

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we complete our penultimate week, we find our reserves of resilience being tested in what has been a busy term for our pupils and staff. We will teach lessons as normal right up to Friday 16th December and would like to remind parents about the importance of excellent attendance. Do check the important dates section which include 2nd February, 20th March and 9th May when school will finish at 1:05pm to allow for important time to invest in staff development.

The Year 8 parents' evening on Wednesday went well with many discussions around flight paths and progress. As a growing school I am sure you can appreciate that many staff teach more than one group and so availability was limited. If you didn't manage to see all the teachers you needed, please don't hesitate to contact them via email. The Year 7 parent survey results were overwhelmingly positive; the results have been sent as a separate document. The Year 8 parent survey can also be accessed via:

<http://goo.gl/eVZEu1> - do please complete it as we value your opinions and feedback.

You will receive a joint statement separately from all Kingston and Richmond Heads regarding funding in education, a topic covered in my additional article last week.

My thanks to Friends of TKA who organised a really impressive Christmas Fair on Thursday. The hall was buzzing with stalls (including some very enterprising parents), a photo booth and plenty of treats and refreshments. I am sure the monies raised will provide opportunities for all our pupils and we are very lucky to have such a supportive parental body.

I look forward to seeing you at next Wednesday's Christmas concert. Spaces are limited but there is capacity for 200 seated and 200 standing, so please do book using the online system which will go live on Monday.

Kind regards,

Sophie Cavanagh.



School
finishes
early at
12.30pm
on Friday
16th
December



Spotlight on STEM



Rock Gods

Jackson 0.59
Christopher 0.63
Philip F 0.84
Thomas P 0.87
Daniel K 0.96

Rock legends

Ida 1.02 seconds
Jaydon 1.02
Kavishkar 1.18
George 1.27
Kevin T 1.28
Zahid 1.30
Mia 1.32
Labeed 1.32

The Year 7 Times tables rock star leader board reveals some audacious and lightning fingered mathematicians!

All Year 7s have been practising and the leader boards on the left show who has gained the status of Rock Gods and Rock Legends.

Pupils say, "It really makes learning my times tables fun!" and "My score has improved from over 2 seconds to under 1.3!"

A Christmas Carol



On the 5th of December, the whole year 7 watched a retelling of '**A Christmas Carol**' by **Charles Dickens**, performed by **The Globe Players**.

The acting was really impressive and even though the scenery never changed, the play really immersed everyone in the story. The whole play was performed by only 4 people and they learnt all their lines in only 4 days. It was a magical performance that got a lot of laughs from the audience, using humour and expression when needed.

All of the actors really got into character, even though they had to play so many different parts throughout the play. The play really brought a new, fun aspect to the original story, which is quite serious. They put together the story incredibly

well, considering the limited resources and time that they had. It was a great play that everyone deserves to see.



By **Aeonia** and **Karolina (7 Re)**



Christmas Fair



The Friends of TKA Christmas fair was a huge success on Thursday night! The Hall was full of stalls selling Christmas goodies and refreshments and the craft stalls in the LRC provided Christmas inspiration. The photo booth and bucking reindeer were highlights! Each House ran their own stall and the Stage Stealers were raising money for the school production.

Huge thanks to all the parent volunteers who have worked tirelessly to co-ordinate the fair and we have raised **£2,800** for the school!



E-safety Lecture for Parents— Keeping your child safe in the digital world

Wednesday 4th January 2017 at 6.30pm in the School Hall

Presented by Peter Cowley, ICT and e-safety adviser for Kingston and Richmond Boroughs.

His talk will cover:

- What is the world of the digital native?
- What is online risky behaviour?
- How can we encourage and support our children and minimise risk?
- A checklist for keeping your child safe online.



House points leader board

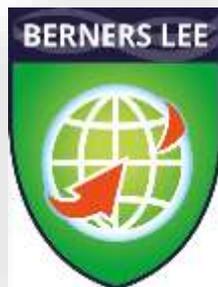
2,098 Curie

2,036 Berners-Lee

1,675 Lovelace

1,562 Hawking

The House leader board shows that Curie have topped the leader board for the first time ever! This is mainly due to Curie's victories in the House football competition. No doubt it will prove to be a tightly fought battle for the coveted House Cup of 2017.



IMPORTANT dates

Wednesday 14th December—Christmas Concert 7pm– 8.30pm

Thursday 15th December—School Disco in School Hall (Year 7)

Friday 16th December 2016—Last day of term—pupils dismissed at 12.30pm—lunch refunds will be given.

Tuesday 3rd Jan 2017—Staff training—school closed

Wednesday 4th January 2017—Parent talk on e-safety by Peter Cowley, Achieving for Children—6.30pm in School Hall.

A booking system will be made available very soon.

Thursday 12th January 2017—Theatre trip 'Curious Incident'

Thursday 2nd February—early finish at 1.05pm for staff training

Week beginning **Monday 6th Feb**—Year 7 A2 assessments

Monday 13th—Friday 17th February half term holiday

Week beginning **Monday 20th Feb**—Year 8 A2 assessments

Monday 20th March—early finish at 1.05pm for staff training

Wednesday 22nd March—Year 7 Subject parents' meetings (4.30-7.30pm)

Wednesday 29th March—Year 8 Tutor progress meetings (4.30-7.30pm)

Monday 3rd April—Friday 14th April Easter holiday

Thursday 20th April and Friday 21st April—A Midsummer Night's Dream performances, ACT, Kingston College.

Tuesday 9th May—early finish at 1.05pm for staff training.