

19th October 2018

RE: End of Half Term Update

Dear Parents / Carers,

I'm delighted to write with an end of the "Aut1" half-term update for you all. As with all letters and school news you can see a digital copy of this at kaa.org.uk.

Finishing Aut1, looking ahead to Aut2...

This academic year is well underway and I think all students and staff are looking forward to the half term break. There is **work to do during these two weeks** of course. For sixth formers, it is essential revision and independent learning time. Y11 need to be revising as well, and completing their work experience placements (a very different form of learning, but also important – please see separate letter about this enclosed here).

Looking ahead to Aut2, all dates are listed on our website but I wanted to highlight here....

Date	Time	Event	Year / Parents
Thurs 8 th Nov	5pm - 8pm	Sixth Form Open Evening	Y11 students / parents
Mon 12 th Nov	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Y10 Parent Progress Meetings	Y10 students / parents
Wed 21 st Nov	7pm - 8.30pm	KAA "Big Show"	Ticketed event
Thurs 22 nd Nov	7pm - 8.30pm	KAA "Big Show"	Ticketed event
Mon 26 th to Fri 30 th Nov	All week	KS3 Revision Week	All Y7-10 students
Mon 26 th Nov to Fri 7 th Dec	All fortnight	Y11 Mock Exams	Year 11 students
Mon 3 rd to Fri 7 th Dec	All week	KS3/4 Assessment Week	All Y7-10 students
Mon 10 th to Fri 14 th Dec	All week	KS3/4 Review Week	All Y7- 11 students
Tues 11 th Dec	5pm - 8pm	Y13 Progress Meetings	Y13 students / parents
Thurs 13 th Dec	7pm - 8pm	Christmas Concert	Ticketed event
Mon 17 th Dec	6pm - 7.30pm	Y11 Mocks Results Evening	Y11 students / parents
Wed 19 th Dec	12.30pm	End of Term Awards Assembly	All students

Remaining Parents Evenings this year....

Date	Time	Event	Year / Parents
Thurs 17 th Jan	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Y7 Progress Meetings	Y7 students / parents
Tues 22 nd Jan	5pm - 8pm	Y12 Progress Meetings	Y12 students / parents
Thurs 7 th Feb	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Y11 Progress Meetings	Y11 students / parents
Tues 5 th March	6pm - 7.30pm	Y9 Options Evening	Y9 students / parents
Thurs 4 th April	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Y9 Progress Meetings	Y9 students / parents
Thurs 2 nd May	4.30pm - 7.30pm	Y8 Progress Meetings	Y8 students / parents

Behaviour Info / Key Reminders

All parents know that KAA has the **highest possible expectations of student behaviour**. It's one of the defining characteristics of our school. As we've grown in numbers and our students have become older we have had to become more rigid on behaviour. There is good reason for this - all students and parents are entitled to a safe, calm, orderly school environment, and more students means we need more structure. If the school were less disciplined it would be a **significant disservice to our students**. Student behaviour is also, as any parent knows, something that requires an ongoing, daily focus. It's well noted that behaviour can spiral downwards very quickly if a school takes its eye off the ball – we never want that to happen here.

Having said that, I think it's important to highlight that our approach to managing behaviour is not lacking in **care and compassion** for our wonderful students. We have an extensive team of family liaison workers, mentors and counselors, for example. It's true we have a lot of detentions, but we also have one of the lowest rates of permanent exclusion in West London. This underlines that our tough stance on behaviour is working.

Parents and teachers working in **partnership**, and us being clear about our policies, is key to ongoing success. You all have signed our Home/School Agreement before joining KAA and have been issued with our “Parents A-Z”. Both documents can be found at kaa.org.uk of course, along with the full Behaviour Policy. Enclosed with this letter is an update from Mr. Bernard – please do read. **In return for your trust and support we promise we will work tirelessly to help your child achieve their full potential.** You have my personal commitment on that.

Parent Governor Elections

Part of working in partnership is of course having active and engaged parent governors. Our current governor in this role, Stephanie Tyrer, is stepping down at the end of this term, having served four years in post. On behalf of the whole KAA community I would like to thank Stephanie for her service, which has included many, many hours of work for the school, and all on a voluntary basis. She will be missed. We will now be electing a replacement for Stephanie and an additional parent governor. Enclosed is a letter from the Chair of Governors explaining this process; thank you to any parents in advance for their interest.

The KAA “Big Show” with Gareth Malone – 21st & 22nd November, 7pm

The KAA “Big Show” is happening next half term. Exciting times! There will be two performances on Wednesday 21st November and Thursday 22nd November. I hope many of you will come – I think it will be the best production we have ever done. If your child is in the show they will receive one complimentary ticket; a separate letter will be sent to you with the details, please reply confirming you want the ticket. Remaining tickets are available via Parent Pay priced at £5 each. If you have any trouble booking online please contact Miss Turner by emailing v.turner@kaa.org.uk or by calling 0207 313 5805. Your child can also visit Miss Turner in her office - 016. Please note that the performance on the 21st November will be filmed by TwentyTwenty. **A final point is that Gareth is keen to include parents in the project if possible! If any of you love singing and want to support the show please email Vicky.Mitchell@twentytwenty.tv for more details.** The parent rehearsal with Gareth is likely to be on Tuesday 30th October at 6.30pm. Thanks.

Free School Meals

We think that **many parents who are eligible for Free School Meals have not yet applied.** Clearly this is a shame for parents affected, but **it is also a real issue for the school as it affects our overall funding.** If you think you might be eligible please apply online at www.fsm.lgfl.net or collect a form from reception. If you need any help filling in the application please get in contact with the school by emailing info@kaa.org.uk or by calling 0207 313 5800. Thank you.

Grenfell Meeting – Mon 5th November at 6.30pm

Given the recent news stories about the possibility of toxins in the soil around Grenfell, we’d like to invite any concerned parents to a meeting on Monday 5th November at 6.30pm, here at KAA. We have invited Public Health England and the Grenfell Site Team as well, so hopefully they will be able to attend, along with representatives from the school’s governing body. **Please note the meeting is for KAA parents only.** The news stories are a concern for all of us - parents, students and staff alike - although it is important to keep in mind that there is no suggestion local schools, businesses or residents need to take any action at all at this time. The current public health advice is that “locally grown fruit and vegetables should be washed and peeled thoroughly before being eaten” and that “anyone working or playing in soil should wash their hands well afterwards.” This advice hasn’t changed since Grenfell. Should you have any questions at all about these or other Grenfell issues, please come to the meeting or contact Miss Turner our Communications Manager on v.turner@kaa.org.uk or 0207 313 5805.

With best wishes for the half term holiday,

David Benson
Principal