

KESPRESS

KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL, LICHFIELD
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I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable summer break – it seems along way off now! The start of the Autumn Term is always a very busy time in school with many things being completely new. We have taken on a new Year 7 group under the leadership of Mrs Cobden and her team of tutors. The students have settled very well in their new school, making new friends, taking new subjects and beginning to join in the many activities that are on offer to them. Year 10 students have begun their GCSE subjects in earnest and we have had a large number of students join our Sixth Form in Year 12 to commence their Advanced level courses. Good luck to all students starting new programmes of study this year.

September is also the time when new staff join the school. I should like to take this opportunity to welcome the following staff and wish them good luck:

- Mr Brown (Design & Technology)
- Miss Cameron (English)
- Miss Cox (English)
- Miss Holloway (Science)



- Mr Jones (PE)
- Mr Jones (Science)
- Mr Leonard (Site Team)
- Miss Mincher (Art)
- Miss Smith (Languages)
- Mr Teager (Music)

As well as working hard on their studies, students and staff have also begun work on other projects. 'Midsummer Night's Dream' was a huge success, the school's Dedication Day is fast approaching and the first rehearsals for our production of the musical 'Anything Goes' are already underway. It certainly promises to be just as busy in the next half term as it has been since September.

Finally, I should like to thank those parents who have signed up to our School Trust Fund and School Subscriptions Fund. There is still time for more to subscribe to these schemes which provide valuable additional resources for the school. Please contact the school office if you require further details.

K. Maycock (Headteacher).

DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY STATUS

In July King Edward School became the first Secondary School in Staffordshire to achieve Full Dyslexia Friendly Status.

Four Assessors from Staffordshire LEA visited school over two days to interview governors, staff, parents and students. They also carried out a rigorous investigation into a portfolio required as evidence against an Action Plan.

We are now continuing our work in school and updating our list of students who have had a diagnosis of dyslexia. Many students with dyslexia cope well in school without extra support and it is not our intention to single anyone out. However, once we are aware we can ensure that specific needs are identified and appropriate support is given at all levels.

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Did you know that if you buy anything from Buxton and Bonnett and ask for "CASHBACK TO KING EDWARDS" we receive a contribution to school funds?

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM CAST CONJURE UP A MEMORABLE PERFORMANCE



DREAM COME TRUE!

A Midsummer Night's Dream is probably Shakespeare's most well-loved play; everyone has heard of it and most people have either seen it, read it or performed in it. Obviously I'm biased as I am playing a part I've wanted to play since I was seven, Puck, but this production was a refreshing, dynamic take on an old favourite. It was set on a British beach, although the words written by Shakespeare evoke a woodland setting the concept works a treat.

The reason that this production was something which the cast and crew, costume designer, orchestra and the drama department should be so proud of is because it was such an energetic, innovative not to mention entertaining production.

I speak for everyone involved when I say what fun it has been to be part of this dream and how indebted we all are to Tracey Potts, Mr Skilton and Mrs Plant. We hope you enjoyed watching it!

By Stef Walker



With more than forty of our own students, from year eight upwards, involved in this production it also provided an enjoyable opportunity for a number of students from Saxon Hill to join the cast. Pictured above is a glimpse of the fun during rehearsals of a dance that was created in the workshop and featured in a special performance matinee last Wednesday.



FIRST WORLD WAR INSPIRES RESPONSES

The History department has recently provided opportunities for year nine and ten students to step back in time.

Year nine had an insight into the realities of trench life during the First World War when they visited Whittington Barracks. Colour Sergeant Willie Turner and his team made sure that it was an interesting and enjoyable visit for all. Whilst on their visit to the Barracks the year nine historians experienced the reconstructed trench, tried on uniforms, worked with documents and visited the museum.

Year ten students, on the other hand went further afield last July when eighty four of them visited the Battlefields of the First World War in the Ypres and Somme region. This year the visit was especially poignant coming the week after the 90th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

Visits to memorials, cemeteries and some original trenches were included on the trip and 'the experiences inspired some outstanding responses including photo-montages, poems and diaries' said Mr Bowman. The history department would like to thank Mrs Sly for her hard work in planning and organising both of the trips.



THE TUNNEL

*I step into the darkness
I trip, and slide, and, slide.
Is there anything in front of me
Behind or to one side?*

*Further in to darkness now
Where silence makes a sound.
Who was here before me?
Who's footprints mark the ground?*

*I hear a drop of water
Splashing by my foot
But years ago different noises would be heard
As they waded through the muck.*

*In the darkness they would wait
For hours upon end.
Not daring to move in case
A signal to the enemy they send.*

*Ever digging deeper
As the German troops draw near.
Although their mouths are quiet
In their eyes they show their fear.*

*I can see a patch of light now.
Just a few more steps to go.
I wonder how many made it this far
All those years ago?*

*Back into the daylight but who have I left
Behind beneath that muddy floor?
The memories of the men who fought
The silent underground war.*

Felicity Maclean

NEW COURSE FOR SCIENCE STUDENTS

All year ten students have just started a new Science one year GCSE course. They will be taught in modules and their first exam will be on January 16th 2007. Students will be entered at either higher or foundation level and entry levels will be decided later this term. Course-work, carried out in February 2007 represents 33% of the total grade and further exams follow in summer 2007 on June 7th, 14th, 18th, and 20th. Students will be awarded their GCSE Science grade in August 2007

Students will then be asked to choose either 'Additional Science' or 'Applied Science' to study during Y11. The Additional Science route gives a more traditional approach to Science and is intended to prepare students for study at Advanced level. The Applied Science route is a more practical and work-based course which also involves portfolio work.

The Science department have many new resources to help deliver the new courses, but would like any parent who has contact with a Science-based company to get in touch. Please contact Mrs Turner if you have any first hand experience or contacts in the working world of Science.



RUGBY LADS ARE THE BEST SUPPORTERS!

When Rob discovered he was seriously ill last year all of his mates rallied round to give support in the best way that they could. As a result of their efforts and determination they managed to raise a fantastic £1225 for Birmingham Children's Hospital. They are pictured here presenting the cheque. Well done to the lads, and we all wish Rob the very best in his recovery.

DESTINATION ETHIOPIA

7A2 (now 8A2) and Addison prefects, under the guidance of Mr Mawson, have raised an amazing £1060 for the AVIN Ethiopia challenge. As we go to print a group of Lichfield youngsters are on their way to Ethiopia with the funds that were raised which will be used to provide running water and a toilet.



.....CHARITY CHALLENGE CONTINUES

Inspired by their fundraising success 8A2 have set themselves a target to try and beat the sum that they raised last year! These five boys (below) have made an excellent start with £140 from a cake sale.

HOCKEY UPDATE

In the County cup competitions the Under 18 team lost in a penalty competition after all games in a 3 way match against Thomas Alleynes and John Taylor were drawn. The Under 14 and Under 16 girl's teams have progressed to the Semi finals which will be played in the next two weeks.

Congratulations to the following players who have been selected for county and regional honours;

Staffordshire Under 14 Girls:

Staffordshire Under 16 Boys:

Mrs A Taylor

PTA FUTURE EVENTS

Hair and Beauty Evening on Tuesday 14th November.

Christmas Market on Friday 24th November.

Burns Night and Celidh on Saturday 20th January 2007.

Please contact Mrs Dianne Haynes here at school if you would like any more information or are interested in becoming involved in the PTA.