skills: When it comes to solving puzzles, many dyslexics are pros. They accurately identify the right shape and figure out complex problems. Rather than being a sequential thinker going from one idea to the next, many dyslexics thrive in environment that allow and foster simultaneous thinking in which ideas are connected via different routes than a straight line. This is why we see so many entrepreneurs with dyslexia.
- 3. Brilliant spatial reasoning: The scientists at the University of East London found that young dyslexics are excellent at remembering a virtual environment when compared to non-dyslexics. In this regard, many dyslexics succeed in fields like engineering, industrial and graphic design, architecture, as well as construction.
- **4. Great conversationalists:** Many dyslexics are quite profound in reading people when interacting with them. They will tell you exactly what the problem is and how you can go about solving it. They are also quite considerate of other people's thoughts.
- 5. Abstract thinkers: Dyslexic people can comprehend abstract ideas. They are good philosophers. They understand things that are not tangible, many of which are innate human qualities, such as bravery, love, and deception.



NHS: What should I do if I am worried about my child's mental health, or that of a child that I care for, and I think it's getting serious?

Make time to listen to them: Create a calm safe space where they can communicate how they are feeling without judgement.



Try to understand the problems and provide reassurance that you have heard them and are there to help. The problems could be something you are not aware of or don't notice at first, such as:

- relationship problems with friends and family
- being bullied
- experience of traumatic events such as abuse
- self-harm or suicide by someone close to them
- low self-esteem.

Or it might be something more noticeable, such as:

- · a recent death of a friend or family member
- worries about schoolwork, exams or exam results
- worries about employment opportunities
- coping with a chronic illness or disability
- substance misuse problems
- coping with pre-existing mental health problems such as anxiety, depression and eating disorders.

Take time to talk to the child or young person you care for: This is particularly key in relation to children and young people, who may feel overwhelmed by a changing situation which isn't being clearly explained in a way they can understand. Some children and young people may find it easier to talk while doing something together such as playing in the park, going for a walk, painting or other activities.

Keep an eye on the child or young person you care for: Look out for symptoms that your child's mental health may be deteriorating, including symptoms of anxiety and low mood or worrying changes in behaviour. Seek specialist health advice and support and increase vigilance, including checking if they are accessing websites about self-harm, suicide or pro-eating disorders.

Help the child or young person you care for do positive activities which means they aren't isolating themselves: Positive activities including exercise and safe contact with family and friends can provide a distraction from negative thoughts and may help them open up about their feelings.

Provide structure and routine (including for sleep): Many children and young people may experience difficulties with their sleep. Providing structure through the development of daily and weekly timetables, including bedtime routines, can be helpful in providing some predictability for children and young people in this unsettled time.

Support children and young people with a disability: Children and young people with a disability, including people with a learning disability, autistic people and people with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, may find the impact of coronavirus particularly difficult to manage. It is important to explain change and manage any anxiety and distress they may be experiencing. Seek immediate advice if they are already in contact with specialist health and social care services or contact your GP. The National Autistic Society have helpful advice on their website on how to deal with this uncertain time with the coronavirus.

Seek specialist advice and support quickly if you think the child or young person you care for is having suicidal thoughts or are self-harming: It is important that you do not ignore these symptoms and that you speak to a GP or crisis mental health helpline urgently to get the right help and support (more information is available below) – or contact some of the services detailed below. If there is a threat to life, call 999.

Finally, as a parent or carer, look after your own mental health too: This will help you to best support yourself and those you care about. Remember to talk to your family and friends about how you are feeling, and seek help for yourself from the NHS and other support services if it's all getting too much. It's okay not to feel okay.

19

Special Educational Needs at Home

Since the pandemic, many parents have firsthand experience supporting the education of their children at home. For those parents with children with Special Education Needs/Disabilities, there are additional considerations to be made.

Here are six top tips to help support children with Special Educational Needs/Disabilities at home:



1. Sportscasting

This is a technique used by speech and language therapists to develop children's vocabularies. It is as simple as it sounds. While your child is engaged in an activity such as playing, drawing or baking, you narrate what they are doing. 'I see you have just drawn a green line.' Children bask in the close attention you are paying them and they benefit by hearing your choice of words.

2. Protecting space for thinking time

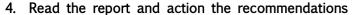
It is easy for children with slow processing to get lost in the confusion of daily interactions or not get a chance to develop their thinking and speaking skills in busy, fast-paced environments. One thing parents can do is simply hold the verbal space for our kids to say what they need to say. This can look like looking expectantly at the child until they have formed an answer, waiting for them to start and finish their thought, or even saying, 'we are just going to wait for George to respond, I bet he has something interesting to say,' if another child or adult tries to interrupt or move the conversation along too quickly.

