

Bronze Medals at the Olympic Pool

Rachel Charlton reporting...

On Wednesday 22nd February pupils from the Resource Base attended the Panathlon Hearing Impaired South East England Swimming Gala at the Olympic Pool in Stratford. Eight pupils from Years 7-10 participated against five other secondary schools in a fun-filled day, which included individual races and team challenges. The Aquatic Centre is an amazing venue and we were all impressed by the floor of the pool which can be raised or lowered to the depth required. There was also a hot tub for pupils to relax in between races. Our Year 9 elite swimmer, Jessica, who competes in National



swimming competitions accompanied us as an ambassador for the day and was involved with the Panathlon Team, in the organisation of Primary and Secondary races and with awarding the medals. We were very pleased to achieve individual Bronze medals at the end of the day and be awarded a framed certificate and trophy for the school.

Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

YEAR 9 OPTIONS
Parents and carers of pupils in Year 9 will today receive a letter inviting them to one of our Options talks on Tuesday 21st March. Each of the talks will provide brief information on all the options and pathways available, and then focus on the specific pathway recommended, so families do not need to attend a second talk later in the evening. This is in response to feedback from previous years. During the morning of 21st March, Year 9 pupils will also all be off timetable to participate in our Aspirations Day, and I hope this will be useful. If you have any questions about the process please contact Miss Jameson, Mrs Welch or Mrs Shangolis. Thank you.

REVISION
With external exams fast approaching for Years 11, 12 and 13, and, subsequent to my Headlines last week about Easter Revision School, I hope you will be

encouraging your sons and daughters to be taking their revision seriously. Pupils have been given a range of strategies over recent months, to help them to plan their revision, and it is pleasing to see how most students are already making excellent progress in terms of preparing for their exams. I am often asked by parents what they can do to help and, whilst every pupil is different, there are some things that really do help. These include:

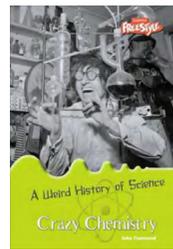
- ensuring pupils have a quiet, tidy and well-lit place in which to revise
- ensuring they have a revision plan, setting out which subjects and topics they intend to revise and when
- organising their notes in folders and creating their own revision cards, mind-maps etc. in their own words
- encouraging them to attend after-school workshops and Easter Revision School
- doing real exam questions, preferably under timed conditions (this can be just a 10 minute question but is a skill well worth practising)

Cont/d...

Book of the Week

A WEIRD HISTORY OF SCIENCE
CRAZY CHEMISTRY
By John Townsend

A fascinating look at chemistry through the ages, with lots of amazing facts and snippets of bizarre information. This is just one of the many books that author, John Townsend, talked about during his visit today. Check out all his books in the Library.



John Townsend in school
Thursday 16th March!



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

BRYCE (7CCA)

&

CHARLES (7CW1)

ON ACHIEVING THEIR
BRONZE REWARDS
BADGES



LOST PROPERTY

Please do remember to put names on pupils' uniform and P.E. kit. It makes it much easier for us to return lost property.

Also, if your child does lose something, please encourage them to retrace their steps and check classrooms they have been in.

Thank you

THE PTA HAVE
ADVENTURE ISLAND
TICKETS FOR SALE:
BIG BANDS: £15.00
SEA LIFE TICKETS FOR
£4.00
TINA: 0797 3765320
MICHELLE: 0784 6620554



HEADLINES (continued)

- revising the hardest thing first, when the brain is freshest!

If you would like more tips, there are also resources sign-posted on our website, and please do feel free to contact the relevant Head of Year if you have any concerns.

AND FINALLY...
Enjoy the weekend when it comes.

Parents' Time

A member of the Leadership Team will be available to see parents without appointment:

9:00am-9:45am Monday - Friday

5:00pm-5:45pm Thursdays



Kingswood 2017

"Last weekend we went to Kingswood with our school. When we got there, we were welcomed by all of the Kingswood staff. Every instructor made our few days go like lightning. Everyone joined in with all of our activities and no one was left out. It was such fun I would like to do it again!" **Sean (8AHu)**

"The Kingswood trip is a great opportunity. The food was brilliant and the cabins have super soft beds!" **Emily (8JBo)**



"I really enjoyed my stay at Kingswood. The activities were amazing!" **Lucas (8LWo)**

"It was one of my favourite trips ever. I had lots of opportunities to make new friends. I loved it!" **Jessica (8JBa)**



Shah Monnan reporting...

On 10th March we embarked on the annual G&T/ICT trip to Kingswood, Norfolk for the weekend. James Softly, Muriel Mauz, Jay Garwood and myself set off on the Friday morning with 32 eager pupils filled with excitement and anticipation. The journey included a stop off at the charming town of Cromer where the pupils had the chance to absorb the picturesque coastal scenery and relish their famous fish and chips.

Once we arrived at Kingswood, the enthusiastic staff led the pupils on to their first set of challenges. It was an action-packed weekend where our pupils engaged in activities such as Abseiling, Archery, Leap of Faith, Nightline and many more.

The pupils were also challenged cerebrally too by the ICT sessions where each pupil had to create an original game which they then played after! Over the weekend I was very proud to see our pupils progress through challenging themselves by stepping out of their comfort zones and also by supporting and encouraging one another. All pupils came back with new confidence, new skills, new friends and incredible memories.



"I enjoyed all the activities at Kingswood, such as abseiling and an obstacle course, but my favourite was archery. All of the instructors were very kind and friendly." **Lewis (8LWo)**

"I enjoyed my stay at Kingswood very much. The instructors were very kind and helpful. The activities we did were thrilling!" **Finlay (8LAs)**

"I really liked the Leap of Faith and Archery. I tried lots of new things, made new friends and faced some of my fears. I really wish I could go back." **Isabella (8LWo)**

"Going to Kingswood has made me realise that making new friends can be easy! I enjoyed myself so much I wish I could replay the trip all over again!" **Leah (8LWo)**

"I think that Kingswood was great and a good time to socialise. I made many new friends. My favourite activity was the Leap of Faith since I had never done this activity before. I felt an overwhelming amount of pride when I accomplished my goal." **William (8DGa)**