



KINGSBURY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 4 - July 2014

Sports Day 2014



Kingsbury High School hosted its annual sports day on Friday 20th June 2014. Students across Years 7 to 9 competed in various sporting activities including shot putt, tug of war, long jump, bowls and 100 metre & 800 metre races. The day cumminated in a 'KHS Challenge' relay race between staff and Sixth Form 'Red Shirts' who were involved with the organisation of the day.

The timetable was suspended so everyone was able to cheer on their form. The competitors exceeded expectations and performed to an exceptionally high standard. Congratulations to the PE Department on a successful afternoon!



Step into Dance



Twelve Kingsbury High School students performed at a dance event on Tuesday 20th May 2014. The event celebrated the best of North London youth dance and was organised by Step into Dance.

The twelve students from Years 7 - 9 performed their moving piece entitled 'Lest We Forget'. Deputy Leader of Brent Council, Michael Pavey, said "Kingsbury High really raised the bar on a fantastic evening of dance. Their performance was not only visually brilliant, but genuinely thought-provoking; absolutely stunning."

Send ALL my Friends to School



On Wednesday 2nd July 2014, students took part in the Send ALL My Friends to School campaign to remind world leaders that it is children with disabilities that are missing out most on their right to an education.

Year 7 students watched screenings of Send My Friend to School's national campaign video, created 'buddy' figures and covered them with messages about the importance of education.

To complete their day, 315 students gathered on the playground to create the giant word: 'TEACH'.

Message from Mr Waxman

Dear parents, carers and members of our community,

I wrote to you in the last newsletter about some significant changes taking place at Kingsbury High, including the departure this summer of a considerable number of staff.

We say farewell later this month to the following teachers: Nigel Jamieson, Roger Slater, Pat Brown, Mick Long, Ita McNamara, Matt Price, Michaela Baskin, Sara Beacham, Liz Clarke, Rani Day, James Donald, James Hale, David Humble, Seema Iyer, Biro Karalamorthy, Juliana Keane, Mick Knox, Amy Longstaff, Tessa Newson, Kostas Pavlopolous and Nuria Waithe.

And to the following members of our support staff: Liz Armitage, Agnes Atteen, Hiran Dighe, Steve Foster, Ragaa Gerges, Ginelle Joseph, Cherry McGowan, Jane MacGregor, Bharti Mistry, Jayna Mistry, Rita Morjaria, Mary Nakkazi, Narinder Nathan, Vinod Parmar, Janet Shutt and Myra Soeharjono.

We held a special parent forum on Thursday 3rd July to discuss the changes and to hear about how parents would define the Kingsbury High which they'd like to see maintained. There was a fascinating discussion, in which the most commonly agreed lines were:

- To believe in every single child
- To have fair, just systems
- To ensure that students continue to attain highly, the idea that the school has come "from nothing to something" should not be lost
- To remain comprehensive, allowing all to be included, caring for those who feel lonely and left out
- To have a friendly, welcoming atmosphere
- To promote citizenship, the idea that a Kingsburian believes in values which stand above the individual
- To nurture and support new students
- To be future focused for students

Just before I finish, a lovely piece of news. We have been selected by the Mayor of London to be a member of the London Schools Gold Club – on the basis of the progress which our students from all backgrounds make. That's a real accolade and will help make for a positive start to the next academic year.

And finally, I wish you all the very best for Eid-ul-Fitr and the summer holiday. When we return, we'll have a few staff in new positions – and we'll tell you all about that then.

Jeremy Waxman OBE

Model United Nations Conference



Kingsbury High School students achieved a first at the Model United Nations conference at John Warner School, Hoddesdon (Herts) in February: winning the 'Most Distinguished Delegation Award' - i.e. 'the best team in the competition'. The Kingsbury team triumphed over teams from state secondary schools, grammar schools and local independent schools (e.g. Haileybury). There were around 60 teams in the conference.

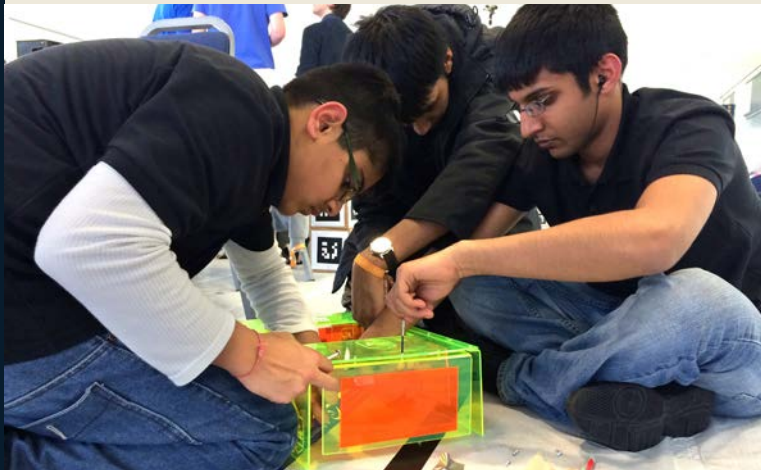
The school's winning delegation represented France. The delegates were Nebiyu Kibru (Year 13), Amro Nagdy (Year 13), Jean Charles Abid (Year 13), Akash Dasgupta (Year 11) and Iman Mohamed (Year 11) - with special credit to Sahar Abas for writing a winning resolution and Nebiyu for standing in for her at a day's notice. The delegation was especially praised for the quality of its resolutions.