Children with SEND needs can find the world outside the home a bit complicated

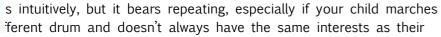


3. Life-skills classes

their understanding by involving them in as much of the routine as possible. Think
to the local market on a sunny day or even taking the bins out as an opportunity ror explaining now the works
in slow, simple language. Think about opportunities for building in vocabulary or sensory experiences. The way the bin
bag tears off the roll can be a surprisingly fun chance to explore sounds and textures.



It sounds obvious, but the initial assessment from a professional often contains very specific recommendations, including resources from specialist presses, that are tailored to your child's needs. Whether you choose to pursue a formal diagnosis or not, the recommendations for further support, often at the end of the report, are often worth trying.



peers. Whatever their hobbies or interests, take your cue from them. If they like Minecraft and Greek gods, find books and activities that reflect this, and prepare yourself to chat about Midas' golden touch and world building over dinner. This will give them the chance to develop their vocabulary, oracy and narrative skills.



6. Be kind to yourself

it one day at a time.



Lastly, as any parent of a SEND child knows, supporting them can privilege and a huge challenge. Make sure you take time to look a don't beat yourself up on the days when it seems really hard and said the right thing. Parenting a child with SEND is a journey and it is often a pendy, loopy road with unexpected twists and turns. That is paradoxically both the joy and the difficulty of it, and because you are in it for the long haul, be kind to yourself and take

Communication Flowchart: SEND

At Kingsdale we would like our communication to be as effective as possible.

Please see the flowchart below to help us support your child effectively and get the information needed to the right people.

Is your query about a specific teacher or subject area?

Contact the teacher directly: 'teacher code' @kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Contact the HOD for the subject: 'subject;

Contact the SEND department directly:

senco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Is your query about support outside of the classroom?

An annual review or progress review meeting?

Advice on learning strategies

Advice on learning strategies to use at home?

Advice on a diagnosis?

Is your query about a behaviour incident?
A friendship issue?
Any other pastoral issue?

Contact the HOL (Head of Learning) for your child's year group: year7hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

year8hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk year9hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk year10hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk year11hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk year12hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk year13hol@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Is your query about supplying additional information about your child for staff?

Contact the SEND admin department directly: sendadmin@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

assistantsenco@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Is your query about exam access arrangements?

Contact the exam team directly:

accessarrangements@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Is your query about provision for a looked after child (LAC)?

Contact the LAC team directly: ofu@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

None of the above?

Please send us anything you think other parents would find useful and we can either share it here or we could even publish it on our website!

The School Shop

A reminder that our School Shop is now open during the school day to enable students to purchase a range of useful items that they might need. This includes stationary and uniform items; all of which can be purchased using their school fob. The School Shop is located in the main Atrium nearest to the green stairs.



Lost Property

We are still receiving a large number of items that have been mislaid or lost by students.

In many cases, these items are unlabelled, making it very hard for them to be quickly and successfully reunited with their owners!

Please can we ask parents to label all items of their children's property at school, including water bottles, blazers and coats. Lost property queries can be directed to

lostproperty@kingsdale.southwark.school.uk

Calling all Budding Student Journalists!

Kingsdale students have started their own school newspaper and are inviting fellow students to get involved!

If you're passionate about current affairs and would like to write reviews and news reports for the Kingsdale Telegraph, please get in touch!



Click image to open the latest edition!

Students should post their illustrations, reviews and articles (maximum 80 words for reviews and 100 words for articles) in the school newspaper contributions box, situated in the main office. Please include your full name and tutor group. Alternatively, they can email the team via kingsdaletelegraph@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

SCHOOL NEWS



KFS Uniform Bank

Our uniform is a key part of our identity and as such we are able to help parents and carers in providing quality uniform items. Sadly, the cost of living is still rising and some families are finding it a challenge to cover all bases in bringing up a family. There is also the negative environmental impact in design and disposal within the clothing industry to consider. Kingsdale community families can acquire cleaned and sanitised pre-worn uniform blazers (Belmont Dry Cleaners in Croxted Road have been most generous with their time and costing in this matter) and other items, dependent on availability, at a much, reduced rate.

The Uniform Bank will also be open between 3.45pm and 4.45pm each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please, always check for availability of items prior to making a purchase. This is a rolling programme that continues throughout the entire academic year and as such we are always looking for donations. Please leave washed and folded clothes at the main Reception area. Items of uniform will be available at other times of the year depending on supply. If you would like to help in any way please make yourself known to the team.

If you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact: Mr Lewis at ils@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk



SCHOOL NEWS

Safe Travel to School

At school, we have shared the key messages about keeping safe with the students.