The school's second delegation of India also attracted a 'Highly Commended Delegate Award' for Louise Aquino (Year 11), who worked incredibly hard to persuade the Human Rights Committee to accept her proposals for preventing the terrible practice of female genital mutilation. She was ably supported by Akhil Patel (Year 11), Meera Patel (Year 11) and Sakthy Uthayakumar (Year 11).

Some of the students went on to attend the Haberdashers' Aske's School for Boys Model United Nations for a whole weekend in March, together with teams of Year 12 students, going up against some of the most prestigious independent schools in the country and some visiting international schools.

Congratulations to all involved.

National Robotics Competition



A team of Year 12 students from Kingsbury High School enjoyed success at a national robotics competition in April.

The challenge was to build an entirely autonomous robot which could read QR codes to locate boxes inside an arena and move them into a goal area to score points.

After over six months of designing, building and programming the Kingsbury robot, nicknamed 'Sid', the team went to the finals held over a weekend in the grandstand at Newbury Racecourse. The annual competition is organised by students from the University of Southampton and is designed to encourage sixth form students to develop skills in Engineering, Electronics and Computer Programming. This year was the sixth in the competition's history but the first time that Kingsbury High had entered.

The team did extremely well to come 17th out of over 50 schools entered in the competition and would have enjoyed a top ten finish if it were not for a controversial scoring error late in the day.

Well done to the team participating in the finals: Amir Jassem, Viren Mistry, Noordin Nanji, Ally Preston, Amar Sharma and Vijay Vekaria. Credit also goes to Mohammad Afshar, Yash Morar and Nayim Nurdin who contributed during the building of the robot.

More information about the competition can be found at www.studentrobotics.org

Year 8 Graduation



On Tuesday 17th June, Year 8 students graduated from the foundation stage of the 'Kingsbury Curriculum'. Students were awarded with scrolls, certificates and badges during the ceremony at Watford Colosseum.

Jeremy Waxman said "I was very proud of so many of our students at this second Year 8 graduation. It was great to see hundreds of our parents there too - thank you so much for coming. I do have one question for you, though. It was a very lively evening, I am sure you will agree. Was it sometimes too lively? I'd be interested in your views."

Kellogg's Boosts Breakfast at Kingsbury High



Kingsbury High School received a boost after food company Kellogg's awarded £200 of funding to help support the school's breakfast club; with a further £200 of Kellogg's cereal vouchers.

The breakfast club at Kingsbury High School was set up in January and has been popular with both staff and students. Year 8 student, Jessica Ablampah said "I think eating breakfast is essential to helping students through the school day. When you don't eat breakfast you don't feel as awake and ready to learn. I think students should use the breakfast club more often because the service is good, the food is excellent and, personally, I really enjoy it."

Loom Bands for Water Aid



Year 7 student Khushi Patel has used her love of making Loom Bands for a good cause. Khushi was inspired by talks at Kingsbury High School given by her teachers and staff about Refugee Week.

Khushi sold the colourful bracelets to her friends and family and made £30.80, which was matched by her father, raising the total to £61.60. Khushi was moved by stories of drought and sanitation so chose to donate the money to Water Aid UK.

Khushi said "I chose Water Aid as my charity because I think it's really important to do work like that and I really like that charity."

ASDA Sporting Challenge



On Monday 7th July we hosted one of the UK's first Asda Active Sports Days, themed around the Commonwealth Games.

Our student Sports Leaders, led the activities as part of the Asda Active campaign. Over 300 primary school students took part in sports including netball, football, cricket and unihoc.

Ms Woodrow said "Healthy eating and exercise is something we strongly advise among the children here and with the help of Asda Community Life and Sports Leaders UK, we hope to see this continue to go from strength to strength."

Alumni Feature - Lorisa Nuzi



After completing her A levels at Kingsbury High, Lorisa took a year out as she just missed out on the required grades for her firm choice.

Lorisa recalls "My 'gap year' turned out to be my most unforgettable year. I got a job at a jewellery store in Mayfair where I got to serve many celebrities; serving Bruce Willis definitely topped meeting Vanessa Hudgens! I thoroughly enjoyed my time working at the Jewellery store; I met extremely talented artists and made friends for life."

Whilst working, Lorisa retook some exams and

Alumni Feature continued

reapplied through UCAS to study at University.

"The whole Sixth Form team at the Kingsbury High School were very supportive to help me reapply through UCAS. Last August I was successfully accepted into Royal Holloway University of London to study my dream course, Psychology.

This summer I look forward going to Cambodia with my University RAG charity society to help underprivileged children. Throughout the holidays I have continued working at the jewellery store. The knowledge gained from Kingsbury High School as well as the skills developed throughout my gap year has provided me with a wealth of confidence that has helped me thoroughly enjoy my first year at university."