Some of the key messages are outlined below:

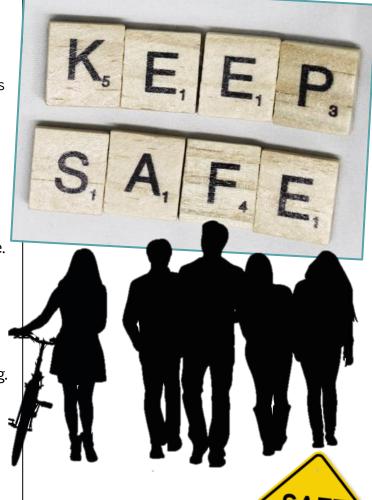
"LOOK UP LOOK OUT"

- BE AWARE of your surroundings.
- BE AWARE when using your mobile phone.
- Know your route home.
- · Keep to busy roads.
- Try to be with other people.
- · If someone tries to stop you keep walking.
- SHOUT for help and make NOISE.
- If anything happens speak to a trusted adult as soon as you can.
- RUN HIDE TELL.
- There is no right or wrong response as each situation is different but remember that YOUR SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT. Only YOU can assess the risk.
- Possessions are replaceable, but you are not.

Your child must contact the Police immediately on 999 if they are concerned about their safety or if they are the victim of a mugging/attempted mugging.

Students and Parents should also inform the school so that we can offer pastoral support and liaise with our Safer Schools Officer – PC Crampton.

Please contact Mr Harding via dhg@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk with any queries.



Kingsdale is a Safe Space

We would like to take this opportunity to once again remind students and their families of our two confidential emails which are operational both during and outside of school hours

This provision is available for any member of our school community wishing to seek advice, discuss any matters relating to mental health & well-being or report an incident or concern confidentially via email.

We appreciate that students, parents, carers or guardians may wish to speak to someone outside of school hours or may wish to disclose an incident or concern confidentially or anonymously.

Our two confidential emails are: health&wellbeing@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk tellsomeone@kingsdale.southwark.sch.uk

Please contact **Ms V Turner** for further information regarding this provision or any matters relating to mental health & well-being at Kingsdale School.

HOUSE COMPETITIONS

Christmas Movies quiz

questions

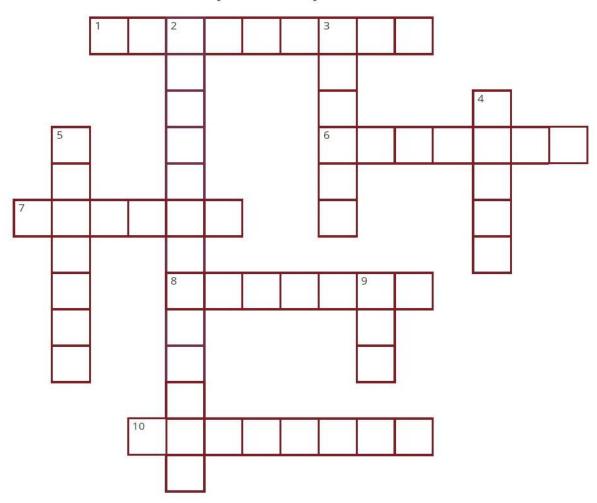
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ı.	WHU	WHO	THE VUICE	UF THINCK	CHKIOIIIHO IN	HKIHUK	CHKIOIIIHO!

- 2. What is the first line spoken in the Snowman and the Snowdog?
- 3. In the film Elf. what is the best way to spread Christmas Cheer?
- 4. How many times is the song white christmas sung in the film with the same title?
- 5. Who plays Iris in the Holiday?
- 6. According to Buddy the Elf, what are the four main food groups?
- 7. There are 10 actors on the cover of Love Actually. Name as many as you can there's a point for each.
- 8. What is the name of the Grinch's dog?
- 9. In Miracle on 34[™] street, what are the three things Susan asks Santa for?
- 10. In the Polar express, what is the first gift of christmas?
- II. What is arthur christmas' brother called?
- 12. How many ghosts are there in a Christmas Carol, and what are their names?
- 13. What is the name of MR Maddens' teaching assistant in Nativity?
- 14. What song is best known for being the soundtrack to the Snowman?
- 15. What is the name of the manager of the shop where kate works in last christmas?
- 16. Who is clarence in It's a Wonderful Life?
- 17. What are the neighbours competing over in Deck the Halls?
- 18. Which three places does santa visit on his holidays in Father Christmas?
- 19. Why are there four Christmases in Four Christmases?
- 20. Which author is the Man who invented christmas about?

HOUSE COMPETITIONS cont.

Christmas Crossword

Work out the answers to the clues relating to Christmas, then use them to complete the crossword. The number at the end of each clue tells you how many letters there are in the answer.



Across

- 1. Which festive plant has the species name Viscum album? [9]
- 6. What is the last name of the character who hates Christmas in Charles Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol'? [7]
- 7. What is the name of the period that begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve? [6]
- 8. In 1847, Tom Smith invented which festive table decoration? [7]
- 10. What type of play recounts the story of the birth of Jesus? [8]

Down

- 2. What is the name of the Christian figure thought to be the inspiration for Santa Claus? [5,8]
- 3. Which sparkly decoration is an anagram of 'silent'? [6]
- 4. Which type of bird, which has a red breast, is traditionally depicted on Christmas cards? [5]
- 5. Which of Santa's reindeer has a name that means 'fame-wolf'? [7]
- 9. Which Christmas character is also the German word for the number 11? [3]

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

WHAT ARE THE RISKS? The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

LESS SUITABLE CONTENT

While Disney+ is predominantly family friendly, there are some movies and should be allowed in the library movies and shows in its library which are almed at an older audience: these may scare younger ones or contain themes or language that you'd rather your child wasn't exposed to. You could avoid such situations by enabling Junior Mode (see 'Adjust content settings', below) or specifying a content age rating for your child's profile.

BINGE WATCHING

With the option to view content on With the option to view content on any internet-enabled device and a growing catalogue of movies, cartoons and documentaries, Disney+ can make managing screen time difficult. This could result in children binge watching content, distracting them from activities like homework or socialising. Too much screen time has also been shown to negatively impact mood, sleep patterns and weight.

90

PHISHING EMAILS

ENCROACHING **ADVERTS**

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 6+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

ACCESSING ADULTS' PROFILES

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough – so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.



Be especially cautious if you receive Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

Advice for Parents & Carers

ADJUST CONTENT SETTINGS

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

TURN OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

ADD PIN PROTECTION

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

ENJOY AS A FAMILY

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

Meet Our Expert







National

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f /NationalOnlineSafety





SPORTS FIXTURES

Monday 11th December

- Under-12s Girls' Football Home Game (Astro) against The Norwood School. Start 2.30pm. Finish at 4pm approx.: Mr Dash
- Under-16s Boys' Rugby Away Game against Graveney School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: Mr Worsley/Mr Price

Tuesday 12th December

- Under-12s Boys' A Team Football Away Game against Dover Grammar School. Depart 11am, Start 12.45pm, Return 5.45pm.: Mr Johnson/ Mr Price
- Under-12s Boys' B Team Football Away Match at House Burgess Park against Sacred Heart School. Leave school at 2pm. Start 3.15pm. Return at 5.15pm approx.: Mr Foster
- Under-12s Boys' Rugby Home Game against Southborough School. Start 2.15pm. Finish at 3.30pm approx.: Mr Lord

Wednesday 13th December

 Under-15s Boys' A Team Football Away Game against Acland Burley School. Leave school at 1 noon. Start 2pm. Return at 6pm approx.:

Mr Price

Thursday 14th December

- Under-15s Boys' B Team Football Away Game at Burgess Park against Bede's School. Leave school at 1pm. Start 2.30pm. Return at 5.30pm approx.: Mr Pizzey/Mr Price
- Under-15s Girls' Indoor Cricket Tournament Home Game (Sports Hall) against Graveney School. Start 2.30pm. Finish at 4pm approx.: **Ms Thomas**

Friday 15th December

No planned fixtures

*Please note Fixtures/Events may get cancelled due to wet or frozen pitches Extra Fixtures may be organised at short notice. http://www.kingsdaleschoolsports.org.uk

The House Leader Board 2023-24

Week ending 8th December 2023

1st Place - Dove 21,269 Points
2nd Place - Falcon 20,063 Points
3rd Place - Swift 21,020 Points
4th Place - Albatross 18,973 Points
5th Place - Eagle 17,985 Points

DOVE have maintained their lead this week for the top spot. Falcon have moved into 2nd place. Who will be top next week?

HOUSE NEWS

Eagle

Dove

House

Jbatrose

House

Swift

Online Safety Corner

For this week's Online Safety focus, we are looking at **Disney+**, the entertainment portal. More than 150 million subscribers worldwide, it has enjoyed a steady rise in popularity since launching four years ago. Get a greater insight here.

PLEASE READ!! Remember to keep an open dialogue with your child about their activities online. See page 25.

Student Suggestion Box

In line with our well-established Student Voice programme, we have installed another suggestion box, which is located outside the Attendance Office in the Main Atrium.

Please encourage your child to use this facility to make suggestions about how we can continue to improve our provision.



Communication with Parents & students

Student & Parent Email

Please ensure we have your correct email and mobile phone contact details. Students should also be regularly accessing their student email accounts.

MS Teams

Used to share schoolwork, assignments and files.

Twitter/Website

You can find us at @kingsdalefs. Our website at: www.kingsdalefoundationschool.org.uk

SatchelOne (previously SMHW)

Used to share homework details and other school news via the Notice Board feature with students and parents. Login here.

MyEd app

Downloaded for free at:

https://www.myedschoolapp.com/

This app provides a range of useful info for parents